

White Salmon City Council Meeting

A G E N D A

October 05, 2022 – 6:00 PM

119 NE Church and Via Zoom Teleconference

Meeting ID: 845 9960 5565 Passcode: 541288

Call in Numbers:

669-900-6833

929-205-6099

301-715-8592

346-248-7799

253-215-8782

312-626-6799



I. Call to Order, Presentation of the Flag and Roll Call

II. Changes to the Agenda

III. Consent Agenda

[A.](#) Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes - September 7, 2022

[B.](#) Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes - September 21, 2022

[C.](#) Approval of Vouchers

IV. Public Comment

Any public in attendance at the meeting (either in person or via Zoom) will be provided an opportunity to make public comment of a general nature in the time allotted. No registration is required. Each person will be allowed three minutes for comment.

V. Presentations

A. Hispanic Heritage Month

VI. Business Items

[A.](#) Resolution 2022-10- 547 Adopting City of White Salmon Park Plan

1. Presentation

2. Public Comment

3. Discussion and Action

VII. Reports and Communications

A. Sweet Gum Tree Report

B. Wildfire Mitigation Update

C. Department Heads

D. Council Members

E. Mayor

VIII. Executive Session

IX. Adjournment

File Attachments for Item:

A. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes - September 7, 2022



DRAFT
CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Meeting – Wednesday, September 7, 2022
In Person and Via Zoom Teleconference

Council and Administrative Personnel Present

Council Members:

Ben Giant
Patty Fink
Jason Hartmann
Jim Ransier
David Lindley

Staff Present:

Russ Avery, Public Works Operations
Jeff Broderick, Land Use Planner
Jeff Cooper, Public Works Foreman
Mike Hepner, Police Chief
Bill Hunsaker, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement
Paul Koch, Interim City Administrator
Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer
Ken Woodrich, City Attorney

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Marla Keethler called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. There were approximately 15 members of the public in attendance in person and via teleconference.

II. Changes to the Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

III. Public Comment

Mark Lemly, White Salmon Resident

Mark Lemley spoke to the Wildfire threat facing White Salmon as a concerned resident. Lemley believes the city has not been as proactive as it should in regard to wildfire mitigation. Lemley noted the large amount of fuel on the bluff. Lemley noted that the city should not rely solely on DNR (Department of Natural Resources) to mitigate the risk in the city.

Gabrielle Gilbert, Klickitat County Resident

Gabrielle Gilbert spoke to the reoccurring need for reliable childcare in White Salmon. Gilbert also noted that with the removal of the basketball court, local kids do not have a place to play basketball. Gilbert requested the city replace the basketball courts and provide benches for seating.

Jacob Anderson, Klickitat County Commissioner

Jacob Anderson thanked the city for allowing Mayor Keethler to take a lead role in the bridge replacement project. Anderson spoke to the \$2.5 million dollar county budget deficit. Anderson noted that the county is raising rates wherever allowable. Anderson noted that the District Court and Probation Costs are in discussion for renegotiation.

IV. Presentation

Tree of Heaven Project - Underwood Conservation District

Tova Tillinghast and Corrie Podolak from Underwood Conservation District presented information regarding the Tree of Heaven Project aimed at removing and preventing the spread of the invasive tree. They noted that the program will include education, demonstration, and potential fund match for private property removal.

They spoke to the nature of the tree and the urgency to have it controlled. The Tree of Heaven serves as a host for the Spotted Lantern Fly, which is a dangerous insect for an agricultural area as it can decimate crops including grapes, cherries, and apples.

They noted that early detection is the most effective way to stop the spread of the tree. They requested that the City of White Salmon add information to the city’s website regarding the detection and notification. The City Council agreed.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Task Order - Applications for Funding of North Main Water Pump Station and Phase 1 Main Line Replacement - Anderson Perry (\$7,500)
- B. Approval of Contract Amendment for Professional Engineering Services - Sweet Gum Tree Sidewalk Alternatives Report - Grey and Osborne, Inc (\$6,000)
- C. July Budget Report
- D. Approval of Meeting Minutes - August 3, 2022
- E. Approval of Meeting Minutes - August 17, 2022
- F. Approval of Vouchers

Vouchers audited and certified as required by RCW 42.24.080 and expense reimbursement claims as required by RCW 42.24.090 as of this 7th day of September 2022.

Type	Date	From	To	Amount
Claims	09/07/2022	EFT	EFT	3,994.00
	09/07/2022	38391	38442	227,974.41
			Claims Total	231,968.41
Payroll	09/06/2022	EFT	EFT	119,769.93
	09/06/2022	38387	38390	1,237.07
			Payroll Total	121,007.00
Manual Claims				
	08/24/2022	38384	38386	53,773.51
	09/05/2022	EFT	EFT	2,475.03
			Manual Total	56,248.54

			Total All Vouchers	409,223.95
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Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by Ben Giant.

Discussion:

Jim Ransier asked why the city was spending \$6000 for Sweet Gum Tree Engineering. Paul Koch, Interim City Administrator said that the Tree Board recommended city explore the options available to preserve the tree. The engineering report in to include up to 5 alternatives to removal of the tree.

David Lindley, Council Member said the Tree Board responded to the public comment in favor of protecting the tree.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented. CARRIED 5-0.

VI. Business Items

A. Ordinance 2022-09-1110, Amending WSMC 10.24 Stopping, Standing, and Parking

Mike Hepner, Police Chief presented the proposed changes to the city’s parking ordinance. Chief Hepner noted that the changes will standardize fees to one amount. Chief Hepner noted that this will give police officers more leverage to enforce parking violations, including the option of towing. Chief Hepner noted this additional options increases compliance significantly.

Mayor Marla Keethler opened the Public Hearing at 6:56pm.

There were no public comments in person or via zoom teleconference.

Mayor Marla Keethler closed the Public Hearing at 6:57pm.

Jim Ransier, Council Member requested that the language “handicap” be changed to “persons with disability”.

Jim Raniser asked if there would be a warning step in this process.

Chief Hepner said any vehicle will be tagged for 72 hours before proceeding with towing the vehicle.

Mayor Keethler asked if this would be usable for street closures or events in removing cars.

Chief Hepner said no, unless the vehicle is already in the 72 hour warning time frame.

Moved by Patty Fink. Seconded by Jason Hartmann.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-09-1110 Amending WSMC 10.24 Stopping, Standing and Parking with identified scribner changes. CARRIED 5-0.

B. Ordinance 2022-09-1111, Amending WSMC 13.24 - Water Conservation

Paul Koch, Interim City Administrator presented the amendments to the Water Conservation code modifying is to Water Shortage Emergency Regulations. Koch noted that this revised code will provide a more direct approach to water emergencies including a procedure that lines out specific guidance on when each level is triggered and the response and messaging expectations for city staff.

Mayor Keethler opened the Public Hearing at 7:06pm.

Barbara Baily, White Salmon Resident

Barbara Baily requested an exemption for legal use grey water systems.

Mayor Keethler closed the Public Hearing at 7:07pm.

Council and staff discussed the need for an exemption for grey water systems.

Ken Woodrich, City Attorney noted that the grey water system would not in all case require water from the city water system.

Bill Hunsaker, Building Official noted that Barbara Bailey’s grey water system is not tied into the city water system.

Paul Koch, Interim City Administrator noted that this exemption would be more appropriately addressed in the Staff Procedure.

Moved by Ben Giant. Seconded by David Lindley.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-09-1111, Amending WSMC 13.24 Water Conservation as presented. CARRIED 5-0.

C. Adoption of 2023 City Council Priorities for Budget Development

Mayor Marla Keethler presented the 2023 Council Priorities as derived from the extensive discussion and deliberation at the City Council Retreat.

Mayor Keethler noted that the 2023 identified priorities have been divided into two classifications Funding Priorities and Strategic Priorities.

The council and mayor discussed the addition of Wildfire Mitigation. The recommendation was made to add it as a stand-alone priority to the Strategic Priorities.

Mayor Keethler recommended the following changes in language: 1) change Support a Vibrant Downtown to Foster a Vibrant Downtown; 2) remove “Support Efforts” from Increase Public Transportation and Increase Childcare Availability and Access.

Council requested to change Increase Public Transportation to Increase Public Transportation Options, to include all transportation including pedestrian and bicycle.

Funding Priorities were identified as: Develop Sustainable Infrastructure Funding for the Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Public Buildings, Roads, and Utilities; Foster a Vibrant Downtown; Improve Communication Between the Community and City Hall/Council/Residents; Increase Availability of Housing for All Income Levels; Increase Public Transportation Options; and Maintain Public Safety

Strategic Priorities were identified as: Increase Childcare Availability and Access; Increase Economic Development; Improve Existing Park Facilities and Expand Recreation Opportunities; Wildfire Mitigation and Support Efforts by WSVMPD to Build a New Pool.

Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by Jim Ransier.

Motion to accept 2023 Council Priorities as amended. CARRIED 5-0.

VII. Reports and Communications

A. Sweet Gum Tree Report

Paul Koch gave an update of the progress on the Sweet Gum Tree. Koch noted that the full report would be to council for review and determination at the first meeting in November.

B. Department Heads

Jeff Broderick, Land Use Planner

Jeff Broderick introduced himself. Broderick noted that he comes to the city with a Master Degree in Urban Planning. Broderick noted he has started to identify current Land Use related ordinances that need updating.

Mike Hepner, Police Chief

Chief Hepner addressed to current issues with the parking ordinance. Chief Hepner noted that he will be looking to revise the code to be more enforceable and to remove any unnecessary language as reviewed by legal counsel.

Patty Fink, Council Member noted that it may be worthwhile to wait to revise the full code once the Transportation Plan is adopted.

Chief Hepner noted that Officer Kate Daniels is the only officer certified to work on child abuse cases. Chief Hepner stressed that it happens more and more frequently and wants to bring awareness to the council and community.

Mayor Keethler asked if there is a way the community can take action. Chief Hepner said unfortunately there is no sure way to pinpoint child abuse and it can be hard to know when it is happening.

Bill Hunsaker, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer/Building Official

Chief Hunsaker reported that the Wildland Protection Site is moving forward. Chief Hunsaker met with DNR and the clean up will begin in Fall of 2023 for Fuel

Reduction. The phases have been eliminated and the full project will be completed at one time. The pilot project for fuel reduction will likely begin this fall on the city owned property off Dock Grade. Chief Hunsaker noted that goats are not approved for this fuel reduction project.

Chief Hunsaker noted that there is one more vacancy on the Fire Emergency Task Force.

Russ Avery, Public Works Operations Manager

Russ Avery reported that the Water System Plan update and Public Works Annual Work Plan are still in process. Avery noted that at the Water Task Force meeting the booster station on Main St was identified as the priority with Dave Jespen, Anderson Perry, support.

Avery reported that the signal from Buck Creek is communicating via Starlink Internet. Avery noted that SCADA will be connected next.

Jeff Cooper, Public Work Foreman

Jeff Cooper reported that the Buck Creek Monitoring Station is not strong yet. Cooper noted that they are hoping to use Starlink for 2 sites that would provide better communication regarding the type of alerts that are coming in.

Cooper said Public Works is working on flushing manholes.

Cooper reported there was a water leak on Snohomish Place that was fixed by public works over the weekend. Cooper noted that Snohomish Place is not passable currently for city vehicles and should be addressed.

Cooper said the reader board is in service. Will be updating with a vehicle registration message.

Cooper noted that a regular time frame for the removal of the parklets at the end of the season.

Cooper noted that the surplus sale brought in \$17,000 to be distributed to the department's budget.

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer

Stephanie Porter noted that the audit prep has begun. Porter said that the entrance conference is open to the council if they want to attend.

B. Council Members

Jim Ransier, Council Member

Councilor Ransier reported that Hispanic Heritage Month begins September 15 through October 15. Councilor Ransier noted that Washington Gorge Action Program will be hosting an event in Rheingarten Park this year as a community celebration and the city is partnering in that effort.

Mayor Keethler highlighted that the event is open to everyone.

David Lindley, Council Member

Councilor Lindley thanked the council for approving the Sweet Gum Tree Sidewalk Alternatives. Councilor Lindley thanked Public Works for their patience while the Sweet Gum Tree process is completed.

Patty Fink, Council Member

Councilor Fink asked that we have regular conversation with the Klickitat County Commissioners.

C. Mayor

Mayor Keethler reported that the dedication for the Park Restroom Mural will be done in collaboration with the White Salmon Arts Council to thank the artists and volunteers that brought it to life.

Mayor Keethler noted that the Park Plan and Transportation Plan will be coming to the council for adoption soon.

Mayor Keethler reported all the councilor has been signed for access to the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Elected Officials Webinar Series. Mayor Keethler specifically called out the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) and Public Record Act (PRA) classes as priorities.

Ken Woodrich, City Attorney, said that the OPMA and PRA trainings are required for council members.

Mayor Keethler noted that Klickitat County will be assuming Mental Health Crisis Response as of November 6th.

