



CITY OF SWEET HOME PARKS AND TREE COMMITTEE AGENDA

November 15, 2023, 8:30 AM
Santiam Conference Room
3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

WIFI Passcode: guestwifi

PLEASE silence all cell phones – Anyone who wishes to speak, please sign in.

Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

Meeting Information

The City of Sweet Home is streaming the meeting via the Microsoft Teams platform and asks the public to consider this option. There will be opportunity for public input via the live stream. To view the meeting live, online visit <http://live.sweethomeor.gov>. If you don't have access to the internet you can call in to 971-203-2871, choose option #1 and enter the meeting ID to be logged in to the call. Meeting ID: #278 852 022 483

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Park and Tree Committee Members:

Time Reports

Public Comment. This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Park and Tree Committee on topics that are not listed on the agenda.

New Business

Master Parks Plan Presentation

- a) [Cameron McCarthy Parks System Plan Presentation](#)

Adjournment

The Sweet Home Park and Tree Committee welcomes your interest in these agenda items. Pursuant to ORS 192.640, this agenda includes a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting; however, the Committee may consider additional subjects as well. This meeting is open to the public and interested citizens are invited to attend.

If you have questions, please contact the Community and Economic Development Department at 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386; Phone: (541) 367-8113.

The location of the meeting is accessible to the disabled. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, advanced notice is requested by notifying the City Manager's Office at 541-367-8969.

SHMC 1.10 CITY COMMITTEES

§ 2.10.050 POWERS AND DUTIES.

A. Park and Tree Committee. The powers and duties of the Park And Tree Committee shall be as follows:

1. To conduct an inventory of existing street trees, including historical trees and public properties in need of beautification and plantings and present a written report to the City Council of its findings;
2. To develop and recommend to the City Council, for its adoption, a master list of trees suitable for planting within the city. The list shall be reviewed annually, a copy of which shall be kept on file in the office of the City Recorder for public information;
3. To develop and recommend to the City Council, for its adoption, ordinances and policies for the planting, care, maintenance, replacement and protection of trees throughout the city;
4. To act in an advisory capacity to the Planning Commission with respect to landscape design, suitable plantings, protection of natural vegetation and street tree requirements;
5. To submit recommendations to the City Council regarding the beautification of public properties and rights-of-way;
6. To promote public knowledge and acceptance of the value of tree planting and maintenance programs and requirements;
7. To develop a capital development program for each fiscal year, to include acquisition of new land and/or development of existing property for parks and other recreation areas;
8. To recommend recreation programing needs to be produced by the city;
9. To recommend an operating budget to carry out the recreation program as outlined for the forthcoming fiscal year; and
10. To preform additional duties and studies as may be required from time to time by the City Council.
11. To meet a minimum of four meetings a year, beginning with the month of December, which meeting should be devoted to the development of the next year's capital and recreation programs.

(Ord. 1263, § 1, 2017)

Sweet Home Park System Master Plan

To: Blair Larsen, Community and Economic Development Director
Angela Clegg, Associate Planner

From: Colin McArthur, Elizabeth Auvil, Victor García

Date: November 8, 2023

Subject: **DRAFT** Community Profile and Demographic Trends

OVERVIEW

Located in Linn County, Sweet Home is within the western foothills of Oregon's Cascade Range. Sweet Home sits adjacent to the South Santiam River and west of Foster Reservoir. The Santiam Highway (U.S. Route 20) and the Halsey-Sweet Home Hwy intersect at the west end of Sweet Home to form Main Street, which bisects the city from the southwest to the northeast. The city is 45 miles northeast of Eugene and 50 miles southeast of Salem.

Sweet Home is located 20 minutes west of the Willamette National Forest and has access to the South Santiam River. The city is located within the South Santiam Watershed. The city sits on alluvium soil, which is made up of gravel, sand, and silt. Along the South Santiam River, there are upper and lower terrace deposits made up of gravel, sand, silt, and clay.¹ The average precipitation in Sweet Home is around 69 inches per year with most rain occurring in the winter. The average temperature is 50.8 °F, with the hottest month being August, and the coldest being December.² Today, the City has roughly 10,097 residents and encompasses a contiguous area of about 5.30 square miles. Sweet Home has 7 primary land use zones: Commercial Central, Commercial Highway, Industrial, Residential Low-Density, Residential Medium-Density, Residential High-Density, and Mixed-Use Employment.

This memo provides a snapshot of the community profile and demographic trends for Sweet Home in 2023.

¹ Jason D. McClaughry, "Preliminary geologic map of the sweet home 7.5' quadrangle, Linn County, Oregon," State Library of Oregon, (n.d.), <https://digital.osl.state.or.us/islandora/object/osl:890>.

² "Climate-data," 2021, <https://en.climate-data.org/north-america/united-states-of-america/oregon/sweet-home-124498/>.

LOCAL CONTEXT

Before Sweet Home became an incorporated city in 1893, the Santiam Kalapuyans resided in that area. Their livelihood consisted of hunting, fishing, foraging nuts, berries, and fruits seasonally. Trade was specialized from tribe to tribe, with Kalapuyans specializing in camas and wapato. Because of their location, Kalapuyan tribes were part of a network that distributed products from the Columbia Gorge area to southern coastal tribes. Before European immigrants and missionaries came to the Willamette Valley, it is believed that this population reached 15,000³ but dwindled to 600 by 1849 due to diseases brought by explorers and traders. With the Willamette Valley Treaty in 1855, the Kalapuyan tribes were removed to the Grand Ronde Reservation located about 18 miles east of Lincoln City, Oregon. The first settlers arrived in Sweet Home in 1851, and then in 1852 the Ames family settled and started a sawmill business. Soon after, more settlers came into town and staked their land claim. Businesses started opening, with the first hotel being built in 1860, and the first subdivision in 1878.⁴ During this time, the economy depended on trade, farming, livestock, and small businesses. As time progressed, there was a high influx of people due to the high demand of lumber in the 1940's. The most recent boom in their economy was in 1962-1963 during the construction of Green Peter Dam. In the 1980's, many timber mills were closed, causing a decline in Sweet Home's population. Since then, Sweet Home received a federal grant in the 1990's to help small businesses. More recently, the Oregon Jamboree annual music festival was created in Sweet Home, boosting their economy.

In the last thirty years, Sweet Home has focused on various planning efforts and improvements. The City undertook a downtown revitalization project in the 1990s, and has recently been working on improvements for Sankey Park, their wastewater treatment plant, and undertaking their 'Paint the town' project to repaint buildings in their downtown. Additionally, the City is expanding its focus on recreation opportunities as a source of economic growth. The Oregon Jamboree was founded as an economic development project and brings approximately 10,000-12,000 people to town during the first weekend of August. Currently, the annual music festival occurs at Sweet Home's Sankey Park. The City is looking to expand support for the Jamboree in the future by adding a large park property along the South Santiam River.

