



CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
PARKS, RECREATION &  
OPEN SPACE PLAN

February 2020

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Brett Sherman, Councilor  
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# 1 | INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

## PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

This 2020 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan is a technical update to the 2017 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan and includes planning for the Pleasant Valley/North Carver area. The Plan relies on the survey data and community outreach conducted in 2017 and is supplemented by with community feedback gathered through the Pleasant Valley/North Carver Comprehensive Plan.

Happy Valley has experienced significant changes since the adoption of the City's 2003 Parks Master Plan, and this Plan has been revised to reflect current community interests and opportunities related to the re-establishment of City-provided parks and recreation services and to plan for an expansion of the park system in response to continued residential and commercial development in the city.

A Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan is a document that guides City elected and appointed officials, management and staff when making decisions or taking actions regarding planning, acquiring, developing or

implementing parks, open space or recreational facilities. The Plan is intended to be updated periodically to remain current with the community's recreational interests.

This Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan creates a vision for an innovative, inclusive and interconnected system of parks, trails and open spaces that promotes outdoor recreation, health and environmental conservation as integral elements of a thriving, livable Happy Valley. The Plan will establish a path forward to guide the City's efforts to provide high quality, community-driven parks, trails, natural areas and recreational opportunities across Happy Valley.

The 2020 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan considers the park and recreation needs of residents citywide and plans for the future needs of the Pleasant Valley/North Carver area. It describes the parkland inventory, demographic conditions, community needs, management considerations and capital project phasing. The Plan establishes specific goals, recommendations and actions for developing, conserving and maintaining high-quality parks, trails, facilities and open spaces across the city and its urban growth boundary.

# PLANNING PROCESS OVERVIEW

This Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan is a reflection of the community’s interests and needs for parks, recreational facilities and trails. The planning process was aimed to encourage and enable public engagement in the choices, priorities and future direction of the City’s park and recreation system. A variety of public outreach activities were conducted to solicit feedback and comments, in concert with a review of the recreation system inventory, level of service review and the current and future needs assessment. To guide the implementation of the goals of the Plan, a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) was developed with a set of strategies that identified costs and potential funding sources.

## PARK SYSTEM OVERVIEW

### Guided by Values

Happy Valley’s City Council adopted its most recent annual budget in June 2019, and it reinforced the mission, values and priorities for the City’s future.

#### City Mission Statement

*Preserve and enhance the safety, livability, and character of our community.*

#### Happy Valley City Council Goals

The Happy Valley City Council has established seven comprehensive goals to guide its policies and planning. Several goals among the list relate directly to the provision of parks and recreation. These goals pertain to creating a safe, livable community with a sense of pride and strong identity, maintaining effective relationships with local, regional, and

state partners, promoting environmentally-sensible practices and providing effective and efficient services.

## Creating a Legacy of Outdoor Spaces

With its rapid growth over the past two decades, the City of Happy Valley has strived to incorporate planning for parks and natural areas into its land use planning and development code. Through the enactment of a Parks System Development Charge, the City has established a partial funding source to acquire and develop new parks and trails in response to residential growth. The City has also successfully implemented subdivision requirements for the set-aside of natural areas and small pocket parks. In considering Happy Valley’s overall park system, the contributions of these private open spaces, along with two major regional parks owned by Metro and the four neighborhood parks managed by the North Clackamas Park and Recreation District, add to the total amount of land protected for park and open space purposes. Below are some metrics that give context to park planning in Happy Valley.

- Happy Valley has grown over 380% since 2000 (from 4,519 to 21,700).
- The City of Happy Valley owns and maintains 106 acres of parks and open spaces.
- City residents have access to other parks and open spaces, including over 350 acres managed by Metro and over 70 acres managed by the North Clackamas Park & Recreation District.
- Homeowner Association open space set-asides contribute another 290 acres toward the City’s green infrastructure.

## Park System Management

Happy Valley Parks is a division within the City's Public Works Department. The Parks Division develops, operates and maintains a 106-acre system of parks, trails and natural area across the city. Staff aim to ensure a clean, safe park and trail environment and provide inspections and maintenance of picnic areas, sport fields, splash pad, boardwalk, park equipment and playgrounds. The Parks Division also supports volunteer and community activities, such as summer park events, park and trail improvement projects and tree plantings. Also, the City has been recognized for 16 years by the Arbor Day Foundation with a Tree City USA designation.

The Happy Valley Parks Division consists of 2 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff for facilities maintenance and operations. In total, the Department has an annual budget of \$1.23 million (FY19/20). Operating costs, such as materials and services, account for \$278,000 (23%) of the total budget. Personnel Services at \$205,600 represents 17% of the total budget. The Division is primarily funded by the City's General Fund for operations and system development charges for capacity-enhancing capital improvements (e.g., park acquisition and development).

When the City annexed into the North Clackamas Park and Recreation District in 2006, the agreement with NCPRD provided that the City would maintain six parks, city-owned open spaces and trails. In December 2019, the City and the District reached a settlement regarding the City's withdrawal from the District, and upon the full execution of the agreement, the City will take ownership of Southern Lites Park, Village Green Park, Ashley Meadows Park, Hidden Falls Natural Area, Scott Creek Trail and the District-owned properties adjacent to Mt. Talbert.

The City will continue to prepare for its growing role in providing parks and recreation services for the benefit of residents of Happy Valley.

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

### Setting

The City of Happy Valley sits in the southeast region of the Portland Metro area and covers approximately 11.5 square miles to the east of Interstate 205 and the north of the Clackamas River.

City residents have easy access to the employment and cultural centers of the Portland region, as well as the natural beauty and recreational amenities of Clackamas County and the Mount Hood National Forest. Residents also enjoy over 500 acres of open space within the city, including developed parks and natural areas along with 20 miles of regional trail corridors.

The City of Happy Valley is named for the valley formed by Mt Scott and Scouters Mountain. Many of the City's neighborhoods wrap the steep slopes of these two geological formations. Happy Valley is one of the fastest growing cities and has one of the highest median family incomes in Oregon.

The City of Happy Valley is the fastest growing city in Oregon, yet still places a high value on quality of life, community spirit and planned growth. Businesses and residents thrive in this beautiful city, and planning continues for a future of balanced and sustainable growth.

The 2,700 acre Pleasant Valley/North Carver area, which lies east of the city and west of Damascus, has recently been addressed in Happy Valley's comprehensive planning efforts. The plan will build off the East Happy Valley Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2009, and provide direction for the City's overall Comprehensive Plan.

## HISTORY

Native American people, including the Clackamas, Clowewalla and Kalapuya tribes, originally inhabited the Happy Valley area. Extended families lived in year-round villages, hunting, fishing and gathering food, and trading crafts and other goods. In the early 1800s, these native tribes were decimated by smallpox, cholera and other epidemics brought to the area by explorers, traders and settlers. By the 1850s, many surviving Native Americans were moved to the Grande Ronde and other reservations across the Northwest, following treaties with the United States. Many area tribes are now members of the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde.

Early settlement from the eastern US began as a result of donation land claims granted in the 1840s. Christian and Matilda Deardorff settled on a 640 acre land claim in Clackamas County between a cinder cone (Mount Scott) and a knoll (Scouter’s Mountain). Being the first to settle there, the area was known for a time as the Deardorff Valley, Deardorff Settlement and Christilla Valley, after Chris and Tilla Deardorff.

For many years the Happy Valley region was a small farming community. Officially incorporated in 1965, Happy Valley experienced a significant growth spurt in the 1990s. Much of that growth was shaped by intentional community planning efforts as

described on the City’s website:

*Much of the look and feel of the city took decades of thoughtful planning and steadfast leadership to instill development standards that reflect the community values. Since its incorporation as a city in 1965, Happy Valley has grown from a rural area with a population of approximately 300 people to a thriving suburb of over 18,000 residents.*

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Population

The City of Happy Valley was home to 21,700 residents in 2019, according to the Portland State University Center for Population Research. After decades of flat growth from 1970 to 1990, the city’s population has more than tripled between 2000 and 2019, growing by about 20% annually. Happy Valley’s population is expected to continue to grow at a very strong, albeit slower, pace in the coming decades. Metro forecasts that Happy Valley’s population will reach over 32,000 people by 2035, equivalent to a 4% annual growth rate.

Future development of the Pleasant Valley/ North Carver (PV/NC) area will increase population and impact service delivery. The current population of this area is approximately 5,300, and it is expected to grow to 22,000 by 2040. The combined City and PV/NC area population is projected to be 54,000 by 2040.

Figure 1. Population Characteristics: Happy Valley, Clackamas County, Oregon

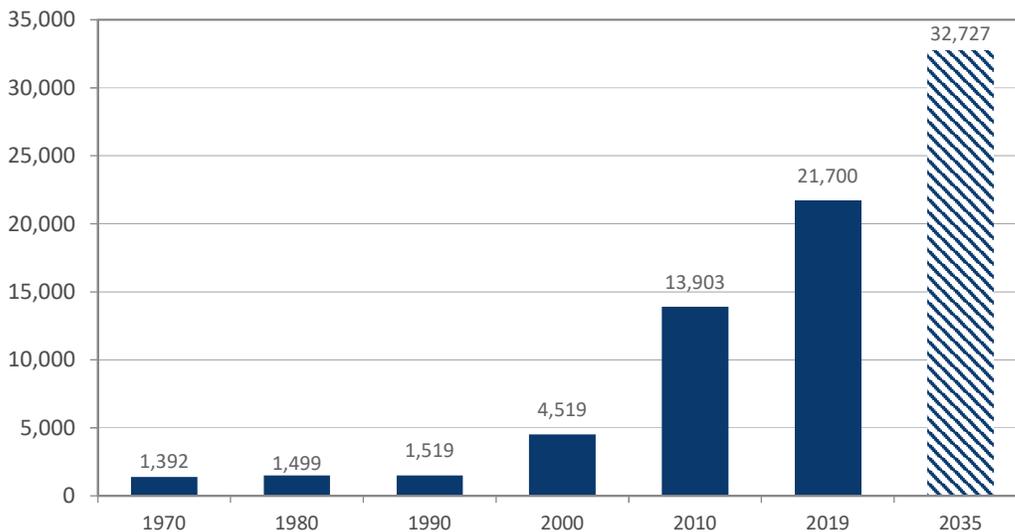


Figure 2. Population Change - 1970 - 2035, City of Happy Valley

Demographics	Happy Valley	Clackamas County	Oregon
<b>Population Characteristics</b>			
Population (2016)	<b>21,700</b>	423,420	4,236,400
Population (2010)	<b>13,903</b>	375,992	3,831,074
Population (2000)	<b>4,519</b>	338,391	3,421,399
Percent Change (2000-19)	<b>380%</b>	25%	24%
Persons w/ Disabilities (%)	<b>6.5%</b>	11.8%	14.6%
<b>Household Characteristics (2013-17)</b>			
Households	<b>6,075</b>	153,822	1,571,631
Percent with children	<b>41.6%</b>	28.9%	26.2%
Median Household Income	<b>\$115,718</b>	\$72,408	\$56,119
Average Household Size	<b>3.03</b>	2.58	2.5
Average Family Size	<b>3.45</b>	3.07	3.05
Owner Occupancy Rate	<b>81.7%</b>	69.6%	61.7%
<b>Age Groups (2013-2017)</b>			
Median Age	<b>38.4</b>	41.4	39.2
Population < 5 years of age	<b>5.9%</b>	5.5%	5.8%
Population < 18 years of age	<b>26.1%</b>	22.1%	21.5%
Population 18 - 64 years of age	<b>64.2%</b>	61.4%	62.2%
Population > 65 years of age	<b>9.7%</b>	16.5%	16.3%

Sources: Portland State University Center for Population Research, 2019 Certified Population Estimates  
 U.S. Census, 2010 Census, 2000 Census, 2013-2017 American Community Survey

### Age Group Distribution

The average Happy Valley resident is 38 years old, which is slightly younger than the average resident in Clackamas County (41.4) and Oregon (39.2). The age distribution of City residents also is slightly younger than that of County residents – approximately 26% of the population is under 18 years of age, 64% is 18 to 64 years, and 10% is over 65 years old. Also, Happy Valley’s population has not aged much since 2000, when the median age was 37.1.

Even with Happy Valley’s rapid population growth over the past 15 years, the population has remained relatively consistent with regard to the distribution of age groups. The community has larger percentages of youth (ages 5 to 14) and adults (ages 35 to 54) than other age groups, see Figure 3. The City’s largest “20-year” population group is comprised of 35 to 54 year-olds, representing 33.4% of the population in 2010. This is again slightly younger than Clackamas County as a whole, where the largest group is also 40 to 59

year olds (30.6%). The following breakdown is used to separate the population into age-sensitive user groups.

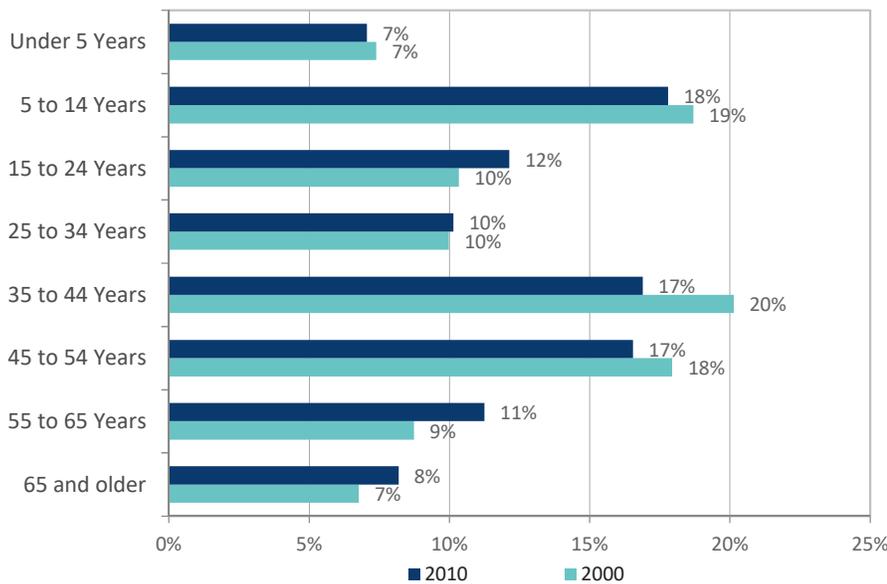
- Under 5 years: This group represents users of preschool and tot programs and facilities, and as trails and open space users, are often in strollers. These individuals are the future participants in youth activities.
- 5 to 14 years: This group represents current youth program participants.
- 15 to 24 years: This group represents teen/young adult program participants moving out of the youth programs and into adult programs. Members of this age group are often seasonal employment seekers.
- 25 to 34 years: This group represents involvement in adult programming with characteristics of beginning long-term relationships and establishing families.

- 35 to 54 years: This group represents users of a wide range of adult programming and park facilities. Their characteristics extend from having children using preschool and youth programs to becoming empty nesters.
- 55 years plus: This group represents users of older adult programming exhibiting the characteristics of approaching

retirement or already retired and typically enjoying grandchildren. This group generally also ranges from very healthy, active seniors to more physically inactive seniors.

Figure 3 illustrates the age distribution characteristics of these cohorts and provides a comparison between the 2000 and 2010 Census data.

Figure 3. Age Group Distributions: 2000 & 2010 Census



## Race & Ethnicity

In 2010, over 76% of Happy Valley residents identified as White. In the same year, the City was 17.4% Asian and less than 2% African American, Native American, or Pacific Islander. Approximately 1% of residents identified as some other race and 3.8% as two or more races. Approximately 4% of residents identify as Hispanic or Latino. The city has become significantly more (+9.2%) racially and ethnically diverse since the 2000 Census.

According to the 2017 American Community Survey, approximately 23.3% of City residents over 5 years old speak a language other than English at home, compared to 15% across the state of Oregon. Approximately 70% of this group also speaks English very well. Of the other languages spoken at home, Vietnamese, Korean and Chinese are the most prominent.

## Household Characteristics

In 2017, the average Happy Valley household included 3.03 people, which was larger than the average household in Clackamas County (2.58), Oregon (2.5) and the nation (2.5). Average household size has decreased slightly since 2000, when it was 3.16 people. The average family size in the city is larger, at 3.45 people. Of the 6,075 households in the City, two-fifths (41.6%) have children under 18.

## Employment & Education

The 2017 work force population (16 years and over) in Happy Valley is 14,244 (69.6%). Of this population, two-thirds (66.8%) is in the labor force and 4% percent is unemployed. Approximately one-third (31.2%) of the City's working age population is not in the workforce. This is on par with percentages in Clackamas County (35%) and Oregon (37.8%).

Happy Valley residents have higher of education attainment than those in Clackamas County and across Oregon. According to the 2017 American Community Survey, 97% of City residents over 25 years of age have a high school degree or higher, which is higher than with county (93%) and statewide (90%) figures. Also, about 52% of City residents over age 25 had earned a Bachelor's degree or higher, as compared to 35% in Clackamas County and 32% statewide.

### Persons with Disabilities

The 2017 American Community Survey reported 6.5% (1,199 persons) of Happy Valley residents have a disability that interferes with life activities. This is lower than both the county average (11.8%) and the state average (14.6%). Of City youth under 18 with a disability (3%), the majority have vision or hearing difficulties. Among residents 65 and older, the percentage rises of people with disabilities rises to 28%, or 509 persons, which is five percent lower than rates found in the general senior population of Clackamas County (33%).

## PLAN CONTENTS

The remainder of the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan is organized as follows:

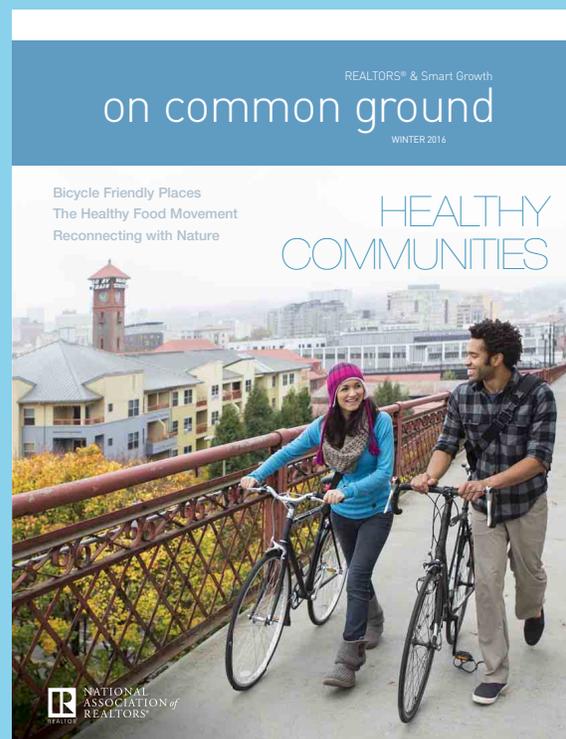
- Chapter 2: Goals & Actions – provides a policy framework for the parks system grouped by major functional or program area.
- Chapter 3: Public Engagement – highlights the methods used to engage the Happy Valley community in the development of the Plan, as well as insights from past community planning efforts.
- Chapter 4: Park System Inventory – describes the existing parks and recreation system in the City.
- Chapters 5: Needs Assessment – discusses community feedback and other recreation trend data and provides context to the identification of potential park system enhancements.
- Chapter 6: Projects & Strategies – describes a range of strategies to consider in the implementation of the Plan and details a 10-year program for addressing park and facility enhancement or expansion projects.
- Appendices: Provides supporting information to the planning effort.

From the winter 2015 issue of the National Association of Realtors (NAR) magazine, the direct link between how communities are built and grow is tied to health and quality of life. More walkable and bike-able environments with better access to nature and parks have become essential for personal well-being and needs to be integrated into community planning. The NAR articles identify walkable communities as a prescription for better health.

Even the U.S. Surgeon General sounded a call to action challenging communities become more walkable to allow more Americans to increase their physical activity through walking. The Center for Disease Control and its Healthy Community Design Initiative focuses on walkability and the need to better integrate into transportation planning.

The NAR magazine issue also reported on the value of bicycle-friendly communities and the direct tie to healthy and sustainable living. Access to healthy, locally-grown food choices is reported with the value of community gardens and urban food hubs for healthy diets, as well as connection to community engagement.

Realtors have long been aware that housing near a good system of parks and trails will hold strong appeal to buyers. The winter NAR issue illustrates the recognition that community design for healthy living goes beyond the single house location. People want choices, and these healthy community design traits of walking, biking, trails and parks all play an important role in housing prices, sales and re-sales.



# BENEFITS OF PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

A number of organizations and non-profits have documented the overall health and wellness benefits provided by parks, open space and trails. The Trust for Public Land published a report in 2005 called *The Benefits of Parks: Why America Needs More City Parks and Open Space*. This report makes the following observations about the health, economic, environmental and social benefits of parks and open space:

- Physical activity makes people healthier.
- Physical activity increases with access to parks.
- Contact with the natural world improves physical and physiological health.
- Value is added to community and economic development sustainability.
- Benefits of tourism are enhanced.
- Trees are effective in improving air quality and assisting with stormwater control.
- Recreational opportunities for all ages are provided.



## Physical Activity Benefits

Residents in communities with increased access to parks, recreation, natural areas and trails have more opportunities for physical activity, both through recreation and active transportation. By participating in physical activity, residents can reduce their risk of being or becoming overweight or obese, decrease their likelihood of suffering from chronic diseases, such as heart disease and type-2 diabetes, and improve their levels of stress and anxiety. Nearby access to parks has been shown to increase levels of physical activity. According to studies cited in a 2010 report by the National Park and Recreation Association, the majority of people of all ages who visit parks are physically active during their visit. Also, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that greater access to parks leads to 25% more people exercising three or more days per week.



## Social & Community Benefits

Park and recreation facilities provide opportunities to engage with family, friends, and neighbors, thereby increasing social capital and community cohesion, which can improve residents' mental health and overall well-being. People who feel that they are connected to their community and those who participate in recreational, community and other activities are more likely to have better mental and physical health and to live longer lives. Access to parks and recreational facilities has also been linked to reductions in crime, particularly juvenile delinquency.



## Economic Benefits

Parks and recreation facilities can bring positive economic impacts through increased property values, increased attractiveness for businesses and workers (quality of life), and through direct increases in employment opportunities.

In Oregon, outdoor recreation generates \$12.8 billion in consumer spending, creates 141,000 direct jobs and results in \$955 million in state and local tax revenue. Preserving access to outdoor recreation protects the economy, the businesses, the communities and the people who depend on the ability to play outside. According to the Outdoor Recreation Economy Report published by the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy through management and investment in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for citizens.



## 2 | GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives described in this chapter define the park and recreation services that Happy Valley aims to provide. These goals and objectives were derived from input received throughout the planning process, from city staff and officials, the Parks Advisory Committee and community members and stakeholders.

### Goals & Objectives

Taken together, the goals and objectives provide a framework for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. A goal is a general statement describing an outcome the City wishes to provide. Goals typically do not change over time unless community values shift. Objectives are more specific, measurable statements that describe a means to achieving the stated goals. Objectives may change over time. Recommendations are specific actions intended to implement and achieve the goals and objectives and are contained in subsequent chapters of the Plan.

### Oregon Goal 8 on Recreation Planning

Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal 8 states:

*“The requirements for meeting such needs, now and in the future, shall be planned for by governmental agencies having responsibility for recreation areas, facilities and opportunities: (1) in coordination with private enterprise; (2) in appropriate proportions; and (3) in such quantity, quality and locations as is consistent with the availability of the resources to meet such requirements. State and federal agency recreation plans shall be coordinated with local and regional recreational needs and plans.”*

The City of Happy Valley has included these elements in this Plan.



## Community Involvement & Information

**Goal 1: Encourage and support active and ongoing participation by diverse community members in the planning and decision-making for parks and recreational opportunities.**

- 1.1 Involve residents and stakeholders in park and recreation facility planning and design and recreation program development in order to solicit community input, facilitate project understanding and engender public support.
- 1.2 Continue to use a variety of methods and media to publicize and increase resident awareness about recreational opportunities available in local neighborhoods and citywide.
- 1.3 Support the Parks Advisory Committee as the forum for public discussion of park and recreation issues.
- 1.4 Continue to maintain open dialog and coordination between City Council and the Parks Advisory Committee to support a City Council liaison position that will interface between City Council and the Parks Advisory Committee.
- 1.5 Conduct periodic joint sessions between the Parks Advisory Committee and other standing City boards, such as the Planning Commission, and with City Council to improve coordination and discuss policy matters of mutual interest pertaining to recreational resources, opportunities and funding.
- 1.6 Prepare, publish and promote a park and trail facilities map for online and print distribution to highlight existing and proposed sites and routes.
- 1.7 Continue to promote and distribute information about parks, recreational amenities, events and volunteer activities sponsored by the City and partner organizations.
- 1.8 Survey, review and publish local park and recreation preferences, needs and trends at least once every five years to stay current with community attitudes and interests.



## Parks & Open Spaces

### Goal 2: Acquire a diversified system of parks, recreation facilities and open spaces that provides equitable access to all residents.

- 2.1 Proactively seek parkland identified within this Plan, in both developed and undeveloped areas, to secure suitable locations for new parks and open spaces.
  - 2.1A Strive to provide a distributed network of parks, such that all city residents live within a ½-mile of a developed neighborhood or community park.
  - 2.1B Strive to provide a service standard of 2 acres per 1,000 persons of developed neighborhood parks.
  - 2.1C Strive to provide a service standard of 4 acres per 1,000 persons of developed community parks.
- 2.2 Identify and prioritize lands for inclusion in the parks and open space system based on factors such as contribution to level of service, connectivity, preservation and scenic or recreational opportunities for residents.
- 2.3 Maintain and update acquisition guidelines for future parks to ensure the future sites have the necessary characteristics to provide recreational value and prepare development standards to ensure sound park design.
- 2.4 Continue to coordinate with the Community Development Department for Parks Division staff review and comment on development proposals to improve park siting and community planning; Update the development code as necessary to accommodate development review for park infrastructure.
- 2.5 Continue to explore opportunities to work with land developers for parkland set-asides and the potential for parklands to be deeded to the City.
- 2.5 Seek and implement opportunities for the acquisition and use of contiguous school and park sites for recreational purposes beneficial to both the City and local school districts.
- 2.6 Evaluate opportunities to acquire lands declared surplus by other public agencies for park and recreation use if such land is located in an area of need or can expand an existing City property.
- 2.7 Periodically coordinate with Clackamas County to strategize for the acquisition of parks and open spaces within or in close proximity to the Happy Valley Urban Growth Management Area.
- 2.8 Establish or improve urban public services in newly annexed areas, as funds are available, to meet established levels of service.



## Site Design & Development

**Goal 3: Design and develop high-quality parks and recreation facilities to ensure the safety and enjoyment of users and maximize recreational experiences.**

- 3.1 Design and maintain parks and facilities to offer universal accessibility for residents of all physical capabilities, skill levels and age, as appropriate; Assess planned and existing parks and trails for compliance with the adopted Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design.
- 3.2 Incorporate sustainable development and low impact design practices into the design, planning and rehabilitation of new and existing facilities; Consider the use of native vegetation for landscaping in parks to minimize maintenance requirements.
- 3.3 Develop parks based on master plans, management plans or other adopted strategies to ensure parks reflect local needs, community input, recreational and conservation goals and available financial resources.
- 3.4 Create illustrative master plans for park development or redevelopment, as appropriate, to take advantage of grants, partnerships or other funding opportunities.
- 3.5 Ensure that designs for parks and outdoor recreation elements are prepared by qualified park and recreation planners or landscape architects.
- 3.6 Design and manage special facilities to accommodate compatible, multiple purposes and uses, when appropriate.
- 3.7 Develop and implement design and development standards for park and recreation amenities within private developments to encourage and promote innovative park installations that provide acceptable levels of improvement and address community facility needs, equipment types, public safety, accessibility and installation and maintenance procedures.
- 3.8 Standardize the use of graphics and signage to establish a consistent identity at all parks and facilities.
- 3.9 Standardize park furniture (trash cans, tables, benches, fencing) to reduce inventory costs and improve appearance of, and maintenance consistency within, parks.

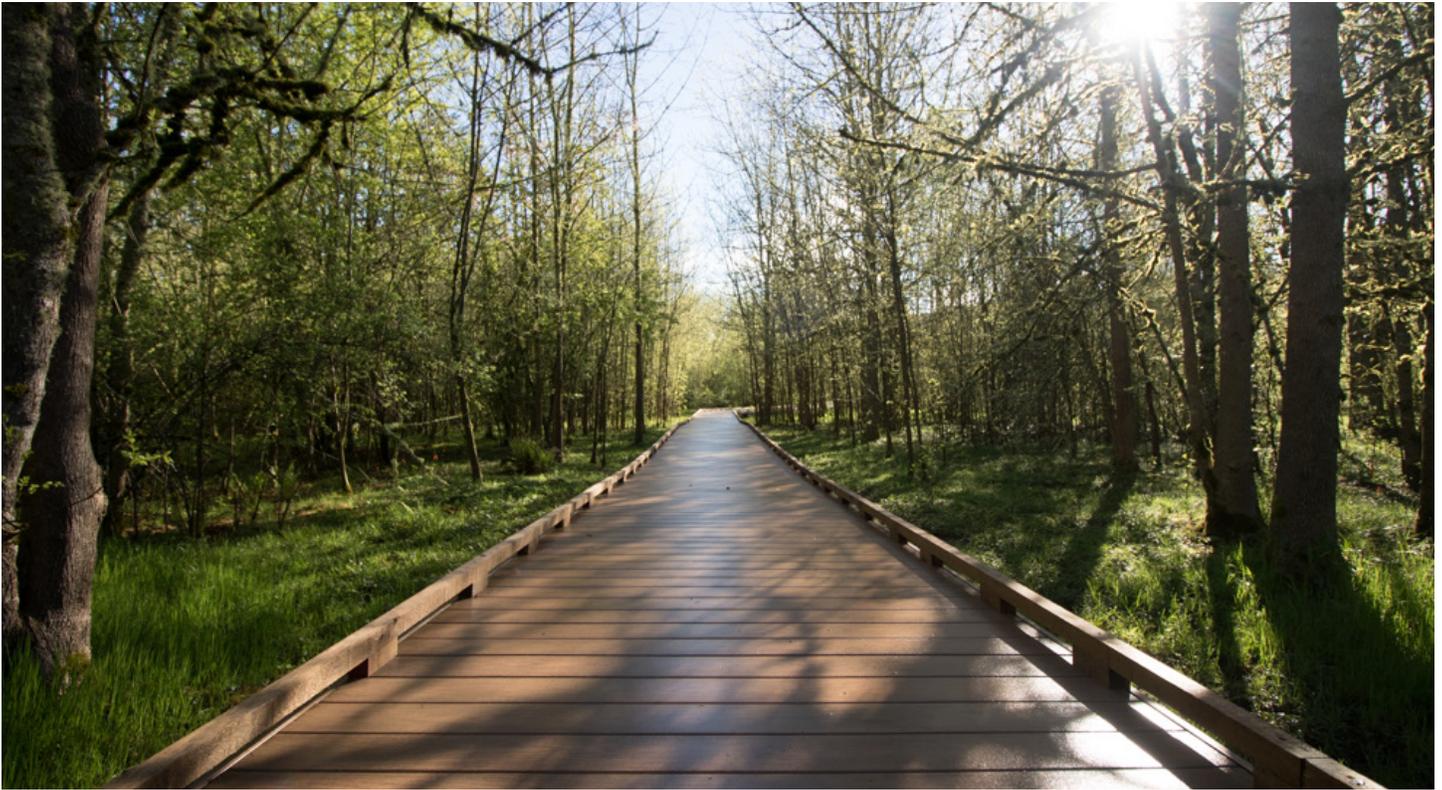


- 3.10 Consider local needs, park hours, recreational trends and availability of similar facilities within the City and region when planning for specialized recreational facilities, such as dog parks, skateboarding, BMX, mountain biking, ultimate frisbee, disc golf, climbing and parkour.
- 3.11 Encourage the development of specialized facilities that generate revenues to offset the cost of their operation and maintenance.
- 3.12 Explore opportunities to partner with local organizations to develop and manage specialized facilities.
- 3.13 Provide additional large picnic shelters for events, such as family gatherings, community events and other meetings.

## Maintenance & Operations

**Goal 4: Provide a parks and recreation system that is efficient to maintain and operate, provides a high level of user comfort, safety and aesthetic quality, and protects capital investments.**

- 4.1 Maintain all parks and facilities in a manner that keeps them in safe and attractive condition; Repair or remove damaged components immediately upon identification.
- 4.2 Maintain an inventory of assets and their condition; Update the inventory as assets are added, updated or removed from the system and periodically assess the condition of park and recreation facilities and infrastructure.
- 4.3 Establish and monitor procedures to document the costs of maintaining City-owned facilities by their function, including public buildings, infrastructure, parks and natural areas.
- 4.4 Continue to maintain a revolving replacement fund for capital repairs and replacements over time.
- 4.5 Consider the maintenance costs and staffing levels associated with acquisition, development, or renovation of parks or natural open space areas, and adjust the annual operating budget accordingly for adequate maintenance funding of the system expansion.
- 4.6 Encourage and promote volunteer park improvement and maintenance projects from a variety of individuals, service clubs, local watershed councils, faith organizations and businesses.



## Trails & Park Connections

**Goal 5: Develop a network of shared-use trails and bicycle & pedestrian corridors to enable connectivity between parks, neighborhoods and public amenities.**

- 5.1 Support the implementation of the Pedestrian System and Trail Master Plan and the trails and bikeways component of the Pleasant Valley/ North Carver Comprehensive Plan.
- 5.2 Connect and coordinate the City's pedestrian and bicycle trail network with Metro's regional system of on-street and off-street trails.
- 5.3 Integrate the siting of proposed trail segments into the development review process; require development projects along designated trail routes to be designed to incorporate trail segments as part of the project.
- 5.4 Establish a maximum spacing standard for trail linkages within new developments, such that multiple entry points to a trail corridor are provided to improve access and convenience for residents.
- 5.5 Expand the system of off-street trails by utilizing parks, utility corridors, creekways and greenway corridors, as appropriate.
- 5.6 Work with local agencies, utilities and private landholders to secure trail easements and access to open space for trail connections.
- 5.7 Provide trailhead accommodations, as appropriate, to include parking, wayfinding signage, benches, restrooms and other amenities.
- 5.8 Coordinate with Metro and other partners and volunteers to conduct annual trail user counts to inform future trail planning.



## Recreation Programming

### Goal 6: Facilitate and promote a varied and inclusive suite of recreation programs that accommodate a spectrum of ages, interests and abilities.

- 6.1 Continue to support special events, festivals, concerts and cultural programming to promote arts, health and wellness, community identity, tourism, the benefits of recreation, and to foster civic pride.
- 6.2 Expand the City's role as a primary provider of recreation programs and services and increase programming to meet changing demographics and growing community needs.
- 6.3 Monitor local and regional recreation trends to ensure community needs and interests are addressed by available programming.
- 6.4 Emphasize programming for children, teens, seniors, people with disabilities and other populations with limited access to market-based recreation options.
- 6.5 With the provision of recreation programming, prepare and conduct periodic evaluations of program offerings in terms of persons served, customer satisfaction, cost/subsidy, cost recovery, local and regional recreation trends, and availability of similar programs via other providers.
- 6.6 Consider the establishment of recreation program scholarships, fee waivers, and other mechanisms to support recreation access for low-income program participants.
- 6.7 Partner and coordinate with the North Clackamas School District to maximize public use of recreation facilities on school sites, especially athletic fields and gymnasiums, and to encourage provision of community education programming at schools.
- 6.8 Leverage City resources by forming and maintaining partnerships with other public, non-profit and private recreation providers to deliver recreation services and secure access to existing facilities for community recreation.
- 6.9 Coordinate with public, private and non-profit providers, such as organized sports leagues, to plan for projects to expand facilities for athletic fields.
- 6.10 Study and create cost recovery guidelines and fee policy for planned recreation programs and services.
- 6.11 Explore and consider opportunities to develop an indoor community/recreation center, potentially in partnership with other organizations or agencies. Consider financial feasibility and long-term operations needs prior to design or construction of any new facility.
- 6.12 Explore partnership opportunities with regional health care providers and services, such as Kaiser Permanente, Providence and the Clackamas County Public Health Department, to promote wellness activities, healthy lifestyles and communications about local facilities and the benefits of parks and recreation.



## Administration & Management

### Goal 7: Provide leadership and management of the park, recreation and open space system throughout the City.

- 7.1 Provide sufficient financial and staff resources to maintain the overall parks and recreation system to high standards.
- 7.2 Maximize operational efficiency to provide the greatest public benefit for the resources expended, including potentially considering contracted services for landscaping, waste management or other needs.
- 7.3 Periodically review and update the Park System Development Charge rates and methodology.
- 7.4 Pursue alternative funding options and dedicated revenues for the acquisition and development of parks and facilities, such as private donation, sponsorships, partnerships, state and federal grant sources, among others.
- 7.5 Explore and evaluate the potential for a voter-approved levy to support and finance the implementation of recreation programming and other park and recreation services.
- 7.6 Consider asking local voters for support for an operating levy to provide park operations and maintenance funding following the withdrawal from NCPRD.
- 7.7 Promote professional development opportunities that strengthen the core skills and engender greater commitment from staff, Parks Advisory Committee members and key volunteers, to include trainings, materials and/or affiliation with the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) and the Oregon Recreation & Park Association (ORPA).
- 7.8 Periodically evaluate user satisfaction and statistical use of parks, facilities and programs, including trail counts; share this information with the Parks Advisory Committee and City Council as part of the decision making process to revise program offerings or renovate facilities.
- 7.9 Work with the Chamber of Commerce and the Happy Valley Business Alliance to develop information packets that promote City services to tourists and new residents.



## 3 | PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

### COMMUNITY LISTENING

Community engagement and input played a crucial role in revealing the current interests in and needs for the provision of park and recreation opportunities, as well as establishing the future recreational framework that reflects community priorities. This planning process leaned on direct community outreach, stakeholder meetings, surveys and extensive inventorying to provide a baseline of local demand and need. Public outreach methods were varied and extensive, including:

- Two community workshops
- Online open house & community survey
- Review of NCPRD community survey (2012)
- Tabling outreach at five events
- Three stakeholder discussions (2 group & 1 individual)
- Social media content & emails
- Parks Advisory Committee meetings
- Community workshops for the Pleasant Valley/North Carver Comprehensive Plan

Throughout this process, the public provided information and expressed opinions about their needs and priorities for parks, trails and recreation facilities and programs in Happy Valley. Most residents care deeply about the future of Happy Valley's parks and recreation system and appreciated the opportunity to offer feedback in the development of this Plan. This feedback played a crucial role in updating policy statements and prioritizing the Capital Improvements Plan project list contained within this Plan.

### 2017 Public Meetings

The project team sought feedback from local residents and program users at two public meetings, plus an online open house. The first was held at Happy Valley Park, and the second was held at Happy Valley City Hall. Meeting flyers, newspaper articles, social media and email announcements were used to publicize the events and encourage participation. Summary responses from each of the meetings are provided in Appendix A.

## Community Workshop #1

Community members were invited to an public workshop on Thursday, August 10, 2017 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Happy Valley Park. The open house was planned to occur immediately before an outdoor summertime concert in the park and engage passers-by as they were getting ready to watch the performance. Approximately 100 people stopped by to participate in the activities. Free food, ice cream and a bounce house was provided for the community to enjoy.

As the first of two public sessions for the Plan, the workshop was organized in a series of “stations”. Each station included informational tables with display boards, and some stations included activities for people to provide input. These displays included project overview, summary of park and outdoor recreation assets, community priorities, and ideas about investing in future recreation amenities. Attendees were encouraged to talk to project team members, record their comments and complete a written survey.



## Online Open House

The online open house mirrored the in-person workshop event, and it was organized in a series of “stations” with the same information and questions asked in the comment form. The online open house including an interactive map and comment wall where people could post ideas and see other comment responses.

## Community Workshop #2

A public meeting for the unveiling of the Draft Parks Plan was held in conjunction with a Parks Advisory Committee meeting on September 11, 2017 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the draft version of the Parks Plan and provide an overview of key elements in the plan, including the plan goals, projects and strategies for maintaining and acquiring future parks lands, and financing strategies.

## 2017 Community Survey

A comment form and survey was prepared to gather additional insights about residents’ interests and needs for parks, trails and recreation facilities. The survey asked people to prioritize different parks facilities, amenities, and activities, indicate how they use and access their parks currently, indicate what currently is not being provided by Happy Valley’s parks, and optional demographic questions. Comment forms were available at the workshop, tabling events and stakeholder meetings.

Since the comment form and survey were utilized at multiple outreach events, the responses to all the questions asked at the community workshop, online open house, comment forms and tabling activities were aggregated for analysis. In all, approximately 575 responses were gathered. The following are some of the highlighted responses gathered, and the Needs Assessment chapter

addresses community responses in more depth.

- Most agreed that top priorities identified in previous outreach processes are still important today (85% of respondents).
- Among the suggested changes provided by participants, a community center, aquatic center, or swimming pool was a popular suggestion.
- Approximately 50% of respondents live within a ½-mile of a park.

Respondents were asked about their sense of importance of a variety of park amenities that should be offered by the City.

- Overall, participants said that it is very important to provide walking trails, followed by aquatic facilities.
- Over 80% of participants rated natural play areas, gathering spaces, and playgrounds as important or very important amenities.
- Public art, community gardens, and skate parks were rated among the least important features to add to parks.

Recognizing that the idea of a community center is one that has been of interest for residents for a number of years, the survey asked about the importance of a range of amenities that should be considered in a community center.

- A swimming pool was overwhelmingly identified as the most important amenity to provide in a community center, followed by a walking and running track.
- Basketball, fitness/training room and teen center were also identified as important community center amenities.

## Review of 2012 NCPRD Parks & Recreation Survey

A community survey was conducted in September 2012 to identify general sentiment and demand for parks and recreation facilities and to assist NCPRD in the update to its Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The survey was conducted using three methods: 1) a mail-back survey, 2) an online invitation only survey, and 3) an open link online survey for members of the public who did not receive a randomly selected survey in the mail. In total, 798 surveys were completed.

The results from this survey will be used to inform and guide the direction of Happy Valley's citywide Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Highlights from the survey are noted below, and an analysis of survey data is discussed in more detail in Chapter 5: Needs Assessment.

Overall, 84% of respondents said the availability of local parks and recreation opportunities were important or extremely important.

The following were the top four most frequently used park and recreation facilities – with percentages shown for households who used these facilities at least once in the year:

- Neighborhood parks (81% of households)
- Large community parks (70% of households)
- Trails within parks (70% of households)
- Natural areas (62% of households)

Respondents were also asked to rate those facilities that they felt were the most important to their household. The top five facility types include the following:

- Large community parks
- Natural areas
- Trails within parks
- Neighborhood parks
- Playgrounds / Play areas

## Stakeholder Discussions

Interviews with internal and external stakeholders were conducted to more broadly assess the opportunities for site enhancements, partnerships and coordination. Stakeholders were identified by City staff based on their past coordination with the City and their involvement or interest in the future of Happy Valley's park, recreation or trail facilities. The stakeholder meetings were held between July and August 2017, and the following organizations provided insight to the Plan:

- Happy Valley Business Alliance
- Group session including representatives from Clackamas Junior Baseball, Clackamas United Soccer Club, Eastside Timbers Recreation Soccer and Clackamas Youth Lacrosse (*via email*)

Stakeholder comments were often specific to the particular perspective or interest of the stakeholder group. Overall, comments were very favorable with regard to existing City park facilities and recreation opportunities. Stakeholders were quick to offer suggestions for potential improvements and many saw the importance and value in the City charting its own future for parks and recreation offerings. Suggested projects ranged from developing a new sport field complex to installing all-weather turf over existing fields at Happy Valley Park to developing a community center with a pool. Specific recommendations are incorporated in the Needs Assessment chapter, and stakeholder discussion summaries are provided in Appendix C.