Mayor Keethler brought to the council the Regional Transit Committees request for the City of White Salmon to commit to a grant match that would bring weekend transportation service to White Salmon and surrounding areas. The City of Bingen is an additional partner in the match. Mayor Keethler said the match for the City of White Salmon would be \$4,740 a year for 2 years (2023

and 2025). Mayor Keethler requested the agreement of the councilors to direct staff to proceed in pursuing the grant application that would include agreement of the \$4,740 to be accounted for in the 2023 budget. There was council consensus to move forward with the grant match for weekend service.

Mayor Keethler noted that the reader board will be advertising vehicle registration, “If you Live Here, Register Here”. Mayor Keethler noted that there has been an emphasis on vehicle registrations that are not being transfer to Washington and in turn the revenue lost.

Mayor Keethler noted that there will hopefully be a notice soon of bridge funding.

VIII. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Marla Keethler, Mayor

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer

File Attachments for Item:

B. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes - September 21, 2022



DRAFT
CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Meeting – Wednesday, September 21, 2022
In Person and Via Zoom Teleconference

Council and Administrative Personnel Present

Council Members:

Ben Giant
 Patty Fink
 Jason Hartmann
 Jim Ransier
 David Lindley

Staff Present:

Russ Avery, Public Works Operations
 Jan Brending, Staff Assistant
 Bill Hunsaker, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement
 Marla Keethler, Mayor
 Paul Koch, Interim City Administrator
 Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer
 Ken Woodrich, City Attorney

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Marla Keethler called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. There were approximately 7 members of the public in attendance in person and via teleconference.

II. Changes to the Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

III. Consent Agenda

- A. Employment Agreement - City Administrator
- B. Small Works Roster Bid Contract - Electrical Work Glockenspiel Bells City
- C. Approval of City Council Retreat Minutes - August 30, 2022
- D. Approval of Vouchers

Vouchers audited and certified as required by RCW 42.24.080 and expense reimbursement claims as required by RCW 42.24.090 as of this 21st day of September 2022.

Type	Date	From	To	Amount
Claims	09/21/2022	38456	38480	296,121.13
			Claims Total	296,121.13
Payroll	09/20/2022	EFT	EFT	77,176.98
			Payroll Total	77,176.98
Manual Claims				
	09/10/2022	EFT	EFT	7,920.00
	09/12/2022	EFT	EFT	13.25

	09/19/2022	EFT	EFT	110.00
	07/10/2022	EFT	EFT	7920.00
	08/15/2022	EFT	EFT	110.00
			Manual Total	16,073.25
			Total All Vouchers	389,371.36

Jan Brending, Staff Assistance, noted that the approval of the consent agenda item B. Electrical Work for the Glockenspiel Bells would direct staff to award the project to Colburn Electric as the low bidder.

***Moved by Ben Giant. Seconded by David Lindley.
 Motion to approve Consent Agenda with Scribner corrections. CARRIED 5-0.***

IV. Public Comment

Chris Heald, White Salmon Resident, Big River Community Land Trust

Chris Heald presented information regarding an Affordable Housing Forum hosted by the Big River Land Trust and additional community partners. Chris noted that the forum would be broken into 3 sessions and invited the City Council to attend the 2nd session aimed at community leaders. Chris said the forum would address how the community could bring more affordable housing to the northwest and specifically White Salmon and Klickitat County.

V. Presentation

Hispanic Heritage Month

Jim Ransier, Council Member introduced a video series for Hispanic Heritage Month highlighting the Bracero Program that brought agricultural worker to the United States from Mexico. The videos showed the struggles, disparities and sacrifices made by the workers in this federally run program aimed to aid the United States agricultural industry.

VI. Business Items

A. Approval of Resolution 2022-09-546, Removing and Authorizing Signers on Financial Accounts.

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer presented the proposed changes in signers to the city financial account. Porter noted the changes are to update accounts for the changes in staff.

***Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by Jim Ransier.
 Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-09-546, Removing and Authorizing Signers on Financial Accounts as presented. CARRIED 5-0.***

B. Ordinance 2022-09-1112, Amending WSMC 2.32 - Mayor and Council Salaries

Moved by Ben Giant. Seconded by Jim Ransier.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-09-1112, Amending WSMC 2.32 - Mayor and Council Salaries. CARRIED 5-0.

C. Appointment of Fire Emergency Services Task Force

Bill Hunsaker presented the appointed White Salmon representatives for the Fire Emergency Task Force. The identified appointees are Tao Berman, Mark Lemley, Michelle Mayfield, Nate Reagan, and Sara Weber

Moved by Jim Ransier. Seconded by Jason Hartmann.

Motion to appoint Tao Berman, Mark Lemley, Michelle Mayfield, Nate Reagan, and Sara Weber as the five White Salmon Resident representatives to the Community Cooperative Services Task Force

Council Discussion:

David Lindley, Council Member Thanked the volunteers. Councilor Lindley requested that Fire Mitigation be specifically named in the process.

Paul Koch, Interim City Administrator noted that this was in goals 3 and 4 of the approved Fire Emergency Services Plan of Action.

CARRIED 5-0

VII. Reports and Communications

A. Sweet Gum Tree Report

Paul Koch reported that the engineers will have a preliminary draft to view next week.

B. Department Heads

Bill Hunsaker, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer/Building Official

Chief Hunsaker reported that the Fire Department had a retirement celebration for the local Fire Departments. It was noted that Jay Holtmann, who officially retired from the White Salmon Fire Department in 2021, was honored for his 27 years of service to the Department.

Chief Hunsaker noted that there was no new information regarding the Wildfire Mitigation.

Chief Hunsaker noted that the White Salmon, Fire District 3 and DNR are talking about partnering together for grant applications to increase funding to the area.

Chief Hunsaker clarified that the White Salmon 2004 Mitigation CWPP was completed with all items accomplished including fire mitigation fuel reduction and purchasing all identified equipment.

Russ Avery, Public Works Operations Manager

Russ Avery reported that he is working on the 2023 budget narrative including identifying equipment replacement schedule and funding.

Avery noted that the two of the tennis courts in Rheingarten park have been identified to be striped for pickle ball.

Avery reported that Starlink Internet is working great at Buck Creek. They are looking into using it for the Base Station.

Avery said the public works crew is reviewing the Water System Plan Updates SCADA Plan with intentions to strengthen the final plan.

Avery noted that the Fireman’s Park Flagpole has been taken down and will be replaced after the electrical work has been completed.

Avery reported that public works has begun partnering with Underwood Conservation District to begin the treatment and removal of the Tree of Heaven in city right of way. They are utilizing the most effective treatment which is pesticide injection.

Jim Raniser, Council Member thanked Ryan Adam for voluntarily coming to the park to help with bathroom restocking and clean up for the El Grito Event.

Ken Woodrich, City Attorney

Ken Woodrich recommend that for all recorded meeting that the mayor recite the official vote on any motion for clarity since the council members cannot all turn their microphones on at one time to verbally record the vote.

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer

Stephanie Porter reported that the city will begin reading the water meters monthly. All steps have been taken to prepare for this transition beginning in October.

Porter reported an update on the current audit. Porter noted that things are moving along well and that there were not findings in the financial condition, Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA), Payroll, and Pensions & OPEB.

Porter update council on the mail delivery for White Salmon. Porter noted that the route stops have been approved. Porter said the city may move forward with the installation of the boxes. Porter noted that the White Salmon Postmaster will be submitting the route and addresses to the Colorado Office for approval. This approval process can take several weeks to complete. There could also be an extended time frame to find a contracted driver for the route.

Paul Koch, Interim City Administrator

Paul Koch said there have been members added to the legislative coalition.

B. Council Members

Jim Ransier, Council Member

Jim Ransier reported that the El Grito event for Hispanic Heritage was a success with a turn out of upwards of 200 people. Councilor Ransier noted the need for event supplies such as a City of White Salmon tablecloth and marketing materials to hand out to attendees.

Ransier noted that the Halloween road closure proposal in moving forward. With input from Chief Hepner and the Downtown business they will determine the most ideal option to submit to WSDOT.

Ransier noted that the Community Development Committee has begun reviewing the City Facility Use Application and supporting code to make revisions. Ransier anticipated this would come before council closer to November.

David Lindley, Council Member

David Lindley reported that the Tree Board with the help of Land Use Planner Jeff Broderick, will be reviewing and potentially amending the Tree Board listed responsibilities.

Ben Giant, Council Member

Ben Giant congratulated Troy Rayburn on his new position as the White Salmon City Administrator.

Giant noted that since the Tree of Heaven Presentation, he has spotted the trees in so many locations across town. Giant noted he was glad to see public works getting a start on the removal project.

Patty Fink, Council Member

Patty Fink reported that she has been reviewing the Human Services Transportation Plan and putting together recommendations that would help support White Salmon goals of more regular service options.

Fink noted that she would like to look into more holiday and seasonal banners for the downtown streets.

C. Mayor

Mayor Keethler reported the continued effort to create a local coalition to work together for legislation efforts, specifically the pool funding effort.

Mayor Keethler reported that the bridge committee will be hosting State legislators from Washington and Oregon to talk about the bridge replacement project and the needed funding.

Chief Bill Hunsaker offered to take the representatives across the bridge in a Fire truck to illustrate the condition of travel specifically for large vehicles.

Mayor Keethler noted that there will be an emphasis on outreach to the White Salmon community for budget priorities.

Mayor Keethler said the Park Restroom Mural Dedication was great. Mayor Keethler thanked artists Molly Homlund and Sally Gilchrist, White Salmon Public Works members Ryan Adam and Jeff Cooper and the White Salmon Art Council for making it happen.

Patty Fink requested that the council meet with the White Salmon Valley Metropolitan Pool District and discuss their request for the city to make a significant financial contribution to the pool project, specifically providing a specific dollar amount. Fink noted she is supportive of the pool. Fink is concerned that the price tag of \$7 million is a large ask for a small community even when approaching legislative for funding.

Mayor Keethler responded that she agrees that there needs to be more clarification regarding the requested contribution and the site selection process.

VIII. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Marla Keethler, Mayor

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer

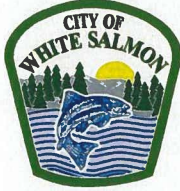
File Attachments for Item:

A. Resolution 2022-10-547 Adopting City of White Salmon Park System Plan and CIP

1. Presentation

2. Public Comment

3. Discussion and Action



Department Head: jmb

Clerk/Treasurer: 

City Administrator: _____

Mayor: 

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Business Item

Consent Agenda

Needs Legal Review:

Yes (to be completed by October 5, 2022)

Meeting Date:

October 5, 2022

Agenda Item:

White Salmon Park Plan, Resolution 2022-10-547

Presented By:

Jan Brending, Staff Assistant

Action Required

Adoption of White Salmon Park Plan and White Salmon Park Capital Improvement Plan

Motion for Business Item / Proposed Motion for Consent Agenda:

Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-10-547, Adopting White Salmon Park Plan dated September 19, 2022 and White Salmon Park Capital Improvements Plan dated September 19, 2022.

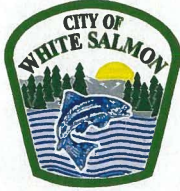
Explanation of Issue

The City of White Salmon hired Cameron McCarthy to prepare a park plan for the City of White Salmon in 2021. A list of stakeholders for interviewing was developed in the winter of 2021. All stakeholders responded to the request and interviews were held over the phone. Focus group conversations were held with the Klickitat County Senior Advisory Board and with Whitson Elementary School. In addition to this outreach, the city conducted an online community survey to gather community perspectives about the City's park facilities. 439 responses were received, although some respondents did not complete all of the questions on the survey. Key findings from the community outreach and involvement are presented in the plan in Chapter 3, Needs Assessment and specifically on pages 44 through 49. An open house was held in June of 2022 to review the existing park system and to review park concepts for a nature play area and splash pad at Rheingarten Park.

Drafts of the park have been available online for public comment and comments from staff and council members. Comments have been incorporated where possible into the draft as it is currently presented.

Chapter 4, Vision of the plan incorporates a vision statement, elements of the vision and goals and actions to be undertaken by the City. Chapter 5, Recommendations provides recommendation regarding the following:

- Recreation Facility Development
- Mini Park Facility Development
- Community Park Facility Development
- Natural Area Park Facility Development
- Special Use Park Facility Development
- Park Acquisition and Development
- Trail Development
- Operations and Maintenance



Department Head: jmb
 Clerk/Treasurer: _____
 City Administrator: _____
 Mayor: _____

Specific recommendations are made for specific existing facilities and possible future facilities. This translates to Chapter 6, Implementation where “planned projects” are identified with approximate costs associated with each project. It should be noted that some “projects” are intended to be funded over a series of years, i.e. the “project” may be completed in phases.

