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## Chapter 5: Policies and Strategies



## POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

This section of the Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan describes the recommended policies, strategies and actions to enhance the City's park and recreation system. These recommendations were developed from the findings of the Community Needs Assessment, as well as from public comments obtained through community outreach. Recommended policies and strategies are divided into the following categories:



- Parks and Green Space
- Recreation Facilities
- Environmental Policies
- Maintenance
- Funding Strategies

Each category includes a list of strategies which, when implemented, will help the City of Grants Pass achieve its vision and goals. Strategies for parks and recreation facilities are also based on Master Plan standards and guidelines which are noted in Chapter 4 and in Appendix B. At the end of this chapter, these strategies are presented as a list of recommendations for each park site.

Many of the strategies presented here reflect current practices and policies of the Grants Pass Parks and Recreation Division. These have been included to provide a comprehensive strategic direction for the future. Together, these policies, strategies and actions provide a basis for a capital improvement plan to enhance the park system. For reference, a park-by-park list of recommended projects is presented at the end of this chapter (Table 9).

### A. PARKS AND GREEN SPACE

The City's need for park land was measured and discussed in Chapter 4. This need included green space, trail corridors, and parks to support active and passive recreation opportunities. Based on the results of the needs assessment, this section notes recommendations related to park planning, acquisition and development, renovation and improvements, and Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) expansion. These policies, strategies and actions provide overarching guidelines, as well as specific projects, to enhance the park system.

## Park Planning

- A-1. Balance the need to provide new parks with the need to protect the community's investment in existing parks and facilities.
- A-2. Provide a conservative total of 9.9 acres of park land per 1,000 residents for all park classifications.
- A-3. Ensure diverse park experiences by providing a variety of parks according to following standards:
- Mini Parks (0.05 acre/1,000)
  - Neighborhood Parks (1.5 acres/1,000)
  - Community Parks (1.10 acre/1,000)
  - Regional Parks (5.15 acres/1,000)
  - Special Use Areas (0.75 acre/1,000)
  - Green Space (1.35 acres/1,000)
- A-4. Provide access to basic recreation amenities (playgrounds, sport courts, open lawn areas) within a ½-mile radius of most residents.
- A-5. Provide access to green space and natural areas within a 1-mile radius of most residents. Incorporate green space into new park development.
- A-6. Address barriers to safe and convenient park access for pedestrians and bicyclists, including busy streets, railways, topography, and waterways.
- A-7. Coordinate planning efforts with Josephine County, local school districts, and other agencies to ensure the availability and accessibility of recreation resources city-wide, including parks, indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, trails and open space.



## Acquisition and Development

- A-8. Work with "willing sellers" for property acquisition.
- A-9. Prior to acquisition, ensure that potential park sites have the capacity to meet the design and development guidelines presented in Appendix B.
- A-10. Develop park reserves to meet priority community needs:
- Develop the Allenwood Park Reserve and the Overland Park Reserve as new neighborhood parks.
  - Develop the Allen Creek Park Reserve, in conjunction with Garrison Fields and additional acreage to be acquired, as a new community park.
  - Consider options to develop the River Road Reserve consistent with its Exclusive Farm Use zoning. If this is not feasible, consider another site to meet regional park needs.

- Develop the Nursery Park Reserve, Parkway Park Reserve, and F & Woodson Park Reserve as green space.
  - Consider the Hillcrest Park Reserve for the development of dog park and/or neighborhood park facilities. Consider noise mitigation measures if developed.
- A-11. Create formal partnerships and use agreements with other agencies to provide recreation opportunities:
- Investigate options to develop school parks at Lincoln Elementary School, Redwood Elementary School, and other school sites in collaboration with School District 7.
  - Incorporate Garrison Fields into the master planning and development of the proposed community park at the Allen Creek Reserve.
  - Partner to preserve the Redwood Wetlands (mitigation site) for educational and recreational opportunities.
  - Update the lease agreements for Gilbert Creek Park and Eckstein Park. In lieu of increased fees, consider collaborative options such as maintenance trades (e.g., the City could maintain sport fields at specific sites), facility development at schools (e.g., an outdoor learning center or school garden funded by the Division), or granting first right of use to School District 7 for new facilities under development (e.g., sport fields at the proposed community park).
  - Pursue partnerships at the Fairgrounds and Schroeder Park to meet facility needs. (See Section B.)
- A-12. Evaluate other City-owned sites for potential park use:
- Re-classify river overlooks as special use areas and integrate them into the recreation system.
  - Incorporate and improve City-owned wetlands for green space.
  - Consider the pump station site across from the River Road Reserve as one option for a trailhead for a bike/pedestrian bridge across the Rogue River.
- A-13. Acquire park land in unserved areas, where needs cannot be met by other options.
- Acquire and develop four new neighborhood parks, located in West Grants Pass, Northwest Grants Pass, Harbeck/Grandview area, and the Nebraska Canal area.
  - Acquire additional community park land (15 acres) to connect the Allen Creek Reserve and Garrison Fields.
  - Acquire two special use areas, including a Downtown plaza and the USFS complex (if available).

- A-14. Refuse land donations and avoid partnerships for sites that do not meet Plan guidelines or are inconsistent with Plan goals.
- A-15. Prepare park master plans or site designs prior to development to achieve cohesive design:
- Update the draft Allenwood Park site design to address a proposed collector street that may bisect the site.
  - Initiate a master planning process for a regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property to take advantage of potential partners and volunteers who are willing to collaborate in site development.
  - Master plan and design all new parks according to the guidelines presented in Appendix B.
- A-16. Support community values through park design:
- Promote community health through trail-related activities. Add perimeter trails or pathways in neighborhood and community parks. Improve park access to non-motorized transportation by linking parks, where feasible with trails. (See B-1 through B-4.)
  - Increase opportunities for nature-based recreation and outdoor learning in new and existing green space areas. Add a working farm, exhibition garden, nature center, and/or interpretive trails at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property. (See B-17.)
  - Ensure park safety by applying CPTED principles to promote Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.



### ***Renovation and Improvements***

- A-17. Maximize recreation opportunities at existing and proposed parks. Upgrade support amenities, improve paths of travel, remove barriers, and provide quality facilities to extend use.
- Implement the capital replacement/reinvestment plan as scheduled to ensure playable, safe structures in parks.
  - Provide covered playgrounds in most new parks and existing parks, such as Debo Park and Gilbert Creek Park, to provide shelter from sun/rain and maximize use.
  - Add shade shelters in parks with insufficient tree canopy.
  - Consider synthetic turf fields at the proposed community park to minimize wear and increase play.
  - Add parking at Mountain Bike Hill.
  - Improve the restrooms at Riverside Park.

- Consider lighting to extend the use of outdoor facilities such as skate parks, sport courts, and children’s play areas where appropriate.
  - Improve access at the west end of Tom Pearce Park. Acquire land to provide roadway and trail access, including a trailhead with parking.
- A-18. Partner/collaborate with Josephine County to renovate specific sites to address facility needs.
- Pursue joint efforts to renovate the Fairgrounds to serve as a community focal point for performances, championships sports field games, concerts, fairs and festivals, and other types of special events.
  - Pursue joint efforts to link Schroeder Park to other City parks via trail for improved access. Consider this site as one option for a trailhead and pedestrian/bicycle bridge across the Rogue River.