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Trends in population growth, age, housing, race, and ethnicity are all key to understanding a community's composition. The following data is from Portland State University's Population Research Center and the U.S. Census Bureau. Current population data and forecasts from PSU are provided for 2020 and onward. Data from American Fact Finder is drawn from the most current data available. The American Community Survey (ACS) collects information such as age, race, income, and other important data. The ACS produces 3-year estimates annually for geographic areas with a population of 20,000 or more. In 2010, the Census Bureau began releasing 5-year estimates for small areas. In the case of Sweet Home, ACS data is available for the period of 2010-2020, hence referred to as 2020 data.

³ Don Macnaughtan, "Kalapuya: Native Americans of the Willamette Valley, Oregon", Lane Library, September 22, 2023, <https://libraryguides.lanec.edu/kalapuya>.

⁴ "Sweet Home's History," Sweet Home's History | Sweet Home Chambers of Commerce and Visitors Center, (n.d.), <https://www.sweethomechamber.com/sweet-homes-history/>.

Population Growth

Sweet Home’s current population is 10,097 residents (2022). Table 1.1 summarizes historic and projected future populations.

Table 1.1. Sweet Home Historical and Future Population Forecast ⁵

Year	2010	2020	2022	2030	2040
Population	8,925	9,828	10,097	10,455	11,010

Linn County’s current population is 131,194 residents (2022). Table 1.2 summarizes historic and projected future populations.

Table 1.2. Linn County Historical and Future Population Forecast ⁶

Year	2010	2020	2022	2030	2040
Population	116,672	128,610	131,194	139,090	146,130

Oregon’s current population is approximately 4,281,851 (2022). Table 1.3 summarizes historical and projected future populations.

Table 1.3. Oregon Historical and Future Population Forecast⁷

Year	2010	2020	2022	2030	2040
Population	3,831,074	4,237,256	4,281,851	4,721,060	5,100,899

Growth is anticipated overall in the City, County, and State. Sweet Home itself is predicted to grow at a steady pace alongside other jurisdictions in the region. Population growth in Sweet Home and neighboring communities suggests a need to accommodate this growth as it pertains to parks and recreation facilities and amenities.

Age

It is important for parks systems to meet the recreation needs of residents of all ages. Analyzing the population by age group can be used to adjust planning efforts for future age-related recreational trends. Tables 1.4, 1.5, and 1.6 summarize the 2020 population age distribution of Sweet Home, Linn County, and Oregon.

⁵ Portland State University (PSU), Population Research Center, 2023, <https://www.pdx.edu/population-research/>.

⁶ Portland State University (PSU), Population Research Center, 2023, <https://www.pdx.edu/population-research/>.

⁷ Portland State University (PSU), Population Research Center, 2023, <https://www.pdx.edu/population-research/>.

Table 1.4. Age Distribution of Sweet Home⁸

Age	0 to 4	5 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and Over
Population	340 (4%)	1,824 (19%)	466 (5%)	2,356 (24%)	2,775 (29%)	2,002 (21%)

Table 1.5. Age Distribution of Linn County⁹

Age	0 to 4	5 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and Over
Population	7,658 (6%)	23,688 (19%)	7,246 (6%)	32,409 (26%)	32,572 (26%)	23,643 (19%)

Table 1.6. Age Distribution of Oregon¹⁰

Age	0 to 4	5 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and Over
Population	228,314 (6%)	737,402 (18%)	265,800 (6%)	1,154,049 (28%)	1,055,849 (25%)	734,932 (18%)

Sweet Home’s largest percentage of residents are between the ages of 45 to 64 (29%) while the smallest percentage of the population is between ages 0 to 4 (4%). The second largest percentage of residents are people ages 25 to 44 (24%). Linn County largest percentage of residents by age fall between 45 to 64 (26%) while the smallest percentage are ages 20 to 24 (6%). The second largest group are residents ages 25 to 44 (26%). Oregon’s largest percentage of residents are ages 25 to 44 (28%) while the smallest percentage of the population are ages 0 to 4 (6%). The second largest population are people ages 45 to 64 (25%). In comparing all three scales, Sweet Home has similar trends as Linn County with having the highest population in ages 45 to 64 and the second highest population in ages 25 to 44. Sweet Home and Oregon share the lowest percentage of population ages 0 to 4. These trends show a diversified population where various park planning activities are needed to serve a community of all ages.

Table 1.7. Sweet Home Population by Age Estimate, 2010-2020¹¹

Year	0 to 4	5 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and Over
2010	650 (7%)	1,657 (19%)	308 (4%)	2,221 (25%)	2,152 (25%)	1,781 (20%)
2020	340 (4%)	1,824 (19%)	466 (5%)	2,356 (24%)	2,775 (29%)	2,002 (21%)

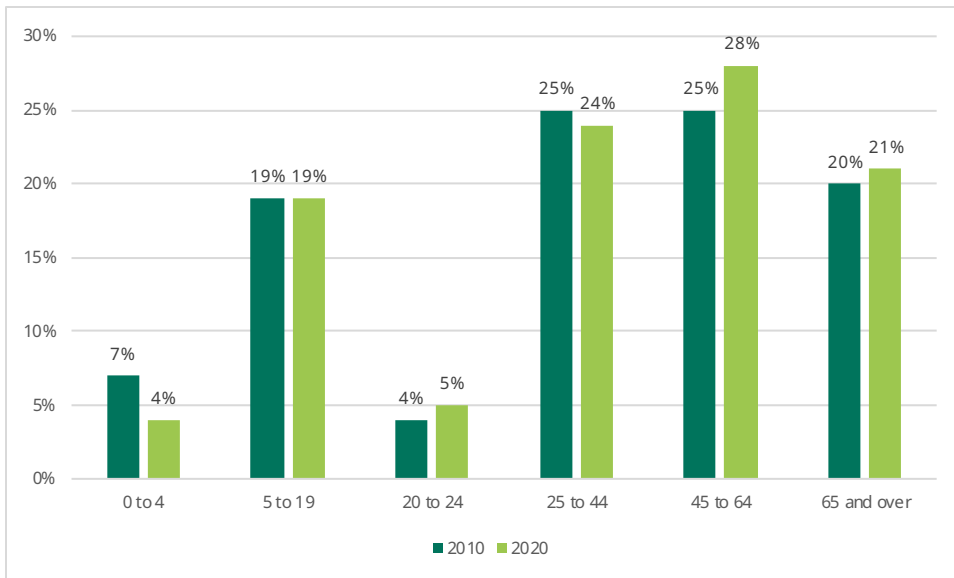
⁸ United State Census Bureau, 2023.

⁹ United State Census Bureau, 2023.

¹⁰ United State Census Bureau, 2023.

¹¹ United State Census Bureau, 2021.

