



**Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 5:00 PM
Council Chambers, 616 NE 4th AVE - Hybrid Meeting**

NOTE: The City welcomes public meeting citizen participation. TTY Relay Service: 711. In compliance with the ADA, if you need special assistance to participate in a meeting, contact the City Clerk's office at (360) 834-6864, 72 hours prior to the meeting so reasonable accommodations can be made (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title 1)

To Participate Remotely:

OPTION 1 -

1. Go to www.zoom.us and download the app or click "Join A Meeting" and use Meeting ID – 967 8441 0696
2. Or, from any device click <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96784410696>

OPTION 2 - Join by phone (audio only):

1. Dial 877-853-5257 and enter meeting ID# 967 8441 0696

For Public Comment:

1. Click the raise hand icon in the app or by phone, hit *9 to "raise your hand"
2. Or, email to publiccomments@cityofcamas.us (400 word limit)

These will be entered into the meeting record. Emails received by one hour before the start of the meeting will be emailed to the Meeting Body prior to the meeting start time. Emails will be accepted until 1 hour received after the meeting and will be emailed to the Meeting Body no later than the end of the next business day.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Ground Rules: Listen With An Open Mind, Let Everyone Participate, Close Decisions, Identify Action Items & Follow Up, Show Up On Time & Come Prepared, Stay Mentally & Physically Present.

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [Approve Minutes of Parks & Rec Commission meeting held on September 28, 2022](#)

[Presenter: Steve Lorenz, Chair](#)
[Time Estimate: 5 Minutes](#)

MEETING ITEMS

2. [Mayor's FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget – Commission Support letter \(discussion and approval\)](#)

[Presenter: Steve Lorenz, Chair](#)

[Time Estimate: 10 minutes](#)

3. **Pros & Cons of pool survey in 2022 (discussion and recommendation)**

Presenter: Steve Lorenz, Chair

Time Estimate: 20 minutes

4. **Heritage Trail: Trail Courtesy Signage (discussion and approval)**

Presenter: Trang Lam, Parks & Recreation Director

Time Estimate: 20 minutes

PROJECT UPDATES

5. **Crown Park update (informational)**

Presenter: Trang Lam, Parks & Recreation Director

Time Estimate: 15 minutes

6. **Other Parks & Recreation Updates**

Presenter: Trang Lam, Parks & Recreation Director

Time Estimate: 5 minutes

7. **Public Works Updates**

Presenter: Public Works Staff

Time Estimate: 5 minutes

OTHER ITEMS

8. **Commissioners Updates (informational)**

Presenter: Steve Lorenz, Chair

Time Estimate: Remainder of Time

CLOSE OF MEETING



**Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 28, 2022, 5:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting - Zoom and Council Chambers, 616
NE 4th AVE**

CALL TO ORDER

Steve Lorenz called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Meeting Ground Rules: Listen With An Open Mind, Let Everyone Participate, Close Decisions, Identify Action Items & Follow Up, Show Up On Time & Come Prepared, Stay Mentally & Physically Present.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ellen Burton, Katy Daane, Brittany Grahm, Jason Irving, Steve Lorenz, Jenny Wu

Excused: David Dewey

Staff: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Trang Lam, Susan Palmer

Presenter: Ben Johnson, Greenworks

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Approve Minutes of Parks & Rec Commission meeting held on Wednesday, July 28, 2022**
Presenter: Steve Lorenz, Chair
Time Estimate: 5 Minutes

A motion was made by Irving, seconded by Burton, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 28, 2022 as written.

MEETING ITEMS

2. **FY 2023-24 Budget Process Update (Staff Presentation and Q&A)**
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director
Time Estimate: 30 Minutes

Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director, shared an overview of the proposed 2023-24 City budget. Lam shared a proposed 2023-24 budget overview specific to Parks & Recreation.

Lam stated that City Council adopts the 2023-24 budget in December 2022. Discussion ensued.

3. Crown Park Design Update (Discussion and Feedback)

Presenter: Trang Lam, Parks & Recreation Director and Ben Johnson, Greenworks Project Manager

Time Estimate: 30 minutes

Ben Johnson and Trang Lam shared the Crown Park improvement plan. They reviewed; community feedback, an outline of phase 1, water feature design, playground design and inclusive playgrounds.

Johnson also reviewed a nature play area, design themes, playground surfacing and lighting options. Discussion ensued.

4. Heritage Trail: Trail Courtesy Signage (Discussion and Approval)

Presenter: Trang Lam, Parks & Recreation Director

Time Estimate: 10 Minutes

Lam presented a potential sign design that could be used along Heritage trail to help promote safety. Discussion ensued.

Lam stated that work will continue on sign design for Heritage Trail and will be presented at a later date.

PROJECT UPDATES

5. Project Updates - Skate Park, Tennis/Pickleball shared-use hours end of season survey, Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group – Lower Lacamas Creek Riparian Restoration project, SEEK grant end of season report.