## Parks Advisory Committee Meetings

The Parks Advisory Committee provided feedback on the Plan during two public sessions. Early in the project, the Committee heard an overview of the project scope and timeline, and they offered comments regarding current issues and challenges. The Committee also received a project update and overview of the draft Plan that included an overview of the planning process, key themes and draft recommendations for parks, recreation and trail opportunities.

## Pleasant Valley/North Carver Comprehensive Plan Workshops

The comprehensive plan process involves gathering ideas from property owners, the general public, neighboring cities and counties, and other stakeholders. The City formed a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and a 13-member Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to help develop the plan and reach out to the community. As part of the public outreach process, the City held two in-person community workshops and one concurrent online open house in spring 2019 to gain input from community members.

At each of the workshops, display boards provided project overview information, and maps of the project area, including detailed information about existing transportation systems, parks, employment areas and geographic characteristics. The online workshop modeled the same format as the in-person workshops and was available through the project website from April through May 2019. The online workshop was promoted through social media and the CAC.

The following represent some of the comments and themes from these sessions that relate to parks, open space and trails for the Pleasant Valley/North Carver area.

- Open spaces were a priority, in areas such as buttes, wildlife habitat, creeks, undeveloped areas, forest areas and greenspaces. Preference were noted for wildlife corridors, along with wide riparian buffers, wilderness areas and weaving nature into future design.
- Requests were made for dog parks and additional city parks.
- Participants preferred the riverfront access, walking access and social aspects of the Carver Area concept design (B).
- There was a general sentiment of creating trails connecting parks and neighborhoods as being important – with people prioritizing trails that enable neighborhood connectivity.
- There was an overall need for better bike access, especially regarding protected bike lanes, shared-used areas for both bikes and pedestrians, and thoughtful route planning that provides north-south connections.

## Other Outreach & Promotions

In addition to the direct outreach opportunities noted above, the Happy Valley community was informed about the planning process through a variety of media platforms. The following methods were used to inform residents about the project and about opportunities to participate and offer their comments.

- Project website
- Project Video
- Tabling
- City Newsletters
- Email blasts
- Facebook & Twitter

## Project Website

An additional webpage was created for Parks and Recreation on the City’s website. The website includes a brief overview of the master plan project including the project video, event dates, links to the online open house, and a sign up form to get updated on the project.

## Project Video

The City of Happy Valley developed a promotional video to generate interest in the master plan project and encourage public involvement. The video promoted the Community Workshop and featured the City Mayor, members of the Parks Advisory Committee and Happy Valley residents expressing what they love about Happy Valley parks and what parks features they want to see in the future.

## Tabling

The Community Workshop was promoted at the City’s annual July Fourth Festival and the Summer Concert series throughout the months of July and August. The online open house was promoted at a farmers market and grocery stores in the area.

## Email Blasts

Email blasts were sent to the project’s interested parties list, key stakeholder groups, and other community organizations. The emails informed the public about the workshop and what to expect, and promoted the opportunity to provide feedback online.

## City Newsletters

The Happy Valley Monthly Newsletter featured articles in the July, August and September issues about the Parks Plan including information about what the Parks Plan will do, why the projects is happening now, and how it will impact taxes. The articles also informed the public about the workshop event and ways to participate online.

## Social Media

A dedicated Facebook page (@HappyValleyParksandRec) was developed for this project and future Parks and Recreation-related programming, event, and updates to be managed by the City. The Facebook page was used to generate and maintain ongoing interest in the project, drive traffic to the project website, and inform the public about

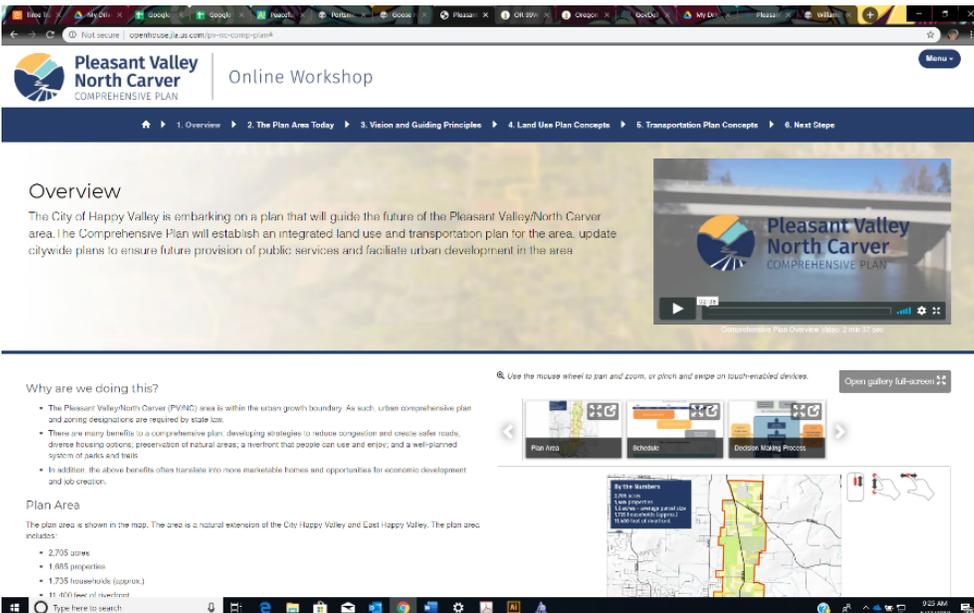
upcoming engagement activities for the Parks Plan. The City also purchased a Facebook ad to direct the public to participate in the online open house.

Notifications were posted on both Facebook and the City's Twitter page frequently leading up to the August Workshop, Online Open House, and the September Draft Parks Plan unveiling.

Figure 4. Screenshot of Facebook Project Site & Posting



Figure 5. PV/NC Comp Plan Online Workshop





## 4 | PARK SYSTEM INVENTORY

### PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Parkland is classified to assist in planning for the community's recreational needs. The Happy Valley park system is composed of a hierarchy of various park types, each offering recreational and/or natural area opportunities. Separately, each park type may serve only one function, but collectively the system will serve the full range of community needs. Classifying parkland by function allows the City to evaluate its needs and to plan for an efficient, cost effective and usable park system that minimizes conflicts between park users and adjacent uses. The classification characteristics are meant as general guidelines addressing the intended size and use of each park type. The following five classifications are in effect in Happy Valley and are defined as follow:

- Community Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Pocket Parks
- Special Use Facilities
- Natural Areas / Open Space

### Community Parks

Community parks are large park sites developed for organized play that generally contain a wide array of both passive and active recreation facilities and appeal to a diverse group of users. In general, community parks are designed for active and structured recreational activities and sports, although complementary passive components such as pathways, picnic areas and natural areas provide non-organized opportunities for individual and family activities.

Community parks are generally 15 to 40 acres in size, should meet a minimum size of 20 acres when possible and serve residents within a 2-mile drive, walk or bike ride from the site. In areas without neighborhood parks, community parks can also serve as local neighborhood parks. Since community parks serve a large geographic area and offer more facilities than neighborhood parks, on-site parking and restroom facilities should be provided.

## Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are generally considered the basic unit of traditional park systems. They are small park areas designed for unstructured, non-organized play and limited active and passive recreation. They are generally 2 to 5 acres in size, depending on a variety of factors including neighborhood need, physical location and opportunity, and should meet a minimum size of 3 acres in size when possible.

Neighborhood parks are intended to serve residential areas within close proximity (up to ½-mile walking or biking distance) of the park and should be geographically distributed throughout the community. Access to neighborhood parks is mostly pedestrian, and park sites should be located such that people living within the service area can reach the park safely and conveniently. Neighborhood parks should be located along road frontages to improve visual access and community awareness of the sites. Connecting and frontage streets should include sidewalks or other safe pedestrian access. Additionally, street plans should encourage maximum connectivity and public access to park sites.

Generally, developed neighborhood parks typically include amenities such as pedestrian paths, picnic tables, benches, play equipment, open field area for informal play, sport courts or multi-purpose paved areas and landscaping. When neighborhood parks are designed in conjunction with school sites, these sites typically include multi-use sport fields. On-site parking and ADA-accessible parking may be provided.

## Pocket Parks

Pocket parks are small parks that provide limited opportunities for active play and passive recreation. They are generally less than ½-acre in size and provide some recreational amenity to residents within a ¼-mile walking distance. Developed pocket parks may include lawn or other vegetation, a place to sit, and possibly a small feature, such as a play area, public art, or a historic or cultural marker.

While pocket parks can bring additional recreational amenities to a community, they do not provide the range of experiences and activities of neighborhood and community parks due to their small size. This Plan recommends against pursuing additional, publicly-owned and managed pocket parks due to the higher maintenance costs and lower recreational value. The existing pocket park (Lucille Park) has no opportunity for expansion.

## Special Use Areas

Special use facilities include single-purpose recreational areas or stand-alone sites designed to support a specific, specialized use. This classification may include stand-alone sport field complexes, golf courses, sites of historical or cultural significance, such as museums, historical landmarks and structures, and public plazas in or near commercial centers. Specialized facilities may also be provided within a park of another classification. No standards exist or are proposed concerning special facilities, since facility size is a function of the specific use.

## Natural Areas & Open Space

Natural areas are undeveloped lands primarily left in a natural state and typically places that are geographically or geologically unique, with passive recreation use as a secondary objective. Natural areas can provide for connected or linked corridors that can support broader ecological functions than stand-alone properties. Open spaces are individual or isolated tracts of open space that are not connected to a larger natural area network. Natural areas may serve as trail corridors, and low-impact or passive activities, such as walking and nature observation may be allowed, where appropriate. No standards exist or are proposed for natural resource areas or open spaces.

# FACILITY INVENTORY

Happy Valley provides and maintains a growing system of parks that supports a range of active and passive experiences. The park and open space inventory identifies the recreational assets within Happy Valley.

The City provides four developed parks, 19 miles of trails and over 72 acres of undeveloped open space. The following table summarizes the current land inventory in Happy Valley. The map on the following page shows the location of existing parks, trails and open spaces within the City.

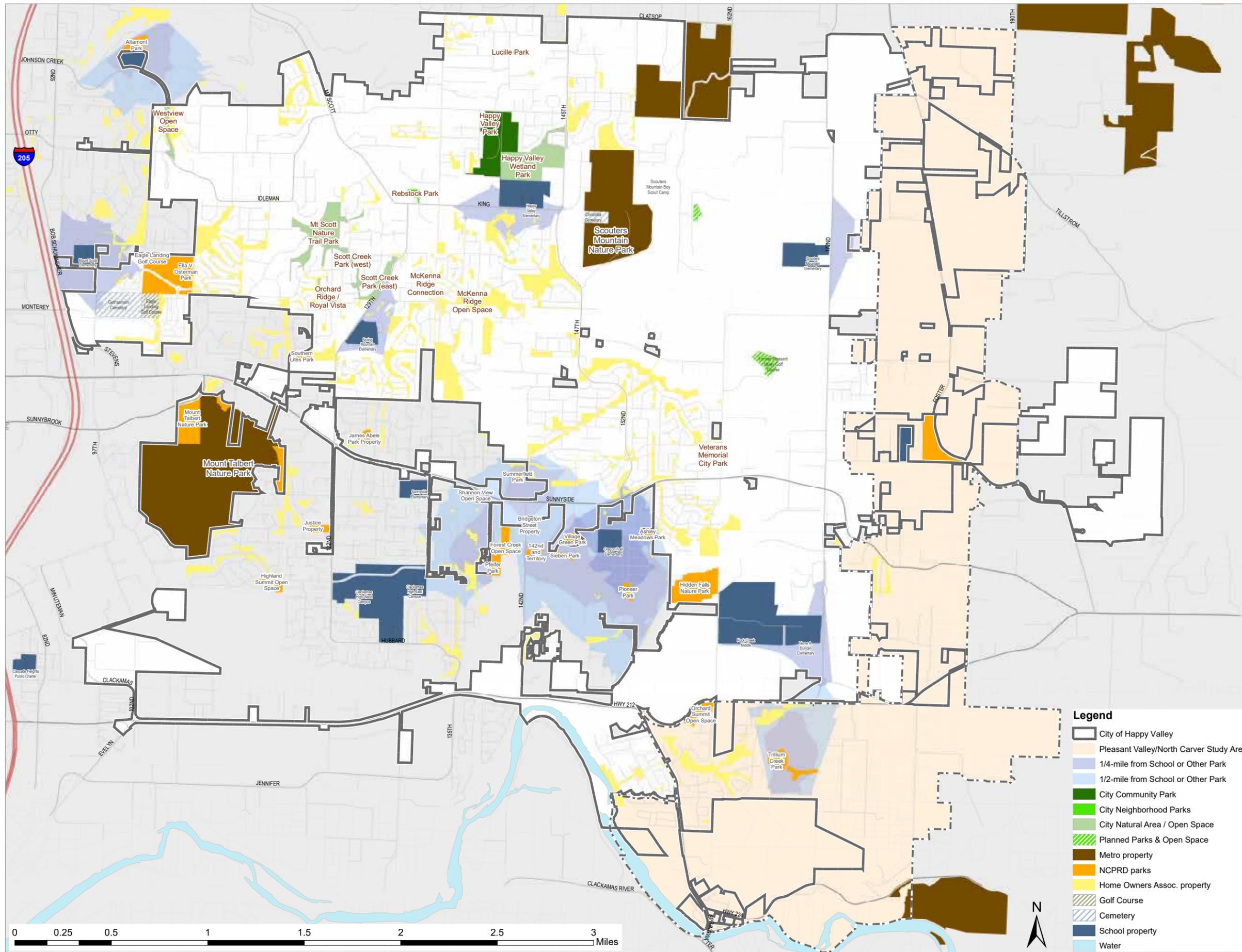
Figure 6. Existing Inventory of City-owned Parklands

			Recreation Amenities							Site Amenities									
			Playgrounds	Paved Courts: Basketball	Paved Courts: Tennis	Baseball / Softball Fields	Pathways / Trails	Skate Park	Splash Pad	Other Rec Element	Site Furnishings	Lighting	Signage	Parking Areas (incl on-street)	Public Art	Restrooms	Picnic Shelters	Turf / Open Lawn Areas	Natural Areas
<b>PARKS</b>																			
Happy Valley Park	Community Park	31.2	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			●		●	●	●	●	
Rebstock Park	Neighborhood Park	1.3										●	●			●	●		
Lucille Park	Pocket Park	0.2															●		
Veterans Memorial (pending)	Special Use Area	0.5					●		●	●		●	●					●	
Happy Valley Wetland Park	Natural Area	31.7					●		●	●		●	●					●	
Mt Scott Nature Park	Natural Area	25.6					●											●	
Scott Creek Trail	Natural Area	8.1					●											●	
McKenna Ridge Connection	Open Space	0.1																●	
McKenna Ridge Open Space	Open Space	0.9																●	
Orchard Ridge / Royal Vista	Open Space	2.3																●	
Westview Open Space	Open Space	3.8																●	
Ella V Osterman *	Neighborhood Park	16.0	●				●			●		●				●	●	●	
Ashley Meadows Park *	Neighborhood Park	1.7	●	●			●			●		●				●	●		
Southern Lites Park *	Neighborhood Park	3.0	●	●			●			●		●					●	●	
Trillium Creek Park*	Neighborhood Park	7.7	●	●			●									●	●		
Village Green Park *	Neighborhood Park	2.7	●	●					●	●		●			●	●	●		
Hidden Falls Nature Park*	Open Space	22.2					●					●						●	
Orchard Summit Open Space*	Open Space	4.2																●	
SE Vogel Road Site*	Open Space	14.3																●	
Hood View Park *	Special Facility	36.0	●			●	●			●	●	●	●		●		●		
Mt Talbert *	Regional Park	220.6					●					●	●	●	●	●		●	
Scouters Mountain *	Regional Park	96.7					●					●	●		●	●		●	
Richardson Creek Natural Area*	Regional Natural Area	4.8																●	

\* signifies properties not currently owned or operated by the City of Happy Valley

The maps on the following pages identify existing parks, open spaces and trails in Happy Valley.

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Map I: Existing Parks & Open Space

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## Rebstock Park

Neighborhood Park

12915 SE King Road

1.3 acres

### AMENITIES

- Parking
- Gazebo
- Pathways
- Park trees
- Plantings
- Open grass lawn

### DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- If this park is to become viable in the future, a connection to adjacent residential site (currently being developed) should be incorporated into a new park circulation system.
- Park currently has no accommodation for ADA access into gazebo area. Existing entry path to gazebo is too steep for ADA.
- Path system could be re-designed and additional recreational amenities incorporated.
- ADA parking does not have painted accessible aisle.

### MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Trim hedge shrubs between community police parking and park area to create more visibility for park sign.
- Dead tree in upper grass area should be removed.





## Happy Valley Park

Community Park

13770 SE Ridgecrest Road

31.2 acres

### AMENITIES

- Parking lots (4 locations)
- Restrooms with picnic shelter (upper area)
- Skate park
- Basketball court
- Tennis courts (with pickle ball)
- Gazebo & amphitheater seating
- Splash pad
- Inclusive play area
- Playgrounds
- Swing sets
- Exercise stations
- Baseball / softball fields
- Soccer fields
- Sand volleyball
- Horseshoe pits
- Picnic shelters (2 in lower area)
- Restrooms (lower area)
- Paved pathways
- Off-leash dog park (with small & large dog area)
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Drinking fountains
- Community garden
- Trash receptacles
- Open grass lawn
- Park trees
- Natural areas (Mt Scott Creek corridor)

### DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- Update universal access/ADA compliance with adjustments to handicapped parking connections to paved pathways: add striped access aisles and detectible warning strips.
- Update free-standing drinking fountains to ADA compliant fixtures.
- Connect sports field viewing areas (bleacher seating) with paved pathways into existing park trails for full access. Add paved pathways to team seating to remove step up into dugouts.



### MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Consider replacing sport field grass with all-weather turf.





## Lucille Park

Pocket Park

SE Lucille at SE 139th

0.2 acres

### AMENITIES

- Existing mown grass and a few trees

### DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- This undeveloped corner lot has no sidewalk connections in the neighborhood. It is very small and has no current improvements.
- Its appearance seems to be part of the neighboring residential property (some encroachment may be occurring).
- Its size and neighborhood context provide little value as open space or a future park site.

### MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- None noted for site improvements.
- Consider selling this small lot and use the proceeds to secure a larger replacement site for a local neighborhood park.



## Happy Valley Wetland Park

Natural Area

9999 SE 145th Avenue

31.6 acres

### AMENITIES

- Parking
- Kiosk
- Boardwalk walking trail
- Benches
- Observation platforms
- Mutt mitt dispenser
- Trash receptacles

### DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- Add simple wayfinding system to orient users and help new visitors navigate the intersections and know the destination choices.
- Addition of armrests on benches could assist elderly when using bench. (Armrests are one of the requirements of ADA-compliant bench design.)

### MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Parking lot at SE 145th needs better handicapped access by adding ramp /curb cut with tactile warning strip, directly aligned with pathway. Handicapped sign is mounted too low.
- Park identification sign states “Happy Valley Park”, not wetland park.
- Consider installing trail counters to monitor/count users for future value in grant applications.



## Other Significant Parks

### Hood View Park

Opened in August 2009, Hood View Park is the second sports complex built by NCPRD; however, the site is currently in the process of being sold to the North Clackamas School District. The complex has four, 300-foot, all-weather turf softball/baseball fields with the option to convert field #2 into a 150-foot by 300-foot multi-purpose field. The site features field lights, concessions, shaded spectator seating, dugouts and wireless scoreboards. The 36-acre facility also includes a walking path, picnic facilities, restrooms, playground and parking. Hood View Park hosts a variety of year-round youth and adult activities.



### Mount Talbert Nature Park

Mount Talbert is the largest in a string of extinct volcanoes and lava domes that stretches across the east side of the metro region. The park includes the top of the lava dome, as well as the west facing slopes. The park offers four miles of hiking trails, along with information about the cultural and natural resources found on site. The parking area, restrooms, picnic shelter and a short gravel trail are wheelchair accessible; other hiking trails are single track and range in steepness. Dog and other pets, drone and other radio-controlled vehicles and hunting are not allowed on site. Metro provided funding for improvements to the site and the nature park is currently managed by the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District.



### Scouters Mountain Nature Park

Rising above Happy Valley, the 96-acre Scouters Mountain Nature Park offers a lovely vantage point to admire Mount Hood and enjoy a picnic or hike in a shady forest. The trail through the forest is about a mile long, and a ¼-mile loop at the top of the hill is wheelchair accessible. The park open sunrise to sunset, and bathrooms are available. Dog and other pets, drone and other radio-controlled vehicles and hunting are not allowed on site. Scouters Mountain Nature Park was protected and opened through a partnership with Metro, the City of Happy Valley and North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District.



### Upper Mitchell Creek Natural Area

Upper Mitchell Creek is among the most pristine areas within the Johnson Creek Watershed. A well formed second-growth forest serves the creek well. Water flow is moderated by the forest and by instream structures, such as large woody debris and rock formations. Temperatures are cool and water quality is impacted primarily by a point source scheduled for decommissioning. Fish presence has been noted, and this 36-acres of the riparian area is owned and protected by Metro. Access to this natural area is restricted.



## Other Recreation Providers

### Eagle Landing Golf Course

With a history dating back to 1926, the Eagle Landing Golf Course was redesigned and renovated in 2004 and now encompasses 27 holes of par 3 golf, two 18 hole miniature golf courses, 9 holes of Foot Golf and event facilities. Modeled after a European style pitch and putt course, Eagle Landing is one of the few short courses in the Northwest, with each hole measuring between 40 and 90 yards. This privately-owned venue offers flexible event space that can house parties from 10 to 500.

### Private HOA Parks & Open Space Tracts

Private homeowner associations (HOAs) parks contribute to the City's total park acreage, providing small-scale recreation opportunities for certain subdivisions. Private HOA parks provide 13 pocket parks across the city, totaling 14.26 acres, plus 8.5 acres at one site within the PV/NC study area. Private HOAs also provide an additional 300 acres of open space tracts. However, these private parks are not open to the general public. Because of this, the City should remain committed to providing neighborhood parks, especially for those residents not affiliated with private, homeowner association amenities and resources.

### North Clackamas Park and Recreation District (NCPRD)

The North Clackamas Park and Recreation District (NCPRD) is a special tax district and serves the recreation needs of Milwaukie and a large area of unincorporated Clackamas County. The District's facilities include more than 40 parks, 25 natural areas, 15 miles of trails including the 6-mile Trolley Trail, Mount Talbert Nature Park and two facilities: the North Clackamas Aquatic Park and the Milwaukie Center. The City of Happy Valley will withdraw from the District in 2020.

### Clackamas County

Clackamas County also provides parks and recreation facilities, including 9 parks, a marina and golf course. The County also a partner on the 21-mile, paved Springwater Corridor Trail going from downtown Portland to Boring. The County also owns the Madrone Wall Climbing Area and the Clackamas County Event Center, which is home to the County Fair.

### Metro

Metro provides planning and coordination to manage growth, infrastructure and development issues across the three-county region. Metro is known for its comprehensive system of parks and manages 17,000 acres of parks, trails and natural areas across the Portland metropolitan region, from the Chehalem Ridge to Oxbow Regional Park. Mount Talbert Nature Park and Scouters Mountain Nature Park are the nearest, large Metro parks - located within Happy Valley city limits. Within the PV/NC study area, Metro owns 4.8 acres of the larger, 78-acre Richardson Creek Natural Area, which is located in southeast corner of study area on north side of Clackamas River. Other Metro properties near the PV/NC study area include the West Bliss Butte and the East Bliss Butte located east of SE 190th Drive at SE Cheldelin Road. Metro also manages signature attractions serving the region, including the Oregon Zoo, Oregon Convention Center, Portland Expo Center and Portland's Centers for the Arts.

### North Clackamas School District

The North Clackamas School District serves the city with nearby schools, with seven elementary, three middle and one high school. The middle and elementary school offer playgrounds, sport courts and small fields for school-day usage. Clackamas High School

offers a range of sport opportunities for students. The high school campus includes one football/soccer field, two baseball fields, two softball fields and a large practice field, along with five tennis courts and indoor gymnasium. The District also will be the owner of Hood View Park, which it is in the process of acquiring from NCPRD.

### **Centennial School District**

The Centennial School District serves the northeastern portion of the PV/NC study area, and the nearest Centennial school to the study area is the Pleasant Valley Elementary School. This school's enrollment is approximately 400 students in kindergarten through 6th grade. The Centennial School District currently does not own property within the Pleasant Valley/North Carver study area, but does own land just north of the study area in unincorporated Multnomah County near the intersection of 172nd Avenue and Foster Road.

### **Gresham-Barlow School District**

The Gresham-Barlow District serves the eastern edge of the PV/NC study area, and the nearest school to the study area is the Deep Creek-Damascus K-8 School. The Gresham-Barlow School District currently does not own property within the Pleasant Valley/North Carver study area.



# 5 | NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## OVERVIEW

Parks and open space represent the basic foundation of a healthy park and recreation system, providing opportunities for residents of all ages to meet, play, grow and thrive. Happy Valley’s parks provide residents with a diverse array of active and passive recreational amenities and options. They are a place to come together with family and friends, to exercise and play, to learn and explore, and to engage with the City’s landscape, history and culture.

By improving existing parks and providing new recreational facilities to meet the needs of the whole community, Happy Valley can actively support the mental and physical health of its residents and create places that are welcoming and engaging for all.

## Recreation Trends

Examining current recreation trends can help inform potential park and recreation improvements and opportunities that may enhance the community and create a more vibrant parks system as it moves into the future.

### Oregon State Outdoor Recreation Trends

The 2019-2023 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), entitled Outdoor Recreation in Oregon: Responding to Demographic and Societal Change, constitutes Oregon’s basic five-year plan for outdoor recreation. The plan addresses five important demographic and societal changes facing outdoor recreation providers in the coming years including:

1. An aging population;
2. An increasingly diverse population;
3. Lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation;

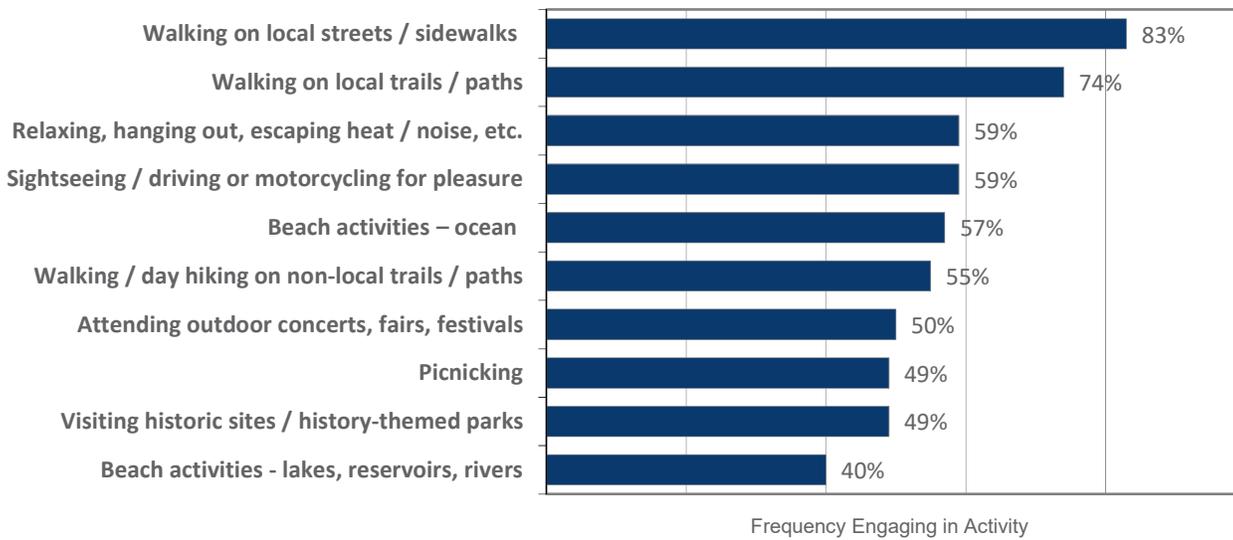
4. An underserved low-income population; and
5. The health benefits of physical activity.

As part of developing the SCORP, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) conducted a statewide survey of Oregon residents regarding their 2017 outdoor recreation participation in Oregon, as well as their opinions about park and recreation management. This data can help local park and recreation providers better understand

public opinions and the preferences of outdoor recreation participants.

The SCORP included a listing of outdoor activities by participant and frequency, as shown below in Figure 7. The top three activities with the largest annual user occasions include walking on local streets / sidewalks (313 million), walking on local trails / paths (113 million), and relaxing / hanging out / escaping heat & noise (93 million).

Figure 7. Participation Rates of Top Ten Activities for Oregon Residents (2017 SCORP)



The participation rates confirm that outdoor recreation is an integral part of life in Oregon’s communities and a pervasive value in the Pacific Northwest. Research indicates that nature and outdoor recreation have a significant positive impact on human health, both physical and mental health. Oregon’s economy also benefits directly and indirectly from outdoor recreation through consumer spending, tax revenue and jobs.

The survey also asked about priorities for local community needs revealing the top six (6) local (close to home) needs as:

- Cleaner restrooms.
- Soft surface walking trails.
- More restrooms.
- Playgrounds with natural materials (Natural Play Areas).
- Nature and wildlife viewing areas.
- Public access to waterways.

Based on a 2018 report called, *Oregon Outdoor Recreation Metrics: Health, Physical Activity, and Value*, total economic value was derived by combining information from the Oregon SCORP 2017 statewide outdoor recreation participation survey that estimated total annual user occasions for 56 outdoor recreation activity types. The total net economic value for recreation participation in Oregon by Oregonians is estimated to be \$54.2 billion (2018 USD) annually based on 2017 use levels. The top five SCORP activities with the largest total net economic values, in descending order, are:

- Walking on local streets / sidewalks = \$4.5 billion

- Walking / day hiking on non-local trails / paths = \$3.9 billion
- Other nature / wildlife / forest / wildflower observation = \$3.5 billion
- Sightseeing / driving or motorcycling for pleasure = \$3.1 billion
- Relaxing / hanging out / escaping heat & noise, etc. = \$3.0 billion

Summaries from other national and state recreation studies appears in Appendix E.

## Local Interests & Feedback

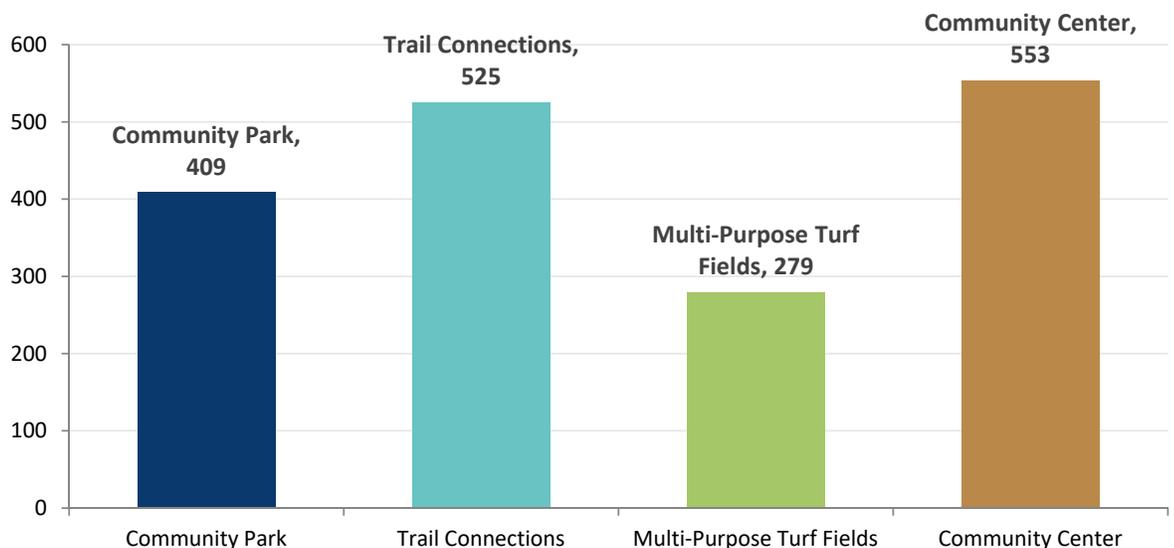
In prior outreach processes over the past several years, Happy Valley residents identified four top priorities for area parks: a new community center, new community park, multi-purpose turf fields, and better trail connections.

Through the 2017 Parks Master Plan outreach effort, the public was asked to confirm whether these are the top four priorities, whether anything is missing, and which is most important.

Approximately 85% of participants confirmed that these are the most important priorities. They said that the top priorities are a new community center and trail connections.

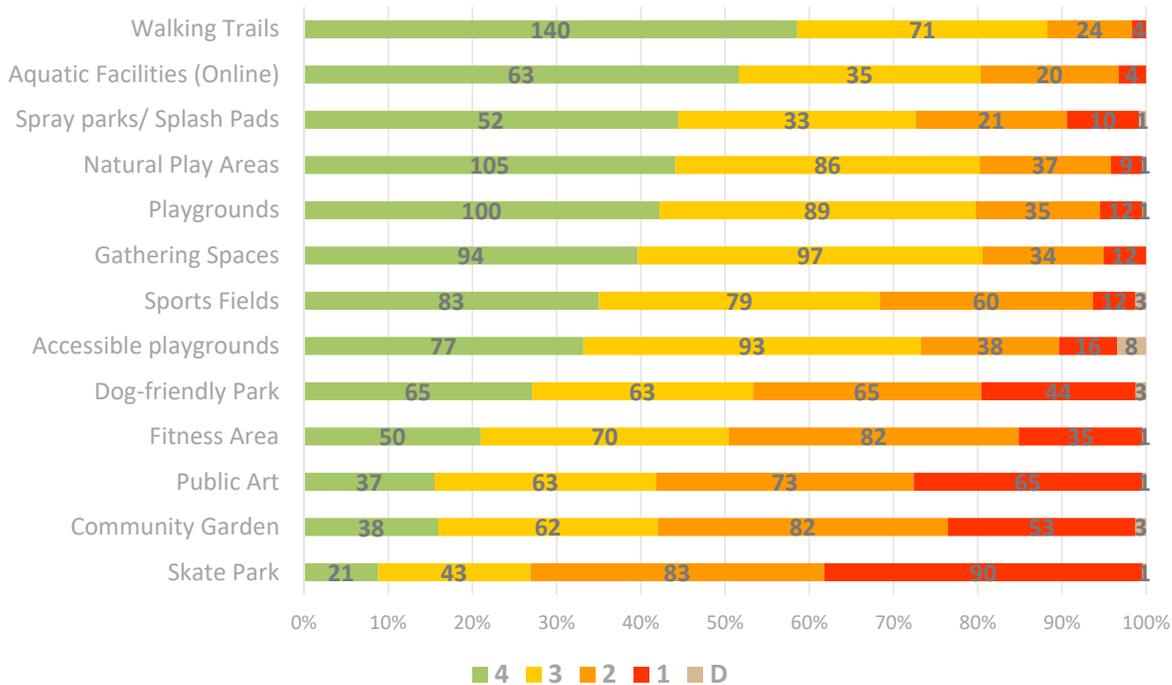
Among the suggested changes provided by participants, a community center, aquatic center, or swimming pool was a popular suggestion.

Figure 9. Rankings of Top Four Community Priorities



Respondents to the recent community survey were also asked about the importance of a variety of different park and recreation amenities. Overall, participants said that it is very important to provide walking trails, followed by aquatic facilities. Over 80% of participants rated natural play areas, gathering spaces, and playgrounds as important or very important amenities. The figure below shows how participants ranked each of the features.

Figure 10. Relative Priority of Various Park and Recreation Amenities



## PARKS & OPEN SPACES

### Outdoor Recreation Amenities

The City of Happy Valley currently owns and manages four parks totaling 33.2 acres and seven natural areas and open spaces encompassing 72.5 acres. Parks vary greatly in size and types of provided recreational opportunities. Natural areas are mostly wetland sites or forested riparian corridors with natural or paved trails but limited development potential. The highlight of Happy Valley’s park system is Happy Valley Park, a community park with recreational amenities that attract park users from across and outside the city.

Within the city and the Pleasant Valley/North Carver area, two regional parks owned and operated by Metro provide trails, playgrounds and other outdoor recreation amenities for the greater Happy Valley area. Also, the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District currently manages five neighborhood parks and three open spaces. One potential impact to the provision of sport fields within the city is NCPRD’s sale of Hood View Park to the North Clackamas School District. This transfer occurred in 2018, and potential changes in use and access to this sports

complex may impact local sport leagues. Combining these existing parks with Happy Valley’s current park inventory provides a

more complete picture of its public outdoor recreation facilities.

Figure 11. Existing Parks & Open Spaces

Park Type / Name	Classification	Acreage
<b>City of Happy Valley Parks</b>		
Happy Valley Park	Community Park	31.21
Rebstock Park	Neighborhood Park	1.30
Lucille Park	Pocket Park	0.21
Veterans Memorial (pending)	Special Use Area	0.48
<b>City of Happy Valley Natural Areas &amp; Open Spaces</b>		
Happy Valley Wetland Park	Natural Area	31.65
Mt Scott Nature Park	Natural Area	25.60
Scott Creek Trail	Natural Area	8.13
McKenna Ridge Connection	Open Space	0.14
McKenna Ridge Open Space	Open Space	0.91
Orchard Ridge / Royal Vista	Open Space	2.29
Westview Open Space	Open Space	3.79
<b>Parks &amp; Open Spaces by Other Providers</b>		
Ella V Osterman (NCPRD)	Neighborhood Park (portion)	8.38
Ella V Osterman (NCPRD)	Natural Area (portion)	7.58
Ashley Meadows Park (NCPRD)	Neighborhood Park	1.70
Southern Lites Park (NCPRD)	Neighborhood Park	3.00
Trillium Creek Park (NCPRD)	Neighborhood Park (portion)	1.39
Trillium Creek Park (NCPRD)	Natural Area (portion)	6.27
Village Green Park (NCPRD)	Neighborhood Park	2.70
Hidden Falls Nature Park (NCPRD)	Open Space	22.16
Orchard Summit Open Space (NCPRD)	Open Space	4.24
SE Vogel Road Site (NCPRD)	Open Space	14.31
Hood View Park (NCSD)	Special Facility	36.00
Mt Talbert (Metro)	Regional Park	220.60
Scouters Mountain (Metro)	Regional Park	96.70
Richardson Creek Natural Area (Metro)	Regional Natural Area	4.80
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>535.56</b>

## Local Interests & Feedback

The 2017 online open house asked participants to think about their favorite park and describe: “*What makes a park great?*” Participants during the Community Workshop and tabling events were also asked this question and provided their responses on a display board with sticky notes. Below is an overview of common responses.

- Many responses included remarks about keeping parks facilities safe and clean.

- Being close to nature, preserving natural areas, and having access to open space was a common response
- Common amenities and parks features mentioned in the responses include swimming pool or some type of aquatic feature, play areas, walking and biking trails, year-round facilities for all-ages and all-abilities, and gathering spaces for larger community events and festivals and for smaller, private events.



## Conditions Assessment

During July 2017, the existing conditions within parks and natural areas were assessed by the consultant landscape architect to identify issues and opportunities for future improvements. The following general summary offers an overview of site conditions in Happy Valley parks, as well as those North Clackamas Park and Recreation District parks within city limits.

### Playgrounds

Playground equipment is still new or relatively new throughout the park system. A regular schedule of playground equipment inspections should continue to be a standard part of the park maintenance routine to ensure continued, safe play structures.

Access to playground areas was not always barrier-free. Several parks were noted to lack ramps or provisions to transfer from park pathway pavement to the lower surfacing of the playground. The drop-off edges varied from 3-6 inches, far exceeding the maximum ½-inch tolerance. Ashley Meadows lacked access to either of its two play areas. Southern Lites Park should have a playground ramp added. The ramps at Village Green need repair or replacement to provide functional ADA accessible routes. However, the City has made a major improvement at Happy Valley Park with the installation of an all-abilities playground, which was completed in partnership with the Rotary Club of Clackamas, volunteers and sponsors.



Play area at Southern Lites Park

### Buildings & Structures

Happy Valley parks and the additional four NCPRD parks within city limits contain a variety of structures of differing ages. Restrooms, picnic shelters and gazebos compose the building mix in most parks. The pergolas at Village Green and the new boardwalk through Happy Valley Wetland Park add to the infrastructure within the park system.

In general, the structures are less than ten years old and in good repair. The roof of the lower picnic shelter in Happy Valley Park may need replacement in the next few years. Removal of debris from rooftops on an annual basis could help prolong the life of shelter roofs.

The amphitheater seating built into the hillside at Happy Valley Park was in good condition. Annual inspections should occur to ensure continual integrity of the retaining walls and seating lawns.

The pergolas in Village Green Park have small planting areas integrated at their bases that no longer support live plants. Park users tend to sit on those ledges while watching the playground. Converting those disused planters into seating spots would improve their condition and value, while reducing their maintenance. The irrigation to those planters should be disconnected and removed.



Pergola base at Village Green Park

Standards for park furnishing, such as benches, picnic tables, drinking fountains, bike racks, trash receptacles and other common amenities used throughout the park system, can be instrumental in assuring consistent ADA compliance and streamlined maintenance and repairs. In many instances, picnic tables did not provide for wheelchair seating, and many tables were located in grass areas with no accessible route from the park's paved paths. Park benches should have a back and armrests and be located along accessible routes with adjacent wheelchair spaces at one end of the bench pad. Choosing a consistent style and installation design could help simplify park development and future maintenance for site furnishings.

Bollards at trail entries help discourage unauthorized vehicles from entering park and trails. However, several parks use black (removable) bollards for this purpose. Black bollards tend to become invisible to cyclists in low light conditions and can become a hazard. At a minimum, reflective material should be applied to enhance visibility or the bollards replaced with a more visible color.

### ADA Accessibility

As with many older parks, some barriers were present across the park system. ADA accessibility and compliance should be part of a regular capital repair schedule to update older pavements, parking, playgrounds, picnic amenities, restrooms and recreational elements. The Happy Valley park system has some ADA compliance issues with park access at parking areas and barriers to access into playground areas, as well as non-complaint benches and picnic tables in inaccessible locations. Transition zones from park pathways to parking and traffic areas often did not have tactile warning strips to alert the visually impaired user about entering traffic zones. Drinking fountains at ball fields in Happy Valley Park were not on accessible routes or ADA-compliant fixtures. The City will want to develop an ADA Compliance Checklist to identify and prioritize these deficiencies and

develop a methodology for bringing the parks into compliance.