### ***UGB Expansion***

- A-19. Apply proposed park standards and facility guidelines to new expansion areas to meet community needs. Evaluate needs based on population estimates (which will vary with population density) in these areas.
- A-20. Consider joint land acquisition opportunities with partner agencies, such as local school districts, when planning new parks in expansion areas.
- A-21. Re-evaluate options for collaboration and partnerships in UGB expansion areas, once identified.
- A-22. Create a policy to require all new developments to include green space easements (for trails and natural areas) adjacent to riparian corridors, wetlands, or high-value natural resource areas as part of the project.
- A-23. Develop policies to preserve and protect scenic views including ridgelines and hills. Visually significant areas form a significant backdrop and contrast to more developed areas of the city and create an important visual experience for residents and visitors.
- A-24. Protect sensitive lands by requiring adequate development buffers and setbacks, as well as development overlays that promote conservation of natural resources and identify natural hazards, soil conditions, vegetation and tree canopy, cultural and historical resources, wetlands and steep slopes.
- A-25. Secure adequate land for parks and green space related to new development, in accordance with this Plan. New park land should be located and designed to meet the Design Guidelines presented in Appendix B. In addition, seek opportunities to

acquire and/or preserve areas with environmental, cultural and historical significance.

- A-26. Develop a system of accessible multiuse trails in areas targeted for development that connect parks, recreation facilities, and other community facilities.

## B. RECREATION FACILITIES

As noted in the needs assessment, more recreation facilities are desired to support the demands of a growing community. In addition, different types of recreation facilities are needed to address new recreation trends and changes in recreation participation since the last plan was completed. Policies and strategies for recreation facilities include specific recommendations for sport fields, trails and pathways, and other types of recreation facilities.

### *Sports Fields/Open Play Fields*

- B-1. Consider all options to address the need for 15 soccer fields:

- Develop a soccer field complex at the proposed community park at Allen Creek Reserve.
- Consider open play fields at the proposed regional park at the River Road Reserve or a comparable site.
- Utilize existing multi-purpose fields for close-to-home practice space.
- Pursue a partnership with Josephine County to renovate the Fairgrounds, considering lighting, stadium seating, and synthetic surfacing suitable for championship soccer games.
- Consider collaborating with the school districts on soccer field maintenance and improvements to make these fields more accessible to the community and expand use.
- Consider soccer fields or multi-purpose playing fields in proposed new neighborhood parks.



- B-2. Consider options to meet the need for two additional baseball/softball fields and other field improvements.

- Incorporate baseball/softball fields into two new neighborhood parks where appropriate.
- Pursue a lease agreement with Grants Pass School District 7 for Garrison Fields, and incorporate this site into a master plan for the proposed community park at the Allen Creek Reserve.

- B-3. Work with partner agencies, especially schools, to help meet the community's sport field demand. Consider collaborating on field maintenance and improvements to expand use.
- B-4. Consider the potential for all-weather field surfaces at community parks, regional parks and special use sites (Fairgrounds) to improve durability and reduce maintenance costs.

### ***Trails and Pathways***

- B-5. Collaborate with key stakeholders, land owners, and other jurisdictions to identify appropriate and community-supported trail routes that improve park access and link parks, green space, recreation facilities, schools, and other community destinations.

- When identifying actual trail routes, take into account property ownership, land availability, available funding, and owners' willingness to sell when acquisition and development is pursued.
- Acquire and develop a trailhead to improve access to Tom Pearce Park. Connect to a County trail extending from the park to the end of Spaulding Avenue.
- Identify appropriate routes for the River City Trail to link six proposed parks, three existing City parks, and two parks provided by others.



Develop the trail as a multi-use pathway and/or shared roadway/bike route as identified in the Urban Area Master Transportation Plan.

- Improve the crossing of Highway 238 from Allen Creek Trail to BLM's Cathedral Hills.
- Partner with the BLM on trail improvements in Cathedral Hills to connect the Allen Creek Trail to the Fruitdale Creek Trail.
- Continue to seek options to link parks along the Rogue River, from the River Road Reserve to Tom Pearce Park. Ensure that proposed trails are consistent with approved City ordinances and related to the riverfront corridor.
- In the long term, identify routes to connect City trails to the proposed Rogue River Greenway Trail project, which is planned to link Grants Pass to Ashland.
- Identify an appropriate location and acquire land to develop a bike/pedestrian bridge across the Rogue River to improve access to a regional park such as the River Road Reserve or another comparable site (if applicable).

- Monitor use of the Parkway Bridge as a walkway and bikeway connector between the Tom Pearce trail extension on the north side of the river to City parks and trails on the south side of the river.
  - Consider any opportunities to provide trails in northeast and northwest Grants Pass. These areas are underserved by trails.
- B-6. Provide a variety of trails within parks, including loop trails, jogging trails, bicycling/mountain biking trails, and nature or interpretive trails. When feasible, trails should be ADA accessible, unless this presents a conflict with the intended trail use.
- Explore opportunities to add looped or perimeter pathways at all neighborhood and community parks where feasible to enhance walking and fitness opportunities.
  - Work with appropriate groups to improve Mountain Bike Hill, adding parking and other trailhead improvements as needed to make this site more accessible to users.
  - Include a variety of trails in the master planning and development of the proposed regional park at River Road Reserve or a comparable site. Consider interpretive trails, a jogging path, and multi-use pathways connecting facilities to the proposed riverside trail system.
  - Develop a nature trail at the F & Woodson Park to provide access to a significant green space within the City.
  - Improve pathway connections between parks and adjacent schools, such as between Croxton Memorial Park and Lincoln Elementary School.
  - Develop a soft-surfaced trail along the creek at Gilbert Creek Park, to minimize the erosion from an informal trail there. Consider adding another interpretive sign to existing signage.
  - Coordinate with City transportation planners and the Bikeways/Walkways Committee to identify gaps in the bicycle and pedestrian system.
- B-7. Provide additional trail support facilities, such as trailheads and trail signs, where appropriate. Incorporate information about ADA accessibility, mileage, and rules for trail use into trail signage.
- B-8. Create a map of existing trails to improve knowledge regarding their location.

### ***Other Recreation Facilities***

- B-9. Provide 11 new playgrounds in existing and proposed parks to meet community needs.

- Add playgrounds to Eckstein, Fruitdale, and Redwood Parks.
  - Add playgrounds in new neighborhood parks, as per design and development guidelines.
  - Consider a unique play experience in the development of the proposed community park.
  - Consider a destination playground in the development of the proposed regional park. Consider an agricultural theme to complement other proposed site uses and encourage youth to partake in outdoor play/learning at that site.
- B-10. Provide outdoor sports courts in existing and proposed parks according to the Design and Development Guidelines in Appendix B.
- Provide a minimum of eight new basketball courts. Consider one at each of the four proposed neighborhood parks (4), the proposed community park, Redwood Park, Fruitdale Park and Hillside Park.
  - Provide 10 new tennis courts. Consider paired courts at Redwood Park and two proposed neighborhood parks, plus a group of four courts at the proposed community park. Consider partnerships to fund a potential outdoor tennis tournament facility.
  - Provide two new volleyball courts. Consider one at Riverside Park and one at the proposed regional park to support group activities.
  - Provide four new horseshoe pits at the proposed regional park to support group activities.
- B-11. Build a minimum of two additional small-scale skate features in proposed parks to meet community needs.
- Consider skate spots in Overland Park or proposed new neighborhood parks in west and north Grants Pass to provide geographically dispersed skating opportunities and to minimize skateboarding in inappropriate public places.
  - If the popularity of skating increasing in Grants Pass, consider a skate spot in the proposed community park.
- B-12. Increase opportunities for water play in Grants Pass by adding two new water play features.
- Integrate a water play feature into the destination playground the proposed new regional park.
  - Consider adding a water play element at the proposed community park, rather than at the Allenwood Park Reserve as noted in its site master plan. Water play features attract many people from beyond the immediate neighborhood, and therefore are better suited for larger types of parks.

B-13. Provide three new off-leash dog areas at neighborhood and community parks in dispersed locations to supplement the new one at Schroeder Park.

- Consider a dog park at Gilbert Creek Park where the former volleyball court was located.
- Consider a dog park at the Allenwood Park Reserve (as noted in the draft site plan).
- Provide a dog park in east Grants Pass. Consider the Hillcrest Park Reserve or another site.



B-14. Provide water access for boating and fishing at special use sites and regional parks where appropriate.