Chart 1.1. Sweet Home Population by Age Estimate, 2010-2020¹²



Race & Ethnicity

The racial composition of Sweet Home has increased in diversity. As shown in Table 1.8, in 2010 93% of the population identified as White alone, while the second largest population was split between individuals who identified as Latinos (5%) and individuals with two or more races (3%). In the 2020 census, 86% of the population identified as White alone, while the second highest population identified as biracial (9%). In 2020, Black Americans, American Indian, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander residents made up over three percent of the population. In addition, per Table 1.9, residents identifying as Hispanic or Latino increased one percent between 2010-2020 to 6% of the total population. It is likely that Sweet Home, and its surrounding regional community will increasingly diversify over the next 20 years following national, statewide, and regional population trends. Sweet Home will need to adapt its park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of residents from diverse backgrounds.

¹² Portland State University (PSU), Population Research Center, 2021.

Table 1.8. Racial Composition of Sweet Home, 2010-2020¹³

	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Native Hawaiian	Two or More	Some Other Race Alone
2010 Population	8,330 (93%)	23 (.3%)	120 (1%)	72 (1%)	12 (.1%)	267 (3%)	101 (1%)
2020 Population	8,470 (86%)	32 (.3%)	147 (2%)	68 (1%)	13 (.1%)	928 (9%)	170 (2%)
Percent Change	+2%	+39%	+23%	-6%	+8%	+248%	+68%

Table 1.9. Racial Composition of Hispanic/Latino Identity in Sweet Home, 2010-2020¹⁴

	Hispanic Latino
2010 Population	418 (5%)
2020 Population	574 (6%)
Percentage Change	(+37%)

Table 1.10. Racial Composition of Linn County, 2010-2020¹⁵

	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Native Hawaiian	Two or More	Some Other Race Alone
2010 Population	105,669 (91%)	534 (1%)	1,488 (1%)	1,111 (1%)	162 (.1%)	3,820 (3%)	3,888 (3%)
2020 Population	107,700 (84%)	681 (1%)	1,727 (1%)	1,477 (1%)	295 (.2%)	12,014 (9%)	4,716 (4%)
Percent Change	+2%	+28%	+16%	+33%	+82%	+215%	+21%

¹³ United State Census Bureau, 2020.

¹⁴ United States Census Bureau, 2020.

¹⁵ United State Census Bureau, 2020.

Table 1.11. Racial Composition of Hispanic/Latino Identity in Linn County, 2010-2020¹⁶

	Hispanic Latino
2010 Population	9,127 (8%)
2020 Population	12,571 (10%)
Percentage Change	+38%

Table 1.12. Racial Composition of Oregon, 2010-2020¹⁷

	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Native Hawaiian	Two or More	Some Other Race Alone
2010 Population	3,204,614 (84%)	69,206 (2%)	53,203 (1%)	141,263 (4%)	13,404 (.4%)	144,759 (4%)	204,625 (5%)
2020 Population	3,169,096 (75%)	82,655 (2%)	62,993 (2%)	194,538 (5%)	19,204 (.5%)	443,339 (11%)	265,431 (6%)
Percent Change	-1%	+19%	+18%	+38%	+43%	+206%	+30%

Table 1.13. Racial Composition of Hispanic/Latino Identity in Oregon, 2010-2020¹⁸

	Hispanic Latino
2010 Population	450,062 (12%)
2020 Population	588,757 (14%)
Percentage Change	+31%

In the 2010 census, Sweet Home had a higher demographic of White population (93%) compared to the County (91%) and State (84%) data. In 2020, Sweet Home experienced a decrease in the overall makeup of the largest demographic (White, 86%). Sweet Home also experienced the largest percentage change (+248%) with a population of two or more between 2010 and 2020 compared to County and State. In both 2010 and 2020 Latinos made up the largest minority population across the City, County, and State. Overall, Sweet Home is experiencing an increase in almost all minority populations, following trends at the County and State level. Additionally, between 2010-2020, Sweet Home’s Some Other Race Alone population experienced a higher

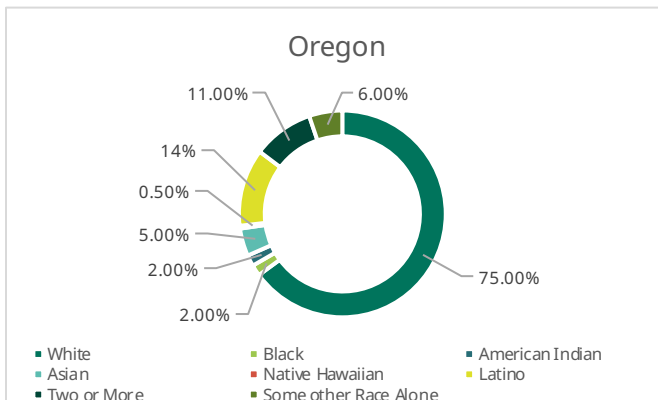
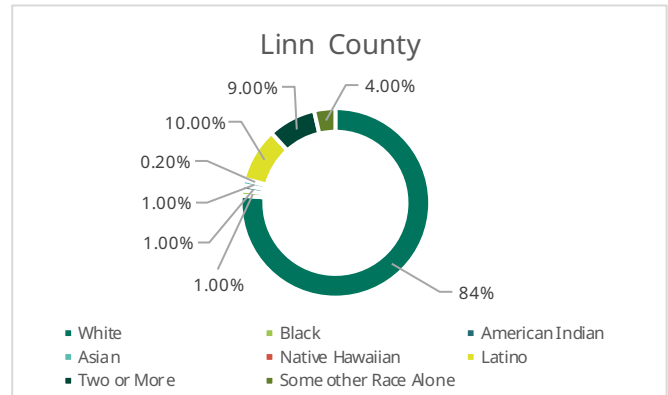
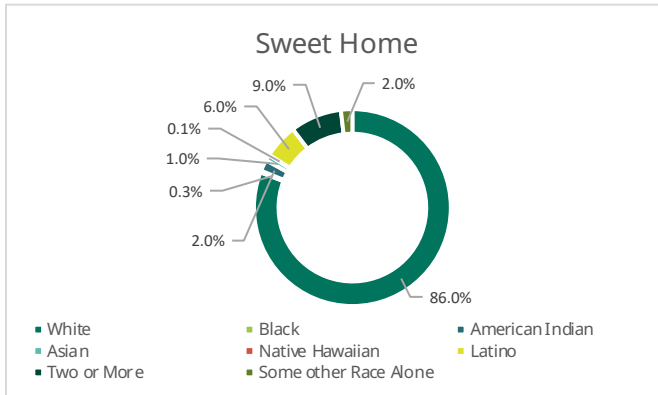
¹⁶ United States Census Bureau, 2020.

¹⁷ United State Census Bureau, 2020.

¹⁸ United States Census Bureau, 2020.

percentage change (+68%) compared to County (+21%) and State (+30%). These trends show growth for a more diversified population where a variety of park planning activities are needed to serve current and future community members.

Chart 1.2. Racial Composition by City, County, and State, 2020¹⁹



¹⁹ United States Census Bureau, 2020.