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) takes these “planned projects” and provides additional information include assigning costs to a period of years, i.e. 2023-2029, 2030-2037, and 2038-2043. These year periods represent High Priority, Medium Priority, and Low Priority respectively. When the city received comments on a planned project whereby one comment indicated a high priority for a project and a second comment indicated a low priority for a project that project was made a medium priority. It should be noted that the Capital Improvement Plan provides for a very high level of indication of what the project entails. Once the City Council adopts the plan and the CIP, it will be up to staff to take those projects and prepare more detailed plans in order to implement that project including possible acquisition of land, design and construction. An example is replacing the irrigation system in Rheingarten Park. The details of replacing the irrigation system are not provided in the plan or in the CIP.

There are several projects that are identified in the plan that were funded in 2022 but will be carryover projects (based on a determination by the City Council) to the 2023 budget. These projects include the following (the 2022 funding level and source has been provided). Some of the funding may need to be increased (for the 2023 budget) upon consideration of the data provided in the park plan and CIP and consultation with Cameron McCarthy.

Project	2022 Funding Level	2022 Funding Source
Replacement of playground equipment	\$75,000	108 – Municipal Capital Imp Fund
Splash pad	Included in above	108 – Municipal Capital Imp Fund
Loop trail engineering	\$50,000	108 – Municipal Capital Imp Fund
Community center feasibility study	\$74,646	001 – Current Expense

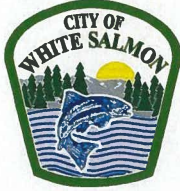
There are several items in the CIP that may be brought forward as budget options for the 2023 budget.

The CIP does not include the pool that is to be owned and operated (and constructed) by the White Salmon Valley Metropolitan Pool District. Funding for the pool by the City of White Salmon will be discussed as a separate process and may be included in the 2023 budget.

Council Options

City Council has the following options available at this time:

1. Accept the Staff Recommendation to adopt Resolution 2020-10-547 adopting the White Salmon Park Plan and Park Capital Improvement Plan as presented.
2. Revise the Staff Recommendation.
3. Refer this issue back to staff for additional work.
4. Take no action.
5. Other action as desired by council.



Department Head: jmb

Clerk/Treasurer: _____

City Administrator: _____

Mayor: _____

Fiscal Analysis

Currently the 2022 budget provides funding for four high priority items listed in the CIP. These items are listed above and totaling \$199,646. These items will be presented in the 2023 budget as carryover items. As noted above some of the funding may need to be increased to realize the projects in 2023. Several additional items in the CIP may be brought forward as budget options for the 2023 budget. The majority of the funding for CIP projects will come from the Municipal Capital Improvement Fund. The source of the revenue for this fund is real estate excise funds that can only be spent on capital improvement projects identified in the City's adopted Capital Improvement Plan. A resolution amending the City's overall CIP will be presented in December. The CIP should be updated every year and can be amended at any time by resolution.

Future projects will be identified as budget options for city council consideration. The future projects will take into consideration the priority items identified in the Park Plan and Park CIP. The Park Plan's goals will also be taken into consideration when bringing forward and identifying priorities within a given year.

Recommendation of Staff/Committee

The Park Plan was presented to the City Operations Committee and to the CityLAB Board for comment. Members of the committee and the board made comments which were incorporated where appropriate into the plan. The members of the City Operations Committee recommended forwarding the plan to the city council for adoption.

Staff recommends adopting Resolution 2022-10-547 adopting the park plan and park CIP.

Follow Up Action

Follow up actions include:

1. Including in the 2023 budget carryover items: replacement of playground equipment, constructing a splash pad, providing funding for Loop Trail engineering, and completing the community center feasibility study. The 2023 budget must be adopted by December 31, 2022.
2. Providing budget options for additional park improvements for the 2023 budget. The 2023 budget must be adopted by December 31, 2022.
3. Working with staff, committees, and the city council to identify priority projects for funding for years 2024-2027. This should be completed no later than June 30, 2023.
4. Project updates to the city council quarterly a minimum should be provided in 2023 for any project that is funded (carryover and new projects).

**White Salmon
Park System Plan**

To: Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer, City of White Salmon
From: Colin McArthur, Elizabeth Auvil, (Cameron McCarthy)
Date: September 19, 2021
Subject: **Capital Improvements Plan DRAFT**

1.0 PURPOSE

Based on the inventory, outreach, and assessments completed in the Park System Plan Scope of Work Tasks 2, 3, and 4, this document contains the 20-year Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal years (FY) 2023 through 2043 and includes the projected recreational needs of the City; joint development opportunities; and funding sources targeted for facility development.

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is a schedule for capital projects for the twenty-year period beginning Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and ending in FY 2043. Upon adoption, the CIP serves as a guide to planning and budgeting for future capital projects and expenditures. The CIP is intended to be the basis for capital improvements included in the annual budget of White Salmon.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Project Selection

Proposed projects included in the CIP were identified and selected based on information from:

- Quantitative results from the *2022 Park System Plan Needs Assessment*;
- Qualitative findings from community input;
- City staff input;
- Geospatial analysis;
- Census data
- *City of White Salmon Comprehensive Plan*
- *White Salmon Urbanization Study*
- *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*
- other relevant plans and policies.

Proposed project funding responds to an ongoing assessment of capital assets, as well as assessments of current and future service delivery needs.

2.2 Prioritization

Projects included in the CIP were evaluated based on consideration of the following information sources to determine a prioritization schedule:

- Planning documents and tools. The City uses a variety of planning documents and tools to determine service level needs for the development of parks, trails, and recreational facilities. These documents include but are not limited to the Parks System Plan; the City of White Salmon’s Comprehensive Plan, the Urbanization Study; and various population and demographic forecasting resources.
- Level of Service (LOS). The Park System Plan defines level of service targets for parks and trails that meet current and future community needs. These targets help the City determine how well existing facilities are meeting current park and recreation needs, and what investments are needed in the future to reach or maintain LOS as the population grows.
- Geographic Distribution. The Park System Plan and CIP consider the appropriate location for specific parks based on the facility type and their overall geographic distribution throughout the City, as well as the recommended distance of certain types of parks and facilities to residents.
- Maintaining existing facilities. The Park System Plan Needs Assessment results place a high priority on maintaining and improving existing facilities prior to developing new facilities.
- Grants. Grants provide an opportunity to seek alternative funding sources for a project. If the project matches the grant requirements and meets the needs of the City, the project may be moved up in priority to take advantage of the funding opportunity, or to match the grant funding cycle.

Each project is prioritized based on a High, Medium, and Low prioritization schedule.

- **High** priority projects are planned for the first 7-year planning period, through 2030;
- **Medium** priority projects are planned for the second 7-year planning period, through 2037;
- **Low** priority projects are planned for the third 6-year planning period, which begins in 2037 and extends to 2043.

3.0 FUNDING

3.1 Financial Information

The 20-year CIP is flexible and is intended to be revised and translated into a five-year CIP as part of annual budget adoption, funding availability, market conditions, and changes that were unforeseen during the development of the Park System Plan.

Capital improvement project costs are estimated based on considerations including timing and design, construction, and land acquisition. Improvement costs vary widely based on local conditions, economic factors, environmental constraints, and the application of specific funding sources. The following land acquisition and

development parameters are used for estimating costs and are based on current market conditions in the City, past projects, and other local information.

- Land acquisition costs are based on a conservative estimate of \$120,000 per acre for undeveloped land within the UGB and \$30,000 per acre for undeveloped land outside the UGB;
- Development costs for new parkland are estimated at \$300,000 per acre for neighborhood parks, \$180,000 per acre for special use parks, and \$60,000 per acre for open space areas;
- Development costs for trails are estimated at \$200 per linear foot of 10-foot wide paved trail, \$580,000 for site development of each trailhead, and \$175,000 for each bridge structure.
- Operational and maintenance costs account for the additional future costs of operating and maintaining each capital project upon its completion.

3.2. Funding Sources

There are three primary funding sources the City may utilize for capital improvements:

- *Municipal Capital Improvement Fund.* Property tax revenues from the City's Municipal Capital Improvements Fund are the major funding source for park and recreation annual operating costs and reserves for future operations. CIP projects not eligible for other funding sources can be funded from this source.
- *General Obligation Bonds.* This type of bond is a tax assessment on real and personal property that can supplement other revenue streams. The City may issue a general obligation bond at an election after providing legally required notice but not more than twice a calendar year. A minimum voter participation of forty percent of all voters who voted in the previous state election and a three-fifths majority approval are required to approve a bond. These funds may be used for capital purposes but not for the replacement of equipment. The City does not have any current bond obligations.
- *Alternative Funding.*
 - *Grants* are funds from federal or state governmental agencies or non-profit organizations that support a portion of the capital costs.
 - *Donations* include monies or real property from individuals and/or non-profit organizations.
 - *Partnerships* include financial agreements with non-profit organizations and/or user groups to share in the cost of building facilities.
 - *Other* includes proceeds from the sale of surplus properties and user fees and charges for facilities.

4.0. PLANNED PROJECTS

Table CIP-1 is a list of the priority projects included in the 2023-2043 CIP. Information in the table includes a facility identification number, project title and description, size (expressed in acres for parks and miles for trails), and overall cost. Table CIP-2 identifies the project costs by priority level and planning period. Following the tables, each project is detailed on a project description sheet.

Each project description sheet contains consistent categories of information to help communicate the pertinent data for each project. The categories include:

- *Project Identification (Project ID)*. This category is an alphanumeric identifier that corresponds to the summary table and maps included in the Park System Plan.
- *Project Title*. This is the name of the project.
- *Project Type*. This category identifies whether the project is a park, recreation facility, open space area, or trail.
- *Estimating Stage*. This category identifies whether the estimated costs are order of magnitude or are based on refined design information (master plan, conceptual design, etc.).
- *Site Size/Length*. The overall size of the site or length of the corridor, for trail projects.
- *Project Size/Length*. The actual size of the area to be improved or developed or length for trail projects.
- *Location*. This category provides the project address or general location if available.
- *Description*. This section includes the purpose of the specific project and why it is high enough in priority to be in the CIP.
- *Scope*. This section includes the scope of the project and explains the specific improvements to be developed as part of the project.
- *Considerations*. This section includes various types of information, depending upon the specific project, and may reference partnerships, project history, land use or environmental requirements.
- *Costs*. The section is the total estimated cost for the project, including planning, design, construction, permitting, and administration.

Table CIP-1. Planned Projects

Project ID	Project Title	Description	Size	Cost
R1	Community Center ¹	Conduct a feasibility study and master plan for a community center.	0.8 acres (Site)	\$ 95,000
R2	Basketball court (unsited)	Identify a site and construct 1 full-size basketball court.	5000 square feet	\$ 226,300
P1	Pioneer Park	Construct a walking loop, install benches, and upgrade trash receptacles.	0.4 acres	\$ 39,500
P2	Fireman's Park	Construct a sidewalk and a stormwater facility with educational signage along E Jewett Blvd.	0.2 acres	\$ 74,100
P3	Rheingarten Park	Evaluate irrigation system coverage, watering schedule, and water conservation opportunities and repair/update as needed. Construct replacement playground, construct splash pad, resurface and restripe tennis courts and update equipment and add pickleball striping. Replace restrooms to include gender-neutral restrooms and a family restroom. Update bike racks, sidewalks, and landscape. Evaluate the application of stormwater facilities as a water quality improvement.	4.1 acres	\$ 1,068,200
P4	Gaddis Park	Acquire additional park property and construct facilities, circulation, parking and landscape in 2001 master plan design. Restore riparian vegetation, maintain and expand trail system. Specific projects and amenities identified in the 2001 plan may be modified, adjusted, reduced or deleted based on current conditions and changes that have occurred since 2001.	6.7 acres	\$ 20,653,100
P5	Jewett Sports Complex	Develop shared-use agreement, contribute to facility maintenance, and improve pedestrian circulation with accessible sidewalks.	4.0 acres	\$ 607,500
P6	Spokes Bike Park	Install portable restroom enclosure, signage and trash receptacles.	7.6 acres	\$ 275,900

¹ Funding for future phases is dependent on the completion of a feasibility study.

**White Salmon
Park System Plan
Capital Improvements Plan DRAFT**

September 19, 2022

A1	Future North Neighborhood Park	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the northern residential area of White Salmon.	5-15 acres	\$ 3,255,000
A2	Future North Mini Park	Acquire and develop 2,500 SF to 1 acre for a mini park to serve the northern residential area of White Salmon.	2,500 SF to 1 acre	\$ 651,000
A3	Future West Neighborhood Park	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the western residential area of White Salmon.	5-15 acres	\$ 3,255,000
A4	Future Riverfront Park	Acquire and develop 13-acre riverfront parcel from Klickitat County to provide a natural area park with water access.	13 acres	\$ 1,674,000
A5	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the southeastern residential area of White Salmon.	5-15 acres	\$ 3,255,000
A6	Dog Park (unsited)	Plan and develop one site (N, W or SE) for a dog park.	5-10 acres	\$ 116,300
T1	Loop Trail	Improve the 11.5-mile pathway for multimodal transportation. Provide directional signage, visual separation between vehicles, and bicycles and pedestrians. Improvements are intended to be on WSDOT right of way and property easements.	11.5 miles	\$ 2,554,700
T2	Riverfront Park Trail Bridge ²	Conduct a feasibility study for the design and construction of a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the railroad tracks to connect the future Riverfront Park to the area's upland and downtown. The connection location is to be determined and will be influenced by the future Hood River bridge replacement project.	ND	ND
T3	Gaddis Park-Spokes Bike Park Trail	Design and construct a trail that connects Gaddis Park and Spokes Bike Park. Obtain easements from adjacent property owners between the two city parks.	0.25 to 1 mile	\$ 343,200

² Funding dependent on completion of project feasibility study and a future Hood River bridge replacement project.