- Provide fishing access at Tussing Park.
- Consider adding a fishing pond to the proposed regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property.
- Investigate options to realign the Lower River Road in conjunction with any park planning at the River Road Reserve to increase river access.
- Coordinate with the County to incorporate and improve the Lathrop Boat Ramp in conjunction with any planning at the River Road Reserve.
- Partner with the County (if needed) to ensure that the Schroeder Park boat ramp remains open.
- Incorporate a seasonal pond into Allenwood Park as noted in a draft site master plan.
- Provide fishing access at the Parkway Park.

B-15. Provide outdoor group facilities, including special event venues, group picnic shelters, etc., to generate revenue and provide community gathering places.

- Finish the River Vista at Reinhart Volunteer Park, including improvements to Tussing Park, which will provide parking on the south side of the river for park events.
- Pursue a partnership with Josephine County to renovate the Fairgrounds to serve as a community focal point for performance events, championships sports field games, concerts, fairs and festivals, and other types of special events.
- Limit special events (set-up and parking) at Riverside Park to paved parking and open designated areas to avoid cumulative damage to tree roots, landscapes, irrigation systems, and lawns.

- Provide small and large group picnic shelters, along with dispersed picnic tables at a proposed regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property.
- Consider a fire circle for nature programs at a proposed regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property.

B-16. Continue to monitor the community's need for indoor recreation and meeting space. Specifically,



- Continue partnering with school districts to ensure community access to school gymnasiums, and work with partners to increase access to adult-sized gymnasium space.
- Explore options to preserve the USFS Complex as a special use park. Develop a financial feasibility study and master plan for this site prior to construction to identify site uses prior to development.

- Consider a nature/visitor center or agricultural extension facility with classroom space at a proposed regional park at the River Road Reserve or comparable property.

B-17. In the long term, determine how best to meet the City's need for additional swimming opportunities.

- In the short term, provide less-costly water play opportunities. (See B-12)
- Consider a strategy that relies on partners, such as private clubs, to meet community needs for swimming.
- As Cavemen Pool ages, complete a financial feasibility study for a new aquatic facility. Consider diverse aquatic recreation opportunities that could draw attendance and generate revenue, such as spray features, water play attractions, fitness equipment, rental facilities, and facilities to support competitive swimming.

B-18. Consider options to meet a variety of community needs for recreation facilities and green space at a proposed regional park at the River Road Reserve or comparable park property.

- Develop a site master plan for cohesive park design and development. In the planning process, investigate the feasibility of realigning Lower River Road to increase water access and support a trail along that portion of the Rogue River.
- Engage partners and volunteers in planning and developing the park, such as the Food Bank, Rogue Valley Flyers, Josephine County, and other interested groups.

- Consider a variety of facilities in the site master planning process. Depending on site constraints and development requirements, these may include a destination play area, water play area, open playfields, sand volleyball court, disc golf, horseshoes, radio control sports park, small and large-group picnic shelters, dispersed picnic tables, boat launch, fishing pond, nature/visitor center, fire circle, agricultural extension facility, working farm, community garden, demonstration garden, orchard, nature/interpretive trails, fitness and loop trails, etc.
- Balance the community's need for new facilities with the need to preserve green space, as well as the cultural and agricultural heritage of this unique site.
- Improve park access by finding an appropriate location to develop a pedestrian/bicycle bridge across the Rogue River. Acquire land as needed to support a trailhead with parking on the south side of the river. Connect this trailhead to other parks as feasible via the proposed trail system.
- Take advantage of State funds to clean up the small, contaminated parcel north of Upper River Road at the River Road Reserve.
- Consider a donation catalogue, publicity in the City's recreation guide, a Friends of the Regional Park group, and other means to support City, volunteer and partner fundraising for facility development.



## C. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

The natural environment is important to residents in Grants Pass for a variety of reasons. The Rogue River, urban trees, wetlands, and open space contribute to community health, sense of place, and even the aesthetic beauty of the city. The recommendations below include policies and strategies to maintain valuable community resources in a more resource-efficient, environmentally-friendly manner. These policies include sustainable planning, design and operations; open space and natural system management; natural resource conservation and environmental protection; and cultural and historic preservation. The purpose of these policies is to create a sustainable system of parks and facilities for the long-term.

### *Sustainable Planning, Design and Operations*

- C-1. Integrate best management practices in all new park master plans and site designs. Periodically evaluate the need to update park

- master plans for existing parks to integrate best management practices.
- C-2. Incorporate asbestos mitigation, fire management, flood control, erosion control, pollution and discharge elimination into park planning, design and construction.
- C-3. Identify funding sources for developing and managing open spaces to protect and enhance significant natural resources, including sensitive habitats.
- C-4. Develop customized guidelines for sustainable park development. Consider the following:
- Use permeable surfacing in at least 75% of new paved trails and 50% of new parking lots.
  - Use local and recycled materials in building and services.
  - Pursue LEED-compliant construction in the development of indoor facilities. This does not require LEED certification.
  - Incorporate water efficient fixtures in all new restrooms and water fountains
  - Develop water-efficient irrigation systems.
  - Use water recycling systems in all new waterparks and fountains.
  - Continue to improve water efficiency in existing parks by adding low-flow devices in all park toilets in the next 2-3 years.
  - Update current irrigation systems when parks are renovated to improve water efficiency.
- C-5. Create a series of baseline sustainability indicators and performance measures to monitor current practices and track progress toward meeting goals. These may include:
- The percentage of permeable surfacing used in trails and parking lots.
  - The percentage of low-flow toilets in park restrooms. The goal is to reach 100%.
  - The amount of waste generated and the percentage of waste recycling that occurs in parks and at special events.
  - Amount of water used, if possible broken down by water used for irrigation and other uses.
- C-6. Initiate a system-wide recycling program for all City parks and special events at Boatnik 2010. Provide recycling information and publicity. Challenge the community to help the Parks and Recreation Division meet new waste reduction and recycling goals in parks.

- C-7. Compost grass clippings, leaves, twigs, branches, and other garden refuse generated in public parks.
- Develop composting facilities in conjunction with maintenance yards.
  - Provide composting education at the proposed River Road Regional Park.
- C-8. Incorporate sustainability goals into operations plans, once the baseline indicators are established:
- Be more water-efficient. Set a percentage reduction from current usage with timeline.
  - Reduce piping used for surface water management. Set a goal of managing 10% of surface water through swales, green streets, and other options within 2 years.
  - Provide recycling receptacles at all parks.
  - Reduce the use of hazardous chemicals through an Integrated Pest Management program.
- C-9. Invest in staff training on sustainable maintenance, and provide staff with a solid system of tools and resources to assist with sustainable practices.
- Until the arborist position is filled, provide training for one staff person to ensure best practices in tree management.
  - Train staff in maintenance of permeable paving, so that the benefits of permeable paving are continued.
  - Train staff in natural area and bioswale maintenance, so that the integrity of these features is maintained.

### ***Open Space and Natural Systems***

Green space and natural systems provide a variety of benefits to the City of Grants Pass. Trees, wetlands, parks, and trail corridors can provide or promote shade, green buffers between built areas, wildlife corridors natural resource preservation, water quality enhancement, air quality protection, water conservation, and scenic areas. These systems are valued for their contributions to individual health and wellness, community identity, and quality of life. For this reason, these existing systems should be considered in sustainable design strategies, both individually and collectively.

#### ***Urban Trees***

- C-10. Include or preserve trees within parks to provide canopy connectivity between street trees, trails, and open spaces.
- C-11. Protect the urban canopy outside of parks. Add trees to street corridors and beautification areas while maintaining visibility to enhance or preserve the urban tree canopy where feasible.