Picnic area at Happy Valley Park

### Safety

The site design layouts and landscapes of most of the parks within the city appeared to meet basic Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles of good visibility and overall positive perceptions of public safety. Park safety conditions were generally good throughout the park system with a few notable exceptions. At sport fields, most of the bleachers did not have safety railings; the International Building Code requires safety rails on any bleacher seating with more than two tiers. These older, dated bleachers should be replaced with IBC-compliant designs.

Detectible (tactile) warning strips were missing at some junctions where park pathways intersected with parking lots or traffic lanes. As part of an ADA transition plan, the City should schedule the addition of warning strips in locations where they are missing.

## Trails & Paved Surfaces

Pavement maintenance protocols should address cracks and root upheavals, as well as seams where different pavement types meet (e.g., curbs, bridges, sidewalk-to-trail, boardwalks, path to play areas, etc.) and have a tendency to settle at different rates to create architectural barriers to universal access.

Sport courts and parking should have regularly scheduled repainting to ensure retention of functional court play and identified parking stalls. The basketball courts at Village Green and Southern Lites should have free throw lines painted.



Basketball court at Southern Lites Park

Trails through natural areas should undergo regular inspections to ensure the identification of potential erosion and surface wear.

Common challenges to natural area trails, such as root upheavals, cracking, slumping and eroded edges, can sometimes be addressed more readily if addressed early. Scott Creek Park trails have tripping hazards where root upheavals have created raised and cracked pavement. Overly steep pathways, especially with unpaved trail tread, tend to have eroded and slippery surfaces making walking more difficult, which is evident in sections of Mt Scott Nature Trail.

## Trees & Landscape Areas

In general, the trees and landscapes in Happy Valley parks were in good condition. In Happy Valley Park and other neighborhood parks, most of the individual park trees were mulched at the base helping to protect their trunks and roots from mower damage. One dying/dead tree in the upper section of Rebstock Park and some of the birch trees in Lucille Park should be planned for removal and replacement.

Several parks could benefit from additional tree planting to provide more extensive shade for park users and tree canopy for environmental benefits. Ashley Meadows, Southern Lites, Ella V Osterman, Village Green and Scott Creek Park could all be sites for additional tree plantings. Happy Valley is a participating Tree City, USA city and recognizes the value of trees for protecting creeks and water quality, cleaning air and adding beauty to streets, parks and neighborhoods. To further demonstrate their commitment to this valuable resource, the City should consider establishing a tree canopy replacement plan for its parks and provide a capital pruning schedule to ensure proper attention and longevity.

## Natural Areas & Open Space

In general, Happy Valley natural areas are well cared for and did not appear to have severe problems with noxious or invasive plant species. Regular inspections of rough mown and natural areas should include identification of noxious weeds and initiate control measures to prevent noxious weed takeovers.

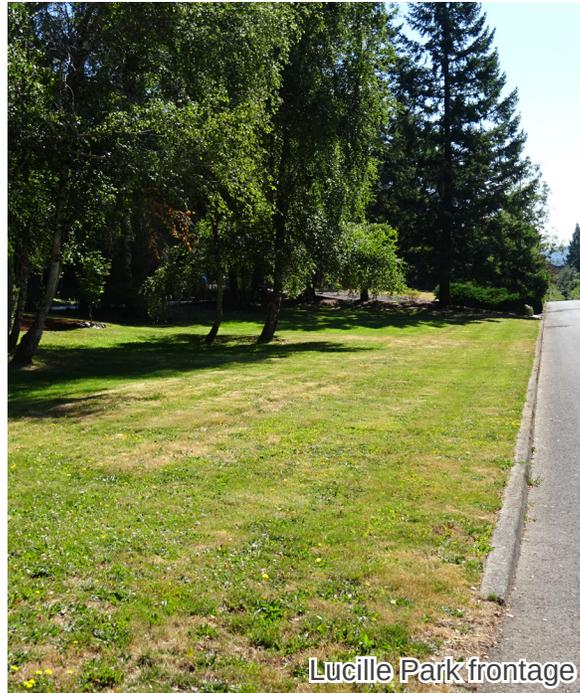
Happy Valley Wetland Park and Scott Creek Park trails were cleared of overhanging trail vegetation and showed evidence of having a band of mown vegetation along the sides of the trails to keep plants off trail and allow users to see more clearly along the corridor.

Rough mow areas within parks and natural areas typically tolerate a wider range of plant species, including different grass species and many herbaceous forbs. Using mowing schedules of once or twice a year

along trail corridors, woodland edges and in natural meadow management serves to keep vegetation under control and prevents many invasive plant species from gaining a foothold.

## Undeveloped Parkland

In the overall assessment of the park system, one park site should be considered for future surplus. The Lucille Park site, which is an undeveloped corner lot, is too small to provide the desired amenities to serve as a future neighborhood park. Its surrounding neighborhood does not have safe walking access via sidewalks or trails, and the property is too small to accommodate on-site parking. A replacement site should be investigated for future acquisition with the funds from the sale or transfer of this site applied to that future location.



Lucille Park frontage

## Parkland Gap Analysis

Happy Valley residents are fortunate to have access to great parks and trails; however, Happy Valley's continued and projected growth will place further pressure on access to new recreational lands. Understanding the known gaps in the park system and evaluating the City's existing levels of service for parks will provide a foundation for strategic planning to ensure that tomorrow's residents have access to an equitable and distributed system of parks, trails and recreation amenities to stay healthy and active.

In 2014, the Trust for Public Lands produced the *City Park Facts Report*, which defines park access as the ability to reach a publicly owned park within a half-mile walk on the road network, unobstructed by freeways, rivers, fences and other obstacles. Walking distance is most commonly defined as a half-mile or a ten-minute walk. Of the 100 largest cities in the U.S. that have explicit park distance goals, over 60% use a half-mile measurement. Determining the 'walksheds' for a community's existing parks can reveal the gaps where residential areas have no public parks within reasonable walking distance. These gaps

provide a measure of need to provide a more equitable distribution of park facilities. Identified gaps within the park system can become targets for future parkland acquisition.

To better understand where acquisition efforts should be directed, a gap analysis of the park system was conducted to examine and assess the current distribution of parks throughout the city. The analysis reviewed the locations and types of existing facilities, land use classifications, transportation/access barriers and other factors as a means to identify preliminary acquisition target areas. In reviewing parkland distribution and assessing opportunities to fill identified gaps, residentially zoned lands were isolated, since neighborhood and community parks primarily serve these areas.

Additionally, walksheds within city limits were defined for neighborhood parks using a ¼-mile primary and ½-mile secondary service area with travel distances calculated along the road network starting from known and accessible access points at each park. Walksheds for community parks were derived

using ¼-mile, ½-mile, 1-mile and 2-mile travel distances to acknowledge that community parks serve a wider array of users and driving to such sites is typical.

For the Pleasant Valley-North Carver study area, parkland walksheds were defined using ¼-mile primary and ½-mile secondary service areas with travel distances calculated ‘as the crow flies’, since the existing and future road network is inadequate to estimate real-world walksheds. As the Pleasant Valley-North Carver area develops, a re-assessment of parkland walksheds is warranted to confirm and re-evaluate the distribution of potential park areas serving the subarea.

Maps 2 through 6 illustrate the application of the distribution criteria from existing and planned neighborhood and community parks. Areas in white do not have a public park within reasonable walking distance of their home. The illustrated ‘walkshed’ for each existing Happy Valley park highlights that certain areas within the city do not have the desired proximity to a local park.

From the walkshed mapping, primary target areas for future community and neighborhood parks should become the focus of acquisition efforts, as illustrated on Map 7. In all, five community parks and 22 neighborhood are needed to improve overall distribution and equity and promote recreation within walking distance for Happy Valley residents. Within city limits, three community parks and 11 neighborhood parks are proposed.

For the Pleasant Valley-North Carver study area, the majority of potential park sites are shown as neighborhood parks, which typically range from 1.5 - 5 acres in size. To meet the existing City standard for neighborhood parks, a minimum of 10-12 neighborhood park sites should be acquired and developed in the PV/NC area. Neighborhood parks are recommended to be located in residential areas in order to provide walkable recreational amenities. Also, two community parks should be provided. One should be sized to accommodate a sport field complex, and the second should be a waterfront park in Carver.

Striving to provide a neighborhood or community park within a reasonable walking distance (e.g., ½-mile) may require acquiring new park properties in currently under-served locations, improving multi-modal transportation connections to allow local residents to safely and conveniently reach their local park and evaluating the potential use of school sites as proxies for local neighborhood parks. As Happy Valley develops and acquisition opportunities diminish, the City will need to be prepared to take advantage of acquisition opportunities in strategic locations to better serve City residents. In concert with the search for developable park land, the City should continue to coordinate with proposed residential land development projects to consider when and how a public park can be incorporated into the planning of new residential communities.

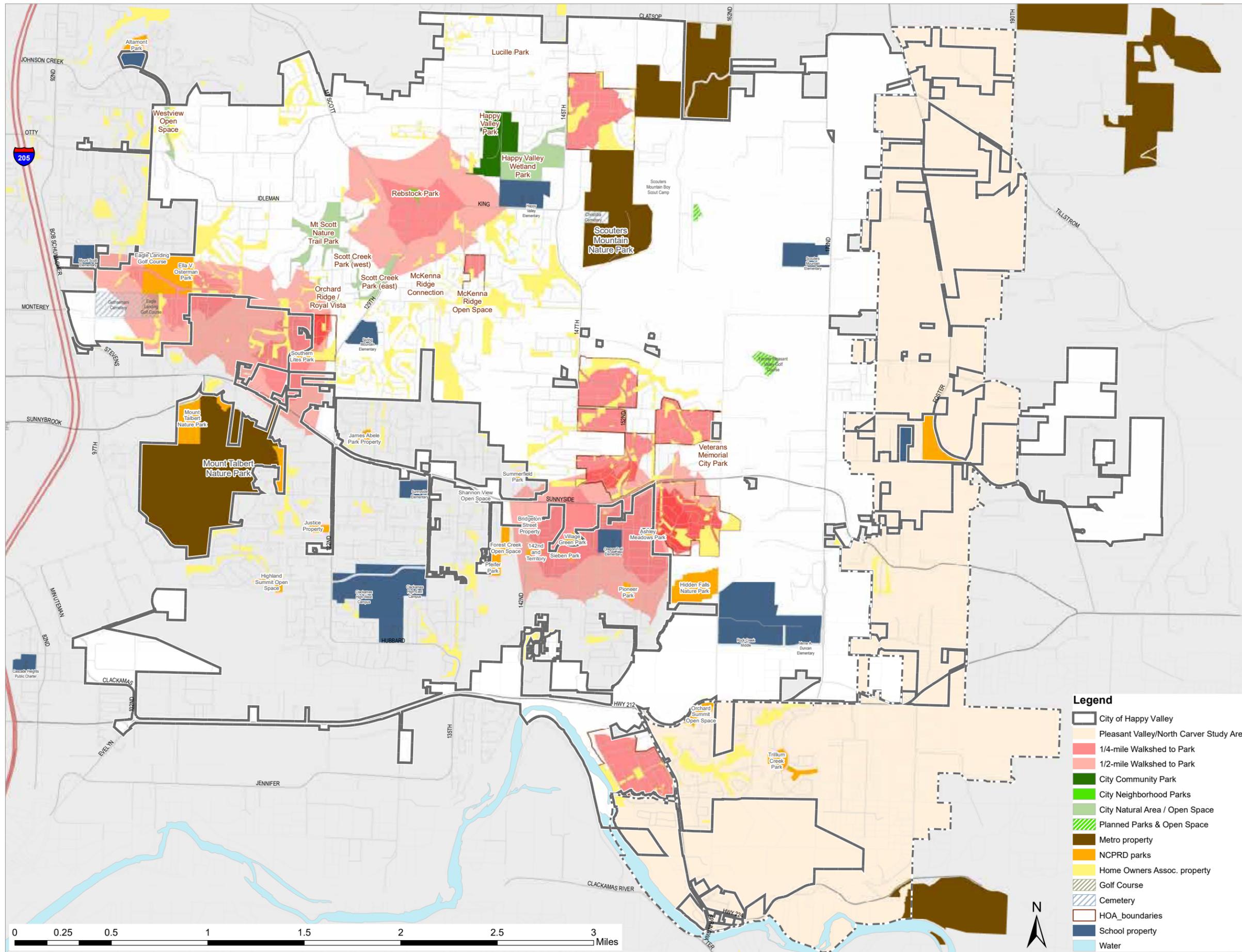
Resulting from this assessment, potential acquisition areas are identified for future parks and are noted in the Capital Facilities Plan chapter of this Plan. One significant need is for additional neighborhood and community parks to improve overall distribution and equity, while promoting active-use recreational spaces that can accommodate field sports, court sports and open play. An aggressive acquisition program should be actively pursued in Happy Valley to capture opportunities that will be continually diminishing as residential growth continues to consume developable land.

While the targeted acquisition areas do not identify a specific parcel(s) for consideration, the area encompasses a broader region in which an acquisition would be ideally suited. These acquisition targets represent a long-term vision for improving parkland distribution throughout Happy Valley.

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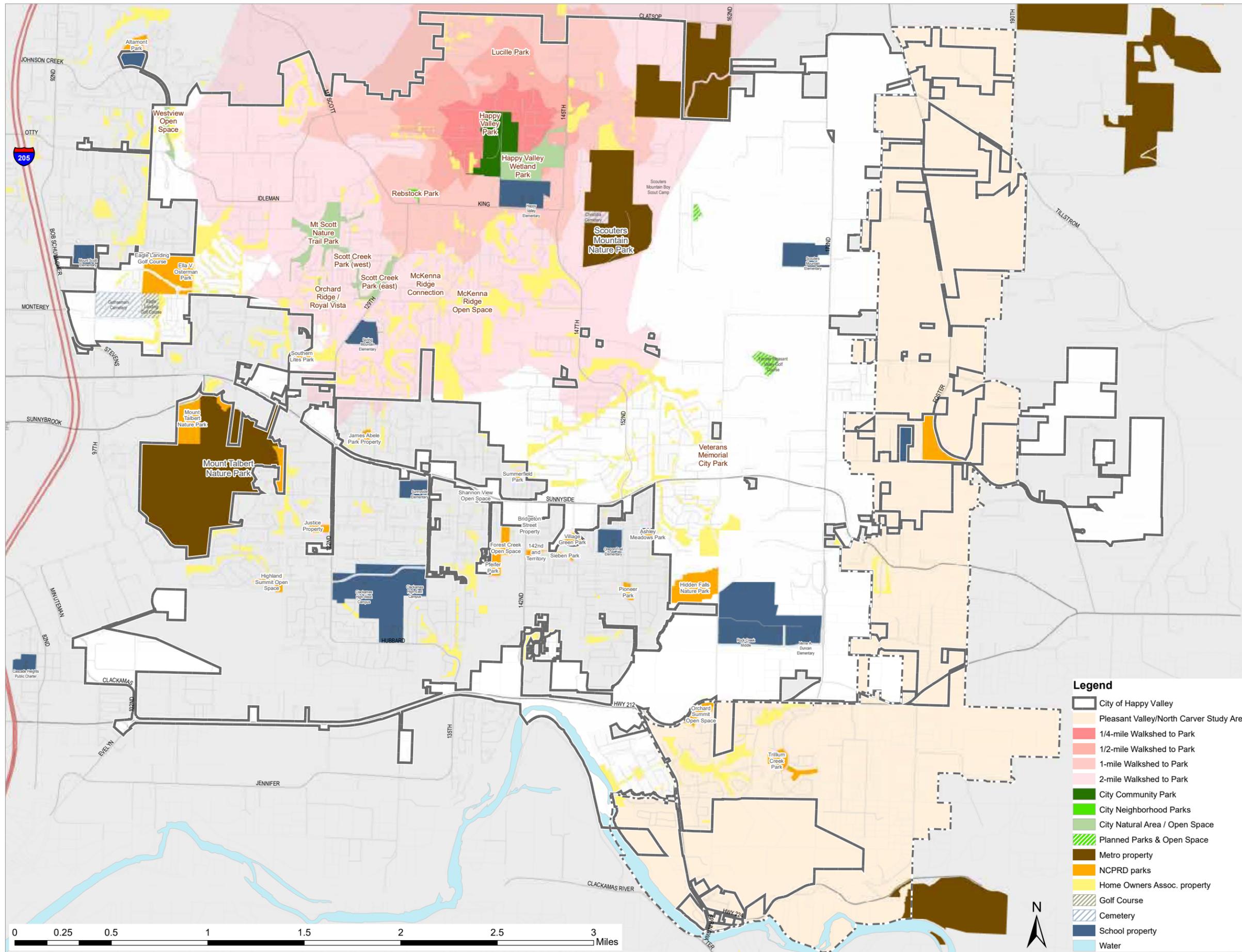


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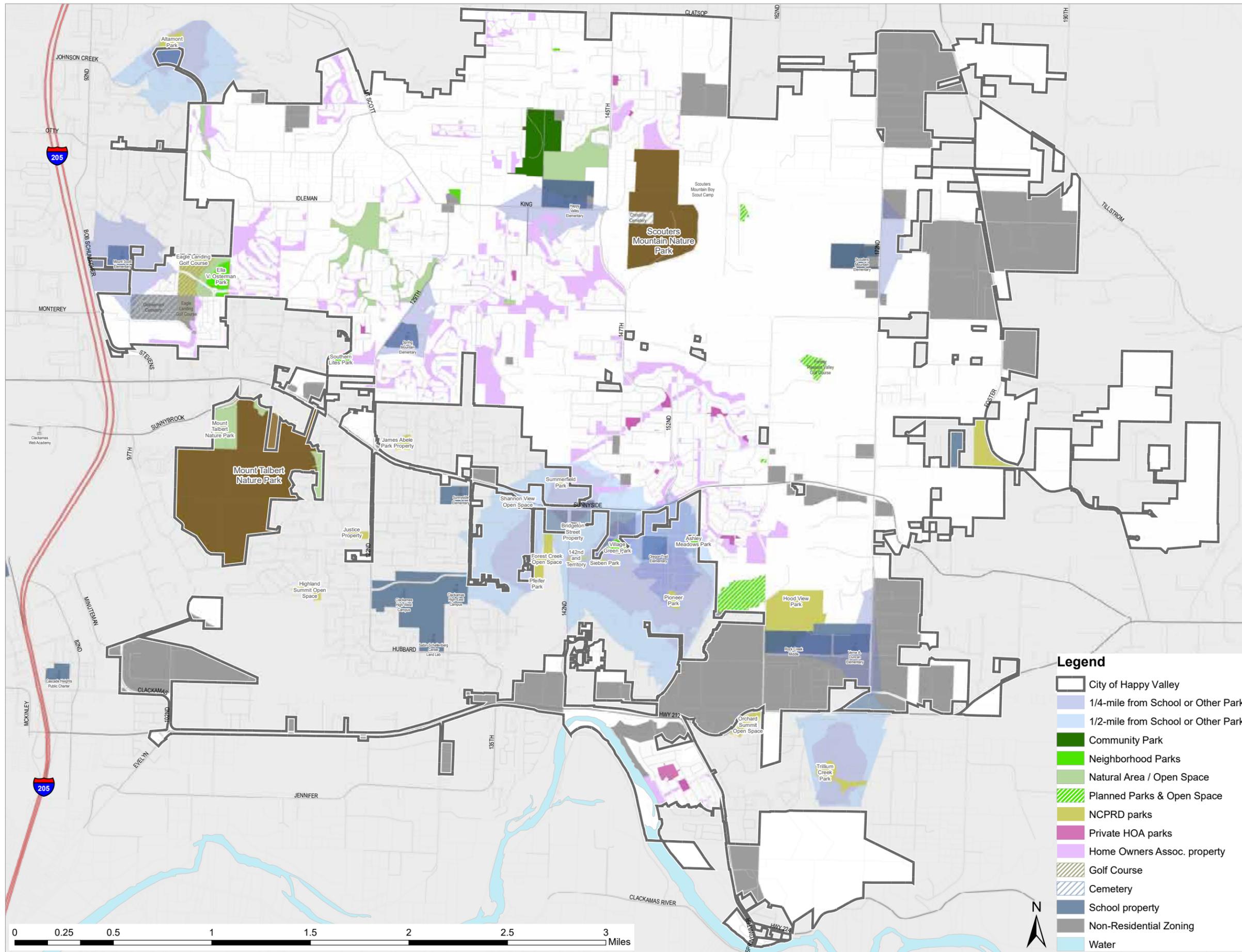
Map 3: Park Walkshed Map (Neighborhood & HOA Parks)

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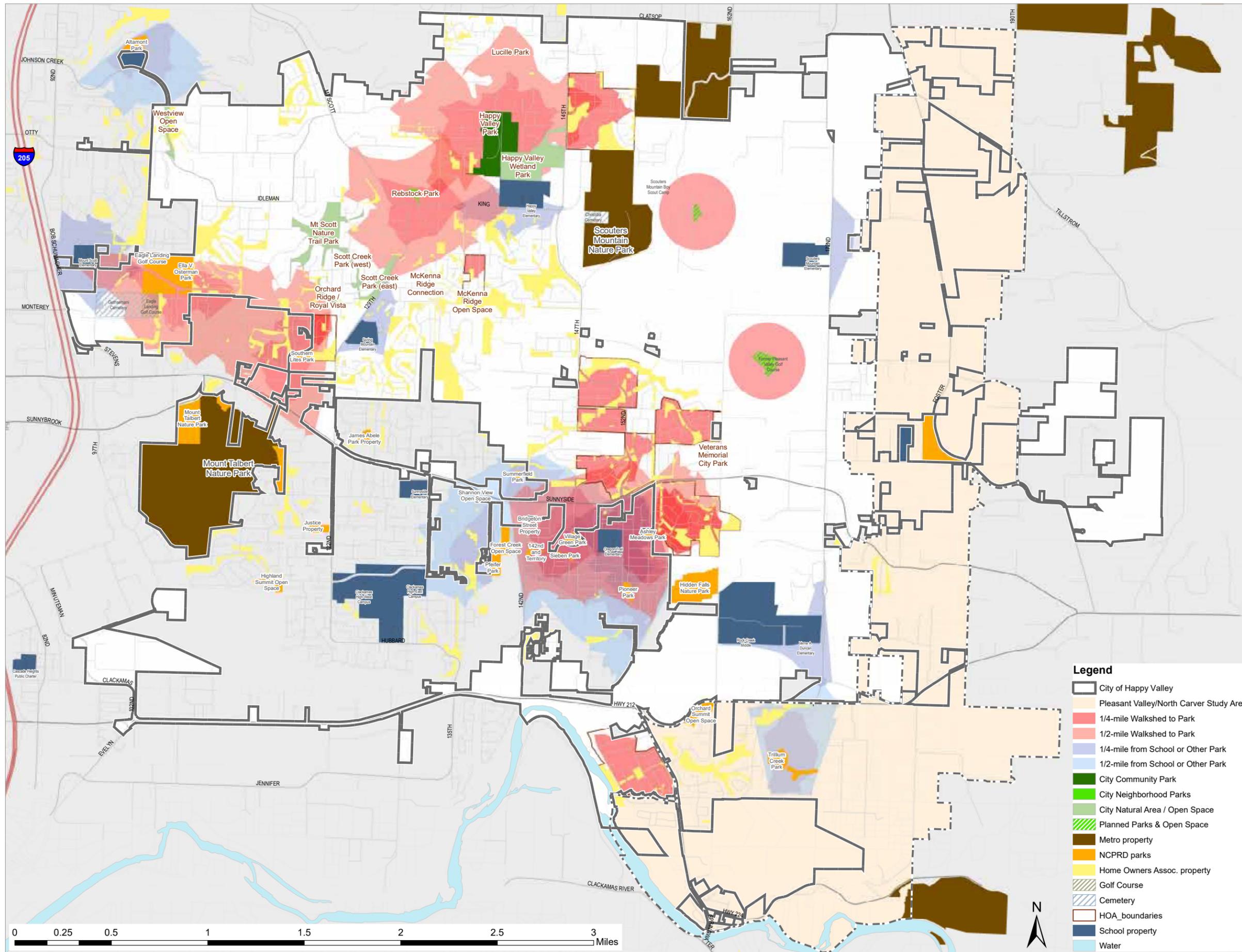
Map 4: Park Walkshed Map (Community Parks only)

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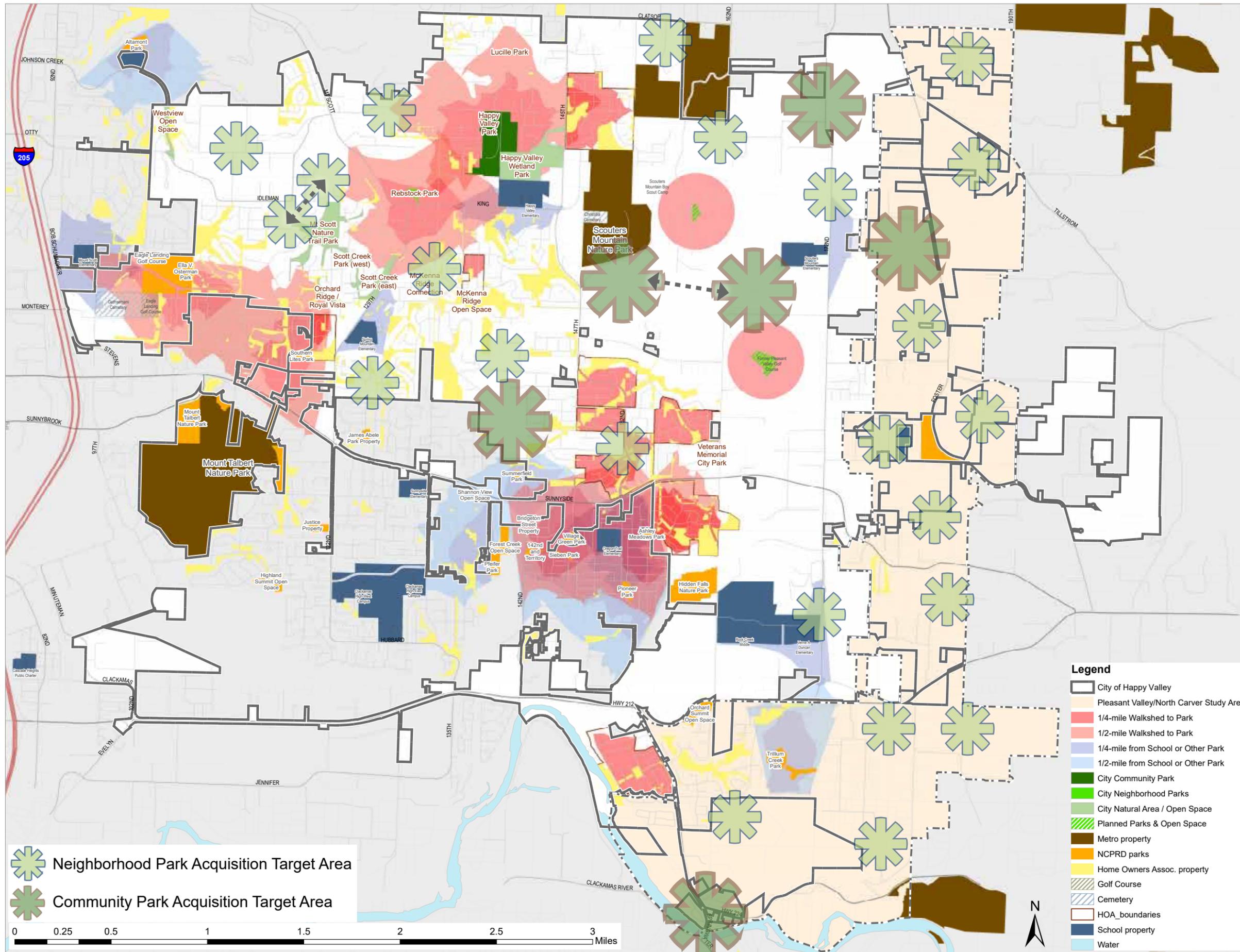
Map 5: Park Walkshed Map (Schools & Nearby Parks)

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Map 6: Park Walkshed Map (All Parks at 1/2-mile)

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Map 7: Target Acquisition Areas

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## Park Development & Improvements

### Sport Fields

The City of Happy Valley currently provides fields appropriate for a variety of sports, including 2 fields suitable for soccer, lacrosse or football and 3 baseball and softball fields. Additional fields are provided by the North Clackamas School District and North Clackamas Park and Recreation District.

Happy Valley's existing and popular sport programs outstrip the capacity of current fields. With projected future population growth and growing participation in team sports, the City, local sport leagues and field providers will need to properly maintain existing field resources, use existing sites more effectively and acquire and develop additional field space to meet demands. Such actions will depend on continued active partnerships between the City, School District, sports organizations and other recreation providers.

Some of Happy Valley's sport fields could benefit from enhanced maintenance, investments and safety improvements. Improvements to turf, irrigation and spectator facilities could allow existing fields to better serve recreation users. The City should explore the conversion of grass fields to all-weather turf to enhance capacity. Since lighting existing fields at Happy Valley Park may prove to be unsupported by the community, the City should consider adding field lighting to future community park sites that will include sport fields or a future special use sports complex.

While acknowledging the contribution of the School District's sport fields toward the overall collection of community fields, these fields are restricted in use due to the demand from school-based teams and programs. In reviewing existing City facilities and acknowledging the transfer of the fields at Hood View Park, the City should plan for an additional 4 baseball fields and 6 soccer fields to meet the community's future needs.

For many years, the community of Happy Valley sport leagues has benefited from a

cooperative relationship with the North Clackamas School District. This partnership has been a critical component of meeting field sport needs within the city. Going forward, the City work closely with the School District to actively explore opportunities for greater joint use and development of facilities. Agreements between the agencies should identify opportunities and define responsibilities regarding field planning, acquisition, development, improvement, maintenance and operations; as well as clarify scheduling, decision-making and revenue sharing objectives.

The City also should participate in periodic meetings with the various leagues and field providers within Happy Valley to assist in field space planning and address other issues related to inter-league coordination, field maintenance and protocols for addressing field issues. The City should continue to monitor the condition, investment needs and usage rates of its field facilities to best plan for long-term maintenance and capital needs. Field usage policies should be reassessed on a regular basis to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the City, user groups and neighbors. Field usage fees should also be updated periodically – and when significant field improvements are made – to address cost recovery and equity objectives. Such policies and fees should also address field scheduling for alternative uses, such as festivals, concerts and other community events.

### Sport Courts

Happy Valley currently provides courts for volleyball, basketball, tennis and pickleball. The City has two outdoor tennis/pickleball courts located at Happy Valley Park. A total of four outdoor basketball courts (mostly half courts) can be found at the Happy Valley Park, Southern Lites, Ashley Meadows, Trillium Creek Park and Village Green Parks. The inclusion of basketball (full court), volleyball and/or tennis (with pickleball) courts should be considered in the planning and development of future community parks. Half-court basketball courts may also be appropriate

for neighborhood parks, particularly in underserved areas or where there is expressed neighborhood interest. The City also should track the usage of its pickleball courts and assess the demand for future installations.

### Water Play or Splash Pads

Spraygrounds are water play features that are very popular and provide a means of integrating aquatics into parks at a relatively low cost. The continued popularity of the Happy Valley Park spray park demonstrates the community interest in such facilities. Happy Valley should consider at least two more spraygrounds to accommodate the local need and locate them west and east of the center of the city to be closer to residential densities. Depending on the design and functionality, these amenities can draw significant numbers of visitors to the park; therefore, the siting of such a facility should consider access to parking and public restrooms.

### Nature Play

Another significant, recent trend is that of the relationship between child development and access to nature or nature play. Stemming from Richard Louv's book Last Child in the Woods, a relative network of organizations and agencies have come together to discuss the impacts of nature play and seek funding and partnerships to facilitate ways to connect kids to their local environment. Recent studies show that children are smarter, more cooperative, happier and healthier when they have frequent and varied opportunities for free and unstructured play in the out-of-doors, according to the Children & Nature Network, a national non-profit organization working to reconnect children with nature and co-founded by Louv. In the development of future park sites, the City should consider the installation of nature play features and look for ways to optimize nature play opportunities with the unique characteristics of future park sites.

### Community Gardens

Gardening is a popular recreational activity, and community gardens provide common space for residents to grow fruits, vegetables and flowers. Community gardens are becoming more popular park amenities in urban environments, where residents may have limited outdoor space. Gardens are also popular with a diverse range of residents, and community input for this Plan suggested a need for garden facilities. The siting of additional community garden plots could be considered in the design and development of future neighborhood and community parks; however, the community did not indicate a strong demand for community parks during the public planning process. This should be re-evaluated in the future.

### Wayfinding, Identity & Signage

A good wayfinding system can provide a consistent identity and display effective and accessible information to orient the user. This guidance system ensures efficient use of the trail, park or other public space and conveys safety to the user by translating the environment into a known geography. Signs, symbols, mapping, color, standardized site amenities combined with good design of the physical environment (i.e., trail or park) helps the user navigate the space and stay comfortably oriented.

The conditions assessment conducted as part of this Plan indicated that Happy Valley parklands need clearer, more prominent identification and signs located at multiple entry points. Such signage should identify the City of Happy Valley as the provider, to be distinguished from school or private property, and offer methods for accessing additional information (e.g., contacts, volunteering, other facilities, etc.) to inform park users and visitors.

Happy Valley should pursue a comprehensive wayfinding program that includes both visual graphic standards and site furnishing standards. The use of consistent graphics and

a coordinated hierarchy of sign types and sizes can provide park and trail users with wayfinding information to enhance their access and knowledge of the recreational system available for their enjoyment. While there are basic trail locational signs at several trailheads for the Scott Creek and Mt Scott trails, these signs can be a challenge for non-map readers by providing too much information. Part of a good wayfinding system applies the “simpler is better” concept.

The City should consider a wayfinding and signage system that integrates all its parks and trails with similar ‘branding’ to help all park and trail users understand where they are, what they might need to know, how to get more information and who the provider is. An effective wayfinding system not only provides directional and locational information to the trail user. The combination of materials, color, specific sign types for conveying different information, unified font designs, and matching site furnishings (i.e., benches,



Trail sign at Scott Creek Trail

bollards, drinking fountains, etc.) can all contribute to creating strong identifiers and that unique sense of place for Happy Valley’s park system.

## Integrating Design Elements

The Monon Trail, a rail trail heading north almost 17 miles from downtown Indianapolis, illustrates some tools for helping visitors find the trail and find their way along the trail. The combination of a signature color, unified logos and icons, matching site furnishing, and signage styles help identify the location and direction of the trail and its support facilities, as part of a unified navigation system.

At crossroads and trailheads, the bright red colors used consistently in signs and furnishings mark the trail’s presence. Kiosks and information signs help orient the trail user. Rule signs alert the user to trail behavior expectations and reinforce trail identity. The signage system helps identify place, provide information about trail distances and amenities, locate connections and interpret history and culture.



## Off-Leash Dog Area

Walking with a dog is a very popular recreational activity, and off-leash areas have become desired amenities for dog owners living in urban environments who may otherwise have limited opportunities to exercise their pets. The City of Happy Valley currently provides off-leash dog areas at Happy Valley Park, and recreational trends indicate that additional off-leash areas may be warranted. It is recommended that the City provide another dog park site within the next five years.

Appropriate sites should be safe, not isolated, and noise impacts on neighbors should be considered. Ideally, a dog park would be a component to a larger (future) community park, where infrastructure (e.g., parking, restrooms and garbage collection) exists and supports multiple activities.

The City also should continue and enhance signage and the enforcement of leash laws in parks or natural areas where only on-leash activities are allowed. Additionally, the development of a dog park will require specific code revisions, the development of rules and policies and community support for self-policing for behavioral issues and waste pick-up. Communities throughout the Northwest have relied on grassroots or non-profit organizations for the on-going operations and maintenance of such facilities.

## Levels of Service & Standards

A level of service (LOS) review was conducted to further understand the distribution and acreage needs for parkland to assess how well the community can access and enjoy parks, recreation and open space. Traditionally, the application of numeric standards for the provision of parks has applied an acreage of parkland per thousand residents as a target measurement for adopted standards. Service standards are the adopted guidelines or benchmarks the City is trying to attain with their parks system; the level of service is a snapshot in time of how well the City is meeting its adopted standards. This assessment also provides the future direction for ensuring adequate provision of parks for the community based on current and potential future gaps in this community infrastructure.

Many communities are developing guidelines that are customized to their community and its unique and often changing park and recreation demands, rather than solely applying the historic National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) published park standards that primarily focused on parkland acres per capita. The use and application of standards continues to evolve and develop diverse approaches. This Plan evaluates the City current park land level of service through a variety of characteristics and offers recommendations for the consideration of an adopted set of standards.

### Parkland Acreage

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) prepared a report in 2015 using their Park and Recreation Operating Ratio and Geographic Information System (PRORAGIS) database that reflects the current levels of service of park agencies across the country based on population density per square mile. The table below indicates the range of acres per 1,000 population from jurisdictions with less than 500 residents per square mile up to urban communities with over 2,500 persons per square mile. Based on its current estimated population of 21,700

residents, Happy Valley’s population density is 1,887 persons per square mile for its 11.5 square miles of land area. In reviewing the PRORAGIS data, Happy Valley’s level of service would be below the median (in the lower quartile) for urban communities with its 6.9 acres of total parkland per 1,000 population (including NCPRD sites).

It should be noted that diverse approaches are used to classify park lands when applied to meeting a level of service standard. Since the PRORAGIS database relies on self-reporting by municipalities, some agencies only include developed, active parks while others include natural lands with limited or no improvements, amenities or access.

Figure 13. National Level of Service Data by Population Density per Square Mile

	All Agencies	Population Density per square mile			
		Less than 500	500 to 1,500	1,501 to 2,500	Over 2,500
Lower Quartile	<b>4.5 ac/1000</b>	4.8 ac/1000	6.3 ac/1000	7.5 ac/1000	3.3 ac/1000
Median	<b>9.9 ac/1000</b>	9.9 ac/1000	12.1 ac/1000	12.9 ac/1000	6.4 ac/1000
Upper Quartile	<b>17.5 ac/1000</b>	17.3 ac/1000	19.9 ac/1000	20.6 ac/1000	13.5 ac/1000

As part of the 2017 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, the City of Happy Valley adopted acreage-based standards to initially guide discussions of levels of service and articulate the current and future demand for parkland. Considering the continued and future growth of Happy Valley and to ensure an adequate provision of parkland for the community, additional park acreage will be needed for the estimated 2040 population<sup>1</sup> of 31,590 residents.

The 2040 population forecast was prepared by the FCS Group as part of the Housing Needs Memo for the Pleasant Valley/North Carver Comprehensive Plan, and it was based on maximum land use density projection and calculated based on 3.1 persons per household.

<sup>1</sup> The 2040 population forecast was prepared by the FCS Group as part of the Housing Needs Memo for the Pleasant Valley/North Carver Comprehensive Plan, and it was based on maximum land use density projection and calculated based on 3.1 persons per household.

Figure 14. Current & Projected Level of Service (LOS) for In-City Neighborhood & Community Parks

In-City Parkland Acreage (by Park Classification)	Community Parks Only		Neighborhood/Pocket Parks	
	2019	2040	2019	2040
Community Parks	31.21 acres			
Neighborhood & Pocket Parks	17.77 acres			
<b>Total</b>	<b>31.21 acres</b>		<b>17.77 acres</b>	
<b>In-City Level of Service</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2040</b>
Proposed Service Standard	4.0 ac/1,000		2.0 ac/1,000	
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents)	1.44	0.99	0.82	0.56
Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	(2.56)	(3.01)	(1.18)	(1.44)
Performance to Standard	36%	0%	41%	28%
Acreage surplus (deficit)	(55.59)	(95.15)	(25.63)	(45.41)

In reviewing the needs for neighborhood parks and community parks as a combined standard (as urban parks), the current park deficit of 81 acres may grow to 140 acres by 2040 in the city without an aggressive land acquisition strategy and coordination with the land development community.

Figure 15. Current & Projected Level of Service (LOS) for In-City Urban Parks (Combined)

Metric		Measurement			
Proposed Urban Parks Level of Service (LOS) Standard		6 acres per 1,000 residents			
2019 Population (PSU)		21,700 residents			
2035 Population Forecast (Metro)		32,727 residents			
In-City Parkland Acreage (Urban Parks Combined)		Total		Developed	
City-owned & maintained		33.2 acres		32.52 acres	
Other Public Urban Parks (NCPRD)		15.78 acres		15.78 acres	
<b>Total</b>		<b>48.98 acres</b>		<b>48.3 acres</b>	
In-City Level of Service		2019	2040	2019	2040
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents)		2.26	1.55	2.23	1.53
Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents)		(3.74)	(4.45)	(3.77)	(4.47)
Performance to Standard		38%	26%	37%	25%
Acreage surplus (deficit)		(81.22)	(140.55)	(81.90)	(141.23)

The City of Happy Valley’s existing service standards have been applied to the Pleasant Valley-North Carver study area to assess the current and future demand for parkland. In reviewing each park classification separately, the PV/NC study area is currently providing 0.0 acres per 1,000 population for community parks (0% of the proposed standard). The resulting, current deficit of community parkland in the study area is 21 acres and may grow to 91 acres by 2040 if no additional community parklands are acquired. For neighborhood parks, the PV/NC study area

currently provides 0.3 acres per 1,000. The current deficit for neighborhood parks is 9 acres and may grow to 45 acres by 2040.

Considering the potential for annexation of the Pleasant Valley-North Carver study area into the City of Happy Valley, the level of service assessment has been combined to illustrate the demand and need for parks as a unified public park system for the City. Figure 16 combines the City park system and PV/NC study area for both park classifications. The needs for neighborhood parks and community

Figure 16. Current & Projected Acreage Needs for Urban Parks for the combined City of Happy Valley and PV/NC Area

Urban Area Parkland Acreage (by Classification)	Community Parks Only		Neighborhood/Pocket Parks	
Community Parks	31.21 acres			
Neighborhood & Pocket Parks			19.16 acres	
<b>Total</b>	<b>31.21 acres</b>		<b>19.16 acres</b>	
Urban Area Level of Service	2019	2040	2019	2040
Proposed Service Standard	4.0 ac/1,000		2.0 ac/1,000	
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents)	1.15	0.57	0.71	0.35
Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	(2.85)	(3.43)	(1.29)	(1.65)
Performance to Standard	29%	14%	35%	18%
Acreage surplus (deficit)	(77.19)	(186.35)	(35.04)	(89.62)

parcs are calculated to reveal a current total urban park deficit of 112 acres. This need for park acreage may grow to 276 acres by 2040 without an aggressive land acquisition strategy and coordination with the land development community.

No numeric standards are proposed for natural areas or open spaces. While numerical planning standards are common for helping to determine a desirable number of neighborhood parks per thousand residents, they do not translate easily to natural areas because of the uniqueness of the land base itself. Additionally, the City has provided strong leadership in requiring developers to set aside tracts of land through its land use regulations. At the present, approximately 300 acres of sensitive or protected lands have been set aside as privately held (HOA) open space tracts via the platting and land development process. The inclusion of future, protected sensitive areas will strengthen and expand the broader network of public and private natural areas and open spaces. However, the priority for natural area acquisitions or the acceptance of open space dedications from developers should be focused toward those lands that expand ownership of adjacent City-owned properties or to ensure sufficient property is available to accommodate public access and future trail connections.