Family Makeup

Review of household type, housing tenure, and recent housing construction provides critical information for meeting park and recreation needs. This data assists with planning for the development of new parks and identifying potential funding sources, such as System Development Charges (SDCs). In addition, housing trends provide a snapshot of the type of housing being added to a community, where it is being added, and the type of homes that are being constructed.

In 2020, 67% of Sweet Home households were family households (individuals related by birth, marriage, or adoption) while 33% were non-family households (individuals living alone or with non-relatives). Of this 33% of non-family households, 24% live alone. As shown in Chart 1.6, Sweet Home has similar family occupancy to Linn County, yet more family households (67%) than the state (63%). Sweet Home also has slightly more non-family households than the County (32%), yet less than the State (37%). This percentage of non-family households who live alone highlights opportunities for the City to meet the needs of non-family households, some of which are older residents living alone. The high percentage of family households highlights the need to provide activities and opportunities across a wide age spectrum for families.

Table 1.14. Makeup of Households, 2020²⁰

	Family	Non-Family
Sweet Home	2,649 (67%)	1,286 (33%)
Linn County	32,784 (68%)	15,506 (32%)
Oregon	1,034,877 (63%)	607,702 (37%)

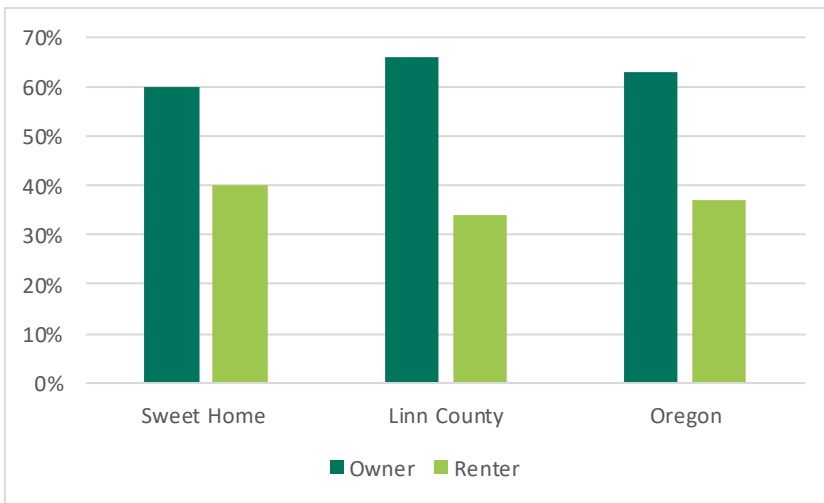
In 2020, Sweet Home had 3,935 housing units within its city limits. Roughly 60% of residents own their homes, while 40% are renters. As shown in Chart 1.7, overall, Sweet Home had a lesser percentage of owners in comparison to Linn County (66%) and Oregon (63%).

²⁰ United States Census Bureau, 2020.

Table 1.15. Housing Tenure, 2020²¹

	Owner	Renter
Sweet Home	60%	40%
Linn County	66%	34%
Oregon	63%	37%

Chart 1.3. Housing Tenure City, County, and State, 2020²²



Residential Building Permits

Evaluating the residential growth of Sweet Home is useful in determining park system priorities and improvements. Residential building permits have fluctuated over the last couple of years but the permits issued last year in 2022 (45 permits) reflect a 40% increase from 2020 (32 permits). This may indicate an increase in residential development in Sweet Home and the potential for residential development to remain elevated in the coming years.

Table 1.16 Recent Residential Development Permits Per Year²³

Residential building permits	
2020	32
2021	47
2022	45

²¹ United States Census Bureau, 2020.

²² United States Census Bureau, 2020.

²³ City of Sweet Home, 2023.

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Income

A community’s support of, desire for, and willingness to pay for park and recreation services are directly related to the strength of its economic base. Understanding the economic characteristics of Sweet Home is a critical step in determining priorities for park and recreation services. This understanding will also aid the City in preparing grants and applying for alternate funding sources to help pay for park projects. Table 1.17 presents income and poverty information for Sweet Home, Linn County, and Oregon in 2020.

Table 1.17. Income and Poverty; Sweet Home, Linn County, and Oregon, 2020²⁴

	Sweet Home	Linn County	Oregon
Median Household Income	\$45,424	\$59,547	\$65,667
Median Family Income	\$52,246	\$68,860	\$80,630
Per Capita Income	\$20,539	\$27,820	\$35,393
Percent of Families below Poverty Level	9.6%	7.6%	7.8%
Individuals 18 and older below Poverty Level	23.8%	13%	13%

In 2020, Sweet Home’s median household income (\$45,424), median family income (\$52,246), and per capita income (\$20,539), were lower than both Linn County and Oregon. Sweet Home also has a higher percentage of families living below the poverty level (9.6%) than Linn County (7.6%) and Oregon (7.8%). The percentage of individuals 18 and over living below the poverty level is greater in Sweet Home (24%) than in Linn County (13%) and Oregon (13%). Poverty and income are important considerations in the parks planning process, as they influence residents’ willingness and ability to pay for higher levels of service and new facilities.

EDUCATION ANALYSIS

Attainment

The educational attainment of its residents also influences a community’s economic base. Understanding the educational background in Sweet Home helps further understand economic factors. Table 1.18 presents educational attainment for Sweet Home, Linn County, and Oregon in 2020.

In 2020, 58% of adult residents in Sweet Home had a high school diploma, and 5% had a bachelor’s degree or higher, the latter of which is lower than both Linn County and Oregon. High school diploma attainment was higher in Sweet Home (58%) compared to Linn County (46%) yet lower than the State (66%). Educational attainment and subsequent earning potential are important considerations in the parks planning process, as they influence residents’ ability to pay for higher service levels and new park facilities.

²⁴ Source: United States Census Bureau, 2020.

Table 1.18. Educational Attainment; Sweet Home, Linn County, and Oregon, 2020²⁵

Educational Attainment	Sweet Home	Linn County	Oregon
High School Diploma	58%	46%	66%
Bachelor’s Degree or Higher	5%	14%	25%

TRANSPORTATION ANALYSIS

Commuting

Understanding Sweet Home's access to public parks via public or personal transportation is a critical step in determining priorities for accessibility to parks and recreational services. This understanding will also aid the City in preparing grants and applying for alternate funding sources to help pay for park projects. Table 1.9 presents commuting characteristics for Sweet Home, Linn County, and Oregon in 2020.

When comparing residents across the City, County, and State, 44% of residents in Sweet Home 16 years and over live in households with access to 3 or more vehicles, which is less than Linn County (46%), and more than Oregon (37%). Sweet Home had the highest percentage with access to at least 1 vehicle (23%), behind Linn County (16%), and Oregon (20%). Most Sweet Home residents have access to a vehicle, yet it is important to recognize the need to have accessible green spaces within walking distance for those who do not have means of transportation.