- C-12. Require permits for tree removal, pruning and planting in City rights-of-way.
- C-13. Continue implementing the Hazardous Tree Program to assist property owners with dangerous situations involving trees in the right-of-way.
- C-14. Continue to promote the value of urban trees in Grants Pass through the efforts of the Grants Pass Urban Tree Advisory Committee.
- C-15. Encourage tree planting citywide to promote an increase in canopy and diversity of species:



- Hire an urban forester to provide expertise for tree management and maintenance.
- Promote the City's "Tree City USA" designation as a source of civic pride and opportunity to educate the community about the value of the urban canopy.
- Expand the Tree Canopy Program, allowing residents to purchase a tree and have it planted in their yard for a fee.
- Continue the Memorial Tree Program, allowing

residents to donate a tree and funds to have it planted in a memorial grove or inside a City park for the purpose of honoring an individual.

#### *Trails*

- C-16. Promote use of trails, pathways, and bikeways for active, non-motorized transportation that is safe, convenient, and reduces auto dependency and pollution.
- C-17. Minimize erosion disturbance to natural resources when providing trail access to green space.
- C-18. Provide tax incentives to property owners to sell trail easements and allow public access, especially in areas along the river.
- C-19. Create a policy for new development to include trail easements adjacent to or including natural areas and rivers as part of the development. This policy will be especially applicable in Urban Growth Boundary Expansion Areas.

#### *Parks*

- C-20. Reveal nature and natural processes through the use of native plants and by highlighting storm water as a functional and aesthetic park feature.
- C-21. Balance the needs of nature and humans, by designing and planning activity areas to minimize environmental impacts and allow regeneration of natural resources.

- C-22. Use water conservation in irrigation systems, drinking fountains, water features, and restrooms, and consider water features with rainwater harvesting for reuse when appropriate.
- C-23. Consider synthetic turf in new sport fields, particularly at the proposed Allen Creek Community Park, for water conservation.
- C-24. Provide permeable surfacing for parking lots and trails according to guidelines.
- C-25. Incorporate surface storm water management such as bioswales, storm water planters, rain gardens, ecoroofs, permeable pavers, porous concrete and asphalt.
- C-26. Plant drought tolerant plantings.
- C-27. Use lawn substitutes which require less fertilizers, water consumption and mowing than traditional lawns unless required for recreation purposes.
- C-28. Provide mulch in plant beds and tree rings to help conserve water and suppress weeds.
- C-29. Use organic fertilizers.
- C-30. Consider alternatives to pesticides and herbicides, such as integrated pest management practices and companion planting techniques.
- C-31. Incorporate natural resource enhancement into plans for park and facility development where appropriate.
- C-32. Convert underused areas within developed parks to natural areas to provide higher habitat values for a broad range of public and environmental benefits.



#### *Wetlands*

- C-33. Restore and enhance wetlands as important places for wildlife habitat and water quality protection.
- C-34. Avoid development encroachment in these sensitive habitat areas.
- C-35. Foster stewardship of wetlands with interpretive signage.
- C-36. Educate the public on the importance of wetlands for fish protection, flood alleviation, and bird sanctuaries.
- C-37. Provide environmentally sensitive designed public access to wetlands, using boardwalks, viewpoints, walkways, etc.
- C-38. Provide bird houses, bird nests platforms, and bird blinds to allow public viewing.

### **Natural Resource Conservation/ Environmental Protection**

Protecting the environment and conserving existing natural resources are a true investment in the future, and provide cost savings for the City of Grants Pass in the long run. The following can be applied to the open space and natural systems outlined above.

C-39. Incorporate natural areas or natural features into parks.

- Incorporate natural areas into the design and development of all new parks and trail corridors to provide green space and enhance environmental awareness.
- Protect, manage, and restore views of scenic resources and from scenic viewpoints.



- Develop a natural area management plan for the restoration and management of natural areas at a regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property.
- Include tree planters and vegetation in the design of the proposed Downtown Plaza.
- Preserve existing trees in the development of new parks, including trees at the U.S. Forest Service Complex.
- Retain, replace, and introduce native plants wherever appropriate.

- Involve staff, partners, volunteers, and financial sponsors in providing resources to improve habitat and eliminate invasive species.

C-40. Preserve habitat in parks, trail corridors, and green spaces.

- Create “no-mow” zones within parks in appropriate places.
- Design, develop and maintain vegetated trail corridors to promote wildlife habitat connectivity.
- Allow plant growth along “unmanicured” fence lines to create habitat.
- Plant natural vegetation in parking lot islands.
- Take advantage of existing disturbed sites within parks as places to develop habitat.
- Provide interpretive signage and information in habitat areas encouraging homeowners to develop “backyard habitat.”

C-41. Minimize the impacts of parks and facilities on biological resources and adjacent development.

- Integrate facilities and natural/agricultural areas in the design and development of a regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property, consistent with any Exclusive Farm Use zoning.

- Locate facilities in neighborhood and community parks away from residential uses to minimize impacts to surrounding neighbors, including noise, traffic, and lights.
- Temporarily close impacted areas and unplanned, social trails, where vegetation has been damaged by high or unintended use.
- Increase riparian protection including water quality, native vegetation, bank stabilization and geese management in all waterfront and riverside parks.

### ***Social/Cultural/Historical Components***

Successful sustainable design strategies also include a social aspect to our environment. Parks and open spaces need public support and recognition of their value and importance. Therefore, fostering a sense of community and ownership is paramount. The following are ways to achieve this goal.



- C-42. Continue to incorporate public art into parks and beautification areas, including artistic amenities such as the benches on the City's bike/pedestrian bridge.
- C-43. Provide education, media outreach, and buy-in opportunities on issues of sustainability, best management practices, environmental conservation and preservation.
  - Add interpretive signage explaining the function of bioswales and water recycling at appropriate parks.
  - Publicize the groundbreaking and grand opening of an outdoor learning center and agricultural extension facility at the regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable facility.
  - Create a "significant natural features" map and self-directed interpretive guide to historic trees and other natural features in the City.
  - Provide name plates for tree and plant identification along trails and in parks.
  - Provide interpretive signage in parks for environmental education regarding the Grants Pass ecosystem.
- C-44. Provide group facilities and programs that support outdoor social gatherings and special events to increase public use and emotional ties to park sites.
  - Complete River Vista at Reinhart Volunteer Park.
  - Provide picnic shelters, outdoor classrooms, and/or fire ring at a proposed regional park at the River Road Reserve or

other comparable property for outdoor programs and group events.

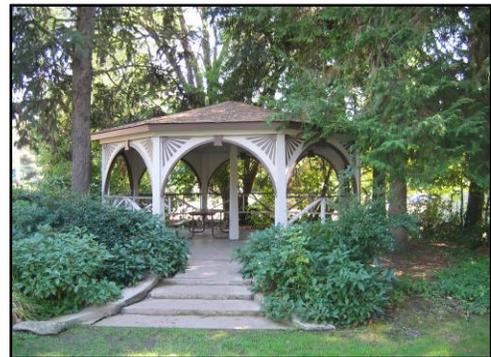
- Incorporate attractive gazebos, benches, and other amenities into green space, such as Tussing Park and the F & Woodson Park Reserve, to support passive use and enjoyment of the outdoors.
  - Use a portable stage to support performing arts opportunities, such as outdoor concerts and performances.
  - Continue programs such as movies in the park at Riverside Park.
- C-45. Support outdoor education and recreation at a proposed regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property.
- Promote community gardening through programs and the provision of community gardening space.
  - Provide agricultural extension/agrarian education to teach the community, especially youth, about sustainable gardening practices and environmental benefits of locally-grown produce.
  - Incorporate programs and facilities, including a nature center and thematic play area, to encourage youth participation in outdoor activities and to facilitate learning of outdoor recreation skills.
  - Develop an arboretum and orchard. Provide an interpretive trail with educational signage for tree identification, tree maintenance and care. Create a self-directed trail program and guide.
  - Use interpretive facilities, design features, and programs to celebrate the natural, cultural, agricultural history of this site.
- C-46. Continue to foster volunteerism, advocacy, and stewardship of parks by encouraging local residents and businesses to be involved in park development and maintenance. (See E-32 through 37.)