## Going Beyond Acreage Standards

Using a service standard for park acreage tied to a community's population provides a common measure for guiding the amount of desired parkland. However, the acreage of parkland per capita provides a blunt and limited measure of the value of recreational access and park amenities in demand for public uses. As the park system matures with increasing residential density, other assessment techniques should be incorporated going forward to gauge the community's need for additional lands, facilities and amenities to include the following.

## Park Pressure

Park pressure refers to the potential demand on a park. One method of exploration examines the proximity of residential populations to a park and assumes that the residents in a 'parkshed' use the park closest to them and that people visit their closest park more often than those farther away. The acreage of the subject park is then used to calculate the number of park acres available per 1,000 people within the parkshed. This measure of probable park use and population pressure identifies the adequacy of the park land (in acres per 1,000) rather than simply the location and 'walkability' determined by the park accessibility metric. Depending on the amenities and attractions within the park, the higher the population within a parkshed will result in greater the use and potential increased maintenance and wear and tear.

## Park Amenity Mix

Providing unique outdoor experiences, while working to fulfill basic recreational park amenities, will result in parks with a variety of amenities. The variety and location of amenities available within a community's parks and recreational facilities will create a range of different preferences and levels of park usage by residents. Park systems should ensure an equitable distribution and quantity of the most common amenities like playgrounds, picnic shelters, restrooms, sports courts, sports field and trails to help distribute the potential usage of load on individual parks.

## Park Amenity Condition

In addition to understanding the inventory of park amenities, communities must also assess the condition of each park's general infrastructure and amenities. The condition or quality of park amenities is a key measure of park adequacy and a required assurance of public safety. General park infrastructure may include walkways, parking lots, park furniture, drainage and irrigation, lighting systems and vegetation. Deferred maintenance over a long time period can result in unusable amenities when perceived as unsafe or undesirable by park patrons.

# TRAILS & PATHWAYS

Paths and trails provide passive recreational opportunities and are key links in Happy Valley’s transportation system – connecting people to parks, schools and other key destinations. They offer opportunities for active lifestyles and to experience community and nature. In the future, a comprehensive Happy Valley trail system could connect to extensive existing park trail networks and integrate into the City’s non-motorized transportation system to provide seamless access throughout the community.

## Recreational Trends

As was noted earlier in this chapter, walking and hiking continue to be the most popular recreational activities nationally and regionally, with approximately 80% participating in these activities based on statewide data. Furthermore, over the past ten years national recreation studies have consistently ranked hiking and walking as the most popular form of outdoor recreation. These studies include:

- Sports Participation Survey; National Sporting Goods Association
- Outdoor Recreation Participation Report; The Outdoor Foundation
- State of the Industry Report; Recreation Management Magazine
- Outdoor Recreation in America; The Recreation Roundtable

The Oregon SCORP points to a statewide public priority to ensure the continuing development of trail connections. Oregonians that participate in outdoor recreation activities identified that trail maintenance was among the top ten actions that park land managers can provide to help with user participation. The Oregon SCORP surveys identified the high public priority for dirt and other soft

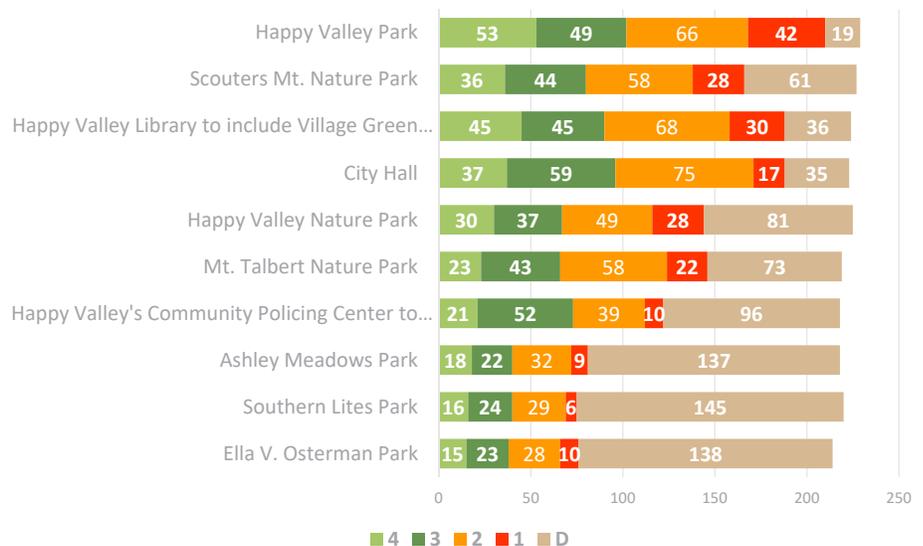
surfaced walking trails and paths and off-street bicycle trails and pathways. Additionally, close-to-home facility investments were recognized to maximize everyday use by local residents and encourage participation by current non-participants who identified lack of time as the primary reason for not participating in outdoor recreation. Recreation agencies were encouraged to provide easily accessible information about walking, running, dog walking, and bicycling opportunities in their jurisdictions to encourage use of existing recreational facilities.

## Local Interests & Feedback

In the 2017 community survey, respondents listed walking trails as the most important recreational amenity, and over 75% of respondents said they felt safe walking or biking to their neighborhood park.

However, regarding access to nearby parks and civic destinations, survey respondents did not offer high marks. None of the park locations listed were rated with a majority of “good” or “very good” access. The most highly rated parks were Happy Valley Park, City Hall and Happy Valley Library.

Figure 17. Quality of Bicycle & Pedestrian Access by Location



## Trail Planning in Happy Valley

Through the site conditions assessment and public input, the need for accessible routes to and within parks and connecting parks to residential areas was clearly identified. The City should place a primary focus on natural area trails and connections to local destinations as those as a priority for implementation.

Happy Valley has a variety of different pedestrian facilities that include sidewalks, paths, multi-use trails and access ways. In 2009, the City completed a Pedestrian System and Trail Master Plan recognizing that there were many gaps in the walking network and that walking access was a critical element of a livable community. The

Plan evaluated network deficiencies and made recommendations for future projects to promote pedestrian, bicycle and transit trips and provide the City with a balanced multi-modal transportation network. The Plan developed criteria to guide the selection of proposed pedestrian routes to improve mobility and access to likely pedestrian destinations. The Plan also established pedestrian policies to guide the future development of the pedestrian system for Happy Valley. Regional multi-use trails and local paths were identified, along with cost estimates for project phasing. The regional multi-use trails are based on the Metro Regional Transportation Plan.

Figure 18. Trail Projects Identified in 2009 Pedestrian System & Trail Master Plan

Trail Name	Project Length (miles)	Total Trail Length (miles)	Preliminary Cost (\$1,000s)
<b>Regional Multi-use Trails</b>			
Rock Creek Trail	5.9	5.9	\$5,440
West Happy Valley Trail	3	4.8	\$2,750
Powerline Trail	2.8	5.1	\$2,560
<b>Local Paths &amp; Multi-use Trails</b>			
Idleman Loop	1.3	3.4	\$1,150
The Reserve Trail	0.5	1.3	\$500
Clackamas River Trail	2.6	2.6	\$2,360

On 2010, The Intertwine, fostered by an alliance of park providers and natural resource advocates, prepared the Portland-Vancouver Bi-State Trails Plan to recognize the interconnected metropolitan region and help promote the need to implement the vast network of proposed public trails. In 2012, the Intertwine through the support of Metro, published a set of trail signage guidelines for use across communities to help identify the trail system and the many wayfinding variables that impact a trail user.

The 2016-2025 statewide trails plan, entitled *Oregon Trails 2016: A Vision for the Future*, provides information and recommendations to guide federal, state, and local units of government, as well as the private sector, in making policy and planning decisions. The state trails plan identified the need for more trails connecting towns and public places. The state trails plan also recognized the need for more trail signs to provide wayfinding for users that provide direction, distance and difficulty, as well as destinations and locational information.

Within the existing parks and natural areas in Happy Valley (including the regional parks), a number of off-street trails provide walking opportunities connecting through natural areas, private HOA properties and developed park facilities. The City has created an updated inventory of existing trails across both public and private lands. The current list

reveals over 20 miles of public walking routes (excluding sidewalks) that include internal park trails, HOA trails (within public access easements), natural area/open space trails and trails along utility corridors. The figure below lists those developed trails and their surface condition.

Figure 19. Current Trail Inventory in Happy Valley

Trail Name	Length (ft)	Type	Ownership
Ashley Meadows Park Trail	600	Paved	NCPRD
Bella Casa	10,750	Paved & unpaved	HOA
Deerfield Woods Trail	3,506	Paved, unpaved, native	HOA
Happy Valley & HV Wetland Parks' Trails	14,000	Paved, unpaved & boardwalk	HV
Happy Valley Village	900	Paved	HOA
Hidden Falls Nature Park	4,435	Paved	NCPRD
Jackson Hills	1,500	Paved	HOA
Kensington Bluff	3,250	Paved, unpaved & stairs	HOA
Lincoln Heights Trail	5,200	Unpaved	HOA
Mount Talbert Nature Park	20,100	Paved & unpaved	HV/Metro
Mountain Gate Trail	2,400	Paved & unpaved	HV/NCPRD
Mt Scott Nature Trail	8,600	Paved & unpaved	HV/NCPRD
Powerline Trail	3,250	Paved	HOA
Rolling Acres	300	Paved	HOA
Scott Creek Trail	5,450	Paved	HV/Metro/NCSD
Scouters Mountain Trails	6,341	Native	Metro
Shadow Ridge Trail	4,082	Paved, unpaved, native	HOA
Shelter Trail	971	Native	Metro
Southern Lites Park Trail	2,500	Paved & unpaved	NCPRD
Sunrise Heights Trails	3,810	Paved	HOA
Taralon	2,900	Paved	HOA
The Stairs	3,588	Paved & unpaved	HOA
Trillium Creek Park	445	Paved	NCPRD
<b>Total Length of Existing Public Access Trails</b>	<b>108,878</b>		
<b>Total Miles</b>	<b>20.6</b>		

While Happy Valley does not have an adopted mileage standard for achieving its desired trail network, it should be noted that the combination of public and private trails is within the guidelines recommended by the Oregon SCORP for providing an adequate level of service for parks and recreation. The 2019 Guide to Community Park and Recreation Planning by Oregon State Parks

suggests a range of 0.5-1.5 miles of trail per 1,000 population. Happy Valley falls squarely within that range for its 20.6 miles of trails equaling 0.95 miles per 1,000 level of service for the current city population. If no new trail segments are added, the projected, 2040 level of service decreases to 0.38 miles per 1,000 population with the inclusion of the Pleasant Valley/North Carver area.

## Going Beyond Trail Mileage

### Trails for Connectivity

As with roadway system and transportation planning, planning for recreational trails should be geared toward connectivity, rather than mileage. Considering only a mileage standard for paths within the Happy Valley park system provides an isolated and inadequate assessment of need for the community and its plans for growth and better connectivity. This Plan recommends a connectivity goal that re-states and reinforces the desire to improve overall connections across the City and enhance off-street linkages between parks and major destinations, as feasible.

### Trails for Community Health

A welcoming and accessible City plays a significant role in encouraging and supporting physical activity that promotes healthy active lifestyles. The need to build on existing infrastructure and create interconnected systems should be the standard for establishing demand for trails. Recreational trails are essential as elements in a multi-modal alternative transportation network. The City has adopted policies that will encourage or require better mobility and connections between land uses and destinations to support physical activity as part of a daily lifestyle and that can support a full range of human activities: live, work, shop, play, learn and gather.

In the NRPA publication, *Safe Routes to Parks*, the elements of walkable, healthy community design are outlined as convenience, comfort, access and design, safety and the park itself. As further emphasis for the importance of a walkable community to promote public health, the U.S. Surgeon General has issued a *Call to Action* to “step it up” and promote more walking and build a more walkable world. A more connected network of trails, sidewalks and bike lanes with links to public transit enhances health and also provides economic values.

### Trails for Economic Health

In the 2009 report *Walking the Walk: How Walkability Raises Housing Values in US Cities* by Joe Cortright of CEOs for Cities, research cited the connection between home value and walkability. Higher WalkScore measurements (walkscore.com) where typical consumer destinations are within walking distance were directly associated with higher home values. Homes located in more walkable neighborhoods command a price premium over otherwise similar homes in less walkable areas. The National Association of Realtors reports in their *On Common Ground* publication with numerous articles citing the preference of walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods and the role of walkability in creating healthier communities. These preferences translate into higher real estate prices and housing values. Even the National Association of Homebuilders (March 2014 publication: “Walkability, why we care and you should too”) has recognized that walkability is desired by consumers, creates lower development costs and allows flexibility in design. As part of the system of walkability and bike-ability, recreational trails are real estate assets that enhance community connections and contribute to economic health.

# RECREATION FACILITIES & PROGRAMS

The City of Happy Valley currently provides only limited recreation programming directly, which focuses on special events. Community events and activities offered by the City include the Fourth of July, summer concert series, National Night Out, Harvest Fest, Tree Lighting and Dumpster Day. The City, as a provider of sport fields and parks, also partners with recreation providers to bring an assortment of sports and other outdoor recreation activities to its parks that focuses on youth sports and family fun activities. The North Clackamas School District provides outdoor and indoor recreation facilities for recreation programming that is reservable by recreation providers, including the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, youth sports organizations and adult sports groups.



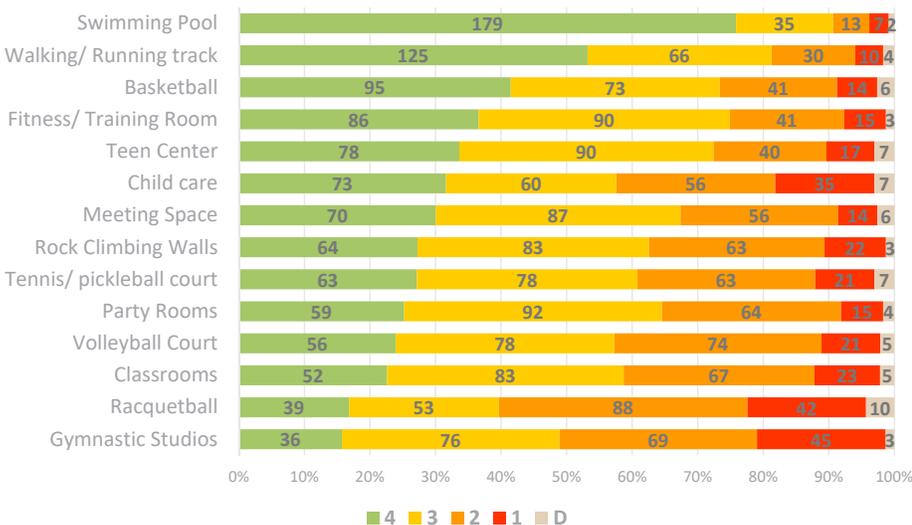
## Local Interests & Feedback

Throughout the public process for the development of this Plan, the residents of Happy Valley have expressed their interest in the City taking a bigger role in offering recreation programming and providing indoor facility space to accommodate those programs.

For many years, local residents have voiced their interest in a community recreation center built in Happy Valley. In the 2017 community

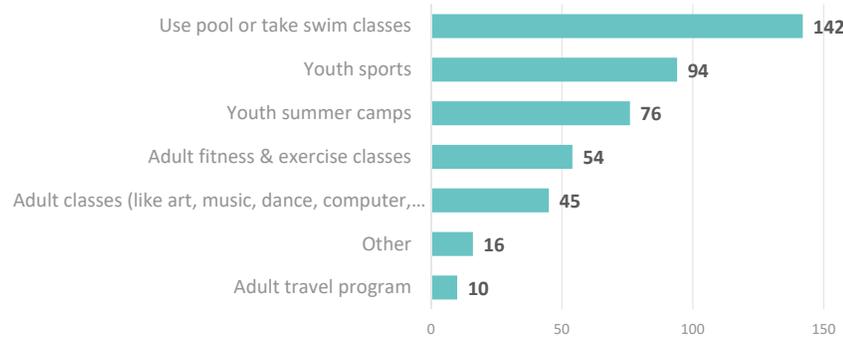
survey, respondents were asked about importance of a variety of potential amenities to include within a community center. A swimming pool was overwhelming identified as the most important amenity to provide in a community center followed by a walking and running track. Basketball, fitness/training room, and teen center were also identified as important community center amenities.

Figure 20. Potential Amenities for a Community Center



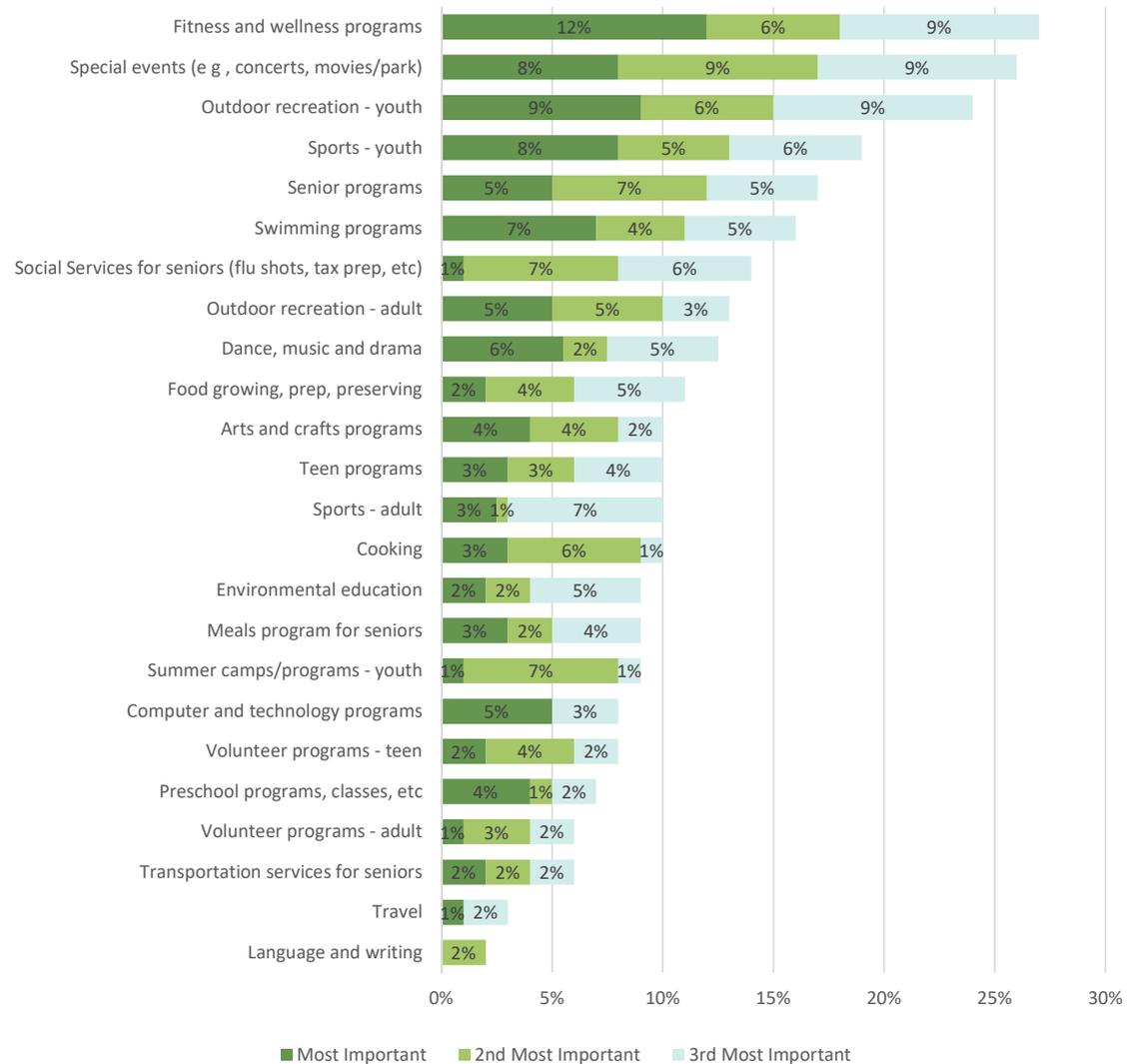
Recognizing that NCPRD has been the major provider of recreation programs in the area, respondents were also asked about their current usage of NCPRD programs. Swimming pool was the most widely used recreational program provided by NCPRD followed by youth sports, youth summer camps.

Figure 21. Current Usage of NCPRD Program Offerings



Data from a 2012 NCPRD survey provides additional context about the types of programs respondents said were important to expand or improve.

Figure 22. Most Important Programs to Add, Expand or Improve (NCPRD, 2012)



Interest in the City providing recreation programs appears to be strong; however, the number and types of activities the City can offer is very limited due to the lack of staffing and indoor facility capacity. To meet this need, the City should pursue the construction of a multi-use indoor recreation facility to enable comprehensive recreation programs for Happy Valley residents. Such a facility would allow the City to control facility design, programming, scheduling and fees to more effectively meet community needs. Development of an indoor recreation facility requires extensive planning, including a feasibility analysis, appropriate site, and management and operation plans, as well as exploration of potential financial and programming partnerships. The facility should include gymnasiums, classrooms and multifunctional rooms and fitness rooms. The facility feasibility analysis should also explore the potential for an indoor pool for swim lessons and lap swimming, as well as leisure aquatics opportunities. The facility analysis should also consider the inclusion of civic space (i.e., library, city service center/offices, etc.) or other leasable office space depending on the potential to secure funding partners with interest in co-locating at the facility. Partnerships may be necessary to offset development and operational costs.

It is recognized that funding will be a challenge and there is a real and significant need to balance what the community says it wants with what the community is willing to fund. There may be a potential to pursue a combined bond between the City and the local school districts, which would demonstrate the project's partnership potential and due diligence to develop a facility that jointly meets needs for recreational program space. Also, if a school district were willing to co-sponsor a financing package, the Oregon Legislature recently approved legislation for bond funding of aquatic facilities that is a competitive grant program for school districts to access state funds. Additionally, the City should seek private construction capital and sponsorship opportunities, such as naming rights, to lessen the total funding request of voters.

Former guidelines from the National Recreation and Parks Association suggested a service standard of one community center per 15,000-25,000 people, and while that standard is no longer in use, it suggests that a certain population density is required to support such a facility. While public sentiment exists for a community center, a cautious approach should be taken and consideration given prior to the acquisition and development of such a facility.

Regarding programming, the City should consider incremental growth in recreation programs and initially focus on facilitating programs via contract vendors and/or focusing on those programs that are not currently offered by local or regional providers. The City should work with the school districts, community partners, sports organizations and other recreation providers to plan for and consider how to offer both drop-in and structured programs in sports; art, music and dance; and educational and environmental activities for Happy Valley youth.

## STAFFING & OPERATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

The Happy Valley park system needs to grow to meet the demand for outdoor recreation for an expanding population and operations must adapt for the pending transfer of several existing NCPRD sites to the City. As new features are added to existing parks, new lands are acquired for future parks and new parks are developed for growing neighborhoods, the operational staff capacity serving the park system will need to be expanded to meet the need for administration and maintenance of the larger park system.

The City will need to consider when, and how many, additional full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) should be budgeted, hired and trained to perform the duties necessary to maintain and operate a safe and clean park system. Seasonal staffing for those time-intensive tasks, such as mowing and janitorial duties, has required on-the-job training that reduces the efficiency of the permanent staff and results in a slow ramping up of needed skills and experience.

To assess how the City of Happy Valley’s park system and related operations compare to other jurisdictions of similar population

density, data was reviewed from the 2017 NRPA Agency Performance Report, which contains data from 925 park and recreation agencies across the U.S. as reported between 2014 and 2016. The report offers a snapshot view of how Happy Valley would compare with other peer park agencies throughout the US. It should be noted that not all comparative agencies provide recreation programming and many park systems have differing sizes, locations, and standards. This comparison offers suggestions rather than concrete targets. Should Happy Valley wish to make more direct comparisons, City data can be entered into the NRPA Park Metrics to allow a reporting that compares specific local data with the key metrics of park and recreation agencies from across the United States.

According to the NRPA Agency Performance Report, park and recreation agencies serving jurisdictions with less than 20,000 people have a median of 10.2 FTEs on staff. The typical park and recreation agency has 7.3 FTEs on staff for each 10,000 residents living in the jurisdiction served by the agency.

Figure 23\_ Park & Recreation FTEs per 10,000 Residents (by Jurisdiction Population)

	All Agencies	Less than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	Over 250,000
<b>Median</b>	7.3	<b>10.5</b>	8.5	7.6	5.7	4.3
<b>Lower Quartile</b>	3.7	<b>5.3</b>	4.6	3.8	3.1	1.7
<b>Upper Quartile</b>	14.9	<b>20.8</b>	17	13.9	11.3	7.6

Agencies also tend to have more FTEs per residents when they serve areas with greater population density. Based on its population density, Happy Valley fits within the category of 1,501 to 2,500 population per square mile used by NRPA for agency and jurisdiction comparisons.

As with different agencies, different parks, all with their unique characteristics, may vary widely in the amount of labor required for annual care. Parks with extensive multi-purpose mown grass fields will demand higher labor hours than parks with natural areas and smaller mown grass areas. More intensive

park labor tasks are typically associated with mowing and janitorial/restroom cleaning. Parks without restrooms or irrigated turf grass would have significantly lower demands on labor time. With comparative park system sizes and additional non-park sites under the Parks and Recreation Department, the City should consider additional operational staffing for their park system as it grows.

To help predict the future staffing needs, an example (in Figure 24 below) from a Pacific

Northwest park system offers a look at the labor hours and costs on a per park basis with distinctions made for park types being maintained. This per acre information can be extrapolated to predict how much staffing might be necessary per new park. A new 5-acre neighborhood park would require the time of ¼-FTE equivalent. For every four new neighborhood parks, one FTE should be added to cover necessary labor needs. For a 20-acre community park, one full time staff would be needed to ensure proper care and maintenance of the new facility.

Figure 24. Example of labor costs & hours from comparative Pacific Northwest park agency.

Number of Sites	Type of Facility	Average Acreage per Park	Annual Cost per Acre	Annual Labor Hours per Acre
5	Neighborhood Parks	4.8	\$5,500	110
5	Community Parks	26.2	\$4,400	112
5	Green Spaces/Undeveloped Parks	5.6	\$2,400	16

As Happy Valley expands its role in providing park and recreation services, additional staffing will be needed for a variety of duties beyond those strictly for operations and maintenance. According to the NRPA data, park and recreation staff members have duties that span many functional areas (the percentages below represent the median of agencies across the U.S.):

- Maintenance (31%);
- Operations (27%);
- Programming (21%); and
- Administration (17%).

To achieve the required level of park system growth and capital project management, the City would benefit from the addition of a park professional position that focuses specifically on the Department’s planning work. This position could be responsible for land-use planning, land acquisition, capital planning and capital budget oversight, project management, and individual park

and system master plans. The park planner would conduct various plans and studies that provide direction to meet community needs for park and recreation services. The position also could manage public input processes related to capital development. Such a position would require a high degree of interaction and collaboration with engineers, contractors, developers, consultants, other city departments and local governmental entities.



## 6 | PROJECTS & STRATEGIES

A number of strategies exist to enhance and expand park and recreation service delivery for the City of Happy Valley; however, clear decisions must be made in an environment of competing interests and limited resources. A strong community will is necessary to bring many of the projects listed in this Plan to life, and the Happy Valley City Council has demonstrated its willingness to support parks and recreation, park maintenance and a high quality of life.

The recommendations for park and recreation services noted in this Plan will trigger the need for funding beyond current allocations and for additional staffing, operations and maintenance responsibilities. Given that the operating and capital budget of the Public Works Department for the park and recreation system is limited, additional resources will be needed to leverage, supplement and support the implementation of proposed policies, programs and projects. The following implementation strategies are presented to offer near-term direction to realize these projects and as a means to continue dialogue between the City, its residents and its partners.

Additionally, a review of potential implementation tools is included as Appendix C, which addresses local financing, federal and state grant and conservation programs, acquisition methods and others.

### IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

#### NCPRD Settlement Agreement

In December 2019, the City of Happy Valley and the North Clackamas Park and Recreation District agreed upon a settlement to resolve a multi-year dispute regarding the City's withdrawal from the District to become the parks and recreation provider for its residents. The settlement provides for the transfer of \$14.3 million from the District to the City. These funds will enable the City to complete a number of projects to improve Happy Valley's park system.

## 5-Year Operating Levy

With the City's planned departure from the North Clackamas Park and Recreation District (which had provided some funding to the City for the care and management of City-owned parks), the City will need to secure near-term funding for ongoing maintenance and operations of its re-established parks and recreation system. The City should consider asking residents to support an initial 5-year parks levy for parks maintenance and operations. Similar to the City's public safety levy, a parks levy would require voter approval every five years for continuation.

## General Obligation Bonds

According to the City budget, Happy Valley maintains reserve debt capacity for voter approved debt. The City should continue to examine options for a new, multi-use community recreation center. Based on the community feedback in support of a new facility, the development of a new community recreation center warrants a review of financing alternatives and bonded debt implications for such a large capital project, along with polling of voter support for such a project.

## System Development Charges

Park System Development Charges (SDCs) are imposed on new development to meet the increased demand for parks resulting from the new growth. SDCs can only be used for parkland acquisition, planning and/or development. They cannot be used for operations and maintenance of parks and facilities. The City should periodically update the methodology and rate structure, as appropriate, to be best positioned to obtain future acquisition and development financing from residential development. The City should prioritize the usage of Parks SDCs to secure new park properties and finance park or trail development consistent with the priorities within this Plan.

## Parks Utility Fee

A parks utility fee is an ongoing fee (often billed monthly) that provides revenue for the needs of the park system. When charged by a city, such a fee can be an additional line item on an existing utility bill. The revenue earned can be used for both operational and capital needs, and it can be pledged to the debt service of revenue bonds. Establishment of a parks utility fee in Oregon requires compliance with legal requirements at both state and local levels. Several jurisdictions across Oregon have implemented and utilized a parks utility fee as supplemental funding to maintain and enhance their park systems. Happy Valley could consider enacting a parks utility fee for the purpose of providing for the operation and maintenance of parks and facilities within the City and to ensure adequate resources are available for the sound and timely maintenance of existing recreation amenities.

## Grants & Appropriations

Several state and federal grant programs are available on a competitive basis, including Oregon State Parks, LWCF and Fast-Act. Pursuing grants is not a panacea for park system funding, since grants are both competitive and often require a significant percentage of local funds to match the request to the granting agency, which depending on the grant program can be as much as 50% of the total project budget. Happy Valley should continue to leverage its local resources to the greatest extent by pursuing grants independently and in cooperation with other local partners.

Appropriations from state or federal sources, though rare, can supplement projects with partial funding. State and federal funding allocations are particularly relevant on regional transportation projects, and the likelihood for appropriations could be increased if multiple partners are collaborating on projects.

## Parkland Donations & Dedications

Parkland donations from private individuals or conservation organizations could occur to complement the acquisition of park and open space lands across the City and UGMA. Gift deeds or bequests from philanthropic-minded landowners could allow for lands to come into City ownership upon the death of the owner or as a tax-deductible charitable donation. Parkland dedication by a developer could occur in exchange for Park SDCs or as part of a planned development where public open space is a key design for the layout and marketing of a new residential project. Any potential dedication must be vetted by the Department to ensure that such land is located in an area of need or can expand an existing City property and can be developed with site amenities listed in Appendix E.

## Partner Coordination & Collaboration

Specific projects and goals identified in this Plan demand a high degree of coordination and collaboration with other City departments and outside agencies.

Internal coordination with the Public Works and Community Development Departments can increase the potential of discrete actions toward the implementation of the proposed trail and path network, which relies heavily on street right-of-way enhancements, and in the review of development applications with consideration toward potential parkland acquisition areas, planned path corridors and the need for easement or set-aside requests. However, to more fully expand the extent of the park system and recreation programs, additional partnerships and collaborations should be sought.

The City should continue to facilitate discussions with local youth leagues and staff from nearby school districts for the purposes of sport field planning and consideration of a new multi-field complex. Possible sites should

include future community parks acquisitions. A complex of four fields or more could provide field rental revenue, as well as additional tourism revenue, from leagues or sport clubs interested in hosting tournaments.

Happy Valley also should explore partnership opportunities with regional health care providers and services, such as Providence, Kaiser and the Clackamas County Public Health Department, to promote wellness activities, healthy living and communications about the benefits of parks and recreation. For example, this group could more directly cross-market services and help expand communications about local wellness options, and they could sponsor a series of organized trail walks throughout Happy Valley as a means to expand public awareness of local trail opportunities and encourage residents to stay fit. For example, other communities in the Pacific Northwest have been successful with funding requests to regional hospitals for the development and printing of community walking guides that highlight the health benefits of walking and include trail system maps and descriptions.

Developing or strengthening these types of partnerships will be essential for reaching the goals of the Plan and meeting the needs of the future park system. Partnerships may allow the City to share responsibilities for the financial, acquisition, development, planning and operational activities. Partnerships, like many relationships, require time to develop and establish the mutual values that keep the partners at the table, leverage all accumulated resources and lead to successful project or program implementation. City staff may need to grow to allow for the capacity to capture stronger partnerships.

## Public-Private Partnerships

Public-private partnerships are increasingly necessary for local agencies to leverage their limited resources in providing park and recreation services to the community. Corporate sponsorships, health organization

grants, conservation stewardship programs and non-profit organizations are just a few examples of partnerships where collaboration provides value to both partners. The City has existing partners and should continue to explore additional and expanded partnerships to help implement these Plan recommendations.

## **Volunteer & Community-based Action**

Volunteers and community groups already contribute to the improvement of park and recreation services in Happy Valley. Volunteer projects include wildlife habitat enhancement, invasive plant removal and tree planting, among others. The recent installation of the all-abilities playground at Happy Valley Park in partnership with the Rotary Club of Clackamas exemplifies the power of the community working together.

Happy Valley should maintain and update a revolving list of potential small works or volunteer-appropriate projects for the website, while also reaching out to the high schools to encourage student projects.

While supporting organized groups and community-minded individuals continues to add value to the Happy Valley parks and recreation system, volunteer coordination requires a substantial amount of staff time, and additional resources are necessary to enable a volunteer coordinator position to more fully take advantage of the community's willingness to support park and recreation efforts.

## **Other Implementation Tools**

Appendix C identifies other implementation tools, such as grants and acquisition tactics, that the City could utilize to further the implementation of the projects noted in the CIP.





## Community Center

The City and its residents are poised to include a community center in the provision of recreational facilities and need to undertake a feasibility study to examine the building program, footprint, potential locations and costing for an indoor recreation facility. The feasibility study would also explore the extent of amenities to be included in a community/recreation center with a potential provision for a phased implementation plan based on financing and capital development resources.



## Recreation Programming

Expanded recreational and community programming has been an identified need as the City grows and develops. Exploration is warranted for potential partnerships and arrangements with school districts and contract vendors for provision of recreation programs focusing on youth, teens and seniors. The development of youth summer and school break camps are current needs; the City could foster agreements or partnerships with potential programming partners as it considers its role in providing recreation services for the community. The Parks and Recreation Division could act as the clearinghouse for recreation program information available in town.



## ADA Enhancements & Park Enhancements

Minor improvements to access, such as providing ramped entrances for site furnishings, are necessary to conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and ensure universal accessibility. Also, the City should evaluate the play equipment and its signage for code compliance and replace outdated equipment as appropriate. The Capital Improvement Program includes a line item for covering small upgrades and improvements to remove barriers and improve universal access. In general, the City should make improvements to existing parks as needed to ensure proper maintenance, usability and quality of park features and grounds.



## Park & Trail Connections

Recreational path and trail connections, improvements and relationships to streets, sidewalks and bike lanes have been developing as Happy Valley grows. The 2009 Happy Valley Pedestrian System and Trail Master Plan identified several priority regional and local trail projects to be accomplished to close the gaps for walking access that provides a critical element of a livable community. Additionally, the Pleasant Valley/North Carver Comprehensive Plan includes a bikeways and trail map to guide planning for that area. The City should continue to implement its trail planning and coordinate trail-related projects with transportation system planning or related public works projects. There may also be opportunities to explore trail development partnerships with local user groups and pursue additional trail segments and connections, as appropriate.



## New Park Design & Development

As the proposed parkland acquisition program successfully secures properties for future parks, these new sites will undergo design and development to provide both basic park amenities and unique places for community use. While park development standards can ensure unified site furnishings across the park system, each park site can be designed and developed to create its own unique character.

Including facilities for alternative or emerging sports can offer residents a more diverse range of recreational experiences, while creating destinations that attract and engage park users. Happy Valley currently has an outdoor concrete skate park located in Happy Valley Park. Opportunities and facilities for other alternative sports could be expanded in the city. Opportunities may exist to develop alternative sports facilities at a few existing parks and plan for these facilities in the site design of parks to be developed in the future. The City should also consider incorporating small-scale skateboard (skate spots), bike skills features or pump tracks into park sites, as appropriate.



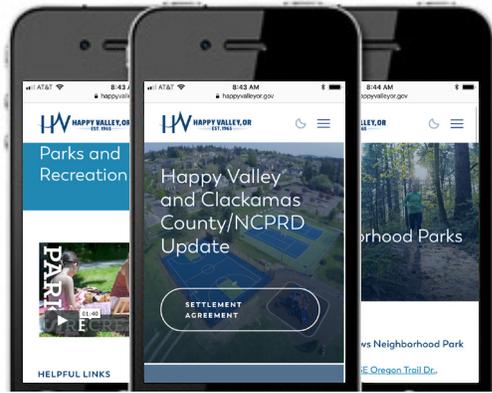
## Wayfinding & Signage

Parks, trails, plazas and public open spaces are the primary targets for unifying an urban environment into a cohesive, accessible and connected community through an identifiable wayfinding program. The City should pursue a comprehensive wayfinding program that includes both visual graphic standards and site furnishing standards. Colors, sign types, and information can help park and trail users navigate the outdoor recreation experiences offered by the City.



## Communications

To broaden public awareness, the City’s website should continue to be expanded to facilitate quick links to popular destinations. The website should include easy-to-access park system and facility maps, trail maps and an up-to-date listing of park sites and amenities to enhance the experience of the on-the-go user. The City should consider introducing and utilizing QR codes on signage as a means to share with or receive information from visitors about maintenance, restoration or monitoring data.



## Upgrades

The City should also consider adding the following recreation features to expand recreational opportunities:

- Spray parks / splash pads
- Nature playgrounds
- Playgrounds
- Accessible playgrounds
- Gathering spaces (picnic shelters, etc.)
- Outdoor fitness areas
- Community gardens
- Public art



A general consideration shared during the public outreach was the desire to create a park system that provided year-round facilities for all ages and all abilities to gather and recreate in diverse range of safe, clean and well-maintained park facilities.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

The Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) puts into chronological order the project intent and strategic actions adopted by the City to guide the implementation of this Plan. It assigns proposed time frames and estimated costs for specific projects. A summary of proposed project categories and scopes is described below.

The CIP on the following pages lists the park and facility projects considered for the next five to ten years. The majority of these projects entail the acquisition and development of parks, renovating or enhancing existing facilities, and expanding path and trail corridors. The CIP provides brief project descriptions for those projects with priority ranking to assist staff in preparing future capital budget requests.

**Veterans Memorial Park:** With its master plan approved, this new park space is ready for full implementation to provide a focal point for displaying the respect and honor shared by Happy Valley residents and their families for those veterans who currently or historically served their country.

**Community Park Acquisition:** This targeted parkland acquisition is intended to provide enough land for the site of a future community center in conjunction with the space for all the amenities of a fully-functional community park. Thirty acres of developable land accessible from existing supportive roads and, preferably, a public transit route would be an ideal site.

**Happy Valley Park Sports Fields Improvements:** Irrigation and field renovations to potentially include all-weather turf conversion are needed to maintain and improve the play-ability of existing natural turf fields.

**Neighborhood Park Acquisition and Development:** This targeted parkland acquisition is intended to provide enough land for the site of a future neighborhood park to provide more accessible (especially via walking and biking) outdoor recreation amenities close to neighborhoods. Once secured the site could be master planned and developed into a new neighborhood park.

**NCPRD Park Enhancements:** Based on the settlement agreement with NCPRD, three neighborhood park sites currently owned by NCPRD will be transferred to the City of Happy Valley in the near

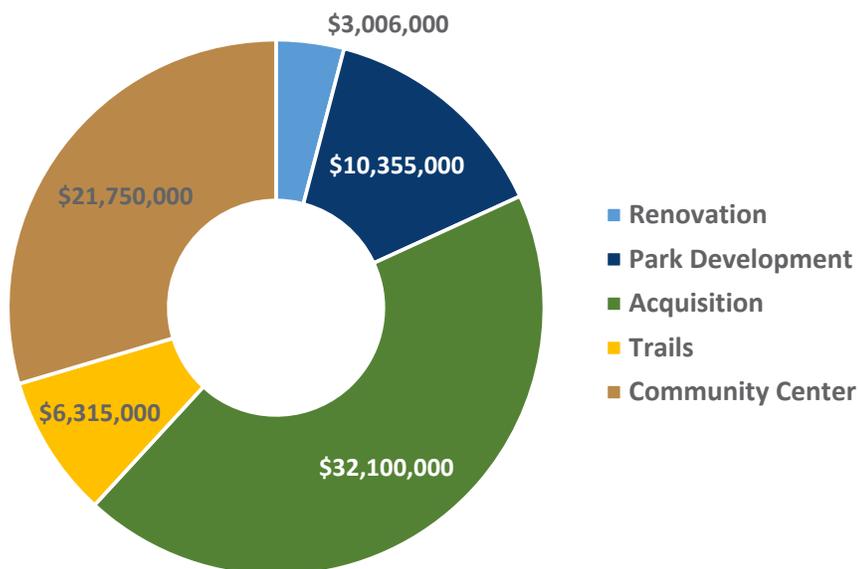
future. Each of those parks has the capacity for providing additional amenities and enhancements to increase their value to local residents. When transferred, renovation projects to these sites could include additional picnic shelters, play equipment, ADA upgrades, trail connections and tree canopy plantings.

**Trail Connections:** In conjunction with the Pedestrian System and Trail Master Plan, the Parks and Recreation Division will contribute to the implementation of trail segments that help close the gaps in the City’s walking and biking transportation networks. Based on available funding sources and their requirements, projects may need to remain flexible to capture granting opportunities.

The Mount Scott/Scouter Mountain Trail Loop, a Metro-proposed regional trail, will connect numerous schools, community parks, local trails, businesses, retail stores and the Happy Valley Town Center. The new trail will facilitate potential access to Mount Scott Creek and other destinations. Segments involving Mt Talbert to Southern Lites and Scouters Mountain and Happy Valley Wetland Park also can be priority implementations.

The projects were selected based on the need to address care for aging facilities, implement long-standing plans for improvements, and work toward meeting the goal to better connect and create access to park and recreation facilities. The following table summarizes the aggregate capital estimates from the 2021-2030 CIP by park types for the next ten years. A full CIP funding schedule follows.