**White Salmon
Park System Plan
Capital Improvements Plan DRAFT**

September 19, 2022

T4	Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail	Design and construct bicycle and pedestrian facilities that connect Rheingarten Park, Pioneer Park, Jewett Sports Complex and Spokes Bike Park. Route follows NW Lincoln Street, 1 st Street, Hood, Wauna, and Tohomish Street.	1 mile	\$ 161,900
T5	White Salmon Bluffs Trail	Design and construct a stair trail, paved parking, trailhead, and powered incline elevator. Pedestrian connections from downtown to commercial and riverfront areas. Pedestrian connection to riverfront to coincide with the future Hood River bridge replacement project.	ND	ND

ND – Not Determined

Table CIP-2. Project Prioritization

Project ID	Project Title	High	Medium	Low
		FY 2023-2030	FY 2031-2037	FY 2038-2043
R1	Community Center ³	\$ -	\$ 95,000	\$ -
R2	Basketball court (unsited)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 226,300
P1	Pioneer Park	\$ -	\$ 39,500	\$ -
P2	Fireman’s Park	\$ -	\$ 74,100	\$ -
P3	Rheingarten Park	\$ 589,500	\$ 478,700	\$ -
P4	Gaddis Park	\$ 1,636,900	\$ 1,366,700	\$ 17,649,600
P5	Jewett Sports Complex	\$ 108,500	\$ 406,000	\$ 93,000
P6	Spokes Bike Park	\$ 43,400	\$ 232,500	\$ -
A1	Future North Neighborhood Park	\$ 1,860,000	\$ 1,395,000	\$ -
A2	Future North Mini Park	\$ 186,000	\$ 465,000	\$ -
A3	Future West Neighborhood Park	\$ 930,000	\$ 2,325,000	\$ -
A4	Future Riverfront Park	\$ -	\$ 1,674,000	\$ -
A5	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park	\$ 1,860,000	\$ 1,395,000	\$ -
A6	Dog Park (unsited)	\$ -	\$ 116,300	\$ -
T1	Loop Trail	\$ 2,554,700	\$ -	\$ -
T2	Riverfront Park Trail Bridge ⁴	-	ND	ND
T3	Gaddis Park-Spokes Bike Park Trail	\$ 343,200	\$ -	\$ -
T4	Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail	\$ -	\$ 161,900	\$ -
T5	White Salmon Bluffs Trail	\$ -	ND	\$ -
	TOTAL	\$ 10,112,200	\$ 10,224,700	\$ 17,968,900

ND – Not Determined

³ Funding for future phases dependent on the completion of a feasibility study.

⁴ Funding dependent on completion of project feasibility study and a future Hood River bridge replacement project.

5.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

COMMUNITY CENTER

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

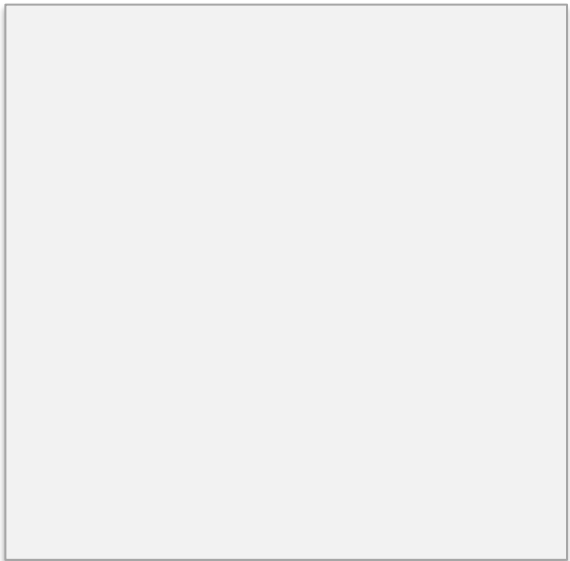
Project ID:	R1		
Project Title:	Community Center		
Project Type:	Community Center Facility		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	0.8 acres		
Project size/length:	-		
Location:	495 NE Church Ave		
Description:	Conduct a feasibility study and master plan.		
Scope:	Planning.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	\$95,000	-
Total ⁵	-	\$95,000	-



⁵ Funding for future phases is dependent on the completion of a feasibility study.

BASKETBALL COURT (UNSITED)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	R2			
Project Title:	Basketball court (unsited)			
Project Type:	Recreation Facility			
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude			
Site size/length:	5000 square feet			
Project size/length:	5000 square feet			
Location:	Unsited			
Description:	Construct one basketball court (full size) to serve the community.			
Scope:	Site selection, planning, design, permitting, and construction.			
Considerations:	Consider site in residential neighborhood.			
Costs:				
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043	
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	-	\$226,300	
Total	-	-	\$226,300	

PIONEER PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	P1		
Project Title:	Pioneer Park Improvements		
Project Type:	Mini Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	0.4 acres		
Project size/length:	0.2 acres		
Location:	NE Tohomish St and NE Pioneer Pl		
Description:	Construct a walking loop, install benches, and upgrade trash receptacles.		
Scope:	Planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	\$39,500	-
Total	-	\$39,500	-



FIREMAN’S PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	P2		
Project Title:	Fireman’s Park Improvements		
Project Type:	Mini Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	0.2 acres		
Project size/length:	2,300 square feet		
Location:	NE Grandview Blvd and E Jewett Blvd		
Description:	Construct a sidewalk and a stormwater facility with educational signage along E Jewett Blvd.		
Scope:	Planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	\$74,100	-
Total	-	\$74,100	-



RHEINGARTEN PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	P3		
Project Title:	Rheingarten Park Improvements		
Project Type:	Community Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	4.1 acres		
Project size/length:	4.1 acres		
Location:	NW Lincoln Street and N Main Ave		
Description:	Evaluate irrigation system coverage, watering schedule, and water conservation opportunities and repair/update as needed. Construct replacement playground, construct splash pad, resurface and restripe tennis courts and update equipment and add pickleball striping. Replace restrooms to include gender-neutral restrooms and a family restroom. Update bike racks, sidewalks, and landscape. Evaluate the application of stormwater facilities as a water quality improvement.		
Scope:	Design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$589,500	\$478,700	-
Total	\$589,500	\$478,700	-



GADDIS PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	P4		
Project Title:	Gaddis Park Improvements		
Project Type:	Natural Area Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	6.7 acres		
Project size/length:	6.7 acres		
Location:	NE Spring Street		
Description:	Acquire additional park property and construct facilities, circulation, parking and landscape in 2001 master plan design. Restore riparian vegetation, maintain and expand trail system. Specific projects and amenities identified the 2001 plan may be modified, adjusted, reduced, or deleted based on current conditions and changes that have occurred since 2001.		
Scope:	Design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$1,636,900	\$1,366,700	\$17,649,600
Total	\$1,636,900	\$1,366,700	\$17,649,600



JEWETT SPORTS COMPLEX

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	P5		
Project Title:	Jewett Sports Complex		
Project Type:	Special Use Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	4.0 acres		
Project size/length:	4.0 acres		
Location:	NE Center Street and NE O Keefe Avenue		
Description:	Develop shared-use agreement, contribute to facility maintenance, and improve pedestrian circulation with accessible sidewalks.		
Scope:	Design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$108,500	\$406,000	\$93,000
Total	\$108,500	\$406,000	\$93,000



SPOKES BIKE PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	P6		
Project Title:	Spokes Bike Park Improvements		
Project Type:	Special Use Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	7.6 acres		
Project size/length:	7.6 acres		
Location:	NE Tohomish Street		
Description:	Install portable restroom enclosure, signage, and trash receptacles.		
Scope:	Design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$43,400	\$232,500	-
Total	\$43,400	\$232,500	-



FUTURE NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

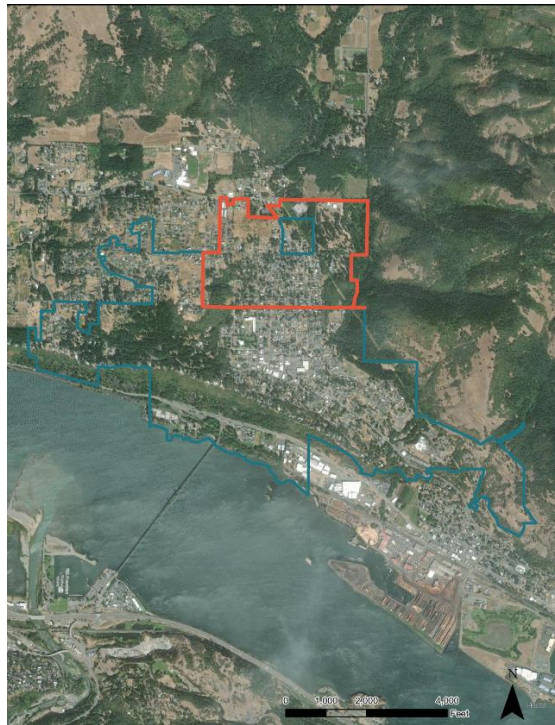
Project ID:	A2		
Project Title:	Future North Neighborhood Park		
Project Type:	Neighborhood Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	5-15 acres		
Project size/length:	5-15 acres		
Location:	North		
Description:	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the northern residential area of White Salmon.		
Scope:	Land acquisition, planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$1,860,000	\$1,395,000	-
Total	\$1,860,000	\$1,395,000	-



FUTURE NORTH MINI PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	A2		
Project Title:	Future North Mini Park		
Project Type:	Mini Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	2,500 SF to 1 acre		
Project size/length:	2,500 SF to 1 acre		
Location:	North		
Description:	Acquire and develop 2,500 SF to 1 acre for a mini park to serve the northern residential area of White Salmon.		
Scope:	Land acquisition, planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$186,000	\$465,000	-
Total	\$186,000	\$465,000	-



FUTURE WEST NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	A3			
Project Title:	Future West Neighborhood Park			
Project Type:	Neighborhood Park			
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude			
Site size/length:	5-15 acres			
Project size/length:	5-15 acres			
Location:	West			
Description:	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the western residential area of White Salmon.			
Scope:	Land acquisition, planning, design, permitting, and construction.			
Considerations:				
Costs:				
	Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
	Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$930,000	\$2,325,000	-
	Total	\$930,000	\$2,325,000	-



FUTURE RIVERFRONT PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	A4		
Project Title:	Riverfront Park Natural Area		
Project Type:	Natural Area		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	13 acres		
Project size/length:	13 acres		
Location:	Along the Columbia River, south of Lewis and Clark Highway and immediately east and west of the Hood River Bridge.		
Description:	Acquire and develop 13-acre riverfront parcel from Klickitat County to provide a natural area park with water access.		
Scope:	Land acquisition, planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	\$1,674,000	-
Total	-	\$1,674,000	-



FUTURE SOUTHEAST NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	A5		
Project Title:	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park		
Project Type:	Neighborhood Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	5-15 acres		
Project size/length:	5-15 acres		
Location:	Southeast		
Description:	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the southeastern residential area of White Salmon.		
Scope:	Land acquisition, planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$1,860,000	\$1,395,000	-
Total	\$1,860,000	\$1,395,000	-



FUTURE DOG PARK (UNSITED)

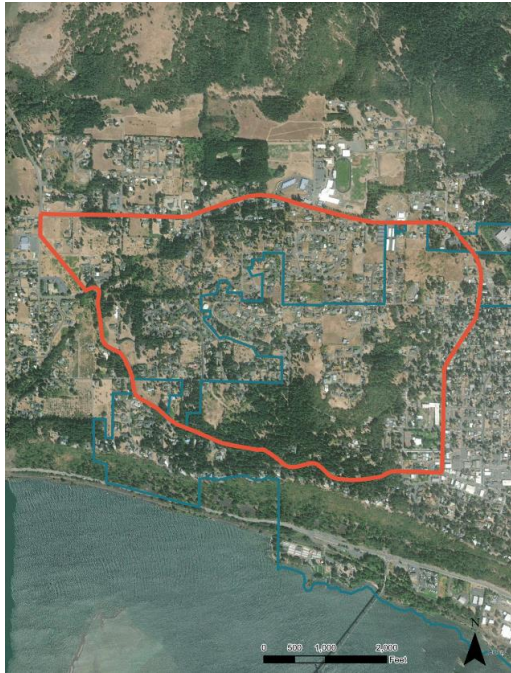
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	A6		
Project Title:	Future Dog Park		
Project Type:	Neighborhood Park		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	5-10 acres		
Project size/length:	5-10 acres		
Location:	Unsitd		
Description:	Plan and develop one site (N, W or SE) as a dog park.		
Scope:	Land acquisition, planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	\$116,300	-
Total	-	\$116,300	-