## D. MAINTENANCE

Maintenance policies and strategies are presented below. These policies provide a foundation for the Maintenance Plan that will be part of the Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan.

### *Maintenance*

- D-1. Implement the tiered maintenance program described in Chapter 6 to reallocate maintenance efforts funds where these are most needed.
- D-2. Determine maintenance needs of new parks.
- Identify costs and funding sources for new parks and facilities prior to development.
  - Design new parks for efficient maintenance by developing maintenance management plans prior to construction, evaluating operational impacts and feasibility, and involving maintenance and program staff in the design process.
- D-3. Annually review and adjust the per-acre maintenance costs used for budgeting in this Plan.
- D-4. Establish a basic park maintenance unit cost and appropriate additions for certain types of major facilities. Major maintenance cost additions include:
- Competitive sport fields
  - Reserveable shelters and areas
  - Landscaping beds requiring annual plantings
  - Special amenities (e.g., water play features)
  - Major facilities (nature center, aquatic center, etc.).
- D-5. Provide a routine preventive maintenance program for all parks, facilities, equipment, vehicles, and other assets.
- D-6. Implement maintenance techniques that protect and enhance natural resources and minimize disturbance to natural vegetation and critical wildlife habitats.
- D-7. Standardize and upgrade park site furnishings for ease of maintenance
- D-8. Replant beautification areas with less labor-intensive landscaping.
- D-9. Regularly assess long-term maintenance, repair, and replacement needs for all parks, facilities, and equipment.



- Budget and schedule for system-wide renovation programs of critical recreation components, including fields, courts, play areas, and amenities.
  - Continue the capital reinvestment and replacement program as scheduled to avoid spending staff and funding resources on aged, deteriorating resources that are in need of replacement.
- D-10. Create a satellite maintenance yard at a regional park at the River Road Reserve or other comparable property upon development.

## E. FUNDING STRATEGIES

Funding strategies include actions relating to fees and charges, other funding resources, partnerships, and volunteerism. User fee/rental recommendations are based on research presented in the attached user fee matrix, which compares Grants Pass user fees to those of nearby jurisdictions.

### *Fees and Charges*

- E-1. Determine pricing guidelines in consideration of cost recovery goals and public benefit. Review user fees and adjust them as needed according to this philosophy.
- E-2. Increase rental fees for outdoor/indoor facilities to be more in line with other providers. Consider the following:
- Implement higher summer rates for rentals/reservations.
  - Implement additional fees for all equipment rentals. Expand equipment rental opportunities to generate revenue.
  - Maintain the trash removal fee for large events/facility rentals.
  - Ensure that rates cover pre-rental maintenance tasks, such as facility check and clean-up before the renter arrives.
- E-3. Ensure that refundable deposits will sufficiently cover cleaning, maintenance and repair for damaged areas.
- Expand the damage deposit to include a refundable cleaning deposit (applied to ensure that the facility is cleaned to its original state).
  - Consider a higher deposit on large shelters and special event/festival space.
- E-4. Establish appropriate fees for County residents and visitors who do not contribute to Grants Pass parks through taxes.
- Charge non-residents \$10 more per facility than residents based on current market costs.

- Evaluate this rate periodically and reassess as needed.
  - Similarly charge non-residents additional fees for any City-sponsored programs to offset costs.
- E-5. Develop pricing guidelines and cost recovery targets for various special events. Define direct and indirect costs and factor these into the cost recovery targets. As part of this strategy:
- Identify user fee opportunities for targeted special event services, such as parking fees, access or entry fees, etc. Consider administrative costs associated with the collecting the fee to ensure that the fee generates revenue. Use volunteers when feasible.
  - Increase vendor/concessionaire fees for special events, charging extra for utility hook-ups where provided.
  - Require special event permits for special event organizers, with higher rates for non-residents.
- E-6. Increase the number of revenue-generating facilities, programs, and events to improve funding and cross-subsidize services.
- E-7. Develop financial operations plans for any proposed major facilities (e.g., sports complex, nature center/agricultural extension, aquatic center), including cost recovery goals. Regularly evaluate performance based on financial goals.
- E-8. Develop work credit programs, scholarships, and other mechanisms to support recreation access and defray costs associated with event and user fees for residents in need.
- E-9. Implement a consistent system of data collection and tracking for facility use, including operating costs, revenue generation, and rentals. Use these data to adjust rental fees as needed.

## ***Other Funding Resources***

### ***Capital Funding***

- E-10. Evaluate and periodically update system development charges to reflect the cost of expanding the system to support new development.
- E-11. Consider voter-approved initiatives, such as bonds and serial levies, to finance improvements.
- E-12. Continue devoting staff resources to securing outside grants, cash or in-kind donations, and other sources of capital project funding.
- E-13. Increase efforts to obtain land donations. Only accept donations that meet the goals and intent of this Plan, or sites that can be sold or exchanged to benefit the public.



- E-14. Avoid selling park properties that are recommended for incorporation into the proposed park system.
- E-15. Consider a capital campaign or other fundraising method for special projects.
- E-16. Create an “Opportunity Fund” to act on future opportunities to protect natural areas or acquire parkland as it becomes available.
- E-17. Create an “Opportunity Fund” to acquire park land and natural areas in the UGB Expansion areas to be identified.

***Operations Funding***

- E-18. Maintain and enhance General Fund support of parks, recreation programs, and maintenance.
- E-19. Continue seeking outside funding, such as sponsorships and cash or in-kind donations, from individuals, foundations, and corporations for parks and recreation programs and services. Ensure that donations are consistent with Master Plan goals.
- E-20. Consider partnerships or transferring responsibilities to other agencies as a means of reducing the cost of operating the park system.
- E-21. Collaborate with groups or 501(c)(3) organizations that assist or may assist in supporting the park system or individual sites, such as Riverside West All Sports Park Inc., the Josephine County Food Bank and the Josephine County Fair Board.
- E-22. Continue to facilitate and encourage the formation of volunteer Adopt-a-Park and Adopt-a-Trail groups.
- E-23. Pursue local business sponsors to subsidize fees for high-cost programs and special events, such as an Adopt-a-Program effort.

***Partnerships***

- E-24. Continue cultivating positive, strong relationships with current partners.
- E-25. Recognize the partnership with Grants Pass School District 7 in helping meet park needs, including the long-term lease agreements for Eckstein and Gilbert Creek Parks, along with potential future school parks and partnerships.
- E-26. Promote and enhance park safety through partnerships with the Police Department and Concerned Fathers Against Crime.
- E-27. Evaluate options to trade services with partners, in lieu of costly lease agreements.
- E-28. Partner with businesses to provide services and amenities, such as vendors in parks.

- E-29. Pursue and maintain effective partnerships with public, private, and non-profit organizations to maintain parks and recreation facilities.
- E-30. Consider partnerships for joint facility development and maintenance for parks, special event venues, athletic fields, and other major facilities.
- E-31. Formalize all partnerships through written agreements that specify responsibilities, liability, financial and other terms, including provisions for how to transition or end partnerships.
- E-32. Evaluate partnerships to review their effectiveness and to identify areas for improvement.

### ***Volunteerism***

- E-33. Develop a coordinated volunteer recruitment, training, and recognition program.
  - Continue the development model used at Reinhart Volunteer Park for engaging volunteers.
  - Continue to use park staff and the Parks Advisory Board to recruit and mobilize volunteers.
  - Ensure staff time for volunteer coordination and oversight.
  - Institute a “volunteer recognition program,” with publicized events or awards to honor volunteers.
- E-34. Collaborate with schools, senior groups, service organizations, and residents from diverse cultures to identify potential projects for youth, seniors, families and other volunteers.
- E-35. Emphasize community involvement and volunteerism to involve individuals, groups, and businesses in the planning, design, maintenance, operation, and programming of parks and recreation facilities.
- E-36. Expand and market the park adoption program to promote adoption of all significant parks, trails, recreation, and open space facilities.
- E-37. Note volunteer opportunities on the City’s website.
- E-38. Market volunteerism as a recreation activity, with opportunities highlighted in the Grants Pass Recreation Guide.