Figure 25. Capital Improvements Plan Expenditures Summary



**Happy Valley Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan**  
**Parks Capital Improvements Plan**  
**2021-2030**

Park / Location	Project Description	Priority	Activity Code	Funding Source	Estimated Cost	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Happy Valley Park	ADA access pathways & bleachers w/ safety railing	1	R	GF	\$50,000		\$50,000								
	Replace drinking fountains w/ ADA compliant fixtures	1	R	GF	\$15,000		\$15,000								
	ADA entry/parking upgrades: signs, warning strips, painted aisles	1	R	GF	\$2,500	\$2,500									
	Sports fields - major renovations	2	R	GF,Pr	\$300,000	\$300,000									
	Soccer field irrigation system	2	R	GF,Pr	\$250,000	\$250,000									
	Baseball field irrigation system	2	R	GF,Pr	\$150,000	\$150,000									
	Parking lot(s) resurfacing	3	R	GF	\$250,000			\$250,000							
	Picnic shelters (A&B) & horseshoe pit replacement	3	R	GF,G,Pr	\$83,000			\$83,000							
	Replacements of play equipment, BBQs, footbridge, recycle cans	3	R	GF	\$111,000				\$111,000						
	Renovate dog off-leash areas	3	R	GF,Pr	\$25,000							\$25,000			
	Renovate/replace splash pad	3	R	GF,Pr	\$300,000							\$300,000			
	Replace tot lot play equipment & badmitten court	3	R	GF,Pr	\$57,500								\$57,500		
	Replace park signs, kiosks, gates, tables & other amenities	3	R	GF	\$100,000										\$100,000
	Replace lower restrooms & merry-go-round	2	R	GF	\$757,000										\$757,000
	Install all-weather turf soccer field	2	D	SDC,Pr,G	\$1,600,000			\$1,600,000							
Install all-weather turf baseball field	2	D	SDC,Pr,G	\$1,600,000			\$1,600,000								
Rebstock Park	<i>(consider surplusng site and replacing elsewhere or master planning to redesign for better park amenities)</i>				\$0										
Happy Valley Wetland Park	Add wayfinding signage system design & installation	2	D	GF,G	\$15,000		\$15,000								
Scott Creek Trail	Add nature playground at upper terrace along Wm Otty Rd.	2	D	SDC,G,Pr	\$25,000				\$25,000						
	Add small picnic shelter	2	D	SDC	\$65,000				\$65,000						
	Replace trail boardwalk	3	R	GF	\$150,000						\$150,000				
	Replace bridge	3	R	GF	\$250,000							\$250,000			
Veterans Memorial Park	Develop memorial at city hall	1	D	SDC,G,Pr	\$250,000	\$250,000									
Mt Scott - Scouters Mountain Trail Loop	Add connections & enhancements to Segment 2D	1	D	SDC,G,Pr	\$500,000	\$50,000		\$150,000		\$150,000		\$150,000			
Mt Scott - Scouters Mountain Trail Loop	Segment 3C (Rock Creek Trail)	1	D	SDC,G,Pr	\$5,440,000		\$5,440,000								
Sunnyside Village Trail	<i>details pending</i>		D		TBD										
177th & Sunnyside Road Trail Loop	<i>details pending</i>		D		TBD										
Mt Scott/Scouters Mtn Trail Loop segment	Segment 6E: Mt Talbert - Southern Lites (part of West Happy Valley Trail)	2	D	SDC,G,Pr	\$375,000		\$375,000								
Neighborhood Park Acquisition	Land acquisition ( 4 acres )	2	A	SDC,G,Pr	\$2,500,000						\$2,500,000				
Neighborhood Park Acquisition	Land acquisition ( 4 acres )	2	A	SDC,G,Pr	\$2,600,000								\$2,600,000		
Community Park Acquisition	Land acquisition ( 20 acres )	2	A	SDC,G,Pr	\$12,000,000								\$12,000,000		
Community Park Acquisition	Land acquisition ( 30 acres ) - location w/ comm. aquatic center	1	A	SDC,G,Pr	\$15,000,000		\$15,000,000								
Neighborhood Park Design/Development	Design & Development of neighborhood park	3	D	SDC,G,Pr	\$2,000,000							\$2,000,000			
Neighborhood Park Design/Development	Design & Development of neighborhood park	3	D	SDC,G,Pr	\$2,300,000									\$2,300,000	
Community Park Design/Development	Design & Development of community park	3	D	SDC,G,Pr	\$2,500,000										\$2,500,000
Community Park Design/Development	Park containing comm./aquatic center	3	D	SDC,Pr,TBD	\$21,750,000					\$21,750,000					
System-wide ADA Upgrades	Barrier removal, benches, tables, paved paths	2	R	GF	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000					
Capital Repairs (system-wide)		1	R	GF	\$105,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>TOTALS:</b>					<b>\$73,526,000</b>	<b>\$1,027,500</b>	<b>\$24,115,000</b>	<b>\$503,000</b>	<b>\$221,000</b>	<b>\$21,920,000</b>	<b>\$2,660,000</b>	<b>\$2,735,000</b>	<b>\$14,667,500</b>	<b>\$2,310,000</b>	<b>\$3,367,000</b>

**Code Activity**  
A Acquisition  
P Planning/Permitting  
D Development

**Code Priority**  
1 High Priority  
2 Moderate  
3 Long-term

**Code Funding Source**  
SDC Park System Development Charges  
Pr Private funds; Dedications; Donations  
G Grants  
GF General Fund / Local Share  
TBD To Be Determined: Other funding sources required

NOTE:

This CIP identifies planning-level cost estimates and does not assume the value of volunteer or other non-City contributions. Detailed costing may be necessary for projects noted. This CIP is not an official budget and intended as a guiding document for City staff in the preparation of departmental budgets.

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# APPENDIX A: 2017 OUTREACH & COMMENT SUMMARY





# **City of Happy Valley**

# **Parks & Recreation Master Plan:**

## Outreach and Comment Summary

**Prepared for:**

City of Happy Valley

**Prepared by:**

JLA Public Involvement

**September 2017**

## Overview

Throughout July and August 2017, the City of Happy Valley (COHV) conducted public outreach for the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan. The goal of outreach was to inform Happy Valley residents about the development of the Parks Master Plan and to gather high-level feedback and concerns about the types of parks programs and facilities desired by the community.

This report includes a summary of outreach and public comments received through the following efforts:

**Overall, more than 575 people provided comments to help shape the Parks Plan.**

- **August 10 Community Workshop:** About 100 people attended. 77 comment forms were submitted, plus approximately 34 responses to interactive exercises
- **Online Open House:** 129 comment form submissions plus 1,216 unique visitors to the site
- **Tabling outreach at Happy Valley Farmers Market (two Saturdays):** 28 comment forms plus approximately 165 participants in interactive exercises
- **Tabling outreach at the local Fred Meyer:** 8 comment forms plus approximately 56 participants in interactive exercises
- **Tabling outreach at the local New Seasons Market:** 7 comment forms plus approximately 48 participants in interactive exercises
- **Tabling outreach at City of Happy Valley 4<sup>th</sup> of July Event:** Approximately 20 people provided written comments and 29 signed up for project updates
- **Meeting and Discussion with the Happy Valley Business Association:** meeting with approximately 40 local business representatives
- **Meeting and Discussion with local sports organizations** to understand the key challenges and improvements desired to support local sports teams: 13 participants
- **Two meetings with the Happy Valley Parks Advisory Committee:** 7 Parks Advisory Committee Members
- **Presentation to the Happy Valley Youth Council at their annual retreat**
- **Draft Plan Unveiling Public Meeting and Discussion:** 6 members of the public, 7 members of Parks Advisory Committee, 3 City staff members

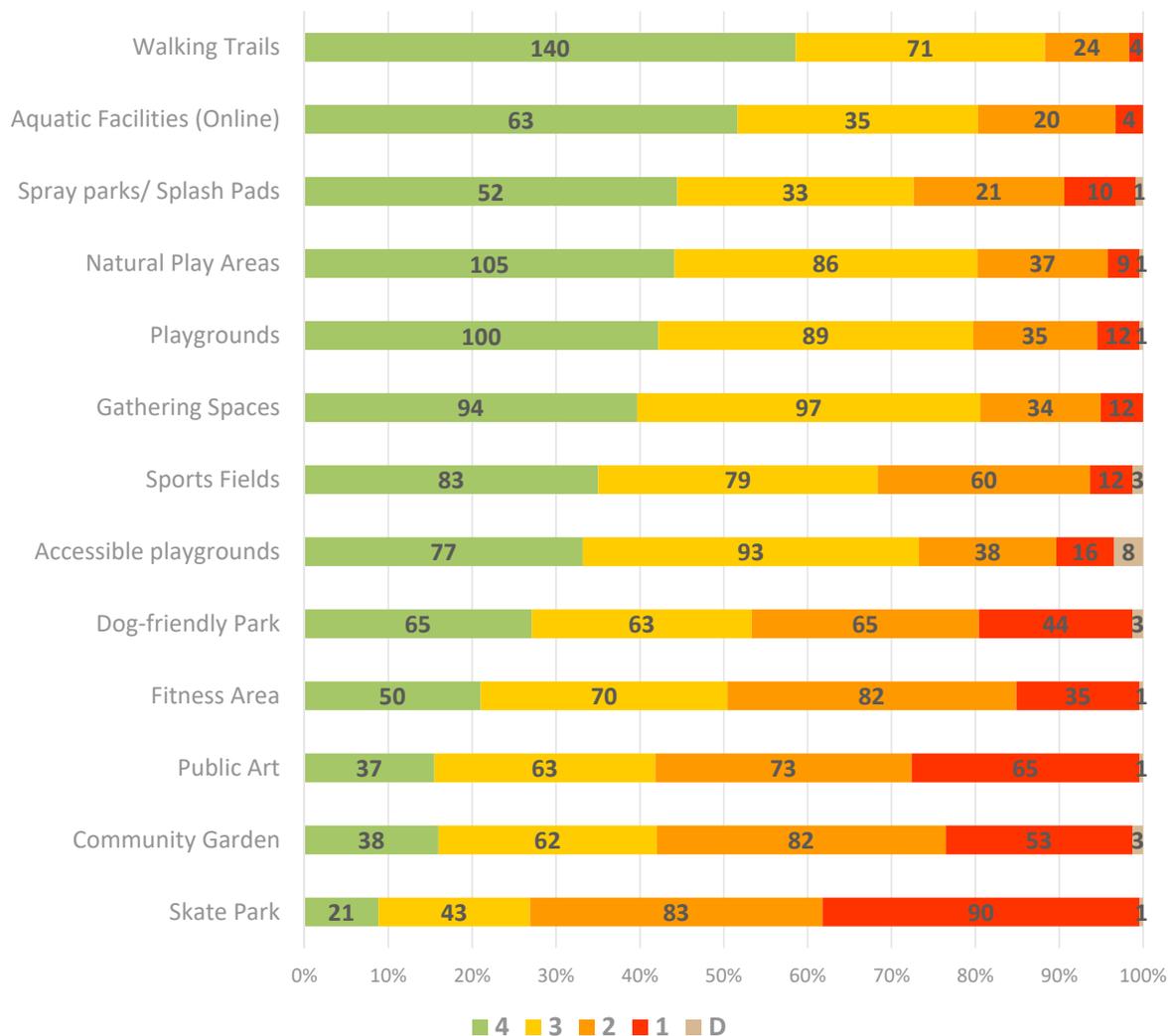


### Parks Amenities and Activities

Participants were asked to think about services and experiences offered by Happy Valley’s parks and facilities, and provide input on what kinds of amenities and activities they you want to see in area parks.

Overall, they said that it is most important to add **walking trails** and **aquatic facilities**.

How important is it to you that parks in Happy Valley offer the following amenities? (4= Most important, 3= Important, 2 = Less important, 1 = Not important, D = Don't know)



## Notification

The Community Workshop and Online Open House were promoted using the following methods:

### Project Video

COHV developed a promotional video to generate interest in the master plan project and encourage public involvement. The video promoted the Community Workshop and featured the City Mayor and Happy Valley residents expressing what they love about Happy Valley parks and what parks features they want to see in the future.

### Project Website

An additional webpage was created for Parks and Recreation on the COHV website. The website includes a brief overview of the master plan project including the project video, event dates, links to the online open house, and a sign up form to get updated on the project.

### Tabling

The Community Workshop was promoted at the City's annual July Fourth Festival and the Summer Concert series throughout the months of July and August. The online open house was promoted at a farmers market and grocery stores in the area:

- Happy Valley Farmers Market – August 12, 2017
- Happy Valley Farmers Market – August 19, 2017
- Fred Meyer – August 24, 2017
- New Seasons - August 26, 2017

A summary of input collected at these tabling events is located at the end of this report.

### Email Blasts

Email blasts were sent to the project's interested parties list, key stakeholder groups, and other community organizations (approximately 277 contacts total). The emails informed the public about the workshop and what to expect, and promoted the opportunity to provide feedback online.

- Do you love our parks? Share your vision! – July 25, 2017
- Reminder! The Parks Plan Community Workshop is THIS THURSDAY 8/10! – August 8, 2017
- Happy Valley Parks Plan Online Open House – August 16, 2017

Additionally, Happy Valley staff contacted key individuals and organizations to help promote the online open house and community workshop.

### City Newsletters

The Happy Valley Monthly Newsletter featured articles in the July, August, and September issues about the Parks Plan including information about what the Parks Plan will do, why the projects is happening now, and how it will impact taxes. The articles also informed the public about the workshop event and ways to participate online.

### Social Media

A dedicated Facebook page (@HappyValleyParksandRec) was developed for this project and future Parks and Recreation-related programming, event, and updates to be managed by the City. The Facebook page was used to generate and maintain ongoing interest in the project, drive traffic to the

project website, and inform the public about upcoming engagement activities for the Parks Plan. The City also purchased a Facebook ad to direct the public to participate in the online open house. The Facebook ad campaign was run for Happy Valley Parks and Recreation from August 15 - 27. Two ads were circulated during this timeframe, producing a total of 52,967 impressions and a reach of 12,591. Of the Facebook users reached by the ads, 3068 took an action, including 623 clicks, 180 reactions to the ads, 33 comments, 33 Happy Valley Park and Recreation page likes and 12 shares.

Notifications were posted on both Facebook and the City's Twitter page frequently leading up to the August Workshop, Online Open House, and the September Draft Parks Plan Unveiling.



### Other Printed Materials and Handouts

Fact sheets, postcards, bookmarks were developed throughout the planning process. The materials described the Parks Plan project and promoted outreach events and the Online Open House.

## Outreach Format and Participation Levels

### Community Workshop

The Community Workshop was held on August 10, 2017 at Happy Valley Park from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Approximately 100 people stopped by to participate in the activities. Free food, ice cream, and a bounce house was provided for the community to enjoy. The Workshop provided an overview of the Parks Master Plan process and past planning process through NCPRD which included a robust community involvement process.

The workshop was organized in a series of “stations”. Each station included informational tables with display boards, and some stations included activities for people to provide input:



#### Station 1: Welcome Station

- Provided a list of ways for visitors to participate during the workshop.
- Provided a list of social media handles for people to follow and stay updated on Happy Valley Parks and Recreation.
- Prompted the public to ask their friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues to participate in the Online Open House and provide feedback.



#### Station 2: Parks Plan Overview

- What is the plan, what are the primary goals of the plan, and what will the plan do?
- List of past community plans that the Parks Plan will build on.
- Brief description of a Parks Master Plan, a Capital Improvements Plan, a Parks Tax Levy.
- ACTIVITY: Display board with the question “What makes a park great?” Participants were invited to write ideas on sticky notes and place them on the board.

#### Station 3: Parks Facilities: What should we build?

- Map of current parks and facilities including fun facts about existing parks and open space in Happy Valley.
- List of existing parks in Happy Valley including size in acres and amenities provided.
- Results from past survey outreach
- Description of four top priorities identified in past outreach: community park, trail connections, multi-purpose turf fields, and community center
- ACTIVITY: Which priorities are most important to you? Each participant was given four bouncy balls to put in jars labeled with the four priorities. Participants could distribute the balls according to how important the priorities were to them.

**Station 4: Park Amenities and Activities:  
What do you want to see in your parks?**

- **ACTIVITY:** Two display boards listed 13 different potential park amenities and activities. People indicated how important it is to add these park features by placing a dot sticker on the board.



**Station 5: Next Steps**

- Graphic timeline of the Parks Plan process and next steps after developing the Plan

People were also asked to fill out comment forms to gather more detailed feedback.

**Comment Forms**

The comment forms asked specific questions about the community’s vision for parks and recreation. The survey asked people to:

- prioritize different parks facilities, amenities, and activities
- indicate how they use and access their parks currently
- indicate what currently is not being provided by Happy Valley’s parks, and;
- optional demographic questions



Comment forms were available at the workshop, tabling events, and stakeholder meetings.

**Online Open House**

The online open house mirrored the in-person workshop event, and was organized in a series of “stations” with the same information and questions asked in the comment form. The online open house including an interactive map and comment wall where people could post and see other comment responses.

**Draft Parks Plan Public Unveiling**

A public meeting for the unveiling of the Draft Parks Plan was held in conjunction with a Parks Advisory Committee meeting on September 11, 2017 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the draft version of the Parks Plan, provide an overview of key elements in the plan including the plan goals, projects and strategies for maintaining and acquiring future parks lands, and financing strategies. Attendees also discussed the following:

- Does the Parks Plan highlight the right mix of community priorities?
- Do the target acquisition areas focus on the correct areas of the City needing parks?
- Does the master project list (the Capital Improvements Plan) include the right blend of projects?

See page 22 for a summary of feedback from the discussions.

## Combined Results from Outreach

This section provides all responses to questions asked at the community workshop, online open house, comment forms, and tabling activities. Approximately 575 responses were gathered.

### WHAT MAKES A PARK GREAT?

The online open house asked participants to think about their favorite park and describe: What makes a park great? Participants during the Community Workshop and tabling events were also asked this question and provided their responses on a sticky note board. Below is an overview of common responses. A full list of responses is in Appendix A.

- Many responses included remarks about keeping parks facilities safe, clean, and well-maintained.
- Being close to nature, preserving natural areas, and having access to open space was a common response
- Common amenities and parks features mentioned in the responses include swimming pool or some type of aquatic feature, play areas, walking and biking trails, year-round facilities for all-ages and all-abilities, and gathering spaces for larger community events and festivals and for smaller, private events.

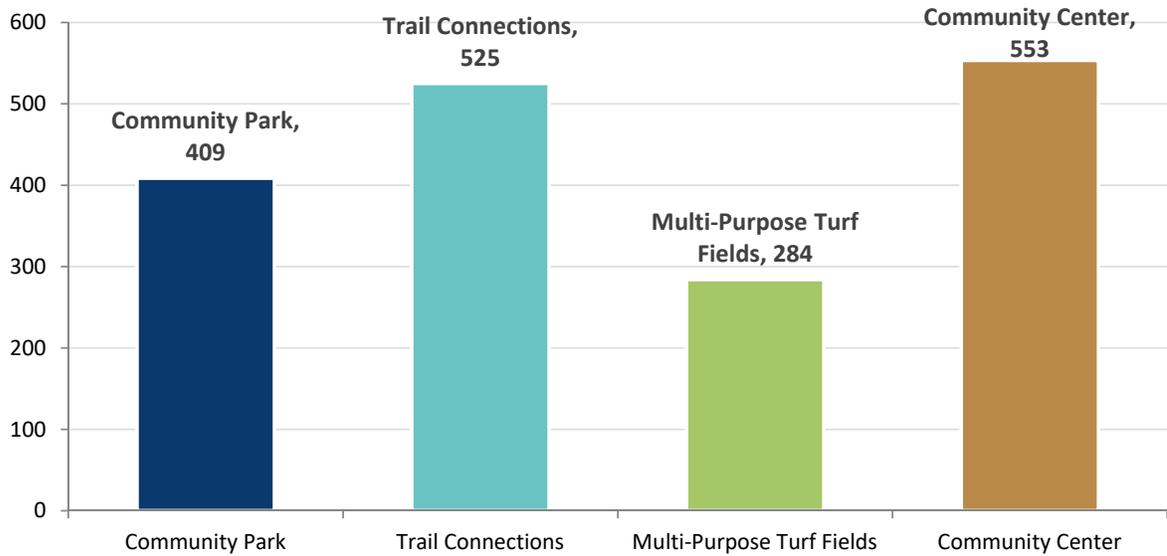
“We need to add another park like Happy Valley Park with natural space, playgrounds, etc. Our population has grown; our parks have not kept pace.”

“A place where everyone of all abilities can enjoy nature, fun and community together.”

### PRIORITY FACILITIES

**We asked the public, “In the past, residents have identified four top priorities for parks and facilities that should be built in the near-term future: Community Park, Trail Connections, Multi-purpose Turf Fields, and Community Center. How would you prioritize potential investments?”**

Overall, participants gave highest priority to a community center and trail connections.



Priority Investment	Online Open House total points*	Aug 10 Workshop total count*	All Tabling Events total count*	TOTAL
Community Park	112	23	274	409
Trail Connections	103	31	391	525
Multi-purpose Turf Fields	71	28	185	284
Community Center	130	70	353	553

\* Note: Aug 10 workshop participants and Tabling participants each received 4 bouncy balls to distribute among the 4 priority areas. Online open house participants had 10 points to assign among the 4 priority areas. Results from the online open house above are weighted for consistency.

**QUESTION 1:**

Think about Happy Valley 20 years from now: What are five words that describe your vision for parks and natural areas in the area? (The most commonly used words appear the largest.)



**QUESTION 2:**

In previous outreach processes, participants identified four top priorities for the area: a new community center, new community park, multi-purpose turf fields, and better trail connections. Do these still seem like the most important priorities to you? List suggested changes.

- Most agreed that top priorities identified in previous outreach processes are still important today (85% of respondents).
- Among the suggested changes provided by participants, a community center, aquatic center, or swimming pool was a popular suggestion.

- Suggestions involving nature parks and preservation of wildlife habitats and natural areas was also a common priority. See Appendix B for a full list of suggested changes.

“I would love to see a community center with a pool for swimming lessons, adult swim and recreation time. On a recent visit to Bend we visited the Juniper center and it was amazing!”

“Nature parks for wildlife should be a high priority due to the loss of habitat from development in Happy Valley.”

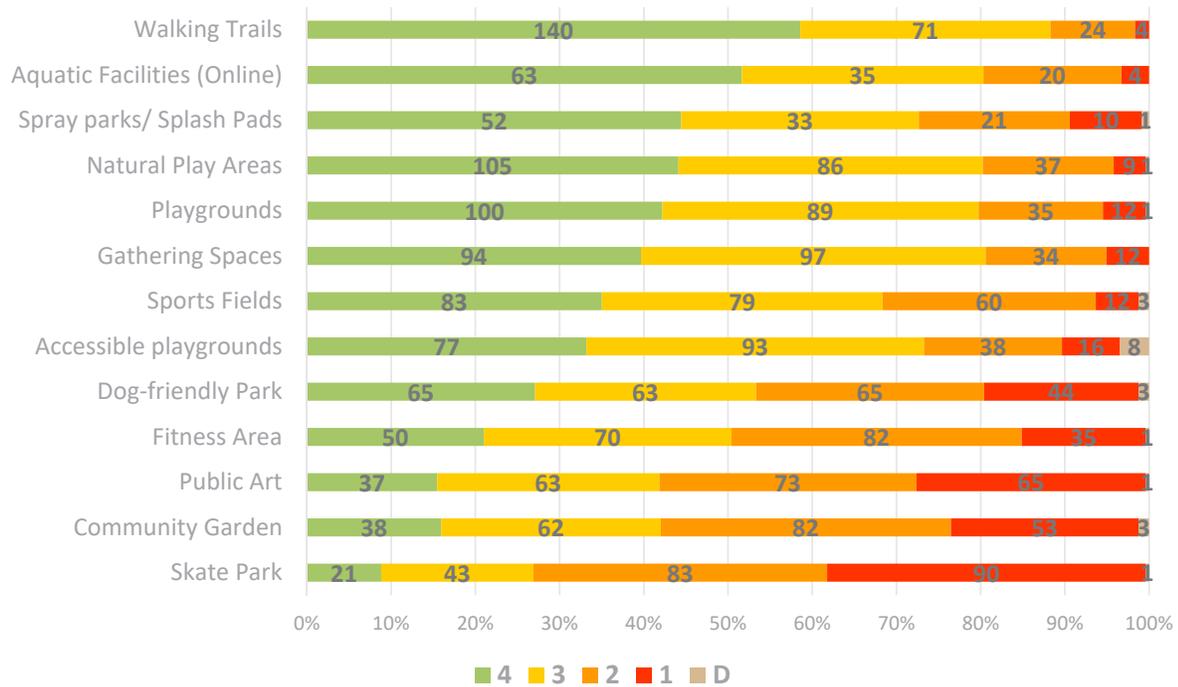
“I would add the preservation and enhancement of natural environments for use such as the hidden falls. This is an area frequented but not cared for or monitored...”

### QUESTION 3:

**How important is it to you that parks in Happy Valley offer the following amenities? (4= Most important, 3= Important, 2 = Less important, 1 = Not important, D = Don't know)**

- Overall, participants said that it is very important to provide walking trails, followed by aquatic facilities.
- Over 80% of participants rated natural play areas, gathering spaces, and playgrounds as important or very important amenities.
- Public art, community gardens, and skate parks were rated among the least important features to add to parks.
- The chart below shows how participants ranked each of the features.

How important is it to you that parks in Happy Valley offer the following amenities? (4= Most important, 3= Important, 2 = Less important, 1 = Not important, D = Don't know)



**Open ended responses to: Any other amenities we should consider?**

- Swimming pool (9)
- Outdoor pool or half outdoor, half indoor pool
- Outdoor pool, please, please, please!
- Pool that can accommodate competitions and recreation.
- Would LOVE to have an indoor AND outdoor pool. Our summers are only getting hotter and it would be well used.
- Amphitheater
- Natural Areas
- Bike area for kids, shaded playground
- Lunches and activities for children
- When building playgrounds it would be helpful to keep little kids and toddlers in mind as well. Loose gravel and sawdust like material for the base is not helpful for those small children just getting the hang of walking. Having slides/structures for smaller children would be nice. In many other cities playgrounds have a separate area for older children and younger children but still having each close together so parents with multiple age children have areas to watch their kids.
- Miniature golf
- Handicap accessible and attractions for the handicapped.
- Little market
- Nature preserve
- Turf sports fields
- Indoor gym

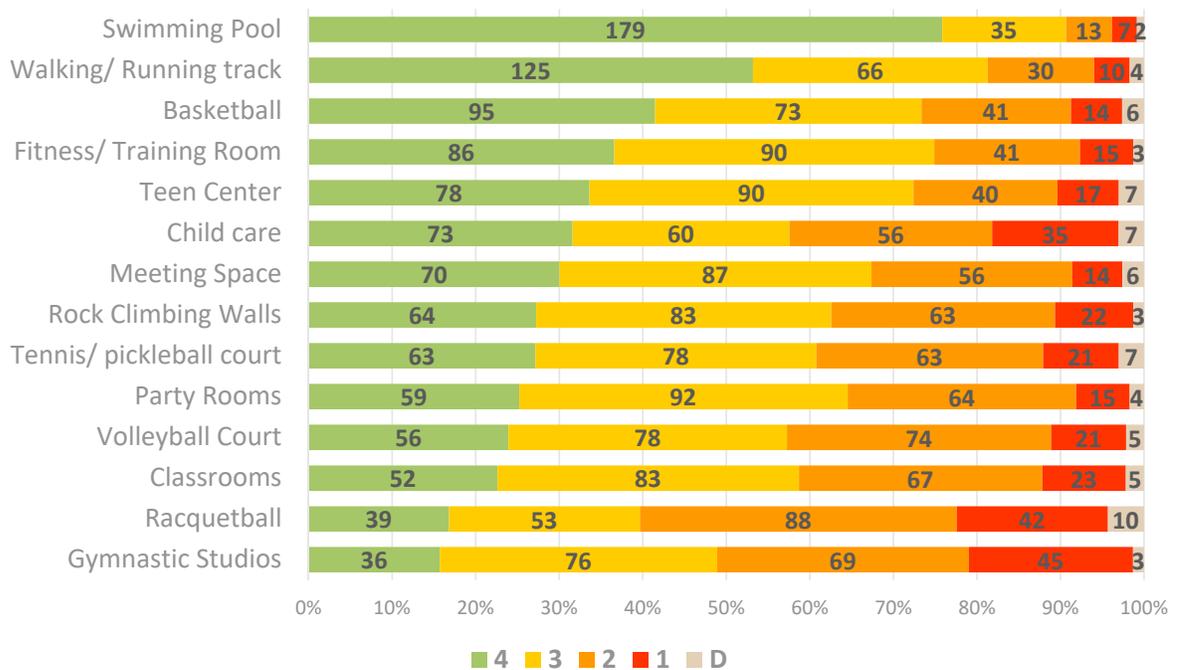
- Covered areas - remember it rains here half the year!
- Community fun runs: 5k, kid 1-miler
- Would love a FLAT 1-2 mile barkdust loop trail for walking.

**QUESTION 4:**

**How important are the following potential amenities to include in a new community center? (4 = Most important, 3= Important, 2 = Less important, 1 = Not Important.)**

- The majority of respondents identified all amenities *except for* gymnastics studios and racquetball as being most important or important.
- A swimming pool was overwhelming identified as the most important amenity to provide in a community center followed by a walking and running track.
- Basketball, fitness/training room, and teen center were also identified as important community center amenities.

How important are the following potential amenities to include in a new community center?



**Open ended responses to: Any other amenities we should consider?**

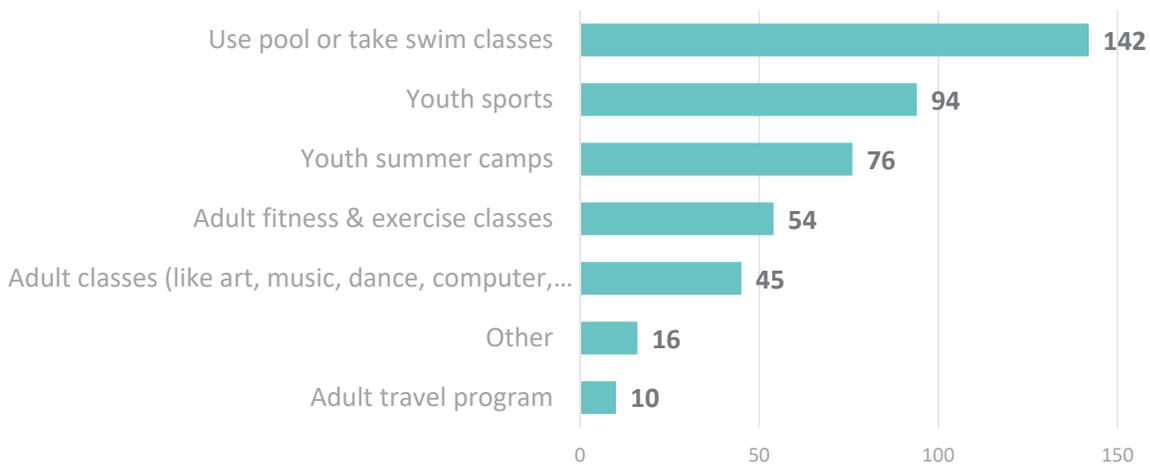
- Kids area (5), Activity center; Book nook "bring a book, get a book"
- Bike and running trails as alternate to running on Sunnyside
- Bike trails
- Soccer (2)
- Sport court (multi-use)

- Turf fields attached to spaces that can be used for tournaments
- Large covered space for basketball parties, family, outside meeting area
- Maybe a football field.
- Boardwalks through natural areas
- Indoor play areas for kids
- Playground
- Watershed learning area
- Art studio, photo/ darkroom/ digital editing
- Classes
- Cooking school
- Pottery wheel and oven, Community art classes (family-friendly and adult), family cooking classes
- Stage for performances
- Ice rink!
- Amphitheater
- Swings
- Horse stables
- General community center
- Sidewalks on Mt Scott Blvd.
- Child care, child care, child care
- Pool!
- Senior meeting place, table tennis/air hockey/foosball
- Senior exercise classes; Gold Toning, Zumba Gold, Chair Yoga, etc. (for the older person or person with disabilities). I take the Gold classes at North Clackamas and many of the classes are full and we are always asking for more but the space is already booked and more classes can't be scheduled. It surprises me how many older people want to exercise but they want to do it with other people their age.
- We have a community full of fitness centers, adding another seems silly. While a pool always sounds good in Oregon the season is so short, while indoor gym space is hard to come by year round.

**QUESTION 5:**

**North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District provides a number of recreational programs. Which of the following current programs do you use? (Check all that apply.)**

- Swimming pool was the most widely used recreational program provided by NCPRD followed by youth sports, youth summer camps.
- 24% of responses use the adult programs and classes provided by NCRPD.



**Other open-ended responses:**

- Splash pad (3)
- Community Garden (2)
- Although pool is not clean
- Volunteer opportunities
- Walking trails
- Milwaukie Center
- I would attend if only they would offer late hours
- Concert in parks
- Youth music/dance program

**QUESTION 6:****What programs would you like that are not currently being provided?**

- Natural resource programs and education.
- Additional connecting trails
- Self-defense info for kids, women.
- STEM-youtubing minecraft coding; Taekwondo
- Full-day summer camp
- The above items in #4
- Arts, crafts, wood ceramics shops
- Splash pads
- Maybe music/skate camps
- Music camps
- More language classes like English as a second language classes
- Spin classes
- Pool
- Kickball for kids
- Swimming programs (lessons, swim team, etc.)
- Line dancing classes for seniors
- Cross fit
- More summer camps
- Outdoor pool with lounge chairs for adults and maybe hot tub. And half indoor pool for winter... or just close the summer outdoor pool for the winter like the Sellwood pool.
- More older adults activities
- Ecofriendly lifestyles and living
- Younger children art classes, movement classes, gymnastics, sports
- Turf Fields for soccer/ rugby/ football/ lacrosse etc...
- Pool
- An outdoor swimming pool and more off the main road running trails.
- Use of a gym with child care, indoor track, outdoor pool
- Child care  
Recreation in schools after school
- Full-time summer camps like PP&R provides. Evening mommy and me classes. Current scheduling caters to SAH parents.
- Rock climbing
- More natural playgrounds. Bark dust needs to go away forever.  
A swimming pool and a great bike path that is safe for small kids to ride.
- Exercise equipment for drop in or monthly pass family pass.
- Pottery spinning and art classes, outdoor pool with retractable cover for winter
- More senior programs.
- Swim team that is local. The pirahanas team is full. Nothing else is close- mhcc, mt scott, etc.
- All age youth programs. Tend to miss the tween age group
- outdoor summer swimming and swimming lessons
- I would like our community to take precedent over the field usage. It is frustrating that clubs come in and take over the fields.
- Any adult activities with concurrent childcare
- Prenatal swimming
- Adult fitness/sports
- Community runs
- Teen programming East of I-205.

- Fitness, aquatic indoor and outdoor program. NC Aquatic Park is all indoor and very outdated.
- Pool to go to with kids. To swim laps but have it reserved, less crowded, sign up system. Something like that. Volleyball for teens. INDOORS.

### QUESTION 7:

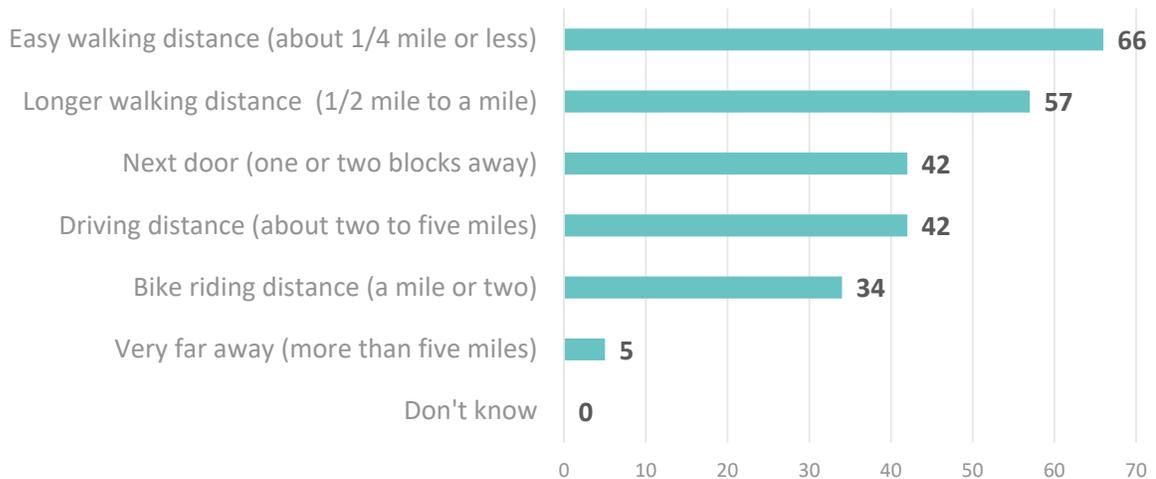
#### Additional thoughts, comments and ideas:

- Keep and maintain lots of green space and trees.
- Volunteer restoration programs
- Need HVP equivalent off Sunnyside.
- Would like to see what we have maintained better.
- More events in the summer
- Need buses
- Really like Sellwood Pool's setup
- Community pool would be great!
- Sidewalks
- A community center with a pool!
- Should have stayed w NCPark District. However, since that didn't happen... build good partnerships with county, schools, sheriff's Dept to provide quality programming collaboratively. Don't just make parks... focus on recreational programming for youth.
- Thank you for doing this! I know it must be difficult - but us residents strongly support/appreciate your efforts!
- Not interested in paying for a additional levy for parks when we will be already paying it through the county.
- Keep HV green. We are becoming Southern CA.
- Don't connect our trails to other areas... keep our trail connections within happy valley only. Invites transients from other areas.
- The lack of turf fields in our area hinders our ability to host, sports tournaments to increase exposure to our area as well as compete with neighboring areas to host such events.
- In the end, this should improve the livability of HV (connected communities, outdoor living and exercise, connected trails, places for those of all ages to be outside). Hopefully it can be a combination of neighborhood area parks (required by developers) and larger community parks and facilities.
- I'm curious how Happy Valley will separate itself from the surrounding areas such as Damascus and Clackamas. It seems difficult to have students attend the same schools but not be allowed to share in the same recreational benefits. What will that mean for youth sports?
- Please look at the community center in Edmonds Oklahoma. A joint venture with YMCA, school district, municipality. It is a world class pool, community center, senior center.
- Work on being a LEED certified community center (if working on one). Include a recycling plan in the parks (pp&r did a study a few years ago).

**QUESTION 8:**

**How far away is your nearest park? (Check one.)**

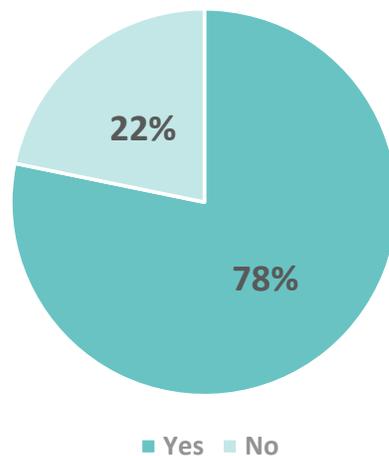
- 44% of respondents live next door (one or two blocks away) or easy walking distance (quarter mile or less) to their nearest park.
- 37% of respondents live a longer walking distance or a biking distance away from their nearest park.
- 19% live very far (over 5 miles) or driving distance (2-5 miles) away from their nearest park.



**QUESTION 9:**

**Do you feel safe walking or biking to your neighborhood park?**

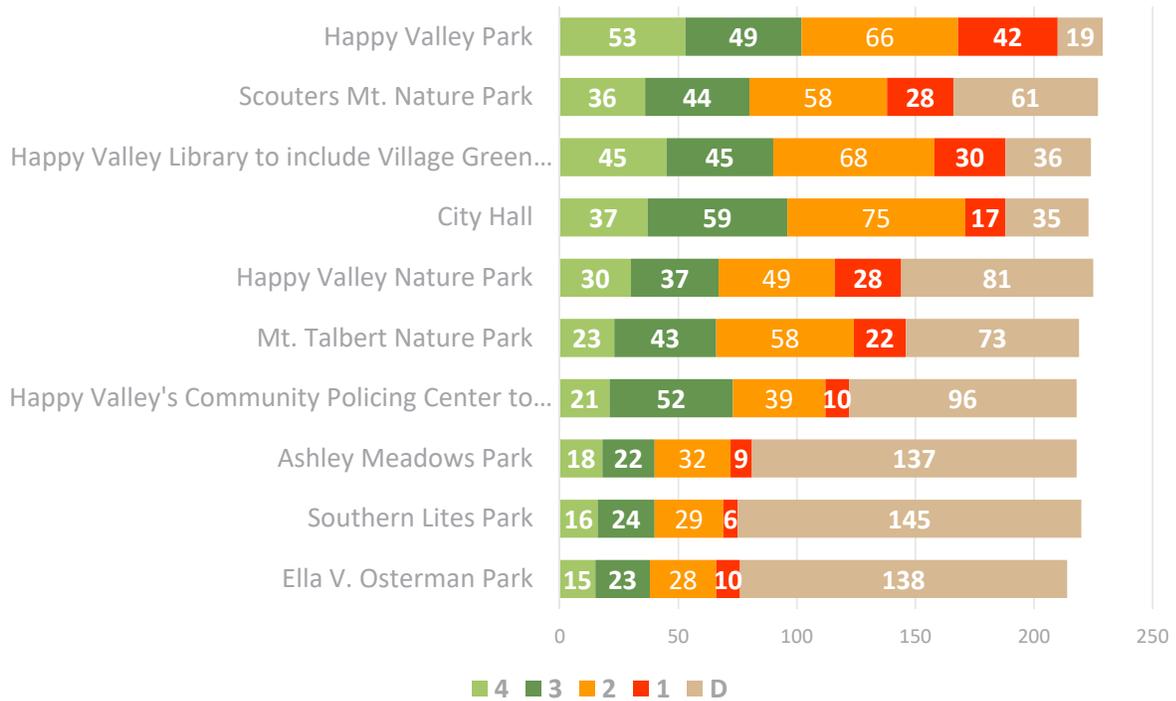
Over 3/4 of respondents felt safe walking or biking to their neighborhood park.



**QUESTION 10:**

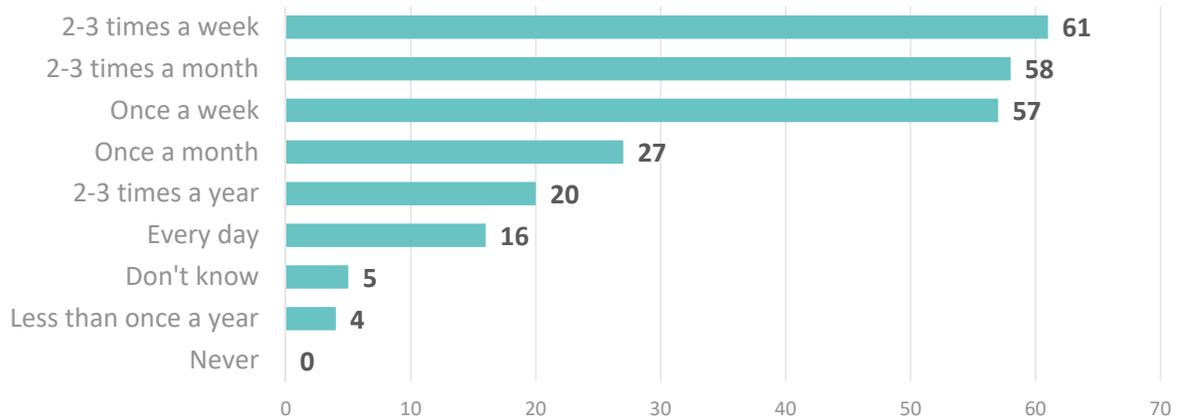
How would you rate bicycle and pedestrian access to the following locations? (4 = very good, 3 = good, 2 = poor, 1 = very poor, D = don't know)

- None of the park locations were rated majority “good” nor “very good” access.
- The most highly rated parks were Happy Valley Park, City Hall, and Happy Valley Library.
- The majority of respondents were unsure about Southern Lites Park, Ashley Meadows Park, and Ella V. Osterman Park.