LOOP TRAIL

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

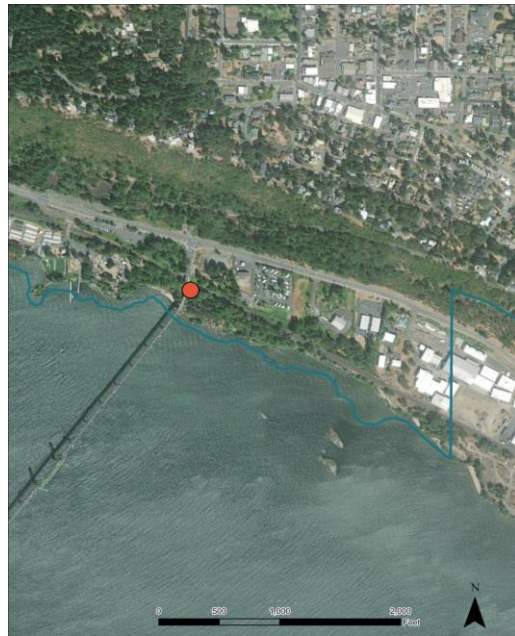
Project ID:	T1		
Project Title:	Loop Trail		
Project Type:	Trail		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	11.5 miles		
Project size/length:	11.5 miles		
Location:	Exact alignment to be determined		
Description:	Improve the 11.5-mile pathway for multimodal transportation. Provide directional signage, and visual separation between vehicles, and bicycles and pedestrians. Improvements are intended to be on WSDOT right of way and property easements.		
Scope:	Acquisition (land or easements), planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$2,554,700	-	-
Total	\$2,554,700	-	-



RIVERFRONT PARK TRAIL BRIDGE

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	T2		
Project Title:	Riverfront Park Trail Bridge		
Project Type:	Trail		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	13 acres		
Project size/length:	ND		
Location:	Along the Columbia River, south of Lewis and Clark Highway, and immediately east and west of the Hood River Bridge.		
Description:	Conduct a feasibility study for the design and construction of a pedestrian and bicycle connection over the railroad tracks to access the future Riverfront Park from the area’s upland and downtown. The connection location is to be determined and will be influenced by the future Hood River bridge replacement project.		
Scope:	Acquisition (land or easements), feasibility study, planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	ND	ND
Total⁶	-	ND	ND



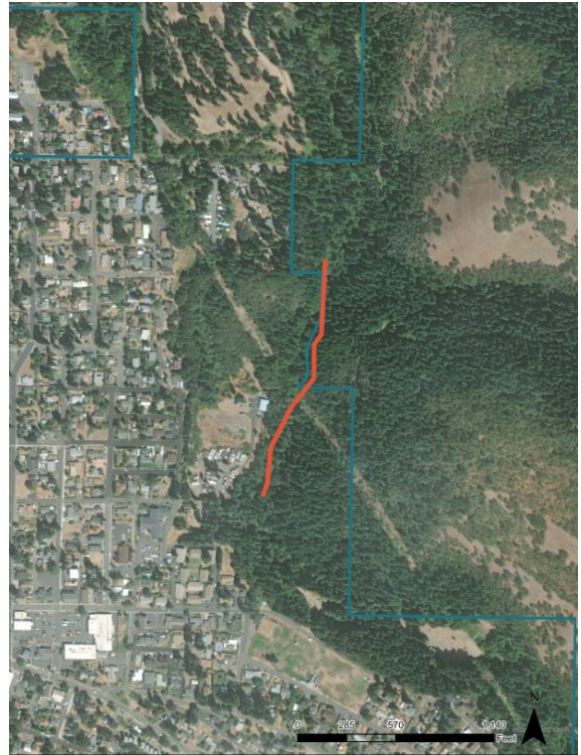
ND – Not Determined

⁶ Funding dependent on completion of project feasibility study and the future Hood River bridge replacement project.

GADDIS PARK-SPOKES BIKE PARK TRAIL

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	T3		
Project Title:	Trail		
Project Type:	Gaddis Park-Spokes Bike Park Trail		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	0.25 to 1 mile		
Project size/length:	0.25 to 1 mile		
Location:	Unsitied		
Description:	Design and construct a trail that connects Gaddis Park and Spokes Bike Park. Obtain easements from adjacent property owners between the two city parks.		
Scope:	Acquisition (land or easements), planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	\$343,200	-	-
Total	\$343,200	-	-



RHEINGARTEN-PIONEER-JEWETT SPORTS COMPLEX TRAIL

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	T4		
Project Title:	Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail		
Project Type:	Trail		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	1 mile		
Project size/length:	1 mile		
Location:	NW Lincoln Street, 1st Street, Hood, Wauna, and Tohomish Street.		
Description:	Design and construct bicycle and pedestrian facilities that connect Rheingarten Park, Pioneer Park, Jewett Sports Complex and Spokes Bike Park. Route follows NW Lincoln Street, 1st Street, Hood, Wauna, and Tohomish Street.		
Scope:	Acquisition (land or easements), planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	\$161,900	-
Total	-	\$161,900	-



WHITE SALMON BLUFFS TRAIL

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project ID:	T5		
Project Title:	White Salmon Bluffs Trail		
Project Type:	Trail		
Estimating Stage:	Order of Magnitude		
Site size/length:	ND		
Project size/length:	ND		
Location:	ND		
Description:	Design and construct a stair trail, paved parking, trailhead, and powered incline elevator. Pedestrian connections from downtown to commercial and riverfront areas. Pedestrian connection to riverfront to coincide with the future Hood River bridge replacement project.		
Scope:	Acquisition (land or easements), planning, design, permitting, and construction.		
Considerations:			
Costs:			
Project Cost by Priority & Source	High FY 2023-2030	Medium FY 2031-2037	Low FY 2038-2043
Municipal Capital Improvement Fund	-	ND	-
Total	-	ND	-

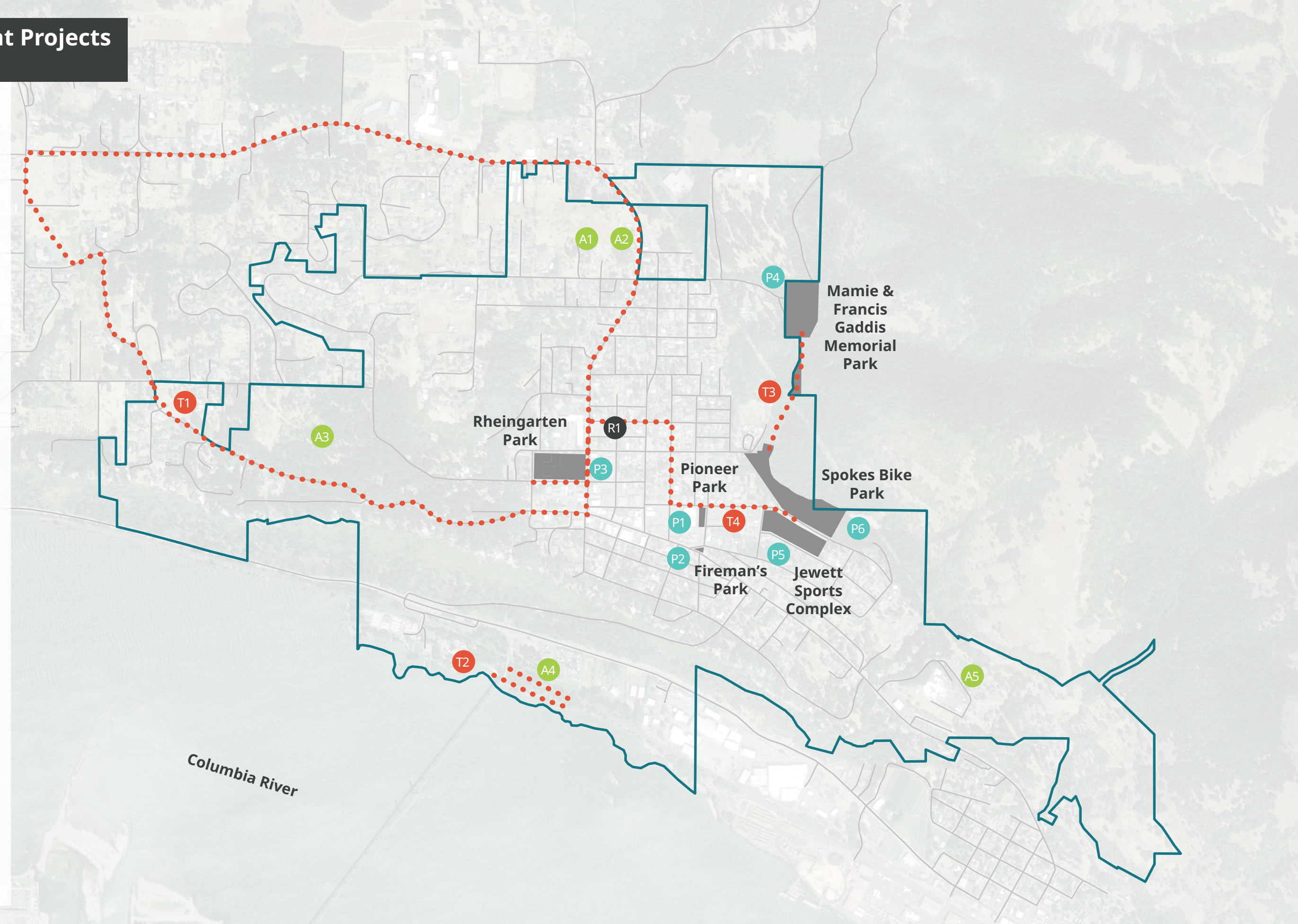
ND – Not Determined

Capital Improvement Projects

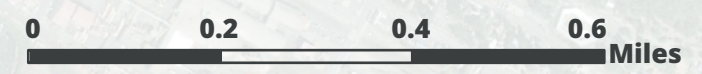
White Salmon Park System Plan

- LEGEND**
- RX Recreation Facility Project
 - PX Park Project
 - AX Land Acquisition and Development Project
 - TX Trail Project

- R1 Community Center
- R2 Unsited Basketball Court
- P1 Pioneer Park
- P2 Fireman's Park
- P3 Rheingarten Park
- P4 Gaddis Park
- P5 Jewett Sports Complex
- P6 Spokes Bike Park
- A1 Future North Neighborhood Park
- A2 Future North Mini Park
- A3 Future West Neighborhood Park
- A4 Future Riverfront Park
- A5 Future Southeast Neighborhood Park
- A6 Unsited Dog Park
- T1 Loop Trail
- T2 Riverfront Park Trail Bridge
- T3 Gaddis Park - Spokes Bike Park Trail
- T4 Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail
- T5 White Salmon Bluffs Trail



DRAFT



City of White Salmon

PARK SYSTEM PLAN



**DRAFT
REPORT**

September 19, 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WHITE SALMON CITY COUNCIL

Marla Keethler
Patty Fink
David Lindley
Jason Hartmann
Jim Ransier
Ben Giant

CITY OF WHITE SALMON

Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

White Salmon Valley School District
Klickitat County Senior Advisory Board
Spokes Bike Park
White Salmon Tree Board
Mt. Adams Chamber Of Commerce
Comunidades
Underwood Conservation District
WAGAP Youth Center
Little Oak Montessori School
Yakama Klickitat Fisheries Project
Community Residents

CAMERON MCCARTHY LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

Colin McArthur, AICP
Elizabeth Auvil, RLA
Victor Garcia
Grace Graham
Zach Rix, RLA

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- BACKGROUND
- PARK SYSTEM
- NEEDS ASSESSMENT
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- RECOMMENDATIONS
- IMPLEMENTATION



The Park System Plan is a guiding vision for the park system and provides direction for current and long-range planning. The Plan documents the research, analysis, and public involvement process specifically designed and used to identify system assets and needs. The Plan includes resulting goals, actions, recommendations, and implementation measures that guide the strategic direction and development of the park system over the next 20 years. The Plan was prepared in collaboration with City of White Salmon staff and community residents.

Specifically, the Plan includes:

- ▶ Inventory of existing park facilities owned and operated by the City, School District, and local community organizations, including an assessment of the general condition and needed maintenance or improvements.
- ▶ Assessment of community needs through identification of key indicators from demographic data, recreation trends, population projections, and community input.
- ▶ Long-range planning framework, including a vision, goals, and recommendations.
- ▶ 20-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) for improvement and development of the park system.
- ▶ Implementation actions and strategies, including project prioritization and the identification of potential sources and methods for acquiring funding for development, maintenance, operations, and general improvements.