## **F. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

The policies and strategies included in this chapter are the basis for the recommendations noted in this section.

### Desired Park System

The ideal park system for Grants Pass is made up of a hierarchy of parks, each offering a variety of recreation and/or green space opportunities. Its goal is to provide every resident with convenient access to diverse recreation opportunities and park experiences.

The desired park system includes regional parks that draw people to their signature facilities and assets. It includes community parks and special use areas that provide active and passive recreation opportunities. The park system also includes small mini parks and neighborhood parks, which provide close-to-home recreation opportunities. It offers green space to protect the City’s natural resources and provides trail corridors to connect parks to key destinations in the community. This park system is built upon a broad foundation of resources provided by other jurisdictions, such as Josephine County, two School Districts, and the Bureau of Land Management.



Map 4 illustrates the desired park system. The map notes existing park and recreation resources, along with the conceptual location of proposed park sites and trails that are recommended for development. Important notes about the map include:

- Proposed parks and trail routes reflect the need for recreation opportunities within noted areas. This map does not pinpoint exact locations for proposed parks and trails. Instead, it suggests general areas for park or facility development, based on community needs, land-use patterns, the expertise of key City staff, and current plans for development within the City. The actual location of park sites and trail routes will be determined later based on community feedback, land availability, acquisition costs, property ownership, and owners’ willingness to sell at the time of acquisition.
- Colored asterisks indicate proposed neighborhood parks, community parks, special use areas, regional parks and green space. Some of these sites are located at currently undeveloped park reserves.
- Potential sites for collaborative partnerships are noted with triangular symbols. The nature of these partnerships will evolve over time, depending on available funding and partner needs.

This desired park system reflects all recommendations in this Plan, based on feedback obtained through community outreach. However, this park system includes more projects than the City realistically can implement in the next 20 years.

### **Recommended Projects**

Many park projects will be needed to achieve the desired park system described in this Plan. Table 9 presents the projects that would be needed to achieve the community's vision for the park system. Capital projects in existing parks are noted first by park type. Recommendations for proposed parks, trails, and partnerships follow. These recommendations include:

- **Parks:** Proposed parks are noted by park type. These include new sites to be acquired and developed, along with proposed development to consider in the City's park reserves. Actual acquisition and development plans should be determined through local site master plans.
- **Trails:** Since trail corridors are classified as green space in this plan, trail development is described within this park type. These include proposed trailheads and trail corridors. Actual routes for these proposed trail connections should be determined in future planning efforts.
- **Partnerships:** The Parks Comprehensive Plan recommends that the City investigate the potential to collaborate on capital projects at partner sites to help meet community recreation needs. These projects will depend on the willingness of other providers to move forward. The City should establish formal partnership agreements before initiating these capital projects. While the City may want to assist in maintenance at these sites in the future, the Parks Comprehensive Plan does not include this recommendation, based on the forecasted availability of maintenance funds.

In addition to capital projects, Table 9 also includes recommendations for non-capital projects. These are noted at the end of the table.



# Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Grants Pass, Oregon

### Proposed Parks and Partnerships

- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- Special Use
- Regional Park
- Green Space
- Potential Park Partnership

### Existing City Parks

- Mini Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Green Space
- Special Use
- Community Park
- Regional Park
- Undeveloped

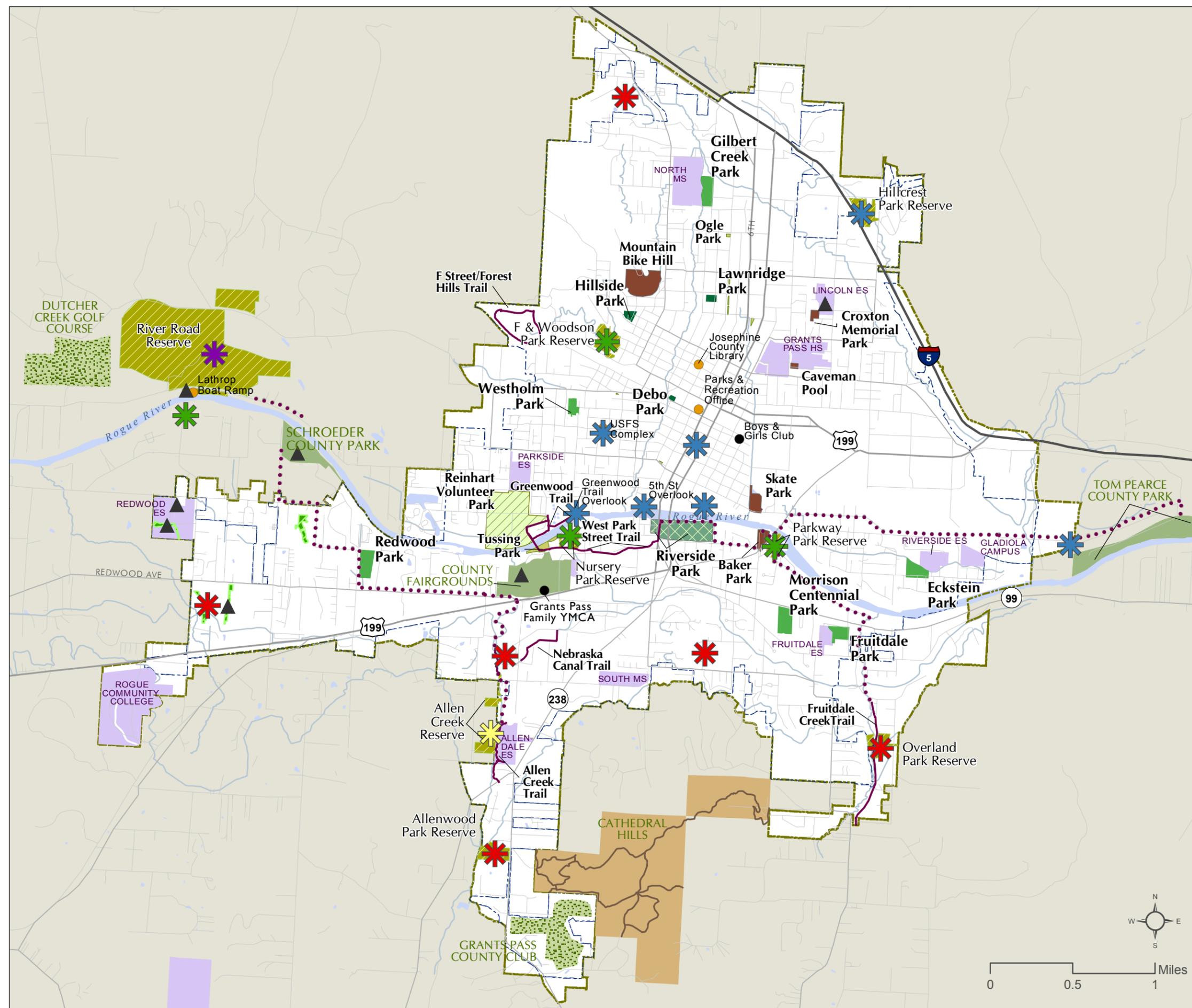
### Existing and Proposed Trails

- City Trail
- BLM Trail
- Proposed Trail Connections

- Golf Course
- County Park
- Wetland
- School
- BLM Park
- City Limits
- Urban Growth Boundary
- Recreation Center
- Recreation Resource
- Highway
- Major Arterial
- Arterial
- Water

## Map 4: Proposed Park System

January 2010 | Data Source: City of Grants Pass GIS, ESRI street maps, and Oregon Geospatial Clearinghouse



0 0.5 1 Miles



**Table 9: Projects to Support the Desired Park System**

The recommendations in Table 9 are not considered mandatory or all-inclusive. They are subject to review by the City Council as detailed plans for individual parks are developed and implemented. In the future, there may also be additional needs identified for other uses not recognized at the time of this Plan.