Table 1.19. Commuting Characteristics; Sweet Home, Linn County, and Oregon, 2020²⁶

Commuting Characteristics	Sweet Home	Linn County	Oregon
No Vehicle Available	2%	1%	3%
1 Vehicle Available	23%	16%	20%
2 Vehicles Available	32%	36%	40%
3 or More Vehicles Available	44%	46%	37%

Table 1.20. Disability Statistics; Sweet Home, Linn County and Oregon, 2020²⁷

Health	Sweet Home	Linn County	Oregon
Ambulatory Difficulty	13%	9%	7%
Cognitive Difficulty	16%	8%	6%
Hearing Difficulty	8%	6%	5%

²⁵ Source: United States Census Bureau, 2020.

²⁶ Source: United States Census Bureau, 2020.

²⁷ Source: United States Census Bureau, 2020.

Vision Difficulty	5%	3%	2%
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Disability Analysis

Understanding the status of disability in Sweet Home compared to Linn County and Oregon is an important factor that should be analyzed to best accommodate and provide adequate and accessible outdoor spaces. This understanding can also aid the City in preparing grants and applying for alternate funding sources to help pay for more accessible amenities. For this analysis, four disability categories were examined to understand the level of need for more inclusive design and planning efforts: ambulatory, hearing, vision, and cognitive. Ambulatory difficulty is defined as someone who has difficulty walking or climbing stairs.²⁸ Cognitive difficulty is defined as someone with serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions because of physical, mental, or emotional conditions.²⁹ Hearing difficulty is defined as someone who experiences serious difficulty hearing. And vision difficulty is defined as someone who experiences blindness or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses.³⁰ Chart 1.8 represents disability characteristics for Sweet Home, Linn County, and Oregon from the 2020 American Community Survey.

Within the disability statistics profile, Sweet Home exceeded both Linn County and Oregon in all four categories (ambulatory, cognitive, hearing, and vision). The greatest disabilities present in Sweet Home are ambulatory (13%) and cognitive (16%) difficulty. Given the high percentages of individuals experiencing disabilities in Sweet Home, there is a high priority to accommodate and create public spaces that are inclusive and accessible.

²⁸ United States Census Bureau, 2020.

²⁹ United States Census Bureau, 2020.

³⁰ United States Census Bureau, 2020.



City of Sweet Home Park System Plan

Park and Tree Committee Meeting #1
November 15, 2023



**CAMERON
McCARTHY**
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

Meeting Agenda

- Park System Master Plans and Planning Process
- City Achievements
- Demographics
- Park System Inventory
- Community Outreach
- Q&A
- Discussion



Park System Master Plans

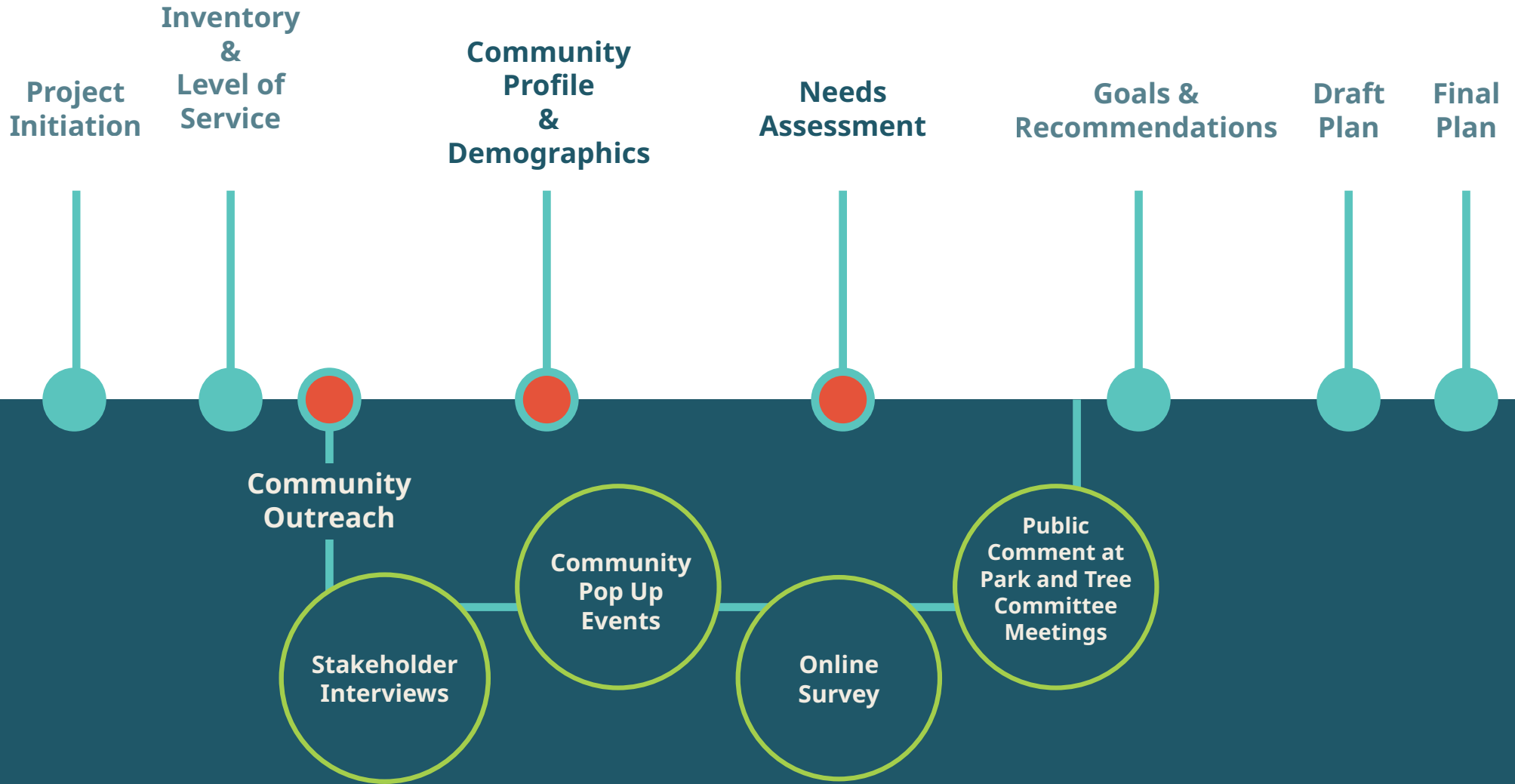
- Update City's park system vision
- Identify current and future needs
- Develop recommendations to maintain and enhance park system facilities
- Estimate project funding
- Prioritize capital improvement projects



Planning Process and Timeline



Current Phases



City and Community Achievements

- BMX improvements
- Quarry Park site
- Sankey Park improvements
 - Plaza
 - Playground
 - Benches, lighting, restrooms
- Downtown revitalization



Community Demographics

Sweet Home Historical and Future Population Forecast

Year	2010	2020	2022	2030	2040
Population	8,925	9,828	10,097	10,455	11,010

Age Distribution of Sweet Home

Age	0 to 4	5 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and Over
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Sources:
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United State Census Bureau, 2020.