BACKGROUND

White Salmon, Washington is located 72 miles east of Portland along the Columbia River Gorge. Indigenous inhabitants, including the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and the Nez Perce Tribe, live and have lived on the land for thousands of years prior to European immigrants occupying the area. The land, which received the name White Salmon in 1907, is situated on a bluff above the Columbia River and surrounded by several natural features, including the White Salmon River, Jewett Creek, and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

As the second-largest city in Klickitat County, White Salmon's economy centers on agriculture and industry, construction, retail and dining, health and medicine, and transportation services. Nearby whitewater conditions on the Columbia River and other local rivers and waterfalls have established White Salmon as a world-renowned destination for water recreation sports, such as kayaking and kiteboarding.

The City of White Salmon is a growing community with an increasing demand for housing, parks, and trail facilities. The City operates and maintains several parks that are primarily located within a half mile of E Jewett Blvd (Highway 141). After more than 80 years of operation, the White Salmon City Pool permanently closed in May of 2019. In 2018, residents voted to form the White Salmon Valley Pool Metropolitan Park District, which is planning to construct, operate, and provide maintenance for a new swimming pool. The District is currently pursuing funding needed for construction.

The City has undertaken several recent planning efforts including a Comprehensive Plan in 2021 and an Urbanization Study in 2020. A Transportation Plan is currently in development and will evaluate existing routes and identify future transportation projects in to improve access and walkability.

PARK SYSTEM

Park system planning requires the identification and assessment of existing park and recreation facilities and amenities through an inventory process. The inventory process highlights system-wide strengths, needs, opportunities and constraints, and reveals underserved areas. The inventory includes all facilities owned by the City, information about other recreation facilities owned by the School District, and other local community organizations that own or maintain facilities that are available to residents.

Table ES.1 Parks Facility Inventory Summary

DEVELOPED FACILITIES	
Parks	Acres
Mini Parks	0.6
Pioneer Park Cemetery	0.4
Fireman’s Park	0.2
Community Parks	4.1
Rheingarten Park ¹	4.1
Natural Area Parks	6.7
Mamie & Francis Gaddis Memorial Park	6.7
Special Use Parks	11.6
Jewett Sports Complex ²	4.0
Spokes Bike Park	7.6
Total Park Acres	23.0
Existing Trails	Miles
Trails	2.0
Total Developed Trail Miles	2.0
Undeveloped Facilities	
Trails	9.5
Total Undeveloped Trail Miles	9.5

¹ Owned by White Salmon Valley School District and operated by the City.

² Owned by White Salmon Valley School District, and operated and maintained by White Salmon Community Youth organization.

There are six park facilities in White Salmon. Two parks are owned by the White Salmon Valley School District and four parks are owned by the City. There are 23 acres of total park land available to the community. A two-mile segment of trail follows the sidewalk along NW Loop Road and transitions to an off-street path along W Jewett Blvd. Table ES.1 lists the inventory of developed parks and trails facilities and their classifications within the park system, as well as previously identified trail improvements.

The White Salmon Valley School District owns and operates an additional four developed school facilities that comprise 78.1 acres. Table ES.2 includes a list of all developed school facilities and their corresponding acreage.

Table ES.2 School District Facility Inventory Summary

ADDITIONAL DEVELOPED FACILITIES	
Facility	Acres
Wallace & Priscilla Stevenson Intermediate School	71.8
Henkle Middle School	
Columbia High School	
Whitson Elementary School	6.3
Total Developed School District Acreage	78.1

The population of White Salmon is expected to grow significantly over the next 20 years. This growth prompts the need to consider how the existing level of service benchmarks, measured as the ratio of residents per park and the acres of park land per 1,000 residents, can continue to be maintained, if not improved. Maintaining the current level of service at 9.2 acres of park land per 1,000 residents for a projected 2043 population of 3,033 residents will require that the City acquire and develop a minimum 5 acres of new park land by 2043.



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The needs assessment is comprised of a community profile, national and state recreation trends analysis, and findings from community outreach and involvement activities, which include stakeholder interviews, focus group discussions, an open house event, and an online survey. Together, this data provides a view of community needs and the facilities, programs, and services that are prioritized in the plan.

The needs assessment includes a collection of public and stakeholder feedback from the community outreach and involvement process. Feedback from park users focuses on how the City can better serve residents and visitors in the future. Findings from these processes help identify and prioritize future capital projects.

Facility Needs

- Improve natural areas/green space
- Nature playground/children's playground
- More accessible walking opportunities (sidewalks and trails in parks)
- Improve and expand trail facilities (paved and/or unpaved)
- Parks in the north and west

“

I'D LOVE TO SEE A FACILITY FOR THE COMMUNITY TO USE YEAR-ROUND. WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF GATHERING SPACES IN WHITE SALMON.

VISION

The Park System Plan policy framework includes a vision, goals, and actions established through the planning process. The vision is intended to represent community needs and desires. Goals represent the general end toward which organizational efforts are directed. Actions are specific steps needed to achieve stated goals. Recommendations include specific projects needed to achieve the Plan goals and implement the vision.

White Salmon established a community vision for parks and recreation during a comprehensive planning process in 2021.

Comprehensive Plan Parks and Recreation Vision Statement

Surrounded by natural and scenic beauty, White Salmon is at the center of a recreational wonderland. A city-protected trail system offers opportunities for hiking, mountain biking, and kayaking. Residents enjoy a variety of parks, green spaces, trails, and facilities. A network of neighborhood parks and playgrounds provide daily access for residents to enjoy. Sports fields, specialty parks, a community pool and recreation center promote community gathering and outdoor exercise. Natural areas provide wildlife habitat and enhance local ecosystems. Health and aesthetic benefits are derived from the ample tree canopy. Access to the Columbia Riverfront is maintained so that all can appreciate this precious and defining recreational asset.

In addition to the community's vision statement, the park system inventory and identified needs inform the Park System Plan vision statement which guides the goals and recommendations of this plan.

PARK SYSTEM PLAN VISION STATEMENT

White Salmon provides a variety of park facilities with a range of accessible, connected, and inclusive experiences that encourage play and exploration in the scenic and natural environment and meet the needs of a diverse and growing community.

Goals

- 1. Accessible and Connected Experiences**
Provide accessible park facilities for all residents.
- 2. Communication & Partnerships**
Enhance communication and service to all residents.
- 3. Maintenance and Facility Upgrades**
Provide a safe, accessible, and welcoming user experience through regular maintenance and facility upgrades.
- 4. Funding**
Identify and implement new funding mechanisms to support current park operations and the development of future park and recreation facilities.
- 5. Conservation and Restoration**
Promote environmental stewardship to preserve undeveloped natural resource and open space areas and restore ecological functions within existing parks and recreation facilities.
- 6. Inclusion**
Regularly evaluate and support the ongoing park and recreation needs of all residents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Plan recommendations propose balancing existing facility upgrades with acquisition and development of new sites to increase the park distribution and level of service. The recommendations result from thorough analysis of White Salmon's park system needs based on broad community input. They outline a path for strengthening the system, and are aimed at increasing capacity to accommodate current and future growth. Recommendations are organized into the following categories:

- Recreation facility development recommendations include an indoor community center feasibility study and master plan, and development of a full-size basketball court.
- Park facility development recommendations include a new playground and splash pad at Rheingarten Park, upgraded sports courts and restrooms at Rheingarten Park, adding a walking loop at Pioneer Park, a portable restroom enclosure and signage at Spokes Bike Park, and sidewalk upgrades throughout the park system.
- Natural area facility development recommendations focus on the development of the Gaddis Park.
- Park acquisition and development recommendations focus on acquiring land to the north, west, and southeast to address underserved neighborhoods by providing four new parks (three neighborhood parks and a mini park). An additional park acquisition along the Columbia River is intended to function as a natural area park. Development of a dog park is also recommended at one of the neighborhood park sites (N, W, or SE).
- Trail development recommendations include developing 11.5 miles of bike trails as identified in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Additional recommendations address operations and maintenance of the park system.

IMPLEMENTATION

Planned Projects

Proposed projects included in the Park System Plan and the 2023-2043 Capital Improvements Plan are identified and selected based on the following criteria:

- Qualitative findings from community input during the outreach process
- Quantitative findings from the 2022 Park System Plan Needs Assessment
- City staff input
- Geospatial analysis
- Census data
- Other relevant plans and policies

Proposed project funding responds to an ongoing assessment of capital assets, as well as assessments of current and future service delivery needs.

Prioritization

Projects included in the plan were evaluated based on consideration of the following information sources to determine a prioritization schedule:

- Planning documents and tools
- Level of Service (LOS)
- Geographic distribution
- Maintaining existing facilities
- Grants

Each project is prioritized based on a High, Medium, and Low prioritization schedule.

- High-priority projects are planned for the first 7-year planning period, through 2030;
- Medium priority projects are planned for the second 7-year planning period, through 2037;
- Low priority projects are planned for the third 6-year planning period, which begins in 2038 and extends to 2043.

Project Costs

Detailed cost estimates were developed for each project. Additional detail is provided in the 2023-2043 Capital Improvements Plan.

The park system will increase in acreage over the planning period. To maintain the current level of service and number of facilities per resident benchmarks, the City will need to acquire and develop approximately five acres of parkland by 2043.

Table ES.3 presents a summary of the proposed projects categorized by site and priority level. Total costs for planned projects are estimated to be approximately \$38,305,800. The plan includes:

- \$10,112,200 in funding for High Priority projects (2023-2030)
- \$10,224,700 in funding for Medium Priority projects (2031-2037)
- \$17,968,900 in funding for Low Priority project (2038-2043)

Table ES.3 Project Prioritization

ND - Not Determined

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION				
Project ID	Project Title	High (FY 2023-2030)	Medium (FY 2031-2037)	Low (FY 2038-2043)
R1	Community Center ³	-	\$95,000	-
R2	Basketball court (unsited)	-	-	\$226,300
P1	Pioneer Park	-	\$39,500	-
P2	Fireman’s Park	-	\$74,100	-
P3	Rheingarten Park	\$589,500	\$478,700	-
P4	Gaddis Park	\$1,636,900	\$1,366,700	\$17,649,600
P5	Jewett Sports Complex	\$108,500	\$406,000	\$93,000
P6	Spokes Bike Park	\$43,400	\$232,500	-
A1	Future North Neighborhood Park	\$1,860,000	\$1,395,000	-
A2	Future North Mini Park	\$186,000	\$465,000	-
A3	Future West Neighborhood Park	\$930,000	\$2,325,000	-
A4	Future Riverfront Park	-	\$1,674,000	-
A5	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park	\$1,860,000	\$1,395,000	-
A6	Dog Park (unsited)	-	\$116,300	-
T1	Loop Trail	\$2,554,700	-	-
T2	Riverfront Park Trail Bridge ⁴	-	ND	ND
T3	Gaddis Park-Spokes Bike Park Trail	\$343,200	-	-
T4	Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail	-	\$161,900	-
T5	White Salmon Bluffs Trail	-	ND	-
	TOTAL	\$10,112,200	\$10,224,700	\$17,968,900

³ Funding for future phases is dependent on the completion of a feasibility study.

⁴ Funding dependent on completion of project feasibility study and a future Hood River bridge replacement project.

Funding

Park system improvement actions have been historically funded from Municipal Capital Improvement Fund expenditures. These funds consist of revenue from the local tax base. The Plan discusses anticipated funding sources as well as associated recommendations for leveraging resources, including:

- Grants
- General Obligation Bonds
- Partnerships
- Relationships
- Performance Measures

Conclusion

The 2022 White Salmon Park System Plan is an aspirational document based on a collective local vision for maintaining and improving the quality of life for White Salmon residents through parks facilities. The Park System Plan is a synthesis of a guiding vision, actions, recommendations, and specific projects designed to be implemented over a 20+ year planning period.

The City recognizes that park facilities are essential to the physical and mental health of White Salmon residents and the park system provides a key foundation for a healthy community. The planning framework ensures that the future park system will provide accessible and welcoming facilities that support the needs of an increasingly diverse and growing community.





CHAPTER 01

INTRODUCTION

- PLANNING PROCESS
- RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS
- PLAN ORGANIZATION



PLANNING PROCESS

The Park System Plan is a guiding vision for the parks and recreation system and provides direction for current and long-range planning. The Plan documents the research, analysis, and community outreach process specifically designed and utilized to identify system assets and needs. The Plan includes resulting goals, actions, recommendations, and implementation measures that guide the strategic direction and development of the park system over the next 20 years. The Plan was prepared in collaboration with City of White Salmon staff, stakeholders, and community residents.