	Acreage	Acquire	Develop	Improve City Site	Improve Partner Site	Recommended Capital Improvements
<b>EXISTING PARK SYSTEM</b>						
<b>MINI PARKS</b>						
Debo Park	0.49			x		Cover playground; add shelter.
Hillside Park	1.92			x		Add basketball court; improve informal bike track.
Lawnridge Park	1.43					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment.
Subtotal	3.84					
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>						
Eckstein Park	6.99			x		Add playground; improve backstop. Address lease considerations.
Fruitdale Park	6.30		x			Complete Phase II improvements, including a playground and basketball court.
Gilbert Creek Park	8.05			x		Add playground cover, off-leash dog area and nature trail along creek to minimize erosion and provide interpretation. Address lease considerations.
Morrison Centennial Park	8.36					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment.
Redwood Park	8.41		x			Complete Phase II improvements, including a playground, tennis courts, basketball court, gazebo, picnic areas and fitness trail with exercise stations.
Westholm Park	3.60					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment.
Subtotal	41.71					
<b>COMMUNITY PARKS</b>						
Riverside Park	31.65		x			Add volleyball court; develop pedestrian/bicycle entry from 6th Street; move disc golf course; improve restrooms.
Subtotal	31.65					
<b>REGIONAL PARK</b>						
Reinhart Volunteer Park	58.19		x			Finish River Vista and associated improvements.
Subtotal	58.19					
<b>SPECIAL USE AREAS</b>						
Baker Park	2.79					Connect to Parkway Park, Riverside Park and the proposed Rogue River Regional Greenway. Consider further use of this site when master planning Parkway Park.
Croxton Memorial Park	1.70					Improve pathway to Lincoln ES; consider selling vacant parcel.
Caveman Pool	0.93					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment. In long term, consider need for eventual replacement.
Grants Pass Skate Park	5.36					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment.
Mountain Bike Hill	19.60		x			Develop parking; improve trailhead; add signage.
Subtotal	30.38					
<b>GREEN SPACE</b>						
Allen Creek Trail	4.00					See proposed trails for trail extensions.
Fruitdale Creek Trail	9.24					See proposed trails for trail extensions.
Nebraska Canal Trail	1.57					See proposed trails for trail extensions.
Ogle Park	0.25					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment.
Tussing Park	5.50		x			Complete Phase II improvements, including a picnic shelter, creek crossing, permanent restrooms, parking, signage, open lawn and meadow areas, connecting trails, fishing access, and plantings.
Greenwood Trail*	4.09					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment.
West Park Street Trail	0.00					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment.
"F" Street - Forest Hills Trail	4.34					Continue maintenance and capital reinvestment.
Subtotal	28.99					
<b>Total Developed</b>	<b>194.76</b>					

	Acreage	Acquire	Develop	Improve City Site	Improve Partner Site	Recommended Capital Improvements
<b>PROPOSED PARKS, TRAILS, AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>						
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>						
Neighborhood Park (Overland area)	9.14		x			Investigate options to develop the Overland Park Reserve as a neighborhood park. Master plan and develop as a neighborhood park according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include a playground (ages 2-12), tennis courts (2), basketball court, perimeter trail, picnic tables, open turf area, skate spot, and baseball/softball field.
Neighborhood Park (Allenwood area)	9.79		x			Investigate options to develop the Allenwood Park Reserve as a neighborhood park. Revise the existing design concept to accommodate road improvements and sustainability guidelines. Develop as a neighborhood park according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include a covered playground (ages 2-12), basketball court, perimeter trail, picnic tables, shelter, dog park, open turf area, seasonal pond, and enhanced wetland and board walk.
New Site (West Grants Pass)	7.5	x	x			Investigate options to develop a 7.5-acre neighborhood park in West Grants Pass. Acquire, plan and develop site as a neighborhood park according to design and sustainability guidelines. Provide a playground (ages 2-12), a basketball court or tennis court, picnic tables, a perimeter path or loop trail, a multi-purpose turf area, and baseball/softball field.
New Site (Northeast Grants Pass)	5.0		x			Investigate options to develop a 5-acre neighborhood park in NE Grants Pass. Consider the Hillcrest Reserve, potential partnerships at school sites, or other appropriate sites. Create a site master plan and develop the site according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include a playground (ages 2-12), a basketball court, picnic tables, a perimeter path or loop trail, a multi-purpose turf area, and another active recreation resource.
New Site (Northwest Grants Pass)	7.5	x	x			Investigate options to develop a 7.5-acre neighborhood park in Northwest Grants Pass. Acquire, plan and develop site as a neighborhood park according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include a playground (ages 2-12), a basketball court or tennis court, skate spot, picnic tables, a perimeter path or loop trail, multi-purpose turf area, and another active recreation resource.
New Site (Harbeck/Grandview area)	7.5	x	x			Investigate options to develop a 7.5-acre neighborhood park in the Harbeck/Grandview area. Acquire, plan and develop site as a neighborhood park according to design and sustainability guidelines. Provide a playground (ages 2-12), a basketball court or tennis court, picnic tables, and ADA-compliant internal pathway system, a perimeter path or loop trail, a multi-purpose turf area, and another active recreation resource.
New Site (Nebraska Canal area)	5.0	x	x			Investigate options to develop a 5-acre neighborhood park in the Nebraska Canal area. Acquire, plan and develop site as a neighborhood park according to design and sustainability guidelines. Provide a playground (ages 2-12), a basketball court or tennis court, picnic tables, a perimeter path or loop trail, a multi-purpose turf area, and another active recreation resource.
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>51.43</b>					

	Acreage	Acquire	Develop	Improve City Site	Improve Partner Site	Recommended Capital Improvements
<b>COMMUNITY PARKS</b>						
Community Park	(below)					Investigate options to develop Allen Creek Reserve, Garrison Fields, and new acreage as a community park. Master plan and develop site as a community park according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include a thematic play area (ages 2-12), soccer field complex, tennis courts (4), basketball court, skate spot, water play area, par course/cardio vascular exercise playground, perimeter or loop trail.
Allen Creek Reserve	12.81		x			Incorporate existing reserves and trails into the park master plan and development.
Garrison Fields (Lease agreement)	4.70				x	Create a nominal-fee lease agreement with Grants Pass School District 7, taking on field improvements and development and granting the school first right of use.
New Acquisition	15.00	x	x			Acquire land to link existing parcels.
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>32.51</b>					
<b>REGIONAL PARKS</b>						
Regional Park	247.66		x			Investigate options to develop the River Road Reserve or a comparable site as a regional park. Master plan and develop the site according to design and sustainability guidelines. Balance open space with facility development. Include a variety of active and passive recreation facilities, such as a destination play area, water play area, shade shelter, open playfields, sand volleyball court, disc golf, horseshoes, radio control sports park, small and large-group picnic shelters, dispersed picnic tables, boat launch, fishing pond, nature/visitor center, fire circle, agricultural extension facility, working farm, community garden, demonstration garden, orchard, nature/interpretive trails, fitness and loop trails, and others. Restore and manage natural areas for wildlife habitat and resource value. Engage willing volunteers and partners in development and maintenance.
River Road Reserve						Clean-up the small, contaminated area north of Upper River Road. If this site is developed as a regional park, evaluate options to realign Lower River Road to increase water access.
<b>SPECIAL USE AREAS</b>						
Dog park	8.00		x			Investigate options to develop the Hillcrest Park Reserve or another site as a dog park. Acquire land (if needed), plan, and develop site as a special use area according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include a separate, fenced big and small dog areas with perimeter looped trails within the enclosure.
Downtown plaza	1.00	x	x			Investigate options to acquire and develop a Downtown plaza, according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include tree planters, landscaping, information kiosk, and amenities to support small group gatherings.
5th Street River Overlook	0.39		x			Replace the picnic table; improve stairs; define water access points with a boardwalk.
8th Street Overlook	0.30		x			Develop to improve water access and public use.
Greenwood Overlook	0.51		x			Develop to improve water access and public use.
Hillcrest Park Reserve	10.12			x		Investigate options to develop this site with an off-leash dog park and/or with neighborhood park facilities. Master plan and develop park according to design and sustainability guidelines.
USFS Complex	3.32	x	x			Continue to monitor acquisition opportunities for this site, including investigations into historical designation and site contamination/clean-up requirements. If appropriate, pursue acquisition through purchase or other means to preserve this facility. Develop a financial feasibility study and master plan for this site prior to construction to identify site uses prior to development. Develop for indoor recreation, programming and meeting space.
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>23.64</b>					