Community Demographics

Racial Composition of Sweet Home, 2010-2020

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Racial Composition of Hispanic/Latino Identity in Sweet Home, 2010-2020

	Hispanic / Latino
2010 Population	418 (5%)
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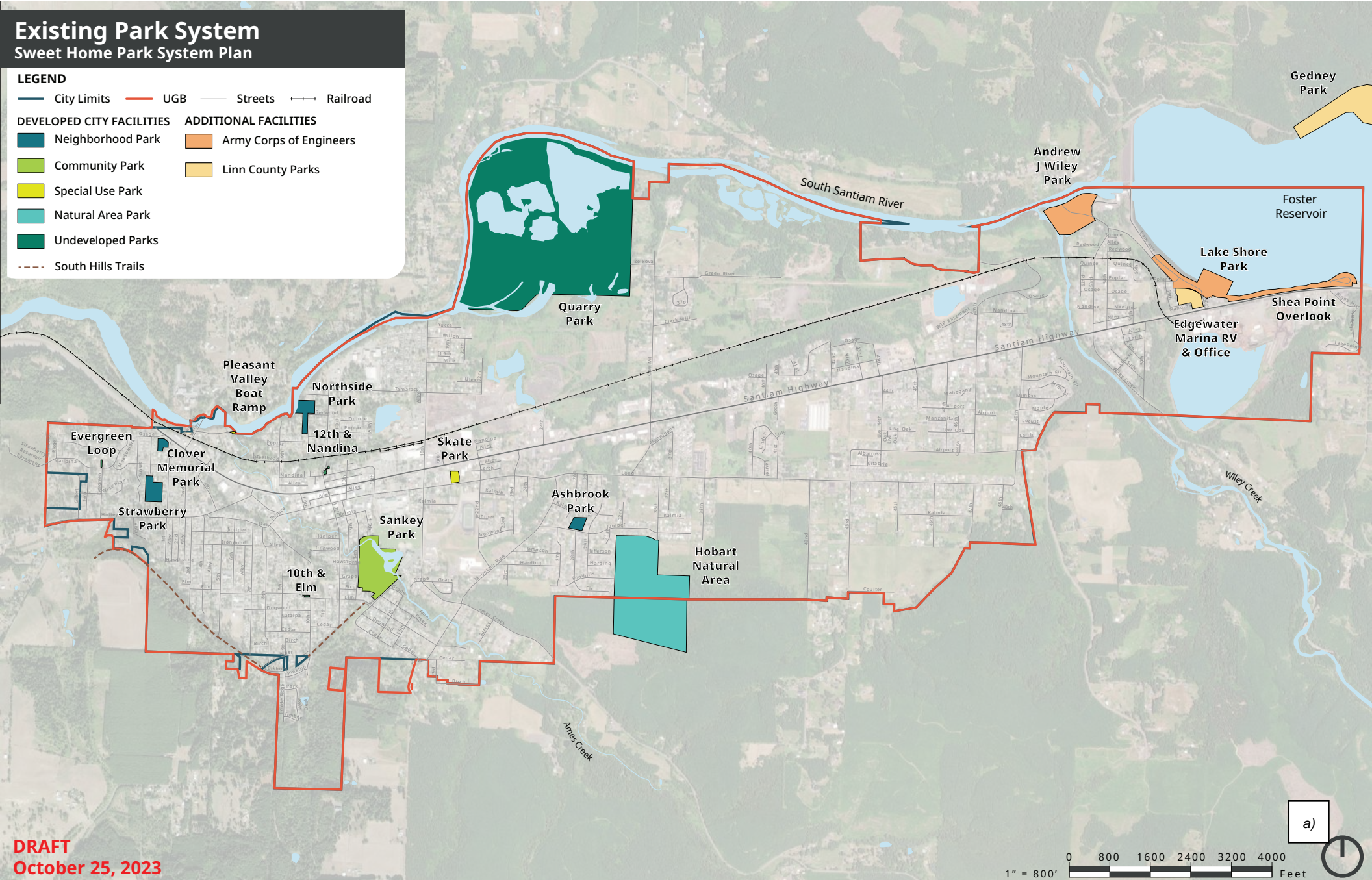
Source: United State Census Bureau, 2020.

Park System Inventory

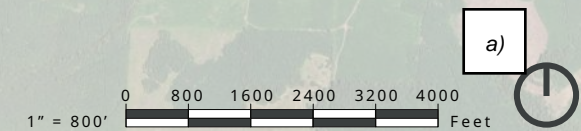
Existing Park System Sweet Home Park System Plan

LEGEND

- City Limits
 - UGB
 - Streets
 - Railroad
- | DEVELOPED CITY FACILITIES | ADDITIONAL FACILITIES |
|--|---|
| ■ Neighborhood Park | ■ Army Corps of Engineers |
| ■ Community Park | ■ Linn County Parks |
| ■ Special Use Park | |
| ■ Natural Area Park | |
| ■ Undeveloped Parks | |
| - - - South Hills Trails | |



DRAFT
October 25, 2023



a)

Park System Inventory

DEVELOPED FACILITIES	
PARKS	ACRES
Community Park	
Sankey Park	17
Neighborhood Park	
Ashbrook Park	1.4
Clover Memorial Park	0.92
Northside Park	3.63
Strawberry Park	3.2
Natural Area Park	
Hobart Natural Area	59.59
Special Use Park	
Skate Park	0.81
Pleasant Valley Boat Ramp	0.18
TOTAL PARK ACRES	86.73
TRAILS	MILES
South Hills Trail	1.3
TOTAL TRAIL MILES	1.3

UNDEVELOPED FACILITIES	
PARKS	ACRES
Quarry Property	233
Evergreen Loop	0.2
10 th & Elm	0.14
12 th & Nandina	0.12
TOTAL PARK ACRES	233.46



Community Outreach Approach

Stakeholder Interviews

- Park and Tree Committee
- Beautification Committee
- Sweet Home Senior Center
- Local business, Steelhead Fitness
- Local business, Casa de Reyes
- City Manager
- Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Santiam

Community Pop Up Events

- Library Summer Reading Program
- Harvest Festival

Online Survey

- Published September 27
- In progress

Stakeholder Interviews

Online Survey

Community Pop Up Events

Public Comment at Park and Tree Committee Meetings

Community Outreach Stakeholder Interviews

Key Findings

- **Park improvements**
Update structures, inclusive play, parking, wayfinding and signage, gathering/event spaces, water recreation, community facility, youth and adults amenities, Quarry Park development, trail system
- **Increased number of parks**
- **Increased maintenance**
- **Accessibility**
ADA trails and sidewalks to and within parks
- **City communications and relationship with the local community**



Community Outreach

Summer Reading Pop Up Event

Participants primarily included parents/guardians and children

Key Findings

Most Popular Park Amenity Categories

- Water play (splash pad)
- Children's playgrounds
- Nature playgrounds
- Paved trails
- Water recreation



Community Outreach

Harvest Festival Pop Up Event

Participants included adults, parents/guardians and children

Key Findings

Most Popular Park Amenity Categories

- Water play (splash pad)
- Water recreation
- Mountain biking trails
- Unpaved trails
- Bike park.