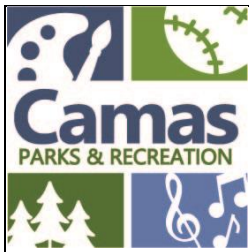
Presenter: Trang Lam, Parks & Recreation Director

Time Estimate: 10 Minutes

Lam provided updates on the following: Riparian grant project; SEEK grant for summer camps; end-of-season survey available on Engage Camas for Pickleball/Tennis shared-use court usage at Grass Valley and Crown Park.

CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7:13 pm.



October 26, 2022

City of Camas Council
616 NE 4th Avenue
Camas, WA 98607

Commissioners:

Ellen Burton

Katy Daane

David Dewey

Brittany Grahm

Jason Irving, Vice Chair

Steve Lorenz, Chair

Jenny Wu

**RE: Requesting Approval Of Mayor's
FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget**

Dear City Council members,

The Camas Parks and Recreation Commission respectfully requests that the City of Camas Council approve funding and staffing as proposed in the Mayor's 2023-24 budget. We sincerely appreciate your continued support of our valued Camas parks, trails, open space, and recreational programming, all of which contribute to what makes Camas a special place and our "small town feel." By listening to our Camas citizens, setting the vision, and investing for the long term, our entire community benefits from the livability created through abundant recreation and natural space opportunities.

The request from Parks & Recreation Department (Department) outlined in the Mayor's 2023-24 proposed budget is in direct response to and aligns with community priorities we heard during the development of the 2022 Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan. By approving the budget, you reaffirm your commitment to implementing the PROS Plan adopted in April 2022. This proposed budget enables us to start closing the gap, ensuring our parks, trails and facilities are maintained appropriately to prevent higher future costs; delivering relevant programming to all; and developing new parks and trails to support increased usage.

Department Overview

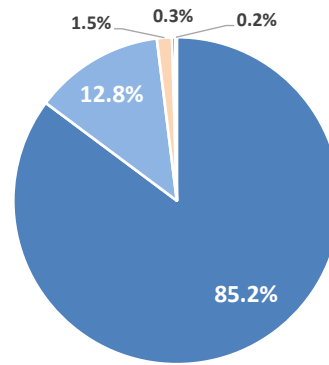
The Department provides and manages a wide range of places and programs providing year-round recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. The Department develops, operates, and maintains:

- 16 developed parks, including Fallen Leaf Lake Park;
- A variety of outdoor recreation facilities, from playgrounds and picnic areas to boating and water access points, to sports facilities such as the Skate Park and Prune Hill Sports Park;
- Three indoor recreation and community gathering facilities – the Camas Community Center, Lacamas Lake Lodge, and Scout Hall;
- 12 miles of City trails;
- Over 1,060 acres of parks and open space (over 462 acres acquired in the last 10 years); and
- Holding over 20 special events and about 1900 recreational classes annually (2019, pre-COVID).

Where we've been and what we've accomplished

The PROS Plan guides City officials, management and staff in making decisions about planning, operating and implementing various parks and recreation services. Between adoption of the new 2022 PROS Plan in April 2022, and the previous one in 2014, the Department:

- Acquired and preserved multiple properties along the north shore of Lacamas Lake, also known as Legacy Lands, (165 acres), and forest land at Green Mountain (115 acres);
- Opened the Lacamas Lake Lodge and Conference Center;



■ Essential to the quality of life here ■ Important, but not really essential
■ Useful, but not necessary ■ Not Important
■ Don't know

**98% feel parks &
recreation is
essential or
important**
*(2022 PROS Plan
community survey)*

Item 2.

- Completed the first phase of field and site improvements for the Prune Hill Sports Park;
- Constructed the Cooper's View Neighborhood Park;
- Secured Council adoption of the site master plan to guide Crown Park renovations; and
- Prepared a site master plan to guide renovations to Fallen Leaf Lake Park.

Where we are now

During the 2021-22 biennium, the Department, in partnership with the Public Works Maintenance staff:

- Completed the community-based 2022 Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan on-time and under-budget.
- Secured a \$1.25M county grant, with \$2.25M in state grants pending for capital and land acquisition projects, which returns tax dollars to the Camas community for other uses. If awarded all \$3.5M, it would equal 153% of the adopted 2022 parks capital budget.
- Utilized seasonal staff to cost effectively complete much-needed clearance trimming and minor surface maintenance of nearly 7.5 of our 12 miles of trails.
- Continued to build community during COVID by holding 29 events (9 in 2021 and 20 in 2022), attracting about 15,000 participants in 2022 to date, and expect at least 3000 participants for Hometown Holiday.
- Continued to focus on community physical and mental health throughout COVID by safely offering hundreds of recreational youth and adult classes to thousands of community members.
- In-process of completing the 30% Crown Park design per the City's long-standing promise to the community.
- Growing our partnership with the Camas Parks Foundation through capital campaigns – fundraising and planning the much-needed Camas-Washougal Skate Park improvements.

Where to, next?

To address our community's desires balanced with Council's vision and guidance, the Director and Commission are prioritizing key projects as described in the adopted 2022 PROS Plan:

- **Protect** our current assets by bringing parks in good and fair condition up to standard, repairing and replacing parks in poor condition, and maintaining and improving our 12 miles of trails.
- Continue **building** great parks and trails with Council's partnership to fund capital and on-going operational expenses.
- **Invest** in our future by taking a deep dive into open space management to safeguard our legacy lands, protect our ecosystem, and slow climate change.