**QUESTION 11:**

**On average, how often do you visit parks in the Happy Valley area?**

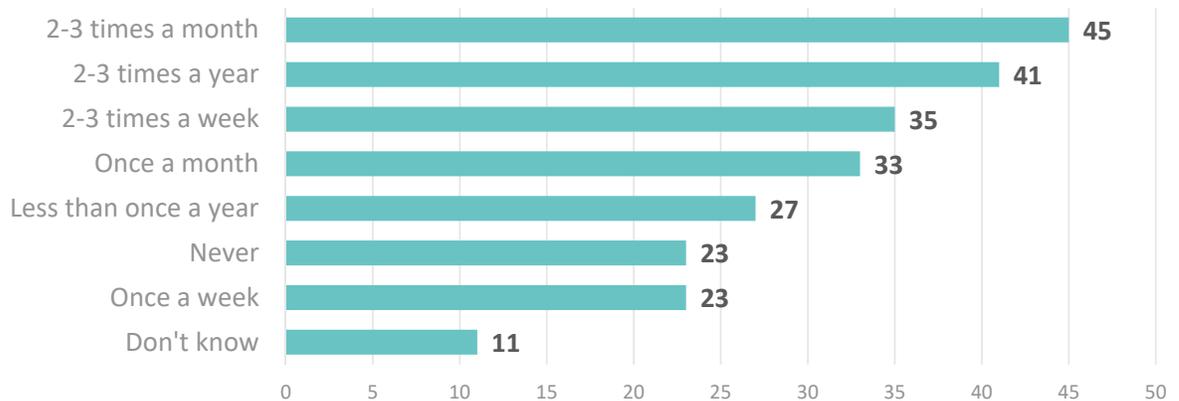


- The majority of respondents said they visit parks in the Happy Valley area at least once to a few times a week (48%).
- 34% visit parks in the Happy Valley area at least once or a few times a month.
- 8% visit parks in the Happy Valley area 2-3 times a year.

**QUESTION 12:**

**On average, how often do you use recreational facilities not provided by the City of Happy Valley, such as North Clackamas Aquatic Park, East Side Athletic Club, Mt. Scott Community Center, and school gyms and sports fields?**

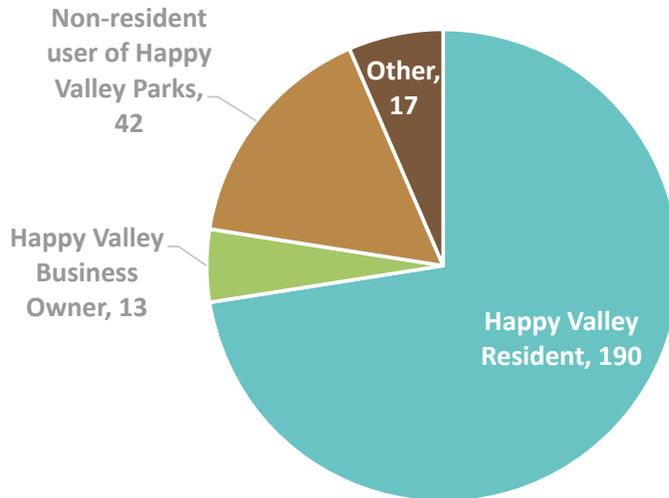
- 20% use non-COHV facilities less than once a year or never.
- 17% use non-COHV facilities 2-3 times a year.
- 31% use non-COHV facilities once or 2-3 times a month.
- 23% use non-COHV facilities once or 2-3 times a week.



**QUESTION 13:**

**Are you a Happy Valley resident?**

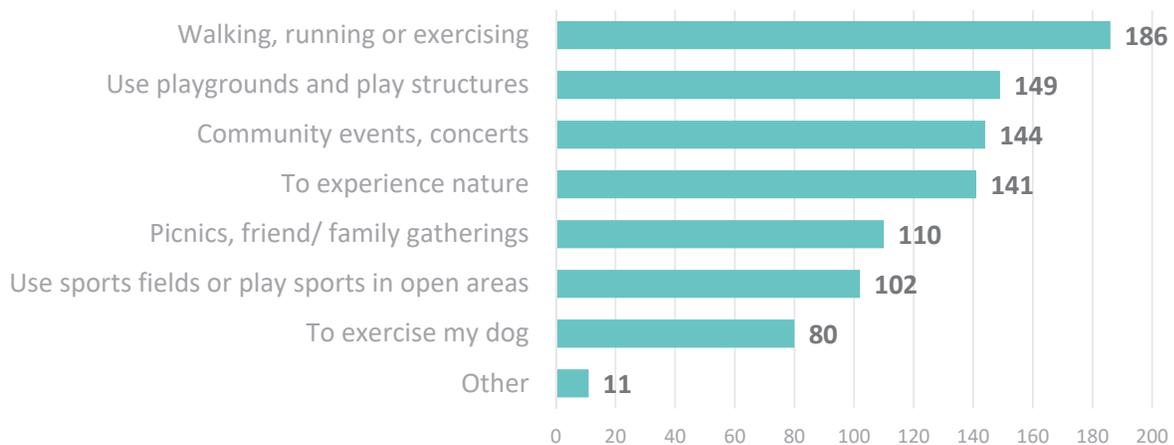
- Nearly ¾ of respondents said they are Happy Valley residents.
- 16% said they are non-resident users of HV parks.



**QUESTION 14:**

**How do you currently use parks? (Check all that apply)**

- The majority of respondents use parks for walking, running, and exercise (20%) followed by community events/concerts (16%) and playground/play structures (16%).
- The least amount of respondents use parks for exercising their dogs (9%).



## Tabling Summary Report

### July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival (Happy Valley Park)

#### Overview

The City of Happy Valley conducted tabling outreach for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan project during the July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival in Happy Valley Park. The purpose of tabling was to inform Happy Valley residents about the development of the Parks Master Plan, the City's withdrawal from the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD), and generate general awareness of the project. Another major purpose was to gather high-level feedback and concerns, and encourage residents to sign up for future project updates and encourage attendance to a Community Workshop on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 50 people dropped by the booth and 29 people signed up for project updates. City Staff, City Council Members, and the members from the Parks Advisory Committee also attended and answered questions from residents.

The tabling outreach included display boards which provided a project overview, a map of existing parks within city boundaries, a large drawing board asking residents what recreation activities and parks facilities they want to see in Happy Valley, and a promotional video about the project. Visitors had the opportunity to indicate where they live on the parks map, write or draw on the drawing board their vision and desires for parks, ask questions, and chat with City Council Members and the Parks Advisory Committee.

**Spoke to:** ~ 50 residents

**Signed up for project updates:** 29

#### Activity:

Prompt: Draw, doodle, or write what recreation activities and parks facilities you want to see in Happy Valley!

Participants were given markers to draw or write in their desires for parks in Happy Valley.

- Safety classes
- Crafts and summer games
- Nutrition classes
- Need sidewalks and access to parks
- Cooking classes
- Swimming pool, lessons, swim teams
- Free senior classes – Zumba, walk groups, etc.
- More trails connecting green spaces
- Bathrooms
- Swimming pool/swim team
- Soccer field with lessons for kids
- Community center
- Mountain biking trails
- Classes for kids



- Pokemon clubs
- Book clubs
- Teen groups

- Classes (Yoga, Pilates, etc) at Eastside Athletic Club
- Zip line
- Turf sports fields, soccer and baseball
- Music classes
- Teen summer camps
- Tai Chi

**What we heard:**

- The feedback was positive overall.
- Pedestrian access to parks is difficult and unsafe especially with missing sidewalks and no crosswalks.
- Building a community center for all ages is very popular. Many indicated a desire for classes and planned activities similar to Mt. Scott Community Center.
- Someone wanted to make sure the City kept the trees at Pleasant Valley Villages Park.

**Farmers Market and Local Store Tabling**

**Overview**

The City of Happy Valley conducted tabling outreach for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan project at local farmers markets and stores during the month of August.

- August 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at the Happy Valley Farmers Market
- August 24<sup>th</sup> at Fred Meyer in Happy Valley
- August 26<sup>th</sup> at New Seasons in Happy Valley

The purpose of tabling was to inform Happy Valley residents about the development of the Parks Master Plan, the City’s withdrawal from the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD), and generate general awareness of the project. Another major purpose was to gather high-level feedback and concerns, and encourage visitors to fill out a comment form, or participate in the Online Open House. A gift card to New Seasons was offered as an incentive to fill out a comment card at the tabling.

**Participants in Activities:** Approximately 284 people combined

**Completed Comment Cards:** 43

**Activities**

**Park Priorities Exercise**

The tabling outreach included an exercise to identify which of the four previously identified priorities (a new community park, a new community center, a multi-purpose turf field, and more trail connections) were most important to them. We provided a basket for each priority, and participants were given four bouncy balls to distribute however they preferred according to how important each priority was to them.

**Park Amenities and Activities Exercise**

A second exercise asked participants how important it is to add various types of parks features to Happy Valley’s parks. A display board listed 13 different parks amenities with columns indicating “Most Important”, “Important”, “Less Important”, and “Not Important”. Participants were encouraged to indicate the importance of each parks features by place a dot sticker on the board.

**“What Makes a Park Great?” Comment Board**

A general comment board was also displayed asking participants to tell us what they think makes a park great.

**What we heard:**

- The feedback was positive overall.
- Interactive public art – like a motion activated harp that plays music!
- Need good active indoor options – to get kids off computers and because of our rainy climate.
- Fields: Wilsonville High School model with collapsible fence behind baseball fields to allow for lacrosse.
- Natural play areas – great for imagination and kids problem solving skills
- Turf fields are need with all the rain we have!
- Community center with indoor pool – lots of families would use it!
- Need sidewalks to access parks safely.
- Noise issues at Happy Valley Park needs to be addressed.
- Indoor sport facilities for basketball, soccer, badminton.
- A couple expressed concern over the projects that the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) had failed to complete despite the \$17 million city residents have paid to the district. They were also upset about the selling of Hood View Park to the school district because it was a park they used near their home.
- A few residents expressed prioritizing adding more schools instead of parks and recreation.
- Indoor pools to use all-year round.
- A few residents expressed concern over Happy Valley’s growing development and overcrowding of the area’s parks such as Happy Valley Park.

# **City of Happy Valley Parks & Recreation Master Plan:**

Outreach and Comment Summary  
Appendices A-C

## Appendix A: All Open-Ended Comments

**Question 1: Think about Happy Valley 20 years from now: What are five words that describe your vision for parks and natural areas in the area? (Word frequency)**

36 safe	4 turf	2 stop	1 wooden
30 community	4 swimming	2 spots	1 wooded
30 clean	4 recreation	2 skate	1 within
28 trails	4 playgrounds	2 running	1 winter
22 fun	4 of	2 relaxing	1 wildlife
22 family	4 local	2 public	1 wetland
19 friendly	4 dog	2 pools	1 welcoming
18 green	4 by	2 place	1 ways
17 pool	4 access	2 picnic	1 visit
16 sports	3 use	2 oriented	1 vegetation
13 natural	3 that	2 no	1 varoius
13 activities	3 playground	2 managed	1 various
11 center	3 people	2 low	1 uses
10 nature	3 park	2 less	1 uncrowded
9 well	3 nice	2 inviting	1 things
9 walking	3 music	2 indoor	1 tennis
9 parks	3 multi	2 homeless	1 team
9 open	3 many	2 fountains	1 tables
9 more	3 kids	2 entertainment	1 swings
8 trees	3 in	2 entertaining	1 supported
8 play	3 hiking	2 dogs	1 super
8 fields	3 gathering	2 diverse	1 structures
8 and	3 facilities	2 dance	1 structured
8 accessible	3 concerts	2 cutting	1 strenuous
7 water	3 bike	2 current	1 st
7 to	3 bigger	2 cost	1 splash
7 the	3 big	2 convenient	1 special
7 maintained	3 beautiful	2 close	1 snack
7 areas	3 area	2 classes	1 small
6 outdoor	3 all	2 centers	1 skating
6 kid	3 active	2 building	1 sidewalk
5 spaces	2 youth	2 bright	1 side
5 space	2 with	2 basketball	1 shady
5 for	2 walkable	2 at	1 shade
5 exercise	2 valley	2 as	1 serene
5 events	2 there	2 aquatic	1 seniors
5 courts	2 teens	2 abundant	1 senior
4 variety	2 swim	1 young	1 sell

1 see	1 our	1 held	1 conservation
1 secure	1 organized	1 have	1 congested
1 seating	1 or	1 happy	1
1 schools	1 options	1 handicap	comprehensive
1 school	1 opportunity	1 habitats	1 complex
1 safety	1 older	1 gym	1 climbing
1 runs	1 not	1 groomed	1 clear
1 rubber	1 non	1 greenery	1 cleans
1 restrooms	1	1 funded	1 cleanliness
1 restrooms	neighborhoods	1 friends	1 class
1 resilient	1 neighborhood	1 free	1 city
1 residents	1 needs	1 forests	1 children
1 residential	1 naturally	1 focused	1 centered
1 relax	1 months	1 floor	1 camping
1 rec	1 monitored	1 fitness	1 bloated
1 r	1 manicured	1 explorer	1 benefits
1 quiet	1 maintenance	1 expanded	1 be
1 quality	1 maintain	1 etc	1 bathrooms
1 provided	1 luscious	1 equip	1 baseball
1 protected	1 lots	1 epcc	1 bar
1 proprietary	1 long	1 enjoyment	1 ball
1 programmed	1 link	1 employee	1 awareness
1 private	1 levels	1 education	1 arts
1 priority	1 largeer	1 economical	1 are
1 preserving	1 landscapes	1 east	1 amphitheater
1 preserve	1 landscaped	1 during	1 amenities
1 pp	1 land	1 don't	1 air
1 possible	1 kickball	1 do	1 age
1 plentiful	1 kept	1 district	1 afterscho
1 please	1 keep	1 distances	1 affordable
1 playstructure	1 investment	1 disabilities	1 adventure
1 playful	1 interactive	1 developers	1 activity
1 places	1 integrates	1 dept	1 activies
1 pet	1 informative	1 cultural	1 activates
1 pensions	1 individuals	1 crowded	1 accessibility
1 paths	1 inclusive	1 creeks	1 accessible
1 path	1 huge	1 creative	1 accesible
1 partnering	1 houses	1 cozy	1 accesable
1 pads	1 hosts	1 court	1 able
1 own	1 homes	1 cooler	
1 outdoors	1 hires	1 cool	

**Question 2: In previous outreach processes, participants identified five top priorities for the area: a new community center, new community park, multi-purpose turf fields, and better trail connections. Do these still seem like the most important priorities to you?**

**List suggested changes.**

- Those are all spot-on and sound amazing! I would also love to see an aquatic center for swimming lessons, which may tie into the new community center concept. A fitness center/ fitness classes would also be wonderful.
- Lots of trees!
- Nature parks for wildlife should be a high priority due to the loss of habitat from development in Happy Valley.
- Focus more on programs for people, not just structural facilities. Preserve natural areas in Happy Valley - as the town grows, try to maintain some of the nature that is left.
- Still find a way to integrate green spaces throughout the city of HV.
- Well-managed natural areas; expanded protections for creeks
- I am in the newly annexed properties in east Happy Valley. Please don't forget about acquiring the 12 acre Vogel Park property that NCPRD received for free from the Damascus disincorporation.
- Pool
- I'd like to see the parks we have maintained b-ball hoops and swings added
- Spend your money on more fields for kids and adult sports
- More skateparks
- More skateparks, fields
- More skate parks, but all the rest listed are great too
- Yes, with prioritization of trail connections
- New community park. Trails. Concert for adults.
- Outdoor pool similar to Sellwood Pool and Community Center with classes and activities
- New community center would be awesome.
- Leave natural woods and habitat
- An aquatic center. Since we will no longer get be in district of any swim facilities. Smaller neighborhood parks.
- Multi purpose turf fields are number one!
- Please please aquatic center! Great asset to the community.
- Everything sounds very exciting.
- Flat bike trails where kids can ride
- More smaller size neighborhood parks would be wonderful for my children
- Recreation should be prioritized above parks... can provide in other community facilities.
- I would add the preservation and enhancement of natural environments for use such as the hidden falls. This is an area frequented but not cared for or monitored and a trail system between the community and the field would add an important connection for
- I like the idea of smaller parks offering many options, for all ages
- community pool is important for kids.
- Community center is too big of an expense that will require land procurement, construction, staffing (government), and maintenance. None of which is inexpensive and all will be ongoing expenses.
- Don't connect our trails to other areas... keep our trail system within Happy Valley so we don't get a transient problem!
- Swimming pools

- James Abele (spelling?) park on Se 126th off Sunnyside has never been completed. Tons of children in the neighborhood with no close park. It would be wonderful to develop this area and add a play structure there!
- In especially in favor of multi-purpose turf fields
- Community center with pool please!
- A community pool
- Community center is the top priority
- Aquatic center
- Definitely the community center - it would get year-round use
- I would love to see a community center with a pool for swimming lessons, adult swim and recreation time. On a recent visit to Bend we visited the Juniper center and it was amazing! We were blown away by the facilities and all they had to offer. I would love
- Community center to include a competitive pool
- Would love to see another pool in this area. Walking trails that are FLAT (not hilly areas) and are barkdust rather than asphalt (easier on the joints).
- NO community center. Attracts too much traffic that's already high

**Question 3: How important is it to you that parks in Happy Valley offer the following amenities? (4= Most important, 3= Important, 2 = Less important, 1 = Not important, D = Don't know) Any other amenities we should consider?**

- Amphitheater
- Natural Areas
- Bike area for kids, shaded playground
- Swimming pool (4)
- Pool, miniature golf
- Pool
- Handicap accessible and attractions for the handicapped.
- Little market
- Pool
- Lunches and activities for children
- Swimming pool
- Outdoor pool or half outdoor, half indoor pool
- Nature preserve
- Outdoor pool, please, please, please!
- There are none.
- Turf sports fields
- Community pool
- Indoor gym
- When building playgrounds it would be helpful to keep little kids and toddlers in mind as well. Loose gravel and sawdust like material for the base is not helpful for those small children just getting the hang of walking. Having slides/structures for smaller children would be nice. In many other cities playgrounds have a separate area for older children and younger children but still having each close together so parents with multiple age children have areas to watch their kids.

- Covered areas - remember it rains here half the year!
- Pool that can accommodate competitions and recreation.
- Community fun runs: 5k, kid 1-miler
- Would LOVE to have an indoor AND outdoor pool. Our summers are only getting hotter and it would be well used. Would love a FLAT 1-2 mile barkdust loop trail for walking.

**Question 4: How important are the following potential amenities to include in a new community center? (4 = Most important, 1 = Not Important.) Are there any other amenities we should consider?**

- Art studio, photo/ darkroom/ digital editing
- Boardwalks thru natural areas
- I have not considered a new community center
- Playground
- Watershed learning area
- Ice rink!
- Bike and running trails as alternate to running on Sunnyside
- Bike trails
- Amphitheater
- Swings
- Horse stables
- Sport court (multi-use)
- Soccer
- Soccer
- Classes
- Cooking school
- Kids area
- Kids area (4), Activity center; Book nook "bring a book, get a book"
- Large covered space for basketball parties, family, outside meeting area
- General community center
- Yes sidewalks on Mt Scott Blvd.
- None
- Maybe a football field.
- Child care, child care, child care
- Pool!
- Pottery wheel and oven, Community art classes (family-friendly and adult), family cooking classes
- Senior exercise classes; Gold Toning, Zumba Gold, Chair Yoga, etc (for the older person or person with disabilities. I take the Gold classes at North Clackamas and many of the classes are full and we are always asking for more but the space is already booked and more classes can't be scheduled. It surprises me how many older people want to exercise but they want to do it with other people their age.
- Stage for performances

- turf fields attached to spaces that can be used for tournaments
- We have a community full of fitness centers, adding another seems silly. While a pool always sounds good in Oregon the season is so short, while indoor gym space is hard to come by year round.
- Indoor play areas for kids
- Senior meeting place, table tennis/air hockey/foosball

**Question 5: North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District provides a number of recreational programs. Which of the following current programs do you use? (Check all that apply.) Other responses:**

- New to the area
- Although pool is not clean
- Community Garden
- Community Garden
- Volunteer opportunities
- Walking trails
- Splash pad
- Splash pad
- Splash pad
- Milwaukie Center
- I would attend if only they would offer late hours
- Concert in parks
- Youth music/dance program

**Question 6: What programs would you like that are not currently being provided?**

- Natural resource programs and education.
- Additional connecting trails
- Self-defense info for kids, women.
- STEM-youtubing minecraft coding; Taekwondo
- Full-day summer camp
- The above items in #4
- Arts, crafts, wood ceramics shops
- Splash pads
- Maybe music/skate camps
- Music camps
- More language classes like English as a second language classes
- Spin classes
- Pool
- Kickball for kids
- Swimming programs (lessons, swim team, etc.)
- Line dancing classes for seniors

- Cross fit
- More summer camps
- Outdoor pool with lounge chairs for adults and maybe hot tub. And half indoor pool for winter... or just close the summer outdoor pool for the winter like the Sellwood pool.
- More older adults activities
- Ecofriendly lifestyles and living
- Younger children art classes, movement classes, gymnastics, sports
- Turf Fields for soccer/ rugby/ football/ lacrosse etc...
- Pool
- An out door swimming pool and more off the main road running trails.
- Use of a gym with child care, indoor track, outdoor pool
- None
- Child care  
Recreation in schools after school
- Full-time summer camps like PP&R provides. Evening mommy and me classes. Current scheduling caters to SAH parents.
- Rock climbing
- More natural playgrounds. Bark dust needs to go away forever.  
A swimming pool and a great bike path that is safe for small kids to ride.
- Exercise equipment for drop in or monthly pass family pass.
- Pottery spinning and art classes, outdoor pool with retractable cover for winter
- More senior programs.
- Swim team that is local. The pirahanas team is full. Nothing else is close- mhcc, mt scott, etc.
- All age youth programs..tend to miss the tween age group
- outdoor summer swimming and swimming lessons
- I would like our community to take precedent over the field usage. It is frustrating that clubs come in and take over the fields.
- Any adult activities with concurrent childcare
- Prenatal swimming
- Adult fitness/sports
- Community runs
- Teen programming East of I-205.
- Fitness, aquatic indoor and outdoor program. NC aquatic park is all indoor and very outdated.
- Pool to go to with kids. To swim laps but have it reserved, less crowded, sign up system. something like that. Volleyball for teens. INDOORS.

**Question 7: Additional thoughts, comments and ideas:**

- Keep and maintain lots of green space and trees.
- Volunteer restoration programs
- Need HVP equivalent off Sunnyside.
- Would like to see what we have maintained better.

- More events in the summer
- Need buses
- Really like Sellwood Pool's setup
- Community pool would be great!
- Sidewalks
- A community center with a pool!
- None
- Should have stayed w NCPark District. However, since that didn't happen... build good partnerships with county, schools, sherriff's Dept to provide quality programming collaboratively. Don't just make parks... focus on recreational programming for youth.
- Thank you for doing this! I know it must be difficult - but us residents strongly support/appreciate your efforts!
- Not interested in paying for a additional levy for parks when we will be already paying it through the county.
- Keep HV green. We are becoming Southern CA.
- Don't connect our trails to other areas... keep our trail connections within happy valley only. Invites transients from other areas.
- The lack of turf fields in our area hinders our ability to host, sports tournaments to increase exposure to our area as well as compete with neighboring areas to host such events.
- in the end, this should improve the livability of HV (connected communities, outdoor living and exercise, connected trails, places for those of all ages to be outside). Hopefully it can be a combination of neighborhood area parks (required by developers) and larger community parks and facilities.
- I'm curious how Happy Valley will separate itself from the surrounding areas such as Damascus and Clackamas. It seems difficult to have students attend the same schools but not be allowed to share in the same recreational benefits. What will that mean for youth sports?
- Please look at the community center in Edmonds Oklahoma. A joint venture with YMCA, school district, municipality. It is a world class pool, community center, senior center.
- Work on being a LEED certified community center (if working on one). Include a recycling plan in the parks (pp&r did a study a few years ago).

**Question 13: I am a... Happy Valley Resident, Happy Valley Business Owner, Non-Resident user of Happy Valley Parks or Other. Other Responses:**

- Watershed Council
- Grandmother to users
- Clackamas Resident
- Clackamas
- live adjoining area
- Clackamas

**Question 14: How do you currently use parks? Other responses:**

- Community garden

- Community garden
- Swim team
- Water
- Holding lacrosse practice
- Skate park, splash pad

**Question 16: How did you hear about this event?**

- Next door neighbor
- Nextdoor.com
- Sign at the Park
- Mentioned at last concert
- Family
- Look up on the computer
- Concert in park
- NextDoor App/Email
- Happy Valley youth council
- Youth Council
- I went to the park on Aug 10th

## Appendix B: What makes a park great?

### What makes a park great?

- Happy Valley School District (Camas, WA has its own)
- Public swimming pool
- Trees and a place to play!
- Love the nature trail/boardwalks
- Splash pad!
- Rock jumping
- Kids' play area
- Kids kickball league
- Indoor all sue facility (courts, gym, pool, etc)
- Natural areas!
- Bike trails
- Community center – seniors/youth activities
- Rock wall/climbing area
- Wildlife habitat
- More movies!
- Best way water park in OR
- Multi-use all weather accessible fields
- Vending machines. Drinks, etc.
- Interactive water/sand features.
- Clean, safe facilities. Not all about dogs
- Safe, clean, shaded trails; great play structures for kids all ages
- Being able to walk to multiple parks. Climbing structures, slides, swings, shade cover. Tidy without overflowing trash cans.
- Space, nature, safety, cleanliness
- The things that make parks so great are when they are a place that we are able to attend freely to enjoy the outdoors and be around others.
- Not crowded, but still variety of things to do.
- When people can enjoy themselves without having to worry about it's a safe place to bring their kids and is clear of messes.
- The people and activities that are available there. It is safe and clean. It is very nice in terms of sports.
- Shaded and cool in the summer
- Beautiful views landscaping
- Hidden away and locals know it
- Adventure and community for all ages and activity level
- Programmed recreation for youth -- mighty mites soccer, tennis lessons, arts and crafts
- A variety of options for all ages and pets, organized classes, all- season, safe, clean.
- Preserving natural habitat. Great for kids. Safe. Away from the hustle and bustle of traffic. Dog friendly (i.e. allowed)
- A space that offers wooded trails and space for community gatherings
- A space that we can go outdoors to enjoy natures beauty. A space people want to take their kids, exercise, enjoy a picnic, walk a dog, sports.
- A good park should be safe for families, and should be free of transients, and unsafe people

- Things that are special and unique to each community makes a park especially great, such as an activity or amenity specific to only that park.
- A park with no dog waste.
- HV park: Community events, walking trails, skate park, play grounds, covered areas, safe and clean, flush toilets... but, needs more parking
- I think it is the draw of community. Our current parks are great but are missing the pool that neighborhood kids are drawn to.
- HV Park is the heart of HV. When my kids say, "we're going to the park" I can count on it being clean and safe. So many great events held there
- Safe & clean (please no smoking or trash, keep dogs on leashes, no visitors after hours), lots of green space, ball fields, walking paths.
- Spacious
- All ages and abilities are encouraged to partake and interact while preserving the natural surrounding areas.
- it is a nice setting, it is inviting and it has things to do or space for you to do things that you do. it gets people outdoors and exercise!
- Gathering place for community well provisioned for multiple uses including sports, play, and community for all ages
- Incorporating features to appeal to families, elderly, pet owners, sports fans, etc. Keeping it clean and well maintained.
- A park is great when all ages can participate, not just little kids or older kids, but everyone.
- Something for everyone: old and young, animals and people. Shaded and open. Safe and clean.
- I love that HV park has so much to do in one spot: lots of playgrounds, splash pad, walking trails
- Safe clean
- Green space, trails, play area, ample access and parking, garbage service and restrooms, community involvement.
- Safe, maintained.
- Great facilities, open space, clean, restrooms, maintained, safe
- Safety, and cleanliness
- Natural play spaces, walking paths, open fields to play in (not just organized sports), fields for sports, dog parks, picnic areas
- My favorite park would have large running/bike trails. Plenty of gathering spaces and play structures for all capabilities.
- Shade, festivals, splash pad/pool, play structures, quiet, basketball courts, skate/bike park, lots of grass,
- Happy Valley Park - open, community access, concerts, splash pad, 4th of July
- Space, silence, shade, kids activities
- Allows you to choose among relaxation, exercise, contemplation, quiet and learning.
- A park where the entire family can enjoy, such as dog parks, accessible playgrounds, open areas, trails, and nice amenities.
- Being able to safely enjoy the outdoors. Walking trails, dog parks, picnic areas, quality playgrounds and a pool.
- A balance to be used by all ages. Sports facilities, pool, nature trails, open sun space & covered/shaded areas. Safe but not restrictive.
- clean area free from homeless and their trash. Great athletic fields where kids can learn to play and compete. Well maintained.

- A park that can be used year round. Our city needs an aquatic center that has an indoor pool AND an outdoor pool.
- Areas for all types of humans, from babies, to elderly, to special needs children, to teens. Desperately need pool and community center!
- running paths, tennis courts, an outdoor swim pool and a sidewalk ALL the WAY from Frye to park - danger on 152nd where there is NO SIDEWALK!!!!
- Safe play equipment, Green space, areas for parties (undercover), tennis courts that are maintained, various activities for all ages
- Outdoor pool, water world.
- The ability to use it year round
- Great parks are family friendly, maintained and full of community.
- Easy access, dog friendly
- Wide open green space with play areas and walking paths.
- Large, open spaces with trails throughout the park. Trails connect parks. Fields for organized events. Easy to access on bikes or walking
- Variety of activities, easy access - ability to walk, bike, and parking for cars
- Has clean bathrooms and variety of things to do for all people (but especially kids). Should have natural areas (not just sports fields).
- Lots of drinking fountains, trails, well kept landscape. Bathrooms at convient places, places around where there are little people, dense forest
- More community centers, play structures, soccer/ baseball fields, picnic/covered areas, well maintained grounds and bathrooms. An outdoor pool.
- Nature, open space, amenities, security
- We need to add another park like Happy Valley park with natural space, playgrounds, etc. Our population has grown; our parks have not kept pace.
- We need to make sure the areas and streets surrounding our parks are safe and that safety is consistently enforced.
- A place where everyone of all abilities can enjoy nature, fun and community together.
- Tennis courts and soccer fields
- Areas to play, to find solitude, to have gatherings. Shade, sun, covered areas, outdoor kitchen facilities
- Plenty of space to explore in all levels, from kid to adult to pet. A place for solitude and reflection or excitement and playfulness.
- A seamless transition between nature and the park. Places to explore and room to run.
- A dynamic blend of nature and infrastructure that commingles together to create an amazing place
- More summer festivals
- Community-built and maintained smaller parks
- Tennis courts – turn lights on at night so people can play during seasons when it gets dark earlier

## Appendix C: Tabling Summary Reports

### July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival (Happy Valley Park)

#### Overview

The City of Happy Valley conducted tabling outreach for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan project on July 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. during the July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival in Happy Valley Park. The purpose of tabling was to inform Happy Valley residents about the development of the Parks Master Plan, the City's withdrawal from the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD), and generate general awareness of the project. Another major purpose was to gather high-level feedback and concerns, and encourage residents to sign up for future project updates and encourage attendance to a Community Workshop on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 50 people dropped by the booth and 29 people signed up for project updates.

City Staff, City Council Members, and the members from the Parks Advisory Committee also attended and answered questions from residents.

The tabling outreach included display boards which provided a project overview, a map of existing parks within city boundaries, a large drawing board asking residents what recreation activities and parks facilities they want to see in Happy Valley, and a promotional video about the project. Visitors had the opportunity to indicate where they lived on the parks map, write or draw on the drawing board their vision and desires for parks, ask questions, and chat with City Council Members and the Parks Advisory Committee.



#### Materials:

- Postcards
- Fact Sheets
- Posters (project overview and parks map)
- Video display about Parks Master Plan
- Sign up for project updates
- Open-ended preference activity (drawing board)
- Snacks/candy and City of Happy Valley swag

**Spoke to:** ~ 50 residents

**Signed up for project updates:** 29

**Activity:**

Prompt: Draw, doodle, or write what recreation activities and parks facilities you want to see in Happy Valley!

Participants were given markers to draw or write in their desires for parks in Happy Valley.

- Safety Classes
- Crafts and summer games
- Nutrition classes
- Need sidewalks and access to parks
- Cooking classes
- Swimming pool, lessons, swim teams,
- Free senior classes – Zumba, walk groups, etc.
- More trails connecting green spaces
- Bathrooms
- Swimming Pool/Swim team
- Soccer field with lessons for kids
- Community center
- Mountain biking trails
- Classes for kids
- Pokemon clubs
- Book clubs
- Teen groups



- Classes (Yoga, Pilates, etc) at Eastside Athletic Club
- Zip line
- Turf sports fields, soccer and baseball
- Music classes
- Teen summer camps
- Tai Chi

**What we heard:**

- The feedback was positive overall.
- Pedestrian access to parks is difficult and unsafe especially with missing sidewalks and no crosswalks.
- Community centers for all ages was very popular. Many indicated a desire for classes and planned activities similar to Mt. Scott Community Center.
- Several people were unsure where they could find out more about upcoming events in the park.
- Someone wanted to make sure the City kept the trees at Pleasant Valley Villages Park

## Farmers Market Tabling

### Overview

The City of Happy Valley conducted tabling outreach for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan project on August 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 2pm at the Happy Valley Farmers Market. The purpose of tabling was to inform Happy Valley residents about the development of the Parks Master Plan, the City's withdrawal from the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD), and generate general awareness of the project. Another major purpose was to gather high-level feedback and concerns, and encourage visitors to fill out a comment form, or participate in the Online Open House. A gift card to New Seasons was offered as an incentive to fill out a comment card at the tabling.

**Participants in Activities:** Approximately 180 people combined

**Completed Comment Cards:** 28

### Activities

#### Priorities Exercise

The tabling outreach included an exercise to identify which of the four previously identified priorities (a new community park, a new community center, a multi-purpose turf field, and more trail connections) were most important to them. We provided a basket for each priority, and participants were given four bouncy balls to distribute however they preferred according to how important each priority was to them.

#### Park Amenities Exercise

A second exercise asked participants how important it was to add various types of parks features to Happy Valley's parks. A display board listed 13 different parks amenities with columns indicating "Most Important", "Important", "Less Important", and "Not Important". Participants were encouraged indicate the importance of each parks features by place a dot sticker on the board.

#### "What Makes a Park Great?" Comment Board

A general comment board was also displayed asking participants to tell us what they think makes a park great.

#### Materials:

- Online Open House Postcards
- Fact Sheets
- Comment Cards
- Priorities and Amenities Exercise Display Boards
- Sign up for project updates via iPad or on paper
- City of Happy Valley swag

#### What we heard:

- The feedback was positive overall.
- Interactive public art – like a motion activated harp that plays music!
- Need good active indoor options – to get kids off computers and because of our rainy climate
- Fields: Wilsonville HS model with collapsible fence behind baseball fields to allow for lacrosse
- Natural play areas – great for imagination and kids problem solving skills
- Turf fields are need with all the rain we have!

- Community center with indoor pool – lots of families would use it!
- Need sidewalks to access parks safely
- Noise issues at Happy Valley Park needs to be addressed. Complained to the City of Happy Valley many times.
- Indoor sport facilities for basketball, soccer, badminton

## Fred Meyer and New Seasons Tabling

### Overview

The City of Happy Valley conducted tabling outreach for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan project on August 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at the local Fred Meyer and New Seasons, respectively. The purpose of tabling was to inform Happy Valley residents about the development of the Parks Master Plan, the City's withdrawal from the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD), and generate general awareness of the project. Another major purpose was to gather high-level feedback and concerns, and encourage visitors to fill out a comment form or participate in the Online Open House. A gift card to New Seasons was offered as an incentive to fill out a comment card at the tabling.

- Tabling outreach at the local Fred Meyer:
  - **Participants in activities:** Approx. 56 people
  - **Completed comment forms:** 8
- Tabling outreach at the local New Seasons Market:
  - **Participants in activities:** 48 people
  - **Completed comment forms:** 7

### Activities

#### Priorities Exercise

The tabling outreach included an exercise to identify which of the four previously identified priorities (a new community park, a new community center, a multi-purpose turf field, and more trail connections) were most important to them. We provided a basket for each priority, and participants were given four bouncy balls to distribute however they preferred according to how important each priority was to them.

#### Park Amenities Exercise

A second exercise asked participants how important it was to add various types of parks features to Happy Valley's parks. A display board listed 13 different parks amenities with columns indicating "Most Important", "Important", "Less Important", and "Not Important". Participants were encouraged indicate the importance of each parks features by place a dot sticker on the board.

#### "What Makes a Park Great?" Comment Board

A general comment board was also displayed asking participants to tell us what they think makes a park great.

#### Materials:

- Online Open House Postcards
- Fact Sheets
- Comment Cards
- Priorities and Amenities Exercise Display Boards
- Sign up for project updates via IPad or on paper

- City of Happy Valley swag

**What we heard:**

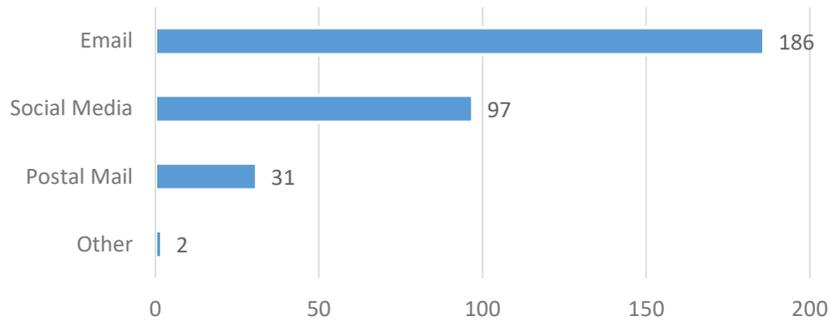
- The feedback was positive overall
- A couple expressed concern and anger over the projects that the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) have failed to complete despite the \$17 million city residents have paid to the district. They were also upset about the selling of Hood View Park to the school district because it was a park they used near their home.
- A few residents expressed prioritizing adding more school instead of parks and recreation.
- Indoor pools to use all-year round
- A few residents expressed concern over Happy Valley's growing development and overcrowding of the area's parks such as Happy Valley Park.



## Appendix D: Demographics Results of Online Survey

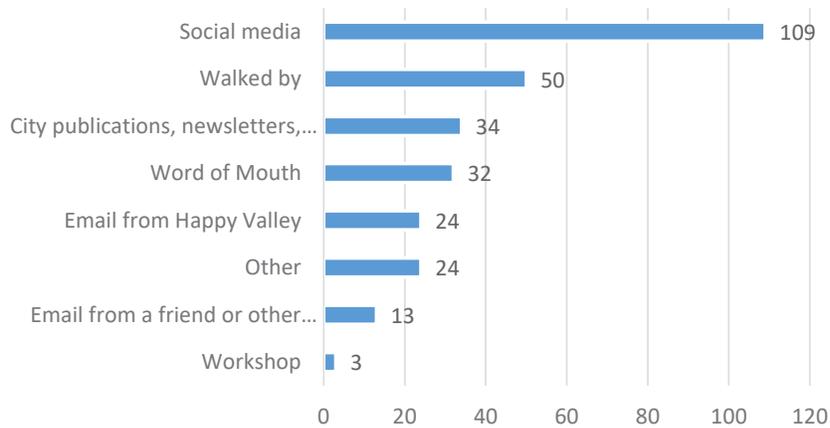
Below is a summary of demographic data provided by respondents who participated in the online survey or filled out comment forms at the public workshop and informational tabling events.

