

FOREWORD

This Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan represents the policy of the City of Grants Pass.

This Plan includes recommendations about the overall park system needs within a 20-year planning horizon. However, it also recognizes that these recommendations are applicable even if they cannot all be implemented within the planning horizon, especially when it comes to

meeting spatial and geographic-based parks needs throughout the community.



The Plan includes policy about the City's role as property owner, park provider, and partner with other governmental agencies, school districts, non-profit organizations, and private sector individuals, organizations, and businesses.

The Plan includes both comprehensive and strategic planning components.

- The comprehensive components identify the overall goals and policies, including identification of goals and community-wide needs, including the types of parks, park and recreation uses, and service levels.
- The strategic components provide an action plan to identify how to meet needs given real-world factors, including recognition of limited resources as well as opportunities to work with potential partners.

Some of the action-oriented policies and strategies provide directions for the City to work with other partners. This Plan is not intended to reflect the policy of these other partners.

Some of the action-oriented policies and strategies focus on the City's role as property owner, including projects the City should pursue as a property owner. Some actions or strategies may direct the City to coordinate with other partners. Further, some actions may require land use and/or regulatory approval from other agencies. This Plan does not include those regulatory authorizations or reflect the policy position of other partner or regulatory agencies. This Plan only records the City's policy to work with or initiate action with the partner organizations. It does not and cannot predetermine the outcomes or responses from those partners.

Rather than separate some actions into a component that is part of the Comprehensive Plan and part of a separate Administrative Policy independent from the land use documents, the City sees value in retaining one cohesive document that addresses the issues in the overall context. Their inclusion is intended to achieve the same effect as addressing these issues in separate documents.

Any language in this Plan about the City's intent to pursue the provision of park facilities on City-owned properties (even those that are located outside of the Urban Growth Boundary) should be construed as within the purview of the City as property owner. It is not within the jurisdiction of Josephine County to determine whether or not the City should pursue any specific actions in its role as property owner. As such, any such language should not be construed as County policy regarding decisions the City may choose to pursue as property owner.

The Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan is not a site-specific "Local Park Master Plan" as described in OAR 660 Division 34. It does not adopt any "Local Park Master Plan" for any individual park properties, which requires review and adoption through a separate process. The County would have the opportunity either (a) to provide policy through a subsequent Local Park Master Plan process, or (b) to apply its independent, non-prejudicial determination through a quasi-judicial conditional use permit process. As provided in OAR Division 34, a Local Park Master Plan would be adopted as a Post-Acknowledgment Plan Amendment, which would be prepared and adopted applying criteria comparable to those required for uses in state parks under OAR Chapter 736 Division 18. It is anticipated that such a plan would be developed in a manner comparable to the state park planning process described in OAR 736 Division 18, except that it would need to be adapted for applicability to local parks and local park planning.

Further, the City notes that City-owned park reserves and/or other comparable properties may both be considered as options for meeting park needs. This Plan includes recommendations related to City-owned properties and other potential acquisition areas. These recommendations do not preclude the City from considering other properties that could meet the same need.