The Plan follows a systems approach for the planning process, as recommended by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). A systems approach places local values and needs first and provides a framework for creating a park system that physically meets those values and needs. The planning process is organized in five phases:



Phase 1 Inventory & Analysis:

This phase involves an inventory of existing park facilities owned and operated by the City and the School District. Facilities are identified and assessed for general conditions, existing improvements, and needed maintenance or improvements.

Phase 2 Needs Assessment:

This phase involves an assessment of community needs through the identification of key indicators from demographic data, recreation trends, and community input. Population growth, demographic characteristics, and recreation participation trends help identify facilities needed by current and future residents. Population projections are used to determine the current and future level of service provided by the park system. Level of service is typically expressed as a ratio of developed parks per 1,000 residents.

Phase 3 Vision and Recommendations:

This phase involves the development of a planning framework for the Plan, including a vision, goals, actions and recommendations. The recommendations address operations and maintenance, capital improvements, and land acquisition. The Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) identifies capital improvement projects for 2023-2043 and prioritizes projects for the first seven years of the Plan. The CIP is based on current needs. The land acquisition plan looks at the longer 20-year planning term to determine parkland needs to serve a growing population.

Phase 4 Implementation and Funding Strategies:

This phase includes the identification of potential sources and methods for acquiring funding for development, maintenance, operations, and general improvements.

Phase 5 Plan Refinement and Adoption:

This phase incorporates feedback and refinement from City staff and City Council based on a review of the Draft Plan, which is used to prepare the Final Plan for adoption by the City Council.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS

The Park System Plan is one of several documents that comprise the City of White Salmon’s long-range planning and policy framework, including documents such as, but not limited to, the Comprehensive Plan, an Urbanization Study, land use and development code, and municipal code. The following documents were reviewed during Plan development and contain specific elements that have bearing on the planning process and inform goals, actions, and recommendations within this Plan.

WHITE SALMON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (2021)

The Comprehensive Plan includes a chapter that addresses parks and recreation in White Salmon. The Plan inventories existing facilities, identifies future facilities and plans, and sets goals and policies to guide long-term park and recreation planning.

The plan includes three goals addressing park and recreation needs:

Goal P&R-1: Maintain and improve access and multimodal circulation between park and recreation facilities.

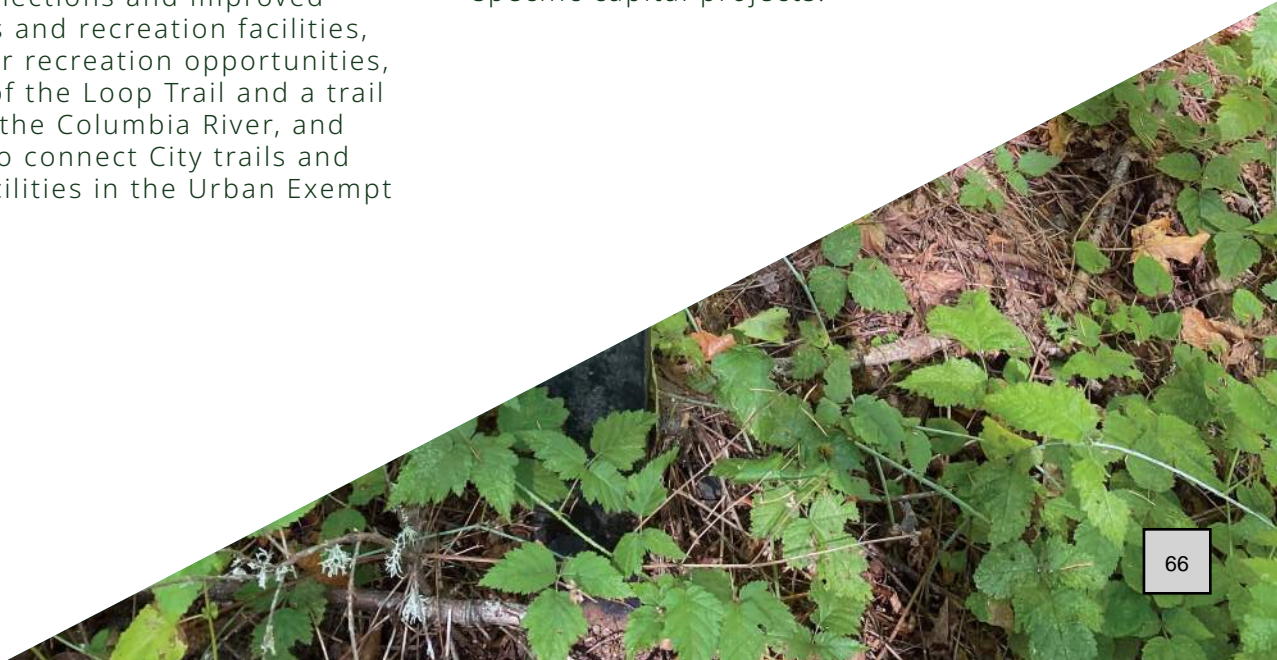
Policies under this goal support signage, expanded connections and improved safety to parks and recreation facilities, access to water recreation opportunities, development of the Loop Trail and a trail connection to the Columbia River, and partnerships to connect City trails and facilities to facilities in the Urban Exempt Area.

Goal P&R-2: Maintain existing park and recreation facilities and improve existing park and recreation facilities with new or improved facilities, amenities and uses.

Policies for Goal 2 include maintenance efforts to ensure clean and safe facilities, improvements to existing sports courts, introduce benches, tables and a walking loop at Pioneer Cemetery Park, provide bike racks at parks, collaboration with the White Salmon Valley School District to adapt Jewett Sports Complex to support baseball and soccer equally as well as potential winter uses.

Goal P&R-3: Ensure adequate funding opportunities, coordination, and partnerships to meet current and future park and recreation facility demands and maintenance needs.

Goal 3 policies specify coordination of planning and improvements with nearby cities and the County, alignment of park improvements with the City’s capital facilities planning, encouragement of park facilities that capitalize on City assets, collaboration with local organizations to support the maintenance of parks, maintain an updated inventory of facilities and their conditions and anticipate maintenance and repairs, explore trail and conservation easements with private landowners, support the Park District, explore grants and local partnership opportunities for the development of new facilities, encourage parks in new subdivisions or mixed-use developments, and consider tax levies or bonds to fund specific capital projects.



Several future facilities and plans are outlined in the Comprehensive Plan.

- **City Pool:** The White Salmon Valley Pool and Metropolitan Park District is overseeing the planning and development of a pool relocation near Henkle Middle School on Loop Road.
- **Community Center:** A new community center across from Whitson Elementary School is being considered by the City. The center is intended for public use and may also host the Washington Gorge Action Programs Youth Center which is currently located on a City-owned site along E Jewett Blvd.
- **River Access:** Water access in White Salmon is currently limited; however, the City is exploring the purchase of a 13-acre parcel along the Columbia River from Klickitat County. Access to the site is also limited but a trail easement for a pedestrian and bicyclist bridge over the railroad line may be explored in the future. Additional information is available in the White Salmon Riverfront Bridge Park Conceptual Plan.

- **Loop Trail Plan:** The Loop Trail includes 11.5 miles of path to enhance regional active transportation. The alignment is not finalized but is expected to travel along Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), City of Bingen, City of White Salmon, and Klickitat County rights-of-way. As a separated bicycle and pedestrian facility with signage, the Loop Trail will provide residents and tourists a route to access local parks and amenities.

WHITE SALMON URBANIZATION STUDY (2020)

The Urbanization Study identifies several key findings that influence park and recreation planning for the next 20 years.

- **Finding 1.** The average population growth rate for Klickitat County is 0.96%.
- **Finding 4.** White Salmon is the fastest growing city in Klickitat County and is likely to capture the majority of demand for housing within the western part of the County.
- **Finding 5.** 75-79% of the expected 1,020 housing units are forecasted to be constructed within the White Salmon/Bingen Urban Exempt Area.
- **Finding 7.** New housing in White Salmon requires approximately 182 acres of low-, medium- and high-density land combined.
- **Finding 8.** The existing supply of buildable land in White Salmon City limits includes approximately 92 acres of low-, medium- and high-density land combined.



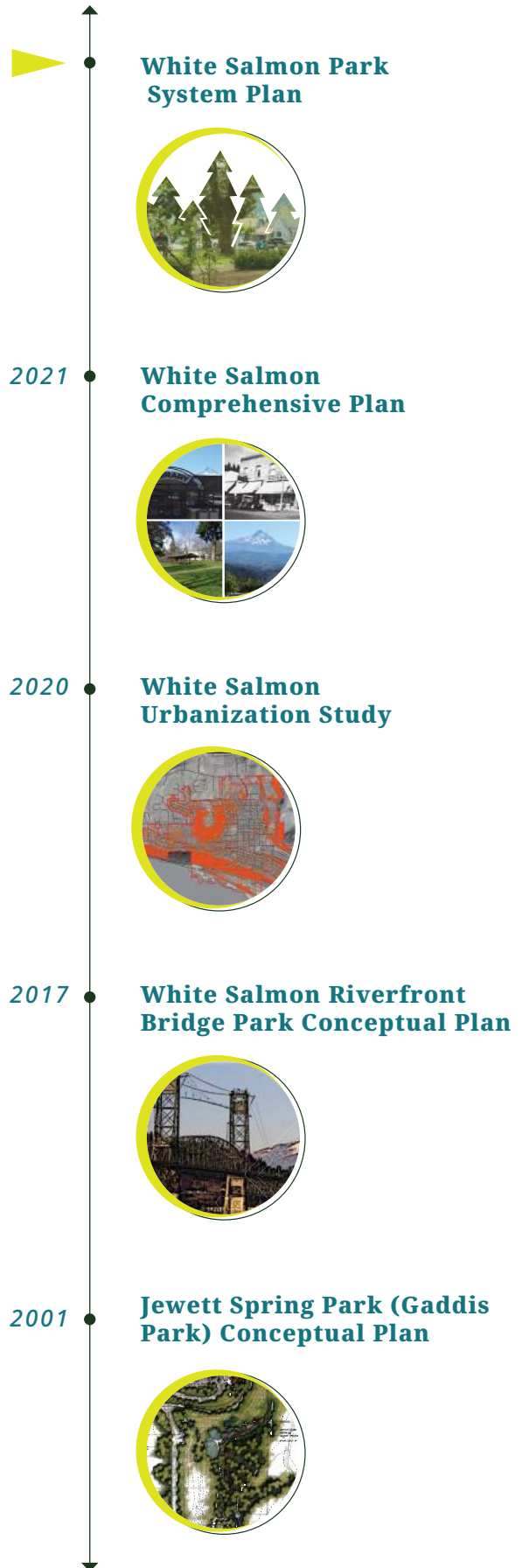
WE NEED
OPPORTUNITIES FOR KIDS
TO BE OUTDOORS AND PLAY OR
EXERCISE.

WHITE SALMON RIVERFRONT BRIDGE PARK CONCEPTUAL PLAN (2017)

The Riverfront Bridge Park Conceptual Plan was developed in 2017 by the City and the National Park Service: Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance program. The Plan identifies a vision for a site along the Columbia River as a natural area park. Development opportunities are limited as the site is situated in a floodplain and 7 acres of the property are underwater. There are also several site constraints including the Hood River-White Salmon Toll Bridge that divides the site in half, and Highway 14, the railroad and private property that limit access from the north. The Plan identifies wildlife viewing, fishing, and water access for non-motorized paddle sports as site opportunities.

JEWETT SPRING PARK (GADDIS PARK) CONCEPTUAL PLAN (2001)

The Jewett Spring Park Conceptual Plan was developed in 2001 for the park currently known as Gaddis Park. Proposed improvements include an environmental education center, parking lot and stormwater facility, demonstration garden, and plaza at the north end of the site. Improvements to the southern natural area include a small gravel parking area, informational and educational kiosk, trailhead, and a system of wayfinding signage that leads visitors through paved pedestrian paths. The paths lead to a series of additional improvements including a restored tank and wetlands, an overlook platform that oversees Jewett Creek, and creek habitat restoration. A footbridge also connects to the existing soft-surface paths. The Park System Plan considers these improvements in the Plan's goals and recommendations.



PLAN ORGANIZATION

This Plan is organized into six chapters and eight appendices, described as follows:

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION:

Provides an overview of the project purpose and planning process, as well as this Plan's relationship to other plans.

CHAPTER 2 PARK SYSTEM:

Provides information on the regional context, an inventory and classifications of the park system, and level of service.

CHAPTER 3 NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

Provides information about the community demographics, growth, and includes a summary of recreation trends.

CHAPTER 4 VISION:

Presents the vision, goals, and actions designed to meet community needs, as identified in Chapter 3.

CHAPTER 5 RECOMMENDATIONS:

Includes recommendations for park-specific projects, land acquisition, trail development, and maintenance and operations.

CHAPTER 6 IMPLEMENTATION:

Includes implementation strategies, budget information, identified funding needs, and funding recommendations.

Appendix A Community Profile:

Includes an overview of the regional and planning context, including demographic, economic and community health analysis.