Community Outreach

Pop Up Event - Combined Results

Participants were primarily parents/
guardians and children

Key Findings

Highly Important Park Amenities

- Water play (splash pad)
- Water recreation
- Unpaved trails
- Mountain biking trails
- Bike park
- Nature playground
- Dog park
- Children's playground

Quarry Park Development Ideas

- Hiking trails/trails
- Campgrounds
- Playground
- Water fountain
- Bike trails and dog park

Areas in Need of Parks

- East side of town

Barriers to Park Access

- Feeling unsafe or unwelcome
- Lack of facilities

Top Park System Priorities in the Next 10 Yrs

- Upgrading existing facilities and equipment
- Building parks in neighborhoods not highly served by parks

Q & A



Discussion

Is there key information about the park system and park improvements that haven't been identified in our outreach findings?



Discussion

Are there any inventory or outreach findings you want to elaborate on?

- Highly important park amenities
- Quarry Park development ideas
- Areas of town in need of parks
- Barriers to park access
- Top park system priorities in the next 10 years



Discussion

What challenges are associated with these findings?



Sweet Home Park System Master Plan

To: Blair Larsen, Community and Economic Development Director
Angela Clegg, Associate Planner

From: Colin McArthur, Elizabeth Auvil, Victor García, Grace Graham

Date: November 3, 2023

Subject: **DRAFT** Summer Reading Program and Harvest Festival Pop Up Events Summary

OVERVIEW

This memo documents the results and summarizes the key takeaways from two public outreach pop up events in Sweet Home. The first event was held alongside a public library summer reading event at Sankey Park on August 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The second event took place at the Harvest Festival in Sankey Park on October 6, from 11:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. These outreach events were designed to gather input from residents including adults, and families with parents/guardians and children. Between the two events, the team engaged with over 200 participants.

ACTIVITIES AND APPROACH

At the events, the team displayed six poster boards providing an opportunity for the community to share their input about amenity preferences, park distribution, barriers to park access, and a top priority for the park system and future development ideas at Quarry Park. Staff engaged in informal conversations and encouraged participants to share feedback primarily with sticky dots and sticky notes. The team wrote down key verbal feedback as well. All outreach content was provided in English and Spanish. Participants were provided with snacks and beverages.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Participants voted on which park amenities are most important to them or their household. Combining feedback from both events, the park amenities with the most votes are shown below.

- Water play (splash pad) (81 votes)
- Water recreation (38 votes)
- Unpaved trails (32 votes)
- Mountain biking trails (28 votes)
- Bike park (26 votes)
- Nature playground (25 votes)
- Dog park (21 votes)
- Children's playground (21 votes)

At the summer reading event, the team engaged with approximately 30 individuals including parents/guardians and children. Participants were most supportive of **water play (splash pad), children’s playgrounds, nature playgrounds, paved trails, and water recreation.**

The team engaged with approximately 175 individuals including parents, children, and adults at the Harvest Festival. At this event, participants were most supportive of **water play (splash pad), water recreation, mountain biking trails, unpaved trails, and a bike park.**

Participants also suggested ideas for future development at the Quarry Park site. The most frequently shared ideas for Quarry Park were **hiking trails/trails, campgrounds, playground, water fountain, bike trails and dog park.**

The east side of town was most frequently identified as an area in need of parks. Locations congregated around 47th Avenue, north and south of Main Street.

There was less consensus around barriers to park access. Feeling unsafe or unwelcome and lack of facilities each received 2 votes. Additionally, conditions of facilities, not accessible, barriers to access, too far away, and limited parking all received one vote each.

Upgrading existing facilities and equipment and **building parks in neighborhoods not highly served by parks** were the two highest choices when participants were asked to identify one action for the City to prioritize in the next 10 years. Both received two votes.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM EVENT DETAILED RESULTS

Potential Park Amenities at Undeveloped Quarry Park Site

Board one provided an opportunity for participants to write down their ideas for future park amenities development at Quarry Park.

Comments

- Trails/running trail by river (1)
- Dog/children’s area (1)
- Splash pad (1)
- Designated event space (1)

Highly Important Park Facilities

Boards two, three and four included park amenity and facility images and asked participants to vote on the images in response to the question, “which park facilities are highly important to you or your household?”. Space was also provided for participants to provide comments.

Water play (splash pad) was the most desired amenity, followed by children’s playground, nature playground, paved trails and water recreation. The amenities with the least amount of interest were baseball, football, tennis, pickleball, and softball. The total votes and comments are below.

Table 1.1 Highly Important Park Facilities

Amenities	Votes
Water Play (Splash Pad)	24
Children’s Playground	13
Nature playground	9
Paved Trails	8
Water Recreation	8
Public Art (Murals)	7
Natural Areas	7
Unpaved Trails	7
Covered Play Areas	5
Community Garden	5
Private Event Space	4
Dog Park	3
Outdoor Fitness Equipment	3
Soccer	3
Bike Park / Bicycle Pump Track	3
Wildlife Viewing Areas	3
Mountain Biking Trails	2
BBQ Cooking Areas	2
Picnic Pavilions and Shelters	2
Performance Venue	2
Basketball	2
Disc Golf	2
Baseball	1
Football	1
Tennis	0
Pickleball	0
Softball	0

Comments

- Swings (5)
- Nature play areas (1)
- Restrooms (1)
- Water fountains (1)
- Paved trail at river (1)
- Rail trails (1)
- More than the urban paved trail by the library (1)
- Access to playground (that is) age appropriate (1)
- Water play, splash pad (3, included in table above)
- Natural areas (1, included in table above)
- Paved trails (1, included in table above)
- Unpaved trails (1, included in table above)

General park system comments

- Access to park near airport (1)
- More sidewalks (1)

Existing Park System and Areas in Need of Parks

Board five requested participants share their perspective on the existing park system with written comments, and place dots on a park system map in response to the question, “*where are parks needed?*”. Three dots were placed on the existing park system map identifying areas in need of parks.

Identified Areas

- In the vicinity of 47th Ave and Airport Road (3)

Comments

- A park near airport side of town (2)
- 18th and north of main (1)

General park system comments

- Signage (1)
- Renovating Ashbrook’s playground (1)
- Pool (1)
- Trees and children’s play near Evergreen and Strawberry Park (1)
- Sankey Park is great (1)

Park Barriers and Top Park System Priority for the Next 10 Years

Board six posed two questions to participants: “*what are the main reasons you or those in your household DO NOT use a park or recreation facility?*” and, “*if you had to prioritize ONE action for the city to focus on in the next 10 years, which of the following actions would you choose?*” Participants could place a dot next to the provided responses under question. The table below documents their votes on each question.