### What are the best ways to communicate with you?



Number of responses: 226

### How did you hear about this event?

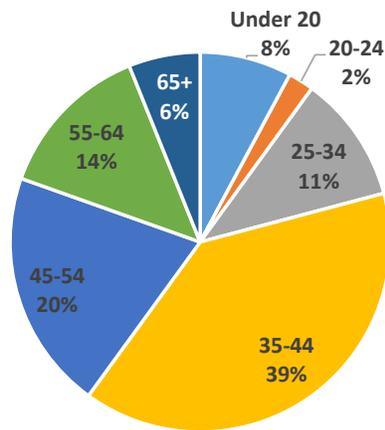


Number of responses: 230

### What is your Zip Code?

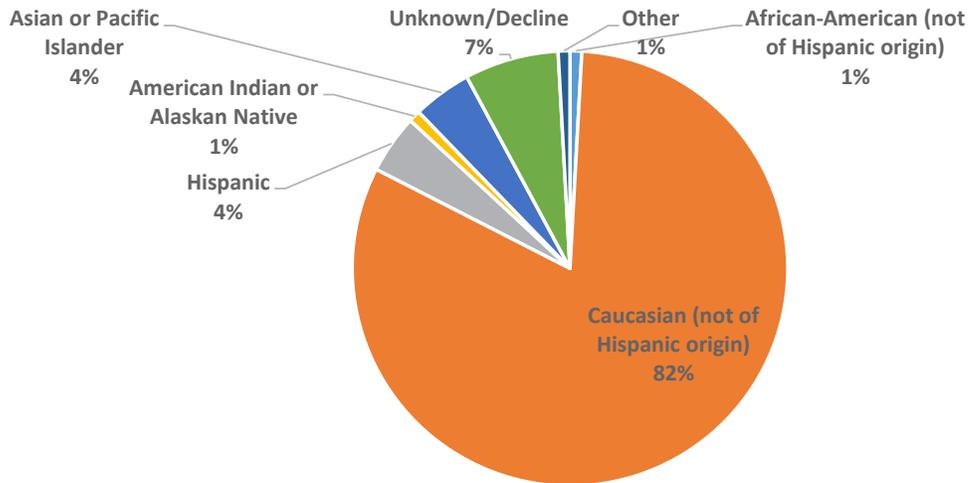
Zip Code	Number of Residents
97086	154
97015	40
97089	7
97236	3
97080	3
97023	3
97222	3
97267	2
97233	2
97230	2
97096	1
97009	1
97087	1
97045	1

### What is your age?



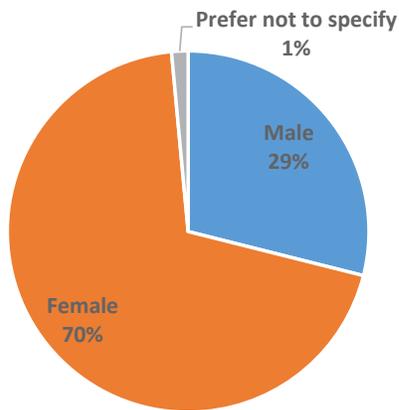
Number of responses: 230

### How do you describe your race/ethnicity?



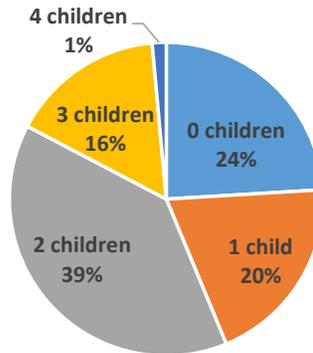
Number of responses: 229

### What is your gender?



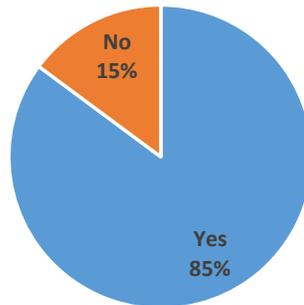
Number of responses: 204

### How many children under age 18 live in your home?



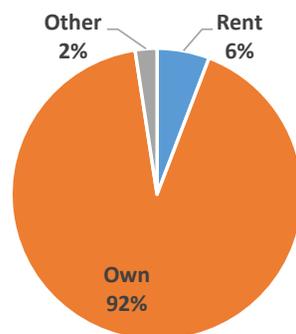
Number of responses: 208

### Does your home have a yard or shared greenspace?



Number of responses: 229

### Do you rent or own your home?



Number of responses: 207

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# APPENDIX B: 2017 STAKEHOLDER NOTES



# **City of Happy Valley**

## **Parks & Recreation Master Plan:**

### Stakeholder Meetings Summary

**Prepared for:**

City of Happy Valley

**Prepared by:**

JLA Public Involvement

**September 2017**

## Parks Advisory Committee

The project team held two meetings with the Happy Valley Parks Advisory Committee:

- August 3, 2017: Presentation on the Citywide Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan process and goals. Members had a discussion on what they value about Happy Valley parks, their vision for parks in the future, recreation opportunities, and top investment priorities.
- August 24, 2017: Members heard from sports organizations about their challenges and desired investments to support recreational sports in Happy Valley. They also reviewed draft portions of the Citywide Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.
- September 11, 2017: Presentation on the draft Citywide Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan highlighting key elements of the plan. This meeting was open to the public for discussion about the draft plan, and the Parks Advisory Committee held their regular session afterwards. Below is a summary of feedback from the discussion:
  - *Does the Parks Plan highlight the right mix of community priorities?*
    - It is important to reach out to adult recreation programs and sports leagues, not just youth sports organizations in Happy Valley, because there are a significant number of adult sports leagues that have a difficult time finding fields to play on. Currently, adult sports leagues have no regular access to sports fields in the area and are competing with schools and youth leagues to reserve fields.
    - In the past, NCPRD programs have not been effective in providing parks and recreation programs to all demographics, particularly low-income minority residents of Happy Valley. One attendee noted discrimination against low-income minority populations in reserving and accessing sports fields in Happy Valley. There needs to be more equitable access and management of sports fields and programs in the future.
    - It is important to build the projects that were promised in the past. Thus far, there has been a lot of planning and not enough implementation.
    - Prioritize facilities that the entire community can benefit from, such as an aquatic center or a swimming pool. This will also help maintain the excitement and momentum from the community resulting from this project.
    - NCPRD's tax rate is much lower than the rate other districts around the country charge for parks and recreation services. A higher tax rate may be more realistic.
  - *Do the target acquisition areas focus on the correct areas of the City needing parks?*
    - There was concern about preserving open space on the east side of Happy Valley where rapid housing development is occurring. There is a need to purchase land soon before there is no land left to acquire.
    - The target acquisition areas for Community Parks seem appropriate.

## Happy Valley Business Association

The project team made a presentation to the Happy Valley Business Association at their August 23, 2017 general meeting. Approximately 40 area business leaders attended. The presentation provided an overview of the parks master planning process, and the parks facilities, activities and amenities that are being considered for inclusion in the master plan.

The project team led a brief discussion with participants and asked them what is most important to consider as we plan for parks and recreation:

- Many said they would like to see a community center. It is important to have a community and event space that provides options for classes and activities, as well as a pool.
- Several said they would like to see a pool built. Some recommended an outdoor pool, and others a covered pool with a retractable roof.
- Participants discussed what they would like to see in multi-sport turf fields. One person promoted the Hillsboro turf fields as an example of well-designed turf fields. The fields are surrounded by a track which could be a good draw for larger athletic events and state track meets. Another noted that the fields should include covered stands to shelter spectators from the rain. It is important to have regulation soccer and other fields.
- Participants said they would like to see the following amenities and features in area parks: natural play areas, more dog parks (with stations to help owners pick up after their pets), and a municipal golf course.
- Suggest seeking business sponsorships for parks buildings and sports facilities.
- Parks should include plenty of parking.

The project team asked for a show of hands on whether the 4 identified priorities seem like the most important priorities (a new community park, a new community center, a multi-purpose turf field, and more trail connections). Most members agreed that these are the top priorities.

## **Meeting with Community Sports Organizations**

On August 24, 2017, the City of Happy Valley and members of the Parks Plan team met with leaders of sports organizations in Happy Valley, as well as the Parks Advisory Committee. Representatives of soccer, baseball and other sports groups were present. Together, their leagues and organizations serve approximately 4,300 athletes in the Happy Valley area.

The purpose of the meeting was to understand the key needs of sports leagues in Happy Valley, challenges of use of current fields, and desired priority investments. Below is a summary of key themes from the conversation, as well as responses to the several discussion questions posed during the meeting.

### **Key themes:**

- Many sports organizations use school fields. These fields are in poor shape and poorly maintained (overused, inadequate drainage, lumpy, not mowed regularly). It is difficult to reserve fields through the schools.
- Ongoing field maintenance is a key issue, particularly with rainy weather.
- Grass fields throughout Happy Valley (both school, public and private owned) are overused.
- Highest priority improvement is installation of turf fields and lighting. Turf fields require less maintenance than grass fields, and are needed for rainy climate and times of year when it gets dark very early. Turf fields can be an income generator because they can be rented to other groups, and provide a good draw for regional and state competitions/events.
- A key short term priority is improved drainage on grass fields.

- There is a need for some additional fields to deal with current demand, particularly if usage on Hood View Park continues to be limited.

### Responses to Discussion Questions:

#### What are the characteristics of your sports league and participant levels?

- **Youth Baseball League**
  - About 400 students per year participate (ages Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade). Each age group requires a different field set up. Groups are always struggling to find fields, and it is difficult to get fields through the schools.
  - The T-ball program is growing and there will be a need for more fields to accommodate this group.
  - Access to Hood View Park is limited, especially in the summers. Our players use North Clackamas Park which is good quality, but far away.
  - Field maintenance is an ongoing issue. Turf fields would be fantastic.
  - Desire for a big shared complex, something to call our own.
- **Clackamas United Soccer Club**
  - Serve about 1,300 athletes in the fall, and 600 in the spring.
  - Currently, athletes play in school parks, Happy Valley Park, and Hood View Park. Access to Hood View Park is becoming more limited.
  - Playing in the spring is difficult due to wet fields and it gets dark so early.
  - Key desires are for turf fields and lighting.
- **Eastside League**
  - About 2,000 athletes participate per year.
  - The organization is building its own complex with three fields. It is near Happy Valley, but not within city limits.
  - Greatest desire is for turf fields and lighting (for soccer and baseball players)

#### What is the quality of fields you currently play on?

- Elementary school fields used for baseball are very poor quality, even as compared to communities that are smaller and less wealthy than Happy Valley. School fields are poorly maintained, and suffer from poor drainage and a lumpy surface. They require complete excavation.
- Elementary school fields used for soccer suffer from the same issues. They are also not regularly mowed. If the sports organization wants drainage at a school field, the organization has to put it in itself.
- Happy Valley Park fields are good quality and well maintained.
- Every grass field in Happy Valley is overused. Any grass field in Oregon is difficult to maintain due to rain.
- Lacrosse tends to tear up fields the worse of any sport.

#### How easy is it to coordinate use of fields?

- The school district coordinates use of its fields. There are some grandfathered uses, but some of these are being taken away. The school district does not respond to requests for

maintenance or improvements. The district is open to sports organizations doing their own work parties and making improvements ourselves.

- Schools maximize use of their fields, but this means that they are overused. Without maintenance, this is a major problem.

#### **Where would you want to locate any new fields?**

- Soccer: locate a field in North Clackamas area
- Baseball: would want a field located in east Happy Valley, particularly if usage of Hood View Park goes away. The eastside High School needs a place for baseball practice.
- General: would be good to locate new fields in the vicinity of City Hall. This would be central.
- There is a 66 acre plot that was just sold in the 172<sup>nd</sup> area near Abundant Life. It has a wetlands issue, but has good access. The City could look into this plot of land.

#### **How many new fields do we need in the next 5 years?**

- It was difficult for people to anticipate how many fields would be needed. They noted that sports practice and games happen on the same fields.
- If a baseball field is grass (as opposed to turf), then it can really only be used for baseball and not multiple sports.
- Baseball currently uses 12 fields to full capacity during the April-July season. Could use 16 fields total.
- Clackamas United Soccer uses 25 fields currently, and is overcapacity in spring and fall.
- Timbers team uses 12 fields currently.

#### **What improvements would you want to see in Happy Valley Park?**

- New backstops and storage shed (this is happening now)
- Lighting
- Turf fields
- Baseball fences (recognize it could only be portable fences, which are not convenient)
- Storage sheds at the side of each field
- Scoreboards
- South field: Would like turf. If that's not possible, then baseball league would like a dirt infield for younger players, and grass infield for seniors.

#### **Key Priority: What is most important for the next 5 years?**

- Installing a turf field and lighting are the most important improvements.
  - New lighting systems have little spillover. The City should invest in these newer lighting systems to avoid neighbor complaints (even if they are more expensive, it is worth it).
  - Note: turf fields have a lifespan of 8-10 years. So they could be used as turf fields for some time, and then transitioned to a different use in the future.
  - Turf fields can be rented to other groups, generating revenue.
  - If turf is installed, need lights to be able to use it in the dark. It would not be cost-effective to install turf without lighting. Would also need fences to stop the high speed of baseballs rolling on turf.

- Turf can be a great draw for larger tournaments—and generate income for the community and local businesses.
- Participants talked about two options: turning Happy Valley Park into a turf field, or building a separate sports complex.
  - Suggest turfing all baseball and soccer fields within Happy Valley Park and installing lighting. The downside is that community members would not get as much usage. There would also be a need to fence the fields to keep them only for permitted uses.
  - Another option discussed is moving athletic fields out of Happy Valley Park, and building a separate, secure sports complex that would be used only for sports activities. Some examples of sports complexes are those in Medford, Centralia, Sandy, and Tualatin Valley.
- A key short term priority is improved drainage on grass fields.
- Baseball: Would like to have a portable mound. This would allow flexibility to turn any field into a baseball field. One issue is the need to store the mound in the off season (storage space).



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**PROJECT NAME:** Happy Valley Parks Master Plan      **ISSUE DATE:** August 15, 2017

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**PREPARED BY:** Jean Akers

**TO:** Chris Randall, Public Works Director

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**SUBJECT:** North Clackamas School District Stakeholder Interview – July 17, 2017

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**PURPOSE**

To explore potential opportunities relating to parks and recreation and enhancing the relationship with North Clackamas School District as the City of Happy Valley transitions to becoming the primary providers of park facilities and assuming control of North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District facilities within its boundaries. This stakeholder meeting took place on July 17, 2017 at the North Clackamas School District (NCSD) administrative office.

**PARTICIPANTS**

Participants in the discussion were Ron Stewart, NCSD Assistant Superintendent, Natalie Whistler, NCSD Community Services Supervisor, Michael Ralls, NCSD Director of Social Services and Jean Akers, Conservation Technix.

**DISCUSSION**

**How would you describe your key role(s) & relationship(s) with City of Happy Valley and opportunities for future School District/HV Parks & Rec coordination?**

Potential acquisition opportunities, partnerships or development agreements would be coordinated primarily through Ron. Coordination of recreational program/facilities use agreements would involve Natalie. Natalie also coordinates summer and after-school programming for NCSD.

**With Happy Valley as the primary provider of parks and recreation, how do you imagine the best future outcomes (next 6 years or more)? What is needed to make that future realistic?**

Adult soccer clubs are clamoring for space. School soccer fields are in demand and lacrosse is a growing sport.

**Are there specific ways that this relationship can be developed to better meet the community needs in Happy Valley?**

**North Clackamas School District Stakeholder Interview – July 17, 2017**

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Leverage assets to benefit the community.

**Do you see any unmet recreational needs for Happy Valley area youth and teens?**

After school programs are in big demand. Early childhood program are in demand. Enrichment, also.

**In your current relationship with NCPRD, what's working well? What has been successful? Does anything need improvement?**

Good relationship. Challenges can arise when shared facilities rub against the high school facility directors (who may prefer exclusive HS use).

**What is the current status of capacity for your gyms and sport fields? Are school fields and gyms maxed out?**

Middle school out-of-school programs are needed. Education funding does not cover this growing need.

**Recognizing that NCPRD currently utilizes many of the school district's sport fields (afterschool hours, etc.) due to the general lack of field space available in the area. As the City prepares to manage its own parks and recreation programs, they are interested in establishing an agreement with the District for field and gym usage/reservations. What are the options to do so and can the District accommodate facility requests from the City to expand programs?**

In partnership with NCSD, NCPRD got partial use of the middle school (through 50% contribution to turf development) and high school (through 25% contribution to turf development) fields through a development & use agreement.

With indoor facility agreements, preference goes with in-district providers with scholarship participants. Agreements are developed through public use requests following a category of users. Fee paid is based on youth vs adult programs. Gym and indoor use facilities are in short supply – more needed.

NCSD no longer offers middle school field sports (just track & field). Parks and other recreational providers have needed to fill that age void.

**Are there opportunities to expand the usage of fields and gyms for community use?**

Potentially but with the caveat that a school's site design needs strict access control to address student safety so circulation and use needs to be kept separate.

**Regarding planned land acquisitions and site development coordination opportunities, can you help map out future potential school areas – so that we can start putting all these future school properties on a map and think about “symbiosis” w/future HV Parks & Rec.?**

- **The future planned elementary school (Vogel Rd):** Tight site without much room unless HV buys an adjacent property.
- **The purchased land in North Carver:** Small parcel on top of mountain may not be kept since location & physical site is not ideal. But HV zoning limits school permitted use to the “far reaches” of the city.

**North Clackamas School District Stakeholder Interview – July 17, 2017**

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- **Planned middle school (potentially east of 162nd Ave., just east of the existing Rock Creek Middle School):** The future school could have trail connections on lower portion of school site.
- **The future conversion of the Rock Creek Middle School to a High School:** If HV has capital, NCSD would like to partner.
- **The idea of purchase of Hoodview Park:** for \$18M? Sure!

*End of notes.*



## MEMO

**PROJECT NAME:** Happy Valley Parks Master Plan      **ISSUE DATE:** August 16, 2017

**PREPARED BY:** Jean Akers

**TO:** Chris Randall, Public Works Director

**SUBJECT:** Happy Valley Operations Interview – July 17, 2017

### PURPOSE

To discuss existing park operations and upcoming transition to assuming control of the NCPRD park facilities and becoming the primary provider of parks and recreation within the city boundaries. This meeting took place on July 17, 2017 at Happy Valley City Hall.

### PARTICIPANTS

Participants in the discussion were Chris Randall, Happy Valley Public Works Director, Chris Sliwka, Public Works Parks Lead and Jean Akers, Conservation Technix.

### DISCUSSION

#### **Current staffing level vs capacity to manage existing and future parks infrastructure?**

Two (2) FTEs for park maintenance. Receive \$270K from NCPRD for park and open space properties.

#### **Are you able to utilize flexible contracts for mowing or landscape bed maintenance as a way to focus the work efforts of city staff?**

Yes, but with HV doing some supplemental work. HV is currently maintaining Ashley Meadows and Southern Lites Parks.

#### **How do you plan to expand staffing, operations and maintenance for the City's parks as you transition from NCPRD, especially as new developer-built parks come on line? Also, what is the current thinking about the NCPRD-owned parks within City limits, in terms of the City's interest in potentially taking over maintenance or some other transition with NCPRD?**

City's legal staff is working on the ownership exchange with a target of December 31<sup>st</sup> for completion of transfer. HV would take ownership of Southern Lites, Ella V. Osterman, Ashley Meadows and Village Green Parks.

**Happy Valley Operations Interview – July 17, 2017**

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**Ability to handle future capital improvements, trail expansions, park acquisitions, additional site responsibilities?**

HV has planning, engineering and development staff ready to work on parks and system needs.

**Adequacy of operational budgets & capital repairs?**

HV has prepared a capital asset replacement schedule with timing and costs to replace park assets over the next 30 years. Projected asset management costs total \$5.5M over the 30-year span.

The current \$0.54/1,000AV levy rate will go away with exit from NCPRD. An equivalent revenue amount should be adequate fund parks operations & maintenance. HV going for a levy to bridge the gap on operating levy with a five-year rotation.

**What else is needed to manage performance, conduct programming, expand acreage, increase utilization of programs/parks, increase resident awareness, increase user satisfaction?**

Happy Valley currently programs a number of events and activities, including:

- 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- Summer Concerts
- National Night Out
- Harvest Fest
- Tree Lighting
- Dumpster Day

Other organizations would provide recreational/sports programming. HV Community Services will take on the responsibility for recreation program coordination. HV currently creating a parks website, Facebook page and “what’s the question” online site.

**As a key city infrastructure professional in Happy Valley, what do you see as the primary need for park/trail/rec facilities in the next 6+ years?**

The need for a full-service community / recreation center with indoor aquatic facility.

Happy Valley Park with all-weather sports fields.

More trail system connections.

Capital facility project list.

*(FYI: The NCPRD CIP lists seven (7) proposed new 4-acre neighborhood parks in Happy Valley to be acquired and developed using SDC funds, in addition to the phase 2 development of Ella V Osterman Park. A new community park was listed for both acquisition and development in or adjacent to HV. Scouters MT Trail acquisition and development – with partners – was a district-wide project.)*

*End of notes.*

# APPENDIX C: IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS

## Local Funding Options

The City of Happy Valley possesses a range of local funding tools that could be accessed for the benefit of growing, developing and maintaining its parks and recreation system. The sources listed below represent likely potential sources, but some also may be dedicated for numerous other local purposes which limit applicability and usage. Therefore, discussions with city leadership is critical to assess the political landscape to modify or expand the use of existing city revenue sources in favor of parks and recreation programs.

### General Obligation Bond

These are voter-approved bonds with the authority to levy an assessment on real and personal property. The money can only be used for capital construction and improvements, but not for maintenance. This property tax is levied for a specified period of time (usually 15-20 years). Passage requires a simple majority in November and May elections, unless during a special election, in which case a double majority (a majority of registered voters must vote and a majority of those voting must approve the measure) is required.

### Park Utility Fee

A park utility fee provides dedicated funds to help offset the cost of park maintenance and could free up general fund dollars for other capital project uses. Most city residents pay water and sewer utility fees. Park utility fees apply the same concepts to city parks, and a fee is assessed to all businesses and households. The monthly fee would be paid upon connection to the water and sewer system. Happy Valley does not assess a park utility fee.

### System Development Charges

Happy Valley currently assesses a parks system development charge (SDC). SDCs are charged for new residential development to help finance the demand for park facilities created by the new growth.

### Fuel Tax

Oregon gas taxes are collected as a fixed amount per gallon of gasoline purchased. The Oregon Highway Trust Fund collects fuel taxes, and a portion is paid to cities annually on a per-capita basis. By statute, revenues can be used for any road-related purpose, which may include sidewalk repairs, ADA upgrades, bike routes and other transportation-oriented park and trail enhancements.

## Federal / State Grants & Conservation Programs

### Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

#### National Park Service

[www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/](http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/)

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, also known as the Rivers & Trails Program or RTCA, is a community resource administered by the National Park Service and federal government agencies so they can conserve rivers, preserve open space and develop trails and greenways. The RTCA program implements the natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation mission of NPS in communities across America.

### National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) Grant

#### U.S. Forest Service

[www.treelink.org/nucfac/](http://www.treelink.org/nucfac/)

The National Urban and Community Advisory Council has overhauled their criteria for the US Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry challenge cost share grant program for 2009. Grants will be solicited in two categories: innovation grants and best practices grants. As with the previous grant program, a 50% match is required from all successful applicants of non-federal funds, in-kind services and/or materials.

### Urban and Community Forestry Small Projects and Scholarship Fund

#### Oregon Department of Forestry

The purpose of the Oregon Department of Forestry's Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program's Small Projects and Scholarship Fund (UCF-SPSF) is to cover the small, yet sometimes prohibitive, administrative and material expenses directly related to community forestry projects encountered by smaller volunteer groups and cities across Oregon. Applications must be received by the end of each quarter for consideration.

### North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants Program

#### US Fish & Wildlife Service

[www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtml](http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtml)

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetland conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife. Both are Two competitive grants programs exist (Standard and a Small Grants Program) and require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. Funds from U.S. Federal sources may contribute towards a project, but are not eligible as match.

The Standard Grants Program supports projects in Canada, the United States, and Mexico that involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats. In Mexico, partners may also conduct projects involving technical training, environmental education and outreach, organizational infrastructure development, and sustainable-use studies.

The Small Grants Program operates only in the United States; it supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the U.S. Standard Grants Program. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars. Grant requests may not exceed \$75,000, and funding priority is given to grantees or partners new to the Act's Grants Program.

## Local Government Grant

### Oregon Parks and Recreation

[www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/pages/local.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/pages/local.aspx)

Local government agencies who are obligated by state law to provide public recreation facilities are eligible for OPR's Local Government Grants, and these are limited to public outdoor park and recreation areas and facilities. Eligible projects involve land acquisition, development and major rehabilitation projects that are consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives contained in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

## Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant

### Oregon Parks and Recreation

[www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/pages/lwcf.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/pages/lwcf.aspx)

LWCF grants are available through OPR to either acquire land for public outdoor recreation or to develop basic outdoor recreation facilities. Projects must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives stated in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and elements of local comprehensive land use plans and park master plans. A 50% match is required from all successful applicants of non-federal funds, in-kind services and/or materials.

## Recreational Trails Program Grant

### Oregon Parks and Recreation

[www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/pages/trails.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/pages/trails.aspx)

Recreational Trails Grants are national grants administered by OPRD for recreational trail-related projects, such as hiking, running, bicycling, off-road motorcycling, and all-terrain vehicle riding. Yearly grants are awarded based on available federal funding. RTP funding is primarily for recreational trail projects, rather than utilitarian transportation-based projects. Funding is divided into 30% motorized trail use, 30% non-motorized trail use and 40% diverse trail use. A 20% minimum project match is required.

## Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Grants

### Oregon Department of Transportation

[www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/BIKEPED/pages/grants1.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/BIKEPED/pages/grants1.aspx)

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Grant Program is a competitive grant program that provides approximately \$5 million dollars every two years to Oregon cities, counties and ODOT regional and district offices for design and construction of pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Proposed facilities must be within public rights-of-way. Grants are awarded by the Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Project types include sidewalk infill, ADA upgrades, street crossings, intersection improvements, minor widening for bike lanes.

## Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act)

### Oregon Department of Transportation

<https://www.transportation.gov/fastact>

The FAST Act, which replaced Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) in 2015, provides long-term funding certainty for surface transportation projects, meaning states and local governments can move forward with critical transportation projects with the confidence that they will have a Federal partner over the long term (at least five years). The law makes changes and reforms to many Federal transportation programs, including streamlining the approval processes for new transportation projects and providing new safety tools.

### Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

[www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/pages/index.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/pages/index.aspx)

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board focuses on projects that approach natural resources management from a whole-watershed perspective. OWEB encourages projects that foster interagency cooperation, include other sources of funding, provide for local stakeholder involvement, include youth and volunteers and promote learning about watershed concepts. There are five general categories of projects eligible for OWEB funding: watershed management (restoration and acquisition), resource monitoring and assessment, watershed education and outreach, Watershed council support and technical assistance.

## Nature in Neighborhoods Grants

### Metro

Metro currently is not accepting applications for the Nature in Neighborhoods grants program. Grants paid for with money from the 2006 natural areas bond measure and the 2013 parks and natural areas levy have all been awarded.

## Other Methods & Funding Sources

### Private Grants, Donations & Gifts

Many trusts and private foundations provide funding for park, recreation and open space projects. Grants from these sources are typically allocated through a competitive application process and vary dramatically in size based on the financial resources and funding criteria of the organization. Philanthropic giving is another source of project funding. Efforts in this area may involve cash gifts and include donations through other mechanisms such as wills or insurance policies. Community fund raising efforts can also support park, recreation or open space facilities and projects.

### Business Sponsorships/Donations

Business sponsorships for programs may be available throughout the year. In-kind contributions are often received, including food, door prizes and equipment/material.

### Meyer Memorial Trust

The Meyer Memorial Trust seeks opportunities to make program-related investments in Oregon and Clark County, WA. General Purpose Grants support projects related to arts and humanities, education, health, social welfare, and a variety of other activities. Proposals may be submitted at any time under this program, and there is no limitation on the size or duration of these grants.

## **Wells Fargo: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF): Environmental Grant Program**

<https://www.wellsfargo.com/about/corporate-responsibility/community-giving/environmental-grant-program/>

This program builds partnerships with local environmental nonprofits that have projects that focus on strengthening the resiliency of our communities. This includes efforts focused on climate mitigation and adaptation, sustainable agriculture and forestry, water quality, land conservation, and support for building healthy urban ecosystems. The programs operate as a closed RFP, invitation-only process where Wells Fargo engages specific organizations whose work aligns with our giving priorities.

## **REI in the Community - Non-Profit Partnerships and Grants**

<https://www.rei.com/stewardship/community/non-profit-partnerships-and-grants.html>

Partnerships begin with store teams who may connect with nonprofits by promoting or partnering for events and service projects, raising visibility with REI customers, offering product donations, and inviting and selecting organizations for an REI grant.

## **Kaiser Permanente Healthy Environments - Community Benefit Programs**

<https://share.kaiserpermanente.org/category/about-community-benefit/Community Health Initiatives factsheet>

These programs work with community-based organizations, public agencies, businesses and residents to translate their vision for healthy communities into visible, concrete changes — and ultimately healthier neighborhoods. Kaiser has several assistance programs that encompass support for Environmental Stewardship, Community Health Initiatives, Every Body Walk!, and Physical Activity Guiding Principles.

## **Interagency Agreements**

State law provides for interagency cooperative efforts between units of government. Joint acquisition, development and/or use of park and open space facilities may be provided between parks, school districts, other municipalities and utility providers.

# **Acquisition Tools & Methods**

## **Direct Purchase Methods**

### **Market Value Purchase**

Through a written purchase and sale agreement, the city purchases land at the present market value based on an independent appraisal. Timing, payment of real estate taxes and other contingencies are negotiable.

### **Partial Value Purchase (or Bargain Sale)**

In a bargain sale, the landowner agrees to sell for less than the property's fair market value. A landowner's decision to proceed with a bargain sale is unique and personal; landowners with a strong sense of civic pride, long community history or concerns about capital gains are possible candidates for this approach. In addition to cash proceeds upon closing, the landowner may be entitled to a charitable income tax deduction based on the difference between the land's fair market value and its sale price.

### **Life Estates & Bequests**

In the event a landowner wishes to remain on the property for a long period of time or until death, several variations on a sale agreement exist. In a life estate agreement, the landowner may continue to live on the land by donating a remainder interest and retaining a “reserved life estate.” Specifically, the landowner donates or sells the property to the city, but reserves the right for the seller or any other named person to continue to live on and use the property. When the owner or other specified person dies or releases his/her life interest, full title and control over the property will be transferred to the city. By donating a remainder interest, the landowner may be eligible for a tax deduction when the gift is made. In a bequest, the landowner designates in a will or trust document that the property is to be transferred to the city upon death. While a life estate offers the city some degree of title control during the life of the landowner, a bequest does not. Unless the intent to bequest is disclosed to and known by the city in advance, no guarantees exist with regard to the condition of the property upon transfer or to any liabilities that may exist.

### **Option to Purchase Agreement**

This is a binding contract between a landowner and the city that would only apply according to the conditions of the option and limits the seller’s power to revoke an offer. Once in place and signed, the Option Agreement may be triggered at a future, specified date or upon the completion of designated conditions. Option Agreements can be made for any time duration and can include all of the language pertinent to closing a property sale.

### **Right of First Refusal**

In this agreement, the landowner grants the city the first chance to purchase the property once the landowner wishes to sell. The agreement does not establish the sale price for the property, and the landowner is free to refuse to sell it for the price offered by the city. This is the weakest form of agreement between an owner and a prospective buyer.

### **Conservation Easements**

Through a conservation easement, a landowner voluntarily agrees to sell or donate certain rights associated with his or her property – often the right to subdivide or develop – and a private organization or public agency agrees to hold the right to enforce the landowner’s promise not to exercise those rights. In essence, the rights are forfeited and no longer exist. This is a legal agreement between the landowner and the city (or private organization) that permanently limits uses of the land in order to conserve a portion of the property for public use or protection. Typically, this approach is used to provide trail corridors where only a small portion of the land is needed or for the strategic protection of natural resources and habitat. The landowner still owns the property, but the use of the land is restricted. Conservation easements may result in an income tax deduction and reduced property taxes and estate taxes. The preservation and protection of habitat or resources lands may best be coordinated with the local land trust or conservancy, since that organization will likely have staff resources, a systematic planning approach and access to non-governmental funds to facilitate aggressive or large scale transactions.

## Landowner Incentive Measures

### Density Bonuses

Density bonuses are a planning tool used to encourage a variety of public land use objectives, usually in urban areas. They offer the incentive of being able to develop at densities beyond current regulations in one area, in return for concessions in another. Density bonuses are applied to a single parcel or development. An example is allowing developers of multi-family units to build at higher densities if they provide a certain number of low-income units or public open space. For density bonuses to work, market forces must support densities at a higher level than current regulations.

### Transfer of Development Rights

The transfer of development rights (TDR) is an incentive-based planning tool that allows land owners to trade the right to develop property to its fullest extent in one area for the right to develop beyond existing regulations in another area. Local governments may establish the specific areas in which development may be limited or restricted and the areas in which development beyond regulation may be allowed. Usually, but not always, the “sending” and “receiving” property are under common ownership. Some programs allow for different ownership, which, in effect, establishes a market for development rights to be bought and sold.

### IRC 1031 Exchange

If the landowner owns business or investment property, an IRC Section 1031 Exchange can facilitate the exchange of like-kind property solely for business or investment purposes. No capital gain or loss is recognized under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 (see [www.irc.gov](http://www.irc.gov) for more details).

## Other Land Protection Options

### Land Trusts & Conservancies

Land trusts are private non-profit organizations that acquire and protect special open spaces and are traditionally not associated with any government agency. The Columbia Land Trust is the local land trust serving the Happy Valley area. Other national organizations with local representation include the Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land and the Wetlands Conservancy.



# APPENDIX D: SITE ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

## ACQUISITION GUIDELINES

Planning and land acquisition for future parks is a recognized component in land use and urban growth management, since the provision of parks and open space is considered essential to the livability of urban areas. For the recreation resource planner, the land acquisition process is an important task for ensuring the availability of future recreation resources for the majority of the community. The established planning goals for a community's comprehensive plan recognize the development of parks and retention of open space with conservation values as a tool for managing the effects of increased density and fostering livability.

### Level of Service (acreage needs)

The 2017 Parks Master Plan proposes the provision of a service standard of 6 acres per 1,000 residents of urban parks, which include community, neighborhood and mini parks. The Plan also sets a park and open space goal to strive to provide equitable access to parks such that all city residents live within ½-mile of a developed neighborhood park.

### Distribution Equity (location/gaps)

Equitable distribution of public park facilities is a community goal (articulated in the Parks Master Plan). GIS mapping and analysis documented and tracked the existing public park inventory and areas where public parks are lacking in search for park land acquisition targets. Park acquisition should be prioritized in underserved areas where households are more than ½-mile from a developed park.

### Specific Site Suitability for Developed/Active Parks

According to the 2017 Parks Master Plan, the minimum size for a typical neighborhood park is 3 acres to allow for the accommodation of the desired range of recreational amenities. While existing neighborhood parks may range from 1.5 to 10 acres in size, some basic location and land characteristics influence how accessible, “developable” and convenient a potential site might be for a future public park. Evaluating a potential land parcel should include consideration of the following property features:

- Access and visibility to the property. An adequate amount of public right-of-way is needed to allow for creating bike/pedestrian pathways, at a minimum, and either on-street parking or a parking lot for park visitors who must drive a vehicle.
- Existing publicly owned lands, easements and right-of-way. Are there existing lands under

public ownership that could be converted to public park use? What other public amenities are proximate and complementary to a future park development (e.g., schools, police stations, etc.)?

- Connectivity to trails, schools, parks, neighborhoods and connectivity of the trail links. Connections to and from related land uses can add value to a potential park location.
- Environmental constraints, field assessment (does not include Environmental Assessment level detail), regulatory and permitting requirements and GIS data for critical areas. Sensitive environmental lands should be protected, but often they are not the best sites for development of recreational amenities for public parks. Protected and conserved lands can provide complementary value to public parks, while the public park land can create a buffer for the conserved land.
- Topography. Existing landforms, whether flat or hilly, will influence the park's design and best fit for provision of recreational facilities.
- Technical analysis of park standards and development costs should be evaluated to help provide realistic site development costs. For example, existing road improvements within the public right-of-way or lack of public water and sewer may trigger additional park development costs.

Within identified neighborhoods that may lack or have limited access to public parks, potential properties should be evaluated for suitable site conditions for the development of future recreational amenities and/or access to natural resources and water.

#### **Neighborhood/Community Park Site Suitability Criteria:**

- Access / visibility
- Parcel size / configuration
- Contiguous public land / connectivity
- Extent of sensitive areas
- Cost factors (acquisition, development & maintenance.)
- Compatibility with surrounding uses
- Vacant land preference

#### **Trail Site Suitability Criteria:**

- Development feasibility
- Continuity / connectivity (“safe routes”)
- Natural, cultural, historic value
- Public ROW access
- Land costs / value

#### **Urban Natural Areas Site Suitability Criteria:**

- Ecological, cultural, historic value
- Continuity / connectivity
- Public right of way access
- Development pressure (threat of conversion)
- Acquisition costs, donations, grants, third-party support (i.e., land trusts), etc.

## Site-Specific Concerns

Once a targeted park land acquisition has been identified and evaluated with consideration to its potential suitability as a future public park, more specific assessments should be conducted to ensure a measure of known development variables for future park use.

A boundary survey and review of the title is important to identify an existing encroachments, encumbrances or entitlements that need to be addressed or corrected prior to closing.

Environmental constraints, such as wetlands, waterways, other sensitive habitats and any associated buffers, should be identified to determine their impact on developable park spaces.

An environmental site assessment should be conducted to identify environmental conditions that could have resulted from a past release of hazardous substances and determine any potential mitigation requirements to protect public health. Additionally, environmental law typically leaves the burden of responsibility on the property owner, so conducting an environmental site assessment is important to protect the City's liability.

An archeological assessment to review potential cultural resources may also help bring to light future park development costs and variables.

Any underground tanks, wells, septic systems and existing structures should be evaluated for the need to remove, decommission, or demolish after closing of land sale.

## Design Standards for Environmental Site Assessment

Considering a current use of a property is typically not sufficient for evaluating potential environmental concerns. For example, a vacant lot may previously have been used for agricultural purposes and may contain pesticide residues in the soil, or a current retail building formerly may have housed an auto repair business with underground tanks. Additionally, properties that are considered low-risk, such as a residence, could have a leaking underground heating oil tank or other concerns. Therefore, conducting an environmental site assessment is an important step in purchasing and managing property.

Prior to purchasing or accepting ownership of a property, the City should conduct an environmental site assessment to determine if contaminated soil, sediment or groundwater could be present. This process typically begins with a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) per ASTM E1527-13 to identify environmental conditions or other business risk issues that could impact site development, pose a liability to the City, or present a risk to human health or the environment. Depending on the results of the Phase I ESA, a subsequent Phase II ESA may be warranted to sample and test soil, sediment or groundwater for the presence of contamination.

For property currently owned by the City, conducting an ESA prior to redevelopment can help to identify issues that could affect building design or result in construction delays.

For property that will be leased by the City, conducting a baseline environmental assessment may be warranted to establish initial conditions prior to the City occupying the site.

## PRESERVING FUNDING ELIGIBILITY

Public outdoor park and recreation areas and facilities are eligible for funding assistance through the Oregon Local Government Grant Program (LGGP). Land acquisition projects must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives contained in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) or the recreation elements of local comprehensive plans and local master plans. Acquisition of land and waters for public outdoor recreation areas and facilities, including new areas or additions to existing parks, forests, wildlife areas, open spaces and other similar areas dedicated to outdoor recreation are eligible for assistance through the LGGP. To be eligible in the LGGP, the acquisition procedures set forth by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) should be closely followed. The grant funding program requires a percent match based on the population size of the eligible jurisdiction.

## DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

With planned park upgrades and the potential for development of park acquisitions, Happy Valley would benefit from park design and facility standards that help unify the system's amenities, operations and maintenance going into the future. Standards can begin with the adoption of typical bench details and expand to incorporate graphic sign styles, materials, colors and specific site furnishings. With the desire for Happy Valley to create a unifying identity and enhance park maintenance efficiencies, guidelines for park standards should be planned, endorsed and implemented.

If the City should annex its urban reserve area, the acquisition and development of additional parks will be necessary. There may be opportunities to partner with residential development projects for providing new parks to be dedicated to the City upon completion. The establishment of park design and development standards with predetermined requirements for consistency and quality of site amenities would ensure that new parks could readily fit within on-going park operations and maintenance.

All newly developed parks and trails shall adhere to the Final Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas as set forth by the United States Access Board.

### Design Standards for Urban Parks

Public park space should be clearly identifiable and provide a safe and secure environment for outdoor recreation and enjoyment. To help communicate the identity, amenities and uses within the park, some unified design standards should be applied. These standards are intended to help with public access, communication of safety and appropriate behaviors, and efficiency in operations and maintenance without creating a park system of identical "cloned" urban parks. Standardizing the designs for park signage, benches, picnic tables, drinking fountains, lighting, bollards, irrigation systems and fencing can allow for easier and less expensive procurement, installation, maintenance and replacement. The visual character of unified park amenities can quickly convey to the park visitor that the space is part of an overall system of public spaces where they are welcome.

While sharing standard site furnishings and signage styles helps unify the system identity, each individual park should have its own unique character. The shape and size of the land, the

layout of circulation and location of key features, the styles, types and colors of play equipment, the architecture of restrooms, picnic and other park structures should be specific to that park. Even though each park contains some standardized site furnishings, each park site master plan design should strive to create a sense of place that highlights the character of that park in its local context and for its primary purpose (such as passive park with natural area or active sports-oriented facility).

The following tables highlight the range and considerations of various amenities that may be provided within urban parks (community, neighborhood and mini parks) and can provide guidance for negotiating facility development opportunities in situations when private entities propose park development in-lieu of payment or for other, alternative arrangements, such as density bonuses.

Figure E1. Minimum Site Design Considerations for Pocket Parks

Amenity	Considerations - where feasible
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 2,000 sq.ft. play area</li> <li>▪ Play equipment should be age-specific targeting pre-school and elementary school children</li> <li>▪ Playground should be ADA-compliant</li> </ul>
Paved Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ADA compliant surfacing for barrier-free access</li> </ul>
Picnic Tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use standard ADA compliant picnic table style</li> </ul>
Drinking Fountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide ADA-compliant standard fixture</li> </ul>
Benches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use standard ADA compliant bench style</li> </ul>
Grass Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open play space with sun exposure; 800-1,000 sq.ft. minimum size; irrigated</li> </ul>
Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide shade for portion of playground area</li> <li>▪ Provide tree canopy for &gt;40% of park space</li> </ul>
Bicycle Racks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Accommodate 2-bike minimum</li> </ul>
Trash Receptacles & Dog Waste Disposal Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum of 1 located at entry</li> </ul>

Figure E2. Minimum Site Design Considerations for Neighborhood Parks

Amenity	Considerations - where feasible
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum of 4,000 sq.ft. play area</li> <li>▪ Equipment should be suitable for and developmentally-appropriate for toddlers and elementary school-aged children</li> <li>▪ Playground should be ADA Accessible and play equipment should be ADA Compliant</li> </ul>
Loop Walking Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 8' wide</li> <li>▪ ADA-compliant surface to accessible elements (benches, tables, play area)</li> <li>▪ Pathway slope not to exceed 5% grade or no more than 8% for more than 30 lineal feet without switchbacks or railings</li> </ul>
Picnic Tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum of 2, Use standard ADA compliant picnic table style</li> </ul>
Drinking Fountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide ADA-compliant standard fixture</li> </ul>
Benches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum of 2, Use standard ADA compliant bench style</li> </ul>
Open Turf Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide at least 15% of total lawn area with irrigation, preferably adjacent to the play area</li> </ul>
Trees & Landscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide shade for portion of playground area</li> <li>▪ New trees and shrubs should be irrigated for a minimum of 2 years until established</li> </ul>
Bicycle Racks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum of 2, with capacity to serve 4 bikes</li> </ul>
Trash Receptacles & Dog Waste Disposal Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum of 1</li> </ul>

For community parks, any or all of the following outdoor recreation features should be considered in addition to the same amenities provided in neighborhood parks.

Figure E3. Minimum Site Design Considerations for Community Parks

Amenity	Considerations - where feasible
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Based on types of amenities and their parking quantity requirements</li> <li>▪ Include requisite number of handicapped parking stalls at appropriate locations</li> <li>▪ Consider need for parking provision at multiple access points, where appropriate</li> </ul>
Loop Walking Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide a perimeter trail in addition to pathways accessing all major park amenities</li> </ul>
Multiple Access Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide connectivity to neighborhoods and public rights-of-way</li> </ul>
Restrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide ADA-compliant standardized design facilities</li> </ul>
Picnic Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide minimum of 1 group picnic shelter</li> </ul>
Sports fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Type and quantity dependent on available space and current public demand for each sport facility</li> </ul>
Sports courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Type and quantity dependent on available space and current public demand for each sport facility</li> </ul>
Tree Canopy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Target a 25-45% tree canopy dependent on other park amenities and feasibility</li> </ul>
Open Grass Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open play area with sun exposure</li> <li>▪ Minimum target of 1 acre</li> </ul>
Natural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Based on existing and restored environmental characteristics</li> </ul>
Off-leash Dog Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum target of 1 acre</li> <li>▪ Fenced enclosure with double-gate access</li> <li>▪ Provide doggy waste dispenser and trash receptacle at entrance</li> </ul>

Figure E4. Design Considerations for Other Park Amenities

Amenity	Considerations
Picnic Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum of 400 sq.ft.</li> </ul>
Sport field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Practice level for youth soccer, T-ball, baseball and/or softball</li> </ul>
Sport court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ½ court basketball court</li> </ul>
Tennis court	
Alternative recreation court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Such as bocce ball, pickleball, horseshoes, lawn bowling</li> </ul>
Skate spot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 600 to 1,200 sq.ft. with small ramps, bowls or features for beginners</li> </ul>
Disc golf course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 9 baskets</li> </ul>
Sprayground	
Natural area	
Water feature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Such as a passive water-based amenity that provides a visual focal point, i.e. fountains, ponds, or waterfalls</li> </ul>
Restroom	
Drinking fountain	
Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Automatic Irrigation, Electricity, Water</li> </ul>
Parking	

## Design Standards for Open Space and Natural Areas

Open space and natural areas are primarily intended to conserve places with ecological sensitivity or natural landscape value. Most natural areas have some space where low-impact recreational uses and trails can be accommodated without reducing the environmental integrity of the land or water resource. Since the open space can range from wetlands and riparian corridors to fields and forests, design standards are not applied uniformly across the site. Each natural landscape is treated according to its level of sensitivity, need for conservation/restoration and tolerance for outdoor recreational use. However, where passive recreation opportunities such as trails can be provided, the standardized designs for park benches, picnic tables, signs and other site amenities should be applied.