	Acreage	Acquire	Develop	Improve City Site	Improve Partner Site	Recommended Capital Improvements
<b>GREENSPACE</b>						
Nursery Park Reserve	4.90		x			Investigate options to develop this site as green space. Create a site design and develop site, according to design and sustainability guidelines. Provide water access and passive uses. Connect to the proposed Rogue River Regional Greenway, with trail linkages to nearby parks.
Parkway Park Reserve	6.38		x			Investigate options to develop this site as green space. Create a site design and develop site, according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include nature trails, interpretive signage, gazebo, picnic tables, benches, and a trailhead with parking.
F and Woodson Park Reserve	11.72		x			Investigate options to develop this site as green space. Create a site design and develop site, according to design and sustainability guidelines. Include nature trails, interpretive signage, gazebo, picnic tables, benches, and a trailhead with parking.
Rogue River Bridge/Trailhead	5.00	x	x			Investigate options to develop a pedestrian/bicycle bridge across the Rogue River to provide access to River Road Reserve. Consider crossings at Schroeder Park, the City Pump Station, or other sites. Master Plan and develop trailhead(s) and bridge according to design and sustainability guidelines.
Rogue River Greenway Regional Trail	(below)					Identify an appropriate route for pedestrian and bicycle traffic between parks along the Rogue River. Consider off-street multi-purpose trails where feasible, or sidewalks and on-street bike lanes where necessary. Develop trail according to design and sustainability guidelines. In the long term, connect to the proposed Rogue River Greenway regional trail.
Segment 1: RRR Bridge to Schroeder	1.44	x	x			Determine route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 1.
Segment 2: Schroeder to Redwood Park	1.68	x	x			Determine route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 2.
Segment 3: Redwood to Fairgrounds	2.16	x	x			Determine route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 3.
Segment 4: Riverside to Parkway Bridge	1.20	x	x			Determine route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 4.
Segment 5: Parkway Bridge to Tom Pearce	4.80	x	x			Determine route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 5.
Tom Pearce Trailhead	5.00	x	x			Investigate options to acquire land for a trailhead to improve access to Tom Pearce Park. Master plan and develop this site as green space, according to design and sustainability guidelines. Connect to the County trail extending from the park to the end of Spaulding Avenue.
River City Trail	(below)					Identify an appropriate route for a multi-purpose trail connecting parks south of the Rogue River. Consider off-street pathways where feasible, or sidewalks and on-street bike lanes where necessary. Develop trail according to design and sustainability guidelines. In the long term, connect to the proposed Rogue River Greenway regional trail.
Segment 1: Fairgrounds to Allen Creek Park	1.80	x	x			Identify route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 1.
Segment 2: Allen Creek Trail to Allenwood	0.96	x	x			Identify route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 2.
Segment 3: Allenwood to Cathedral Hills	0.48	x	x			Identify route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 3. Include crossing improvements for Highway 238.
Segment 4: Parkway Bridge to Fruitdale Creek Trail	2.40	x	x			Identify route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 4.
Segment 5: Fruitdale Creek Trail to Cathedral Hills	1.20	x	x			Identify route, acquire corridor as needed, and develop Segment 5.
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>51.12</b>					

	Acreage	Acquire	Develop	Improve City Site	Improve Partner Site	Recommended Capital Improvements
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b>						
Schroeder Park	24.00				x	Pursue a partnership with Josephine County on site improvements, particularly to ensure water access and connect this site to the proposed Rogue River Greenway Trail system.
Fairgrounds	52.48		x			Pursue a partnership with Josephine County to master plan and renovate the Fairgrounds to serve as a community focal point for performance events, championships sports field games, concerts, fairs and festivals, and other types of special events. Conduct a financial feasibility study to determine what upgrades can be financially supported.
Lathrop Boat Ramp	0.25				x	Pursue a partnership with Josephine County to include the boat ramp in the master planning, design, and development of the River Road Reserve, if this site moves forward as a regional park.
Wetlands (Redwood Elementary)	4.50				x	Pursue a partnership with Grants Pass School District 7 to preserve the Redwood Wetlands (mitigation site) for educational and recreational opportunities. Provide trails and interpretive signage.
Redwood Elementary School Park	3.00				x	Pursue a partnership with Grants Pass School District 7 to develop a school park. Master plan and develop the site according to school and park guidelines. Include outdoor educational and recreational facilities to support school and park use.
Lincoln Elementary School Park	3.00				x	Pursue a partnership with Grants Pass School District 7 to develop a school park at this site or another comparable site. Master plan and develop the site according to school and park guidelines. Include outdoor educational and recreational facilities to support school and park use. Improve connections between this site and Croxton Memorial Park.
Wetland at Yucca Lane	2.20				x	Incorporate, plan and improve this City-owned site as green space. Evaluate the recreation potential of this site; address environmental restoration needs; consider maintaining site with no public access if recreational use is limited.
Wetland at Eastwood Lane	1.00				x	Incorporate, plan and improve this City-owned site as green space. Evaluate the recreation potential of this site; address environmental restoration needs; consider maintaining site with no public access if recreational use is limited.
Wetland at Ravenwood Drive	1.20				x	Incorporate, plan and improve this City-owned site as green space. Evaluate the recreation potential of this site; address environmental restoration needs; consider maintaining site with no public access if recreational use is limited.
Wetland at Cashmere Drive	5.60				x	Incorporate, plan and improve this City-owned site as green space. Evaluate the recreation potential of this site; address environmental restoration needs; add nature trails, interpretive signage, and passive use amenities if desirable.
Cathedral Hills	422.00				x	Pursue a partnership with the BLM on trail improvements at this site to complete the link of the proposed River City Trail.
Subtotal	519.23					
<b>Subtotal Proposed</b>	<b>194.76</b>					
<b>OTHER PROJECTS AND PLANS</b>						
Aquatic Feasibility Study						In the long term, develop an aquatic feasibility study to investigate the City's financial capacity to build and operate a new swimming pool or aquatic center. Consider water-play opportunities and revenue-generation.
River Road Resource Management Plan						Create a natural resource management plan to restore and managed natural areas at the River Road Reserve.
Trails Routing Plan						Prior to trail development, create a trail master plan or segment designs to identify actual trail routes and trailhead locations providing the conceptual linkages noted in this Plan.
Integrated Pest Management Plan						Develop an Integrated Pest Management Plan to reduce the use of hazardous chemicals.

	Acreage	Acquire	Develop	Improve City Site	Improve Partner Site	Recommended Capital Improvements
<b>OTHER PROJECTS AND PLANS</b>						
Natural Features Map						Create a natural features map and self-guided tour to highlight significant natural features in Grants Pass.
System-wide Recycling Program						Create a system-wide recycling and waste-reduction program that includes recycling receptacles in all parks.
Facility Rental Rates Update						Update facility rental rates and associated information.
Volunteer Recognition Program						Implement a program to honor and recognize volunteer and partner contributions to the park and recreation system.
Donation Catalog						Create a donation catalogue with opportunities for sponsorship, donations, and volunteer contributions park development.