As shown in the attached graphics, current funding and staffing constraints are insufficient to continue delivering the level of service our community expects and deserves. Neither funding nor staffing has kept pace with population and park land growth. Thus, we request that you support the Mayor's 2023-24 budget for parks and recreation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steve Lorenz

Chair

Camas Parks and Recreation Commission

Enclosure: Parks Data

PARKS DATA

Figure 27. NRPA Agency Performance Metrics Comparisons – Park & Recreation Staffing

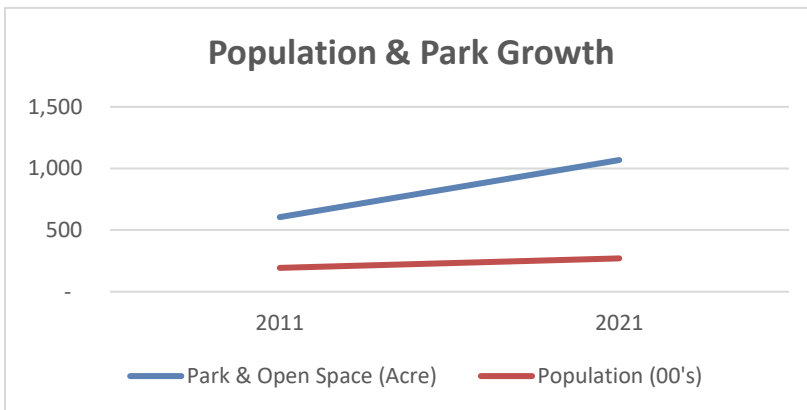
Metric	All Agencies	Pop. 20,000-49,999	Camas 2020
Park & Rec FTEs*	41.9	27.3	11.1
P&R FTEs per 1,000 Residents	8.1	8.9	0.4
Annual Operating Expenditures	\$4,342,495	\$2,885,847	\$1,771,272
Operating Expenditures per Capita	\$81.19	\$95.34	\$67.96
Operating Expenditures per Park Acre	\$7,160	\$8,522	\$1,665

2022 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

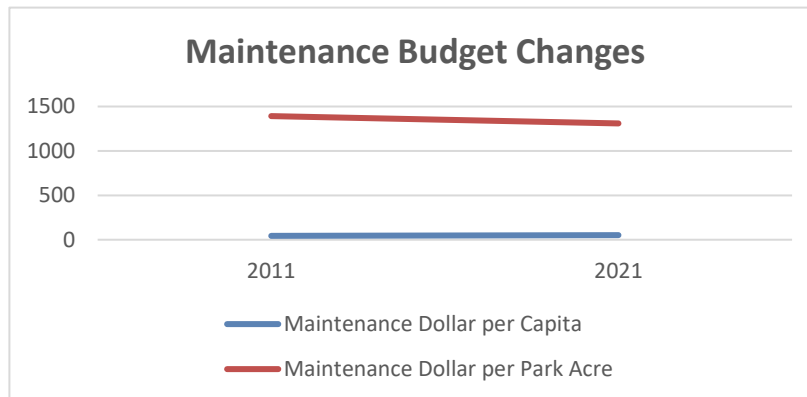
Chapter 8: Operations & Maintenance

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*No seasonal FTEs for Camas in 2020 due to COVID

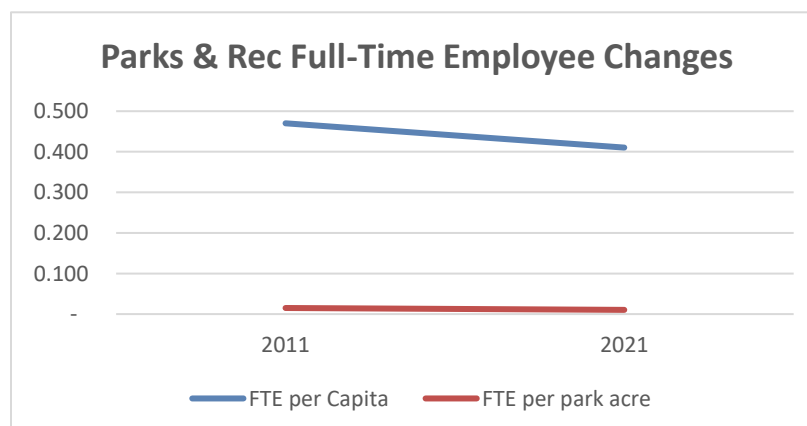


In the past 10 years, Camas experienced park land growth of 462 acres and population growth of 7,700, that is 76% and 40% increases, respectively.



While maintenance budget per capita remain flat over the years, maintenance budget per acre dropped 6% in the last 10 years.

*The impact of increased maintenance costs from capital projects in the pipeline are not reflected in this calculation



Staffing has not kept pace with population and asset growth. Over the past 10 years, parks maintenance and recreation full-time employee (FTE) per capita and per park acre dropped 13% and 31%, respectively.