## Design Standards for Special Use Facilities

Consideration should be given in the design and renovation of any special use facility as to how and how much the site and its amenities should be identifiable within the park system through the application of standardized park signage and site furnishings. For example, a future sport field complex could accommodate some of the standardized park benches, picnic tables and signage, but it would also require its own specialized features, such as bleachers, backstops, field lighting, score boards and other equipment, that are unique to the facility. Each master plan design for new facilities should give careful consideration as to how a unique sense of place and identity is conveyed while still communicating that the facility is part of a system of outdoor recreation accommodation provided by the City of Happy Valley.

## Design Standards for Trails

A successful trail system is integrated with other transportation alternatives to include a range of trail, sidewalk, bike path and connection opportunities designed to the human scale. The typical recreational trail hierarchy is aligned from regional shared-use trails to local neighborhood paths and park trails. Trail systems can also incorporate specially designated trails for single track mountain biking, primitive hiking and equestrian uses.

Designing the actual physical trail starts with overall purpose of the trail, connecting travelers from one location to another (point A to point B) or through a particular environment (loop trail through a park). With a clear purpose for the trail, an appropriate alignment can then be determined to help provide the desired outdoor recreation experience or transportation value. For example, regional multi-use shared trails should be designed to a minimum width of 10 feet. In expanding urban centers, providing a 16-foot trail width can help accommodate significant bike and pedestrian use as the community grows and linkages to public transit enable increased trail usage. The most heavily used urban trails benefit from the installation of permanent pavement to withstand heavy traffic in a variety of weather conditions.

It should be noted that changes in transportation engineering and trail construction methods may warrant the need to update trail design standards over time, which are currently part of Happy Valley's Engineering Design Manual. Trail widths and surfacing types will vary across the trail hierarchy. Site furnishings along the trail are one method for standardizing trails as part of the outdoor recreation system provided by Happy Valley. The same benches, picnic tables, bollards and other site furnishings used throughout Happy Valley's park system could be installed along its trails to help unify the sense of place, reduce procurement costs and simplify maintenance.

The unifying standard for Happy Valley's trail system can be visually expressed through a designed wayfinding plan. Linked with the graphic character for Dry Canyon and park system wayfinding, the trail signage should provide identification, direction, destination, travel information and safety messaging, while clearly reinforcing Happy Valley's sense of place.

Trails should be constructed according to City specifications. It is recommended that trail layout and surfacing materials be approved by the City and meet the following general requirements:

- Trail width should be a minimum of 8 feet wide
- Surfacing should be appropriate to the location; paved asphalt or concrete is recommended for upland areas, and wood chip, crusher waste or boardwalks are appropriate in lowland, wet or sensitive areas (City codes shall apply)
- Hard-surfaced trails should comply with ADAAG guidelines for slope and cross-slope; soft-

surfaced trails should include properly placed and designed water bars or other surface water management techniques to minimize run-off and erosion.

- Entry signage should be provided at trailheads or access points, and boundary signage should be placed, as appropriate, to demarcate sensitive edges or private property boundaries.
- Trash receptacles should be provided at trailheads

## CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED)

The inventory assessment highlighted an opportunity to consider incorporating crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principles to enhance park and trail safety and facilitate the monitoring of park uses and behaviors. CPTED applies four principles that are used to deter criminal behavior in outdoor environments:

- Natural surveillance
- Natural access control
- Territorial reinforcement
- Maintenance

CPTED natural surveillance (“see and be seen”) asserts that sight lines for better visibility can deter undesirable behavior and increase the perceptions of safety and comfort by park patrons. Lowering understory vegetation or raising lower tree branches through intentional vegetation management can provide more clear lines of sight in and around trails and other areas of use. Providing clear visibility and reducing blind corners can also improve safety by limiting conflicts between different users (e.g. runners, cyclists, dog walkers), where unanticipated encounters may result in crashes or entanglements.

Natural access control in park design is often very subtle. Controlling where vehicles enter and exit park facilities through designed barriers, bollards, boulders, and post and cable fencing can protect park users and minimize park property damage from misguided vehicular traffic. Walkways, lighting, fencing and landscaping provide explicit direction for park users. The flow of users through a park will help decrease the opportunity for crime and improve clarity for the intended park behaviors.

Territorial reinforcement comes through clear demarcation of boundaries. For public parks, those boundaries between public and private lands, safe and unsafe areas, and special use, limited access or reserved sites can be delineated with the appropriate placement of fencing, signs, landscaping or other physical or visual design techniques.

Finally, clearly visible, high-quality maintenance is an important element of CPTED, as well as general public safety. CPTED recognizes the “broken window” theory where neglected and poorly maintained amenities are more attractive targets for vandalism or other criminal activity. Deferred maintenance can also result in park amenities that put users at risk. Broken pavement, worn decking, uneven playing fields and missing play safety surfacing can create injuries. Overall attention to CPTED principles can help ensure safer public park environments.

# MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS STANDARDS

## General Standards

### Grounds

- Grounds are mowed and trimmed.
- Park is free of litter, debris and hazards.

### Walkways & Paths

- Walkways have a uniform surface and are level with the ground and free of trip hazards.
- Walkways are free of litter and debris.
- Walkways have unobstructed accessibility, i.e. free from low and protruding limbs, guide wires, etc.
- Walkways are neatly edged.
- Walkways are clear of weeds and grass growth in cracks and expansion joints.

### Signage

- Park identification signs are secure and properly installed in a noticeable location.
- Handicap parking signs (as applicable) are secure, visible and to city and state standards.
- Signs are clean, painted and free of protrusions.

### Ornamental Plants & Landscaping

- Plants are healthy.
- Plant beds are free of litter, debris, and weeds.
- Plant selection is appropriate for season and area usage.

### Playgrounds

#### Play Equipment

- Play equipment and surrounding play areas meet ASTM and National Playground Safety Institute standards.
- Play equipment and hardware is intact, and safety inspections are conducted regularly.
- Play equipment is free of graffiti.
- Age appropriateness for the play equipment is noted with proper signage.
- Shade structure is secure and free from tears, if applicable.

**Surfacing**

- Fall surface is clean, level and free of litter and debris.
- Fall surface meets ASTM and National Playground Safety Institute standards.
- Fall surface is well drained.
- Rubber cushion surfaces are free of holes and tears.
- Rubber cushion surfaces are secure to the base material and curbing.
- Borders
- Playground borders are well defined and intact.
- Playground borders meet ASTM and National Playground Safety Institute standards.

**Decks**

- Planks are intact, smooth, structurally sound, free of splinters and have no cracks greater than ¼ inch.
- Nails, bolts or screws are flush with the surface.
- Planks are level with no excessive warping.

**Fixtures****Benches**

- Slats are smooth and structurally sound.
- Hardware is intact and structurally sound.
- Nails, bolts or screws are flush with the surface.
- Seats and backing are smooth with no protrusions and have no exposed sharp edges or pointed corners.

**Tables**

- Tables are clean, free of rust, mildew and graffiti.
- Table hardware is intact.
- Table frames are intact and slats are properly secured.
- Table seats and tops are smooth with no protrusions and have no exposed sharp edges or pointed corners.

**Trash Receptacles**

- Receptacles are clean; Area around trash receptacles is clean and free of trash and debris.
- Wood receptacles are painted and free of damage or missing parts; hardware for wood receptacles is intact.
- Concrete receptacles are intact and free of cracks or damage.

## Sport Courts

### Surfacing

- Surface is smooth, level and well drained with no standing water.
- Surface is free of large cracks, holes and trip hazards.
- Surface is painted and striped as per court specifications.
- Worn painted surfaces do not exceed 20% of total court surface.
- Surface is free of litter, debris, gravel and graffiti.

### Goals and Backboards

- Goals and backboards are level with hardware intact and painted as appropriate.
- Nylon nets are properly hung and are not torn or tattered.
- Support poles are secure in the ground and straight.

### Restrooms

- Restrooms are clean, sanitary and properly stocked with paper products.
- Lights and ventilation systems are operational.
- Toilets, water faucets, stall doors and hand air dryers are operational.
- Restrooms are free of graffiti.
- Restroom doors are properly marked according to gender.
- Restrooms have clean trash receptacles.
- Restroom doors and locks are operational.
- Restrooms are in compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Consultant's Guide to Park Design and Development; Park and Recreation Department, City of San Diego, CA

<http://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/pdf/consultantguide.pdf>

Design Standards for Park and Trail Development (Specifications); Park and Recreation Department, City of Bellingham, WA

<http://www.cob.org/government/rules/guidelines/park-design-standards.aspx>

Accessible Recreation Facilities Guidelines - Access Board

<https://www.access-board.gov/attachments/article/1637/outdoor-guide.pdf>

Handbook for Public Playground Safety - National Product Safety Commission

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/325.pdf>



# APPENDIX E: RECREATION TRENDS

## RECREATION TRENDS

The following summaries from recognized park and recreation resources provide background on national, state and local trends that may reflect potential recreational activities and facilities for future consideration in Happy Valley's park system. Examining current recreation trends can help inform potential park and recreation improvements and opportunities that may enhance the community and create a more vibrant parks system as it moves into the future.

### National Trends

#### National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) PRORAGIS

In 2013, the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) issued its first report using PRORAGIS, a geographic information system, to establish industry trends. The 2013 report gathered data from 383 park and recreation agencies across the country and compared changes over the last three years. According to the report, park and recreation agencies typically provide management of park and open space lands and operate recreational facilities and programs. Within these areas of responsibility, some growth occurred from 2010 to 2012 among the agencies participating in the survey, including conducting major special events, maintaining public jurisdiction areas and administering community gardens.

The NRPA report indicated that public park and recreation service providers continue to suffer from reduced funding levels. Agencies receiving higher funding levels generally experienced greater reductions, while smaller agencies (in smaller communities) were more stable over the last three years. Recreation programming experienced a significant drop in attendance from 2010 to 2011. While a slight rebound had begun in 2012, the NRPA 2013 report indicates that program offerings have declined in every major category since 2010.

#### 2016 State of the Industry Report

Recreation Management magazine's 2017 State of the Industry Report summarizes the opinions and information Recreation Management magazine's 2018 State of the Managed Recreation Industry report summarizes the opinions and information provided by a wide range of professionals (with an average 21.3 years of experience) working in the recreation, sports and fitness facilities. The 2018 report indicated that many (86.6%) recreation, sports and fitness facility owners form partnerships with other organizations, as a means of expanding their reach, offering additional programming opportunities or as a way to share resources and increase funding. Local schools are shown as the most common partner (61.3%) for all facility types. Parks and recreation organizations (95.8%) were the most likely to report that they had partnered with outside organizations.

Parks respondents were more likely than other facility types to include: playgrounds (86.7% of parks respondents had playgrounds); park shelters (80%); park restroom structures (75.6%); outdoor sports courts (74.4%); community and multipurpose centers (58.4%); bike trails (46.4%); skate parks (41.1%); dog parks (38.8%); community gardens (33.7%); disc golf courses (32.9%); fitness trails and outdoor fitness equipment (32.6%); splash play areas (30.7%); golf courses (19.9%); ice rinks (17.6%); waterparks (16.8%); and bike/BMX parks (11.4%).

Park respondents (56.2%) reported plans to add features at their facilities. The top 10 planned features for all facility types include:

1. Splash play areas (23.6%)
2. Synthetic turf sports fields (17%)
3. Fitness trails and/or outdoor fitness equipment (16.4%)
4. Fitness centers (16.3%)
5. Walking/hiking trails (15.5%)
6. Playgrounds (15.2%)
7. Park shelters (13.6%)
8. Dog parks (13.5%)
9. Exercise studios (12.9%)
10. Disc golf courses (12.9%)

Respondents from community centers, parks and health clubs were the most likely to report that they had plans to add programs at their facilities over the next few years. The 10 most commonly planned program additions in 2018 include:

1. Fitness programs (planned by 25.9% of those who will be adding programs)
2. Educational programs (25.7%)
3. Mind-body balance programs (23.3%)
4. Teen programs (22.7%)
5. Environmental education (20.7%)
6. Day camps and summer camps (20.3%)
7. Special needs programs (18.9%)
8. Adult sports teams (18.5%)
9. Holidays and other special events (18.3%)
10. Individual sports activities (17.5%)

## 2018 Outdoor Participation Report

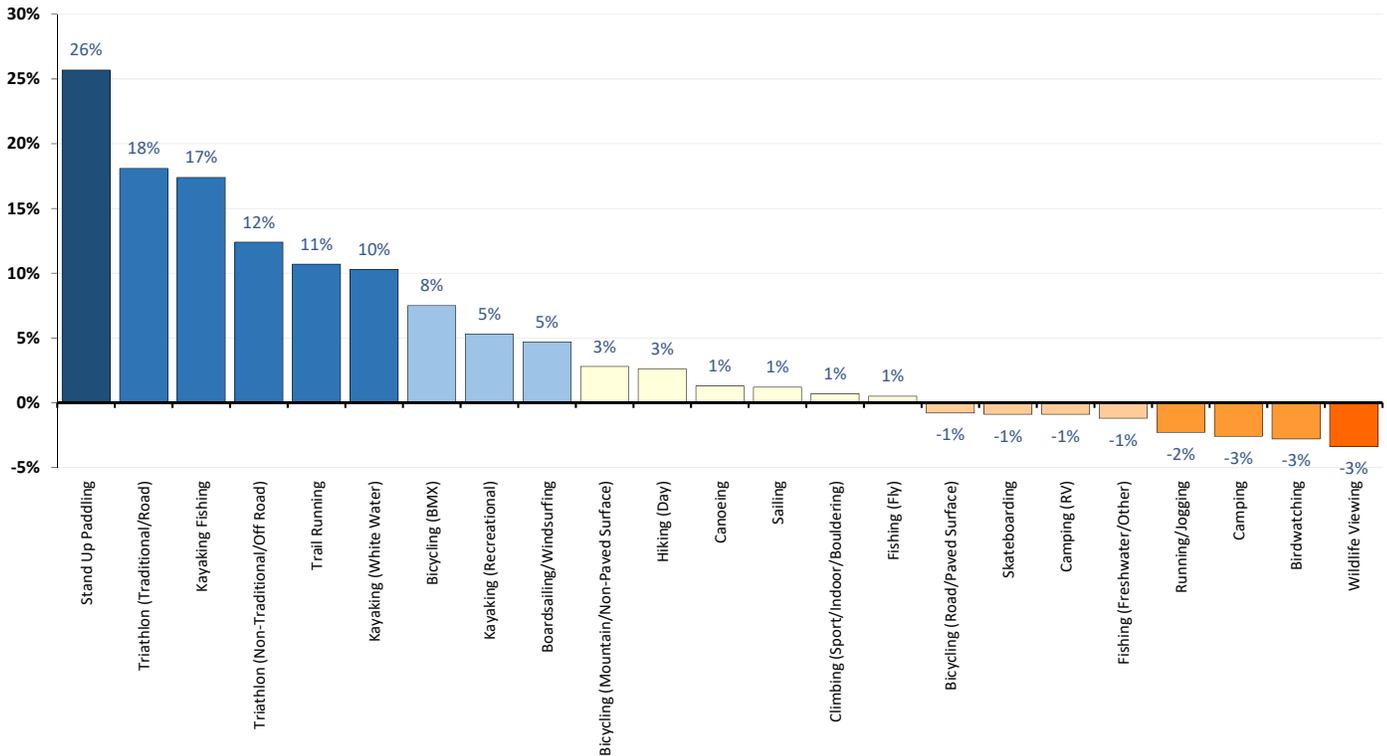
According to 2018 Outdoor Participation Report, published by the Outdoor Foundation in Boulder, Colorado, more than 146.1 million Americans (49%) participated in an outdoor activity at least once in 2017. These outdoor participants went on a total of 10.9 billion outdoor outings, a decrease from 11.0 billion in 2016. Participation in outdoor recreation, team sports and indoor fitness activities vary by an individual’s age. Recent trend highlights include the following:

- Twenty percent (20%) of outdoor enthusiasts participated in outdoor activities at least twice per week.
- Running, including jogging and trail running, was the most popular activity among Americans when measured by number of participants and by number of total annual outings.
- Nineteen percent (19%) outdoor participants lived in the South Atlantic region of the US, making its population the most active in outdoor activities.
- Walking for fitness was the most popular crossover activity where 45.8% of all outdoor participants also walked.
- Data shows that adults who were introduced to the outdoors as children were more likely to participate in outdoor activities during adulthood than those who were not exposed to the outdoors as children.
- The biggest motivator for outdoor participation was getting exercise.

Figure E1. Fastest Growing Activities Nationwide

Fastest Growing Activities Nationwide	
Activity	3-Year Growth
Adventure Racing	38%
Non-traditional/Off-Road Triathlon	34%
Stand Up Paddling	31%
Kayak Fishing	20%
Traditional/Road Triathlon	19%
BMX Bicycling	16%
Traditional Climbing	16%
White Water Kayaking	15%
Boardsailing/Windsurfing	13%
Sea/Touring Kayaking	13%

Figure E2. 3-Year Change in Outdoor Recreation Participation of Youth (6-24)



Favorite activities and participation rates range with demographics. In 2017, the average participant had 15 years of experience enjoying outdoor recreation. The data shows, as would be expected, that the amount of experience increased as the participant aged. Those ages 45 and up averaged 25 years as outdoor participants..

### 2018 Sports, Fitness, and Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report

Prepared by a partnership of the Sports and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) and the Physical Activity Council (PAC), this 2018 participation report establishes levels of activity and identifies key trends in sports, fitness, and recreation in the US. The largest focus of activities continues to be toward fitness sports. Winter sports gained the most of all categories, increasing 2% over the last year. The interest in activities has started moving toward outdoor recreation. The top aspirational activity for all age segments was outside, ranging from camping to biking to birdwatching.

Fitness sports/activities continues to have the highest participation rates; having 64% of the US population ages 6 and over engaging in activities like running/jogging, high intensity/impact training, row machines, and swimming. Outdoor activities remained second but was flat from 2016; seeing a increase in day hiking and backpacking, but lost participants in canoeing and adventure racing.

While age clearly affects how often someone participates, what they do can also be age dependent. Young kids, ages 6 to 17, who tend to be more active overall, focus on team sports and outdoor activities. While Boomers prefer fitness activities, especially low impact such as aquatic exercise, cycling, and walking. Millennials are more likely than the other generations to participate in water sports, such as stand up paddling, boardsailing, and surfing.

Inactivity rates remain higher than 10 years ago despite the promotion of the benefits of an active lifestyle. Over a quarter of the US population (ages 6 and over) did not participate in even the lowest caloric activity in 2017. Trends continue to show how income affects inactivity. Generally, the affluent are getting more active while the less affluent are becoming more inactive.

Despite aspirations to become more active, the biggest influence on engaging more participants is having a friend or family member to take part in the physical activity. First time participation depends on who you are doing it with more than if you have the time.

## National Survey on Recreation and the Environment

The National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) is a comprehensive survey that has been collecting data and producing reports about the recreation activities, environmental attitudes and natural resource values of Americans since the 1980s. The NSRE core focus is on outdoor activity participation and personal demographics. The most recent 2012 NSRE reports the total number of people participating in outdoor activities between 2000 and 2007 grew by 4.4% while the number of days of participation increased by approximately 25 percent. Walking for pleasure grew by 14% and continues to lead as the top favorite outdoor activity.

Nature-based activities, those associated with wildlife and natural settings, showed a discernible growth in the number of people (an increase in 3.1% participation rate) and the number of days of participation. American's participation in nature-based outdoor recreation is increasing with viewing, photographing, or otherwise observing nature clearly measured as the fastest growing type of nature-based recreation activity.

## Americans Engagement with Parks Survey (from NRPA)

The vast offerings of the local park and recreation agency improve the lives of people throughout our nation. From the fact that Americans on average visit their local park and recreation facilities approximately 29 times a year to the majority of Americans identifying parks and recreation as an important service provided by their local government, the general public is an untapped advocate to spread the public park and recreation story.

This annual study probes Americans' usage of parks, the key reasons that drive their use and the greatest challenges preventing greater usage. Each year, the study probes the importance of public parks in Americans' lives, including how parks compare to other services and offerings of local governments. The survey of 1,000 American adults looks at frequency and drivers of parks/recreation facilities visits and the barriers to that prevent greater enjoyment. Survey respondents also indicate the importance of park and recreation plays in their decisions at the voting booth and their level of support for greater funding.

### Key Findings:

- Americans on average visit their local park and recreation facilities approximately 29 times a year, with 3 in 5 saying their most recent visit was within the past month.
- Three in four Americans agree that the NRPA Three Pillars of Conservation, Health and Wellness, and Social Equity represent what they see as the priorities for their local park and recreation agency.

- Nine in 10 Americans agree that parks and recreation are important services delivered by their local government.
- Seven in 10 Americans say they are more likely to vote for local politicians who make park and recreation funding a priority.
- Three-quarters of Americans support increased local government spending for park and recreation agencies with solid support for a nearly 30 percent increase in funding for local park and recreation agencies.

## Parks and Good Health

The National Park Service (NPS) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) collaborated to create the “Parks, Trails and Health Workbook”, a tool for planners, parks & recreation professionals and health practitioners. The workbook provides explicit recognition of public health connections in relation to the provision and access to parks and trails and their health benefits.

The Green Cities Research Alliance has accumulated 40 years of research that proves nature in cities and towns (parks, trees and natural areas) provides many “well-being” benefits. The research offers evidence that the experience of nature is profoundly important to human functioning, health, and well-being. Some studies consider how the presence of parks and nature enable walking and how physical health is promoted by having adequate physical spaces within a community where activity can occur. Additionally, the network of sidewalk or trail systems throughout the community provide access to choices for physical activity and outdoor recreation. (Further on-line information at [http://depts.washington.edu/hhwb/Thm\\_ActiveLiving.html](http://depts.washington.edu/hhwb/Thm_ActiveLiving.html) ). Evidence from the research suggests that parks and open space encourage physical activity, particularly if there is easy access to them. One study in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine (Issue 28:169-176) found that people who use public open spaces are three times more likely to achieve recommended levels of physical activity than those who do not use the spaces. Users and potential users prefer nearby, attractive, and larger parks and open spaces. The research says that green spaces are an important public health investment.

## Trends in Recreation Programming

The following trends are compiled from NPRA sources and parks and recreation practitioners regarding shifts in programming practices:

- Less “blanket” subsidies for programs – more “enterprise” activities are being developed – allowing focused subsidy to be used more intentionally.
- Recreation programmers and administrators are being involved more in planning processes.
- Tracking and reporting through information technology.
- More agencies are target marketing a bundling of services to their customers.
- Pricing is often done by peak, off-peak and off-season rates.
- More park and recreation agencies are partnering with private, public and non-profit groups.
- Services are being structured away from specific geographic units into agency-wide approaches for athletics, youth/teen sports, seniors, facilities, parks, planning, etc.
- Recreation agencies are forming strategic alliances with health, social services, and educational agencies to offer more comprehensive health and wellness programs.

- Out-of-school activities for youth are expanding in order to better serve working families, and in response to rising levels of youth crime during after school hours.
- To ensure more equity and inclusion, more activities are being adapted for participants with disabilities so programs can be “universally” accessible.
- Programming for the pre-school age child centers more around opportunities to expose a child to a variety of activities to learn what the child may be interested in.
- Programming for toddlers starting at age 9 months with an accompanying parent/adult, are increasingly popular.

## Inclusion and Universal Access

Across the country, local municipalities and park and recreation providers with older public infrastructure have been upgrading their facilities to comply with the guidelines for universal access and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The removal of existing architectural barriers in park facilities has been ongoing and will likely continue until renovations, upgrades and newer construction provide barrier-free access to all users. Access and inclusion in public parks extends beyond the physical amenities and incorporates considerations of language, technology, wayfinding, program equity and equitable geographic distribution of facilities.

## Healthy Communities

Park and recreation facilities and programming have long been major contributors to promoting and maintaining community health. A resurgence of public health issues centering on the need for more active lifestyles has created immediate needs and provided additional opportunities for investing in park, trail and recreation infrastructure in local communities. In Planning magazine’s November 2015 issue, C.J Eisenbarth Hager explains the IRS requirement of nonprofit hospitals to provide a “community benefit” in exchange for tax-exempt status. Nonprofit hospitals are expected to broadly support the health of communities. The direct relationship with safer walking environments (connected trail systems) and public recreation amenities to public health benefit can be the focus of nonprofit hospital investments in local infrastructure.

## Health and Quality of Life

From the winter 2015 issue of the National Association of Realtors magazine, the direct link between how communities are built and grow is tied to health and quality of life. More walkable and bike-able environments with better access to nature and parks has become essential for well-being and needs to be integrated into community planning. The NAR articles identify walkable communities as a prescription for better health.

Even the U.S. Surgeon General sounded a call to action challenging communities become more walkable to allow more Americans to increase their physical activity through walking. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and its Healthy Community Design Initiative focuses on walkability and the need to better integrate into transportation planning.

The NAR magazine issue also reports on the value of bicycle friendly communities and the direct tie to healthy and sustainable living. Access to healthy locally grown food choices is reported with the value of community gardens and urban food hubs for healthy diets as well as connection to community engagement.

Realtors have long been aware that housing near a good system of parks and trails will hold strong appeal to buyers. The winter NAR issue illustrates the recognition that community design for healthy living goes beyond the single house location. People want choices and these healthy community design traits of walking, biking, trails and parks all play an important role in housing prices, sales and resales.

## State Trends

### Oregon State Outdoor Recreation Trends

The 2019-2023 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), entitled Outdoor Recreation in Oregon: Responding to Demographic and Societal Change, constitutes Oregon's basic five-year plan for outdoor recreation. The plan addresses five important demographic and societal changes facing outdoor recreation providers in the coming years including:

1. An aging population;
2. An increasingly diverse population;
3. Lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation;
4. An underserved low-income population; and
5. The health benefits of physical activity.

As part of developing the SCORP, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) conducted a statewide survey of Oregon residents regarding their 2017 outdoor recreation participation in Oregon, as well as their opinions about park and recreation management. This data can help local park and recreation providers better understand public opinions and the preferences of outdoor recreation participants.

Fifty six (56) recreation activities were identified as important recreation activity types. These activities were grouped into eight (8) categories including Non-motorized Trail or Related Activities, Motorized Activities, Non-motorized Snow Activities, Outdoor Leisure and Sporting Activities, Nature Study Activities, Vehicle-based Camping Activities, Hunting and Fishing Activities, and Non-motorized Water-based and Beach Activities. The top three activities with the largest annual user occasions include Walking on local streets / sidewalks (313 million); Walking on local trails / paths (113 million); and Dog walking / going to dog parks / off-leash areas (78 million).

Figure E3. User Occasions for Oregon Residents in Outdoor Activities

Activity	Total (millions)
Walking on local streets / sidewalks	313
Walking on local trails / paths	113
Relaxing, hanging out, escaping heat / noise, etc.	93
Dog walking / going to dog parks / off-leash areas	78
Taking your children or grandchildren to a playground	57
Sightseeing / driving or motorcycling for pleasure	55
Bicycling on roads, streets / sidewalks	51
Walking / day hiking on non-local trails / paths	44
Jogging / running on streets / sidewalks	37
Bicycling on paved trails	26

Figure E4. Participation Rates for Oregon Residents in Outdoor Activities

Activity	Percent
Walking on local streets / sidewalks	83%
Walking on local trails / paths	74%
Sightseeing / driving or motorcycling for pleasure	59%
Relaxing, hanging out, escaping heat / noise, etc.	59%
Beach activities – ocean	57%
Walking / day hiking on non-local trails / paths	55%
Attending outdoor concerts, fairs, festivals	50%
Visiting historic sites / history-themed parks	49%
Picnicking	49%
Beach activities - lakes, reservoirs, rivers	40%

Figure E5. Frequency per Household for Oregon Residents in Outdoor Activities

Activity	Times / Year
Walking on local streets / sidewalks	204
Walking on local trails / paths	75
Relaxing, hanging out, escaping heat / noise, etc.	60
Dog walking / going to dog parks / off-leash areas	51
Taking your children or grandchildren to a playground	37
Sightseeing / driving or motorcycling for pleasure	36
Bycycling on roads, streets / sidewalks	34
Walking / day hiking on non-local trails / paths	29
Jogging / running on streets / sidewalks	24
Bicycling on paved trails	17

The survey also asked about priorities for local community needs revealing the top six (6) local (close to home) needs as

- Cleaner restrooms.
- Soft surface walking trails.
- More restrooms.
- Playgrounds with natural materials (Natural Play Areas).
- Nature and wildlife viewing areas.
- Public access to waterways.

Outdoor recreation participants were asked what their local parks and recreation agency could do to improve/increase participation and value. Across the state, providing more free-of-charge recreation opportunities was the most important action, with ensuring clean and well-maintained parks and facilities, and developing walking / hiking trails closer to home also high in importance.

OPRD also conducted a statewide survey of Oregon public recreation providers to determine outdoor recreation funding priorities for OPRD grant programs and identify top management issues and challenges faced by public recreation providers. The survey showed that across the state within urban growth boundaries, the most important funding need was for community trail systems; restrooms; children’s playgrounds and play areas built with manufactured

structures like swing sets, slides, and climbing apparatuses; picnic areas and shelters for small visitor groups; trails connected to public lands; and picnicking/day use and facilities. In rural areas across the state, the most important funding need was for restrooms, RV/ trailer campgrounds and facilities, day-use hiking trails, connecting trails into large trail systems, interpretive displays, and tent campgrounds and facilities (car camping). Creating new park and recreation facilities was the greatest maintenance/management challenge for urban and urban growth areas. Other pressing issues were maintaining existing local parks in the community, addressing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) issues, and providing safe walking and biking routes to parks and trails. More rural, dispersed setting park providers faced challenges maintaining existing park and recreation facilities. Adequate funding was lacking by most park and recreation providers for renovation, rehabilitation; updating facilities for universal access (ADA compliance); growing homeless population pressures, responding to new recreation trends and technology. In many cases, park and recreation providers were concerned that inadequate funding would increase safety and security issues associated with public use of park and recreation facilities and services.

## Recreation and Economy

Outdoor recreation significantly contributes to Oregon's economy. The Outdoor Industry Association (OIA) produces reports on the outdoor recreation economy for the entire country and for each state. The most recent OIA report reveals that at least 68% of Oregon residents participate in outdoor recreation each year. This figure does not include the participants in hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing which are estimated separately. The report states "Americans want and deserve access to a variety of quality places to play and enjoy the great outdoors. Outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy if we manage and invest in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for America." In Oregon, outdoor recreation generates \$12.8 billion in consumer spending, creates 141,200 direct Oregon jobs, generates \$4.0 billion in wages and salaries, and results in \$955 million in state and local tax revenue. The report demonstrates that outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy through management and investment in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for citizens. The report states that "Oregon offers spectacular outdoor recreation opportunities at treasured destinations, including Crater Lake National Park, the Columbia River Gorge and many others, bringing in dollars from residents and out-of-state visitors alike." Preserving access to outdoor recreation protects the economy, the businesses, the communities and the people who depend on the ability to play outside.

## Regional Recreation Resources

As part of the Portland metropolitan region, Happy Valley residents have access to numerous outdoor recreation venues in close proximity to their immediate community. Immediately adjacent cities, North Clackamas Park and Recreation District and Metro Parks offer a variety of parks and recreation facilities that can be accessed as public spaces. Oregon State Parks and numerous riverfront public lands offer a variety of land and water-based recreational opportunities. Happy Valley residents can travel to a variety of nearby regional recreational resources.

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# APPENDIX F: REVIEW OF PAST PLANS

## REVIEW OF PAST COMMUNITY PLANS

Past community plans and other relevant documents were reviewed for policy direction and goals as they pertain to the provision and planning for parks, trails and recreation opportunities in Happy Valley. The development of each involved public input and adoption by their respective responsible legislative body.

### Happy Valley Parks Master Plan

The City of Happy Valley adopted its previous long range plan for parks, open space, trails and recreation facilities in 2003. The Plan identifies and evaluates the City's existing park and open space areas, assesses the need for additional parkland, open space, trails and specialized facilities; establishes criteria and standards for site selection and management of the various areas; and recommends an approach to funding acquisition, development and maintenance. The 2003 parks master plan recommended the formation of a core park system that provided the basic active and passive recreational opportunities within the City by the acquisition and development of two additional community parks. These two new community parks would spread the distribution of community park facilities across the city to ensure reasonable bicycling or driving distance to most residents. This system of core community parks would be supplemented by linear parks, special use areas and natural open spaces. The plan also recommended providing land for specialized facilities such as an indoor recreation center.

### Rock Creek Comprehensive Plan

Originally adopted in 2001 and amended up through 2016, The Rock Creek Comprehensive Plan guides the transition of the Rock Creek area as it develops into a livable addition to the City of Happy Valley. The Rock Creek planning area encompassed approximately 1,012 acres, the majority of which is within the Happy Valley city limits. In examining the desired balance between natural resource protection and desired green space and trails, the plan suggested that *“The layout for the green space planning are as suggests that the greenspaces in the interior of the planning areas are more suitable for human-focused activity (i.e., family parks, ball fields, pedestrian and bike paths ). The greenspaces around the perimeter of the planning areas are more conducive to wildlife needs. Accordingly, trails and paths in these areas should be sited very carefully.”* The RC comprehensive plan also recognized the recreational needs as complementary with the Happy Valley Parks Master Plan that stated the requirement of a community park at approximately 31 acres and including developed sports fields and sport courts, parking, restrooms, picnic shelters and a variety of play areas.

## East Happy Valley Comprehensive Plan

Adopted in 2009, the East Happy Valley Comprehensive Plan seeks to preserve the character of the Valley, improve the quality of existing and future development areas, and provide a coordinated direction to the conservation and development of the Valley. The citywide comprehensive plan was amended to include the EHV Comprehensive Plan recommendations, zoning and mapping. Adopted comprehensive plan policies include the preservation and conservation of significant forested areas, canopy tree cover and sensitive natural resources. The management of open space, scenic and historic resources is identified as important in the development process and for the provision of recreation and the visual relief of natural settings. Policies encourage the coordination of natural areas and public parks to enhance the value of abutting open space lands. The plan identified the need for East Happy Valley to preserve and protect natural resources as it developed to ensure watershed protection and ecological function while providing trails and open spaces for the community. Policies promoted the coordination of development with parks and school facilities and stated that parks should have usable open space and be within walking distance of homes. The comprehensive plan policies support public park, recreation and open space facilities. Statewide Planning Goal #8 “To satisfy the recreational needs of the citizens of the state and visitors” guided specific policies needed for the City:

- To satisfy the recreational needs of the citizens of the state and visitors, and to provide additional park and outdoor recreational facilities in order to meet recreational needs of the residents. (Policy 57)
- To enhance and encourage the use of the area’s recreational facilities and opportunities. (Policy 58)
- To encourage county development of additional recreation areas. (Policy 59)
- To encourage creation of a green-belt recreation area in conjunction with the natural areas for open space, bikeways and trails. (Policy 60)
- To continue the current park improvement program. (Policy 61)
- To encourage the multiple use of schools and school facilities for public and recreational uses. (Policy 62)

## Happy Valley Transportation System Plan

Adopted in 2016, the Happy Valley Transportation System Plan (TSP) updates its previous transportation plan to address the Sunrise Expressway planning work and updates to figures that include current city limits and property annexations near Highway 212 near SE 135th Avenue. This TSP update provides specific information regarding transportation needs to guide future transportation investment in the City. The plan also helps determine how land use and transportation decisions can combine for the benefit of the City. The TSP includes chapters on a pedestrian plan and a bicycle plan with recommendations to enhance pedestrian and bicycle facilities and focus new improvements in areas of highest concentration of activity. The TSP acknowledged the significant needs for an improved pedestrian system in Happy Valley and ranked needed sidewalk additions for future roadway projects based on priority.

The TSP also identified the deficiencies in the existing bike lane system on arterial and collector streets in Happy Valley. Without adequate connections from neighborhoods to schools, parks, retail centers, or transit stops, continuity and connectivity and the lack of facilities (or gaps) cause significant problems for bicyclists such that this mode of travel is severely limited. The bicycle master plan looks to incremental implementation through development projects and other opportunities. The TSP policies also recognize the need to connect pedestrian and bicycle networks to existing and future off-street recreational trail systems as well as the value of pursuing the expansion of regional and local trail systems with new development. Additional

recommended policies related to trails included prioritizing personal safety for the trail system by adding trail features such as lighting, signage for location and trail direction (wayfinding), emergency call boxes and public monitoring and rules enforcement. Additionally, one TSP trail policy directs; “Provide trail signage throughout the City with a cohesive design to brand the City trail system and indicate to trail users that jurisdictional boundaries are being crossed.”

## **Happy Valley Pedestrian System and Trail Master Plan**

The 2009 Pedestrian System and Trail Master Plan was prepared to provide a comprehensive strategy for developing an effective pedestrian network that expanded upon the City’s 2006 Transportation System Plan. The plan evaluated network deficiencies and made recommendations for future projects to provide the City with a balanced multi-modal transportation network. The plan also established pedestrian policies to guide future development of the pedestrian system. Regional and local paths were identified along with proposed segments for phased implementation. The regional multi-use trails were based on the Metro Regional Transportation Plan. This plan was used as a reference in the development of the 2014 Mount Scott/Scouter Mountain Trail Loop Master Plan and the 2016 Happy Valley Transportation System Plan.

## **Happy Valley Trail Development Handbook**

The Happy Valley Trail Development Handbook was prepared in 2009 to guide the citywide development of trails and pedestrian network as multiple planning and development efforts sought to increase connectivity in the city. The hand book provides design details for a range of trail improvements from typical cross-sections of trail types to slope and drainage treatments and mid-block crossings. The handbook was developed as a supplement to the Pedestrian System and Trail Master Plan to aid implementation and present the trail development options and expectations. The handbook describes general construction methods and basic standards and guidelines for the trail development process. The handbook was developed to be consistent with the current city code and TSP provisions and was referenced during the planning effort for the Mount Scott/Scouter Mountain Trail Loop Plan.

## **Mount Scott/Scouter Mountain Trail Loop Master Plan**

The 2014 Mount Scott/Scouter Mountain Trail Loop (MSSMTL) Master Plan involved multiple jurisdictions including but not limited to Happy Valley, Clackamas County and Metro. The roughly 37.5-mile trail project will offer a route for alternative transportation modes with a looped, north-south oriented multi-use trail system that will link the Springwater Corridor with the Sunrise Corridor, Clackamas River, and encompass Mount Talbert Nature Park, Powell Butte and Buttes Natural Areas, and Scouters Mountain Nature Park. The proposed regional trail will connect numerous schools, community parks, local trails, businesses, retail stores and the Happy Valley Town Center. The MSSMTL master plan proposes recommended trail alignments and typologies for an active transportation and recreation link to destinations and other regional trail corridors. Identified trail segments 2, 3 and 6 are primarily located within Happy Valley. The master plan recommends a unified wayfinding and trail signage design that coordinates with the Intertwine Regional Trail Signage Guidelines (Metro, 2012) as a framework for providing consistent trail information across the Loop.

## Clackamas County Comprehensive Plan: Open Space, Parks, and Historic Sites

The Clackamas County Comprehensive Plan dedicates a chapter to open space, parks and historic sites in recognition to their inherent value to the quality of life in the community and the need for a resource conservation and recreation development strategy for Clackamas County. Last amended in 2001, this element of the county comprehensive plan identifies current needs to protect an adequate amount of open space, provide adequate local recreation land and facilities, preserve historic and cultural sites and structures and address an adequate financial strategy to meet these needs. The plan identified the deficiency of park land for population in the north urban areas of the county. The plan identified the park land acquisition needs to meet current and future populations and the types of facilities needed to ensure adequate recreational programs and activities. Development needs such as regional trail connections, sports fields, community swimming pools, community parks and connecting natural areas and multi-purpose sports courts were identified in the plan. The plan recognized the importance of the county's rich and unique heritage and the vulnerability of existing historic sites, structures and corridors.

### North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District Master Plan (2014)

Updated to reflect population changes and shifting recreational trends, the 2014 Master Plan for North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District recognizes the changing needs of the community and set goals and objectives for the future direction of the District. The North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) was formed in 1990 to address the needs for greater parks and recreation services in the more urban north end of the county. The NCPRD is the park service provider for a 63-mile area that includes Milwaukie, Happy Valley, a part of the City of Damascus and a large portion of unincorporated urban Clackamas County, north of Gladstone. As a county service district, NCPRD has its own taxing authority. The NCPRD master plan identified a number of key overall priorities that residents want to be addressed with future NCPRD resources:

#### Connectivity/alternative transportation

- Improve physical health and fitness
- Pursue land preservation/acquisition
- Provide positive activities for youth
- Make my community a more desirable place to live

The master plan also identified the program priorities as:

- Fitness and wellness
- Arts and crafts, dance, music and drama programs
- Transportation services for seniors
- Volunteer programs
- Sports from adults
- Youth and teen programs

The master plan identified park priorities including:

- Neighborhood parks
- Natural areas
- Trails within parks
- Large community parks
- Playgrounds and play areas

## Portland Metro Parks and Nature System Plan (2016)

Portland Metro, the regional planning agency, mostly recently approved its park and natural area plan in February 2016. With 17,000 acres, Metro manages parks and natural areas across every community in the region. Their planning process was focused on conservation science, securing long-term funding, developing and operating welcoming and inclusive parks and incorporating equity across the regional metropolitan parklands. Metro defined eleven “naturehoods” named for their geographic and ecological identities as a classification method to organize their management approach. The system describes the primary characteristics and values of each type of place, from regional recreation areas to habitat preserves. As a regional open space provider, Metro is one of the few agencies focusing on large-scale conservation of natural areas in an urban setting. Metro can acquire and provide access to large sites that typically are beyond the reach of local jurisdictions, but closer to population centers than those managed by state and federal providers. Metro’s resources also provide unique support to regional partners through grants and partnerships. The Parks and Nature System Plan lays out Metro’s mission and role, the state of the portfolio today, trends that will shape this work and a slate of strategies to guide the future.