Table 1.2 Park Barriers

Park Barriers (Reasons for not using a park facility)	Votes
Feel unsafe or unwelcome	1
Lack of facilities	1
Conditions of facilities	0
NOT accessible (ADA accommodations—accessible surfaces, seating, parking, etc.)	0
Barriers to access (highway/busy roads, lack of sidewalks or trails, train tracks, disconnected street grid)	0
Lack of transportation options (including car, bus, bicycling, and/or walking)	0
Park or facility hours don't work with my schedule (work, school, caregiving, etc.)	0
Don't know where parks are located	0
Too far away	0
Too crowded	0
Limited parking	0
Don't have time	0
Would rather do something else	0
Other (please describe)	0

Table 1.3 Top Priority

Top Priority (One action for the City to prioritize in the next 10 years)	Votes
Upgrading existing facilities and equipment	1
Building parks in neighborhoods not highly served by parks	1
Providing better ongoing maintenance of existing facilities and equipment	0
Building new parks and new recreational facilities	0
Improving parking (cars and bikes)	0
Improving security	0
Other (please describe)	0

HARVEST FESTIVAL EVENT DETAILED RESULTS

The same board materials were used at both the Summer Reading Program and the Harvest Festival events. The following presents the feedback heard and documented at the Harvest Festival.

Potential Park Amenities at Undeveloped Quarry Park Site

More participants shared verbal and written feedback about Quarry Park at the Harvest Festival. The community expressed a sense of attachment and familiarity to the site, drawing on personal knowledge and insights. It was mentioned that ponds are and have been a popular destination for fishing prior to city ownership. There was a strong desire for the incorporation of a pedestrian foot bridge along the upper west bank of the northwest pond, and the removal of invasive plant species to provide access to the pond for fishing. It was also mentioned that the ponds should be programmed to allow for designated fishing and water recreation areas. The following list shows all the written comments for this site.

Comments

- Hiking trails (9)
- Camping grounds (3)
- Playground (3)
- Water fountains (3)
- Bike trails (2)
- Dog park (2)
- Improve fishing trail & fishing spots (1)
- Kayaking (1)
- Motor cross trails (1)
- Archery (1)
- Bike park (1)
- Children’s playground (1)
- Covered day use area (1)
- Disc golf (1)
- Gazebo (1)
- Fee to camp (1)
- Fishing access (1)
- Fishing docks in the river and ponds (1)
- Paint ball arena (2)
- Kayak renting (2)
- Zipline (2)
- Nature play (1)
- Natural preservation (1)
- Pavilion (1)
- Remote control model boat racing (1)
- Safety camera (1)
- Small SUP area (1)
- Splash pad (1)
- Swimming area (1)
- Tennis with lights (1)
- Viewpoints (1)
- Water feature (1)
- Water park (1)
- Wayfinding (1)
- Wildlife protection area (1)

Highly Important Park Facilities

Water Play (splash pad) was the most desired, followed by water recreation, mountain biking trails, unpaved trails, and a bike park. The amenities with the least amount of interest were natural areas, pickleball, tennis and baseball. The total votes and comments are below.

Table 1.4 Highly Important Park Facilities

Facilities	Votes
Water play (splash pad)	57
Water recreation	30
Mountain biking trails	26
Unpaved trails	25
Bike Park / Bicycle Pump Track	23
Dog park	18
Nature playground	16
Wildlife viewing areas	14
Disc golf	13
Basketball	13
Community garden	12
Private event space	12
Outdoor fitness equipment	11
BBQ cooking areas	11
Public art (murals)	10
Softball	9
Paved trails	8
Performance venue	8
Children’s playground	8

Covered play areas	8
Soccer	8
Football	8
Picnic pavilions and shelters	6
Natural areas	4
Pickleball	4
Tennis	4
Baseball	3

Comments

- HOV trails (7)
- Bigger skate park (6)
- Bike racks
- Swing sets for kids and babies
- Trash and recycling bins
- Dirt bike trails
- Fitness loops
- Volleyball
- Lighting
- RC car track
- Memorial statue

General park system comments

- Improve the existing bike park (City of Redmond’s as an example)
- Activate Strawberry Park, fitness loop
- OHU friendly trails
- Better bike jumps
- Fix the gazebo floor in Sankey Park
- Have the Tune it up Tuesday program at Sankey Park
- Have a designated place for the bike show in Sankey Park during the Harvest Festival

Existing Park System and Areas in Need of Parks

Several participants shared comments, and eight dots were placed on the existing park system map identifying areas in need of parks.

Identified Areas

- North of Main Street and south of Green River Road between 43rd Ave and 47th Ave (2)
- North of Northside Park (1)
- Adjacent to Sweet Home Junior High School (1)
- South of City Hall (1)
- In close proximity to the intersection of 43rd Ave and Long Street (1)
- In close proximity to the intersection of 47th and Long Street (1)
- In close proximity to the intersection of 49th Ave and Main Street (1)

General park system comments

- Strawberry Park needs a basketball court and a better jungle gym. It's a big blank canvas with lots of potential, and many kids in the surrounding homes.

Park Barriers and Top Park System Priority for the Next 10 Years

Table 1.5 Park Barriers

Park Barriers (Reasons for Not Using a Park Facility)	Votes
Feel unsafe or unwelcome	1
Lack of facilities	1
Conditions of facilities	1
NOT accessible (ADA accommodations—accessible surfaces, seating, parking, etc.)	1
Barriers to access (highway/busy roads, lack of sidewalks or trails, train tracks, disconnected street grid)	1
Too far away	1
Limited parking	1
Other (please describe)	1
Lack of transportation options (including car, bus, bicycling, and/or walking)	0
Park or facility hours don't work with my schedule (work, school, caregiving, etc.)	0
Don't know where parks are located	0
Too crowded	0
Don't have time	0
Would rather do something else	0

Comments

- Missing equipment in some (Condition of facilities)
- Yes, lack on the east part of town (Lack of facilities)
- No, tweakers (Feel unsafe or unwelcome)
- Good (NOT accessible. ADA accommodations—accessible surfaces, seating, parking, etc.)
- Long street (no sidewalks) 43rd Street (Barriers to access)
- Danger logs, danger if leave car, no sight from pond to car (Too far away)
- Limiting access all (Limited parking)
- Install park by airport land (Other)

Table 1.6 Top Priority

Top Priority (One action for the City to prioritize in the next 10 years)	Votes
Upgrading existing facilities and equipment	1
Building parks in neighborhoods not highly served by parks	1
Improving security	1
Building new parks and new recreational facilities	1
Improving parking (cars and bikes)	0
Providing better ongoing maintenance of existing facilities and equipment	0
Other (please describe)	0

Comments

- Fishing access (Upgrading existing facilities and equipment)
- How about part of long airport land? (Building new parks and new recreational facilities)
- Cameras, lights (Improving security)
- Covered playground for kids (Building parks in neighborhoods not highly served by parks)