Appendix B Inventory:

Includes an inventory and conditions assessment of each park facility in the park system.

Appendix C Needs Assessment:

Includes an overview of recreation participation and local, state, and national recreation trends.

Appendix D Focus Groups:

Summarizes comments and findings from targeted conversations conducted with representative community focus groups.

Appendix E Stakeholder Interviews:

Provides summaries of stakeholder interviews conducted as part of the public outreach process.

Appendix F Open House Event Summary:

Provides a summary of comments and findings from a community open house event conducted as part of the public outreach process.

Appendix G Capital Improvements Plan

A separate document that includes a detailed 20-year strategy for how the City of can implement identified capital improvements.

Appendix H Community Survey Results

A separate document that includes the raw data from the community survey.



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I BELIEVE THERE IS POTENTIAL TO MARKEDLY EXPAND THE TRAIL NETWORK SURROUNDING WHITE SALMON, BUILDING ON THE EXISTING SYSTEM TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE.



CHAPTER 02

PARK SYSTEM

- REGIONAL CONTEXT AND PLANNING AREA
- FACILITY INVENTORY
- LEVEL OF SERVICE



This chapter provides information on regional context, the planning area, and public facilities in order to understand how park facilities function in the community. The inventory and assessment of parks facilities functions to help identify gaps in service delivery, improvement needs, and expansion opportunities for future generations of park users.

REGIONAL CONTEXT AND PLANNING AREA

White Salmon, Washington is located 72 miles east of Portland in the Columbia River Gorge. Indigenous inhabitants, including the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Yakama Nation, the Wasco Nation, and the Wishram Nation live and have lived on the land for thousands of years prior to European immigrants occupying the area.

Klickitat County was organized by European immigrants out of Walla Walla County in 1859, and the land currently known as the City of White Salmon was incorporated in 1907. White Salmon is known for its kiteboarding opportunities

and whitewater conditions on the Columbia River. The area, with its rivers and waterfalls, is a world-renowned destination for kayakers.

White Salmon is situated on a bluff above the Columbia River and surrounded by several natural features, including the White Salmon River, Jewett Creek, and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. White Salmon provides recreational opportunities which include trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, and athletic fields.

The planning area for the Park System Plan includes the area within the city limits of White Salmon, approximately 780 acres. The planning area primarily includes land zoned for commercial and residential uses.

FACILITY INVENTORY

Park system planning requires the identification and assessment of existing park and recreation facilities and amenities through an inventory process. The inventory process highlights system-wide strengths, needs, opportunities, and constraints, and reveals underserved areas and services. Knowledge of the activities that occur in each park and the condition of facilities and amenities helps guide recommendations and capital improvement projects.

The inventory includes all facilities owned by the City, information about other recreation facilities owned by the School District, and other recreation facilities that are available to residents. Detailed inventory and conditions assessments of each park and recreation facility owned by the City and the School District are included in Appendix B Inventory.

City Facilities

The White Salmon park system includes six park facilities. The parks inventory includes all parkland owned and/or operated by the City of White Salmon, which comprise 23 acres of parkland and two miles of bike and pedestrian trail. The inventory was completed using information provided by City staff and site visits to park and recreation facilities. Table 2.1. Park Facility Inventory Summary contains a list of developed and undeveloped facilities and their associated classifications and size within the park system.

Table 2.1 Parks Facility Inventory Summary

DEVELOPED FACILITIES	
Parks	Acres
Mini Parks	0.6
Pioneer Park Cemetery	0.4
Fireman's Park	0.2
Community Parks	4.1
Rheingarten Park ¹	4.1
Natural Area Parks	6.7
Mamie & Francis Gaddis Memorial Park	6.7
Special Use Parks	11.6
Jewett Sports Complex ²	4.0
Spokes Bike Park	7.6
Total Park Acres	23.0
Existing Trails	Miles
Trails	2.0
Total Developed Trail Miles	2.0
Undeveloped Facilities	
Trails	9.5
Total Undeveloped Trail Miles	9.5

¹ Owned by White Salmon Valley School District and operated by the City.

² Owned by White Salmon Valley School District, and operated and maintained by White Salmon Community Youth.

Recreation Easements

Currently, the City does not have any recreation easements, but developing relationships with private landowners and obtaining easements to expand the trail system and access to parks is identified as Policy P&R-3.9 in the Comprehensive Plan.

School District Facilities

Two of the six parks in the park system are owned by the White Salmon Valley School District. The White Salmon Valley School District owns and operates an additional four developed school facilities that comprise 78.1 acres. Table 2.2 includes a list of all developed school facilities and their corresponding acreage.

Table 2.2 Additional School District Facilities Summary

ADDITIONAL DEVELOPED FACILITIES	
Facility	Acres
Wallace & Priscilla Stevenson Intermediate School Henkle Middle School Columbia High School	71.8
Whitson Elementary School	6.3
Total Developed School District Acreage	78.1

Table 2.3 Inventory Summary provides a summary of City and School District-owned lands.

Table 2.3 Inventory Summary

INVENTORY SUMMARY	
Ownership	Size (Acres)
City Facilities	14.9
School District Facilities	86.2

Classification

The inventory process includes consideration and assignment of park classifications. A review of current and future park system needs by park classification type ensures a balanced park system capable of efficient service to the community. National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) classifications provide a basis for the establishment of a classification system specific to the needs, resources, and facilities in White Salmon.³ Park classification determination considers individual park benefits, functions, size, service area, and amenities. The park classifications selected for White Salmon are summarized in the following categories:

Parks

- Mini Park
- Community Park
- Natural Area Park
- Special Use Park

Trails

In White Salmon, there are two mini parks, one community park, one natural area park, two special use parks, and one trail facility. More detailed information about individual park facilities can be found in Appendix B Inventory.

³ National Recreation and Parks Association Classification and Parks Definitions. National Recreation and Parks Association and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, Mertes, James D. and Hall, James R. Park, Recreation and Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. 1996.

MINI PARKS

Size: ≤ 1 Acre

Proximity: 1/4 Mi Radius

Facilities: Playgrounds, picnic tables, pathways, interpretive signage, and landscaping.



COMMUNITY PARKS

Size: 25+ Acres

Proximity: 1-2 Mi Radius

Facilities: Playgrounds, sports fields, picnic shelter, open space, restrooms, off-leash areas, natural areas, gardens, performance spaces, etc.



NATURAL AREA PARKS

Size: Variable

Proximity: Variable

Facilities: Light development, nature viewing, greenways, landscape buffers.



SPECIAL USE PARKS

Size: Variable

Proximity: N/A

Facilities: Dependent on activities and site use.



TRAILS

Size: Variable

Proximity: Variable

Facilities: Walking, biking, hiking, multi-use.





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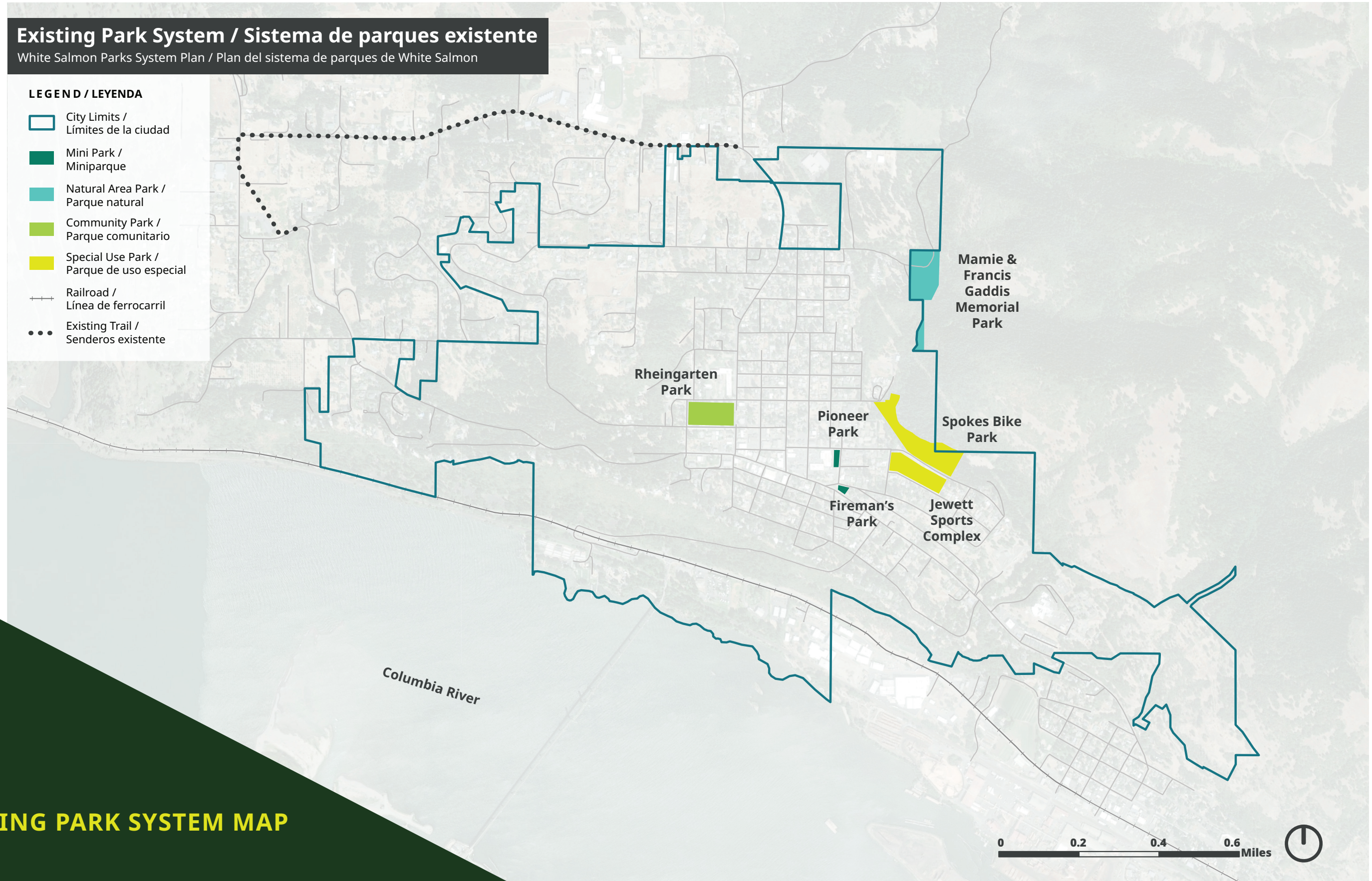
OPEN SPACE IS NECESSARY FOR HEALTHY KIDS, MENTAL SANITY FOR PARENTS, AND CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE TAKING A MOMENT TO RELAX ISN'T SO DIFFICULT.

Existing Park System / Sistema de parques existente

White Salmon Parks System Plan / Plan del sistema de parques de White Salmon

LEGEND / LEYENDA

-  City Limits / Límites de la ciudad
-  Mini Park / Miniparque
-  Natural Area Park / Parque natural
-  Community Park / Parque comunitario
-  Special Use Park / Parque de uso especial
-  Railroad / Línea de ferrocarril
-  Existing Trail / Senderos existente



Map 2.1
EXISTING PARK SYSTEM MAP

LEVEL OF SERVICE

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) publishes an annual report that summarizes key findings generated by the NRPA Park Metrics, a benchmarking tool that evaluates an agency's performance. Two benchmarks analyzed in the 2021 NRPA Performance Review report are the ratio of residents per park, and the acres of park land per 1,000 residents as a means of gauging the appropriate level of service. These benchmarks are the foundation for exploring potential service gaps in the City of White Salmon's park system.

The 2022 population estimate for White Salmon is 2,490 people⁴. Since the Park System Plan is meant to guide the City for the next 20 years, all population projections provide service analysis extrapolated out to 2043. This analysis seeks to identify current service needs, as well as the potential needs for a changing future population.

Residents Per Park

The ratio of residents per park is calculated based on the current population estimate (2,490 people) and the number of existing park properties (6 park properties). Based on this equation, the ratio of residents per park in White Salmon is 415 residents per park. For this benchmark, a lower ratio of resident per park (lower quartile ratio) is preferred, meaning that parks are less crowded. The higher the ratio (upper quartile), the more crowded the existing parks. In Table 2.4a, this ratio is compared to national ratios for jurisdictions surveyed with populations having less than 20,000 residents to be a viable comparison to White Salmon. The national ratios are presented as the median ratio of jurisdictions surveyed, lower quartile ratio of jurisdictions surveyed, and upper quartile ratio of jurisdictions surveyed.

As shown in Table 2.4a, the ratio of residents per park is lower than the national lower quartile ratio and significantly lower than the national median ratio.

Table 2.4a. Residents Per Park

RESIDENTS PER PARK			
Population	# of Residents	Residents Per Park	Comparison
White Salmon	2,490	415	-
Median	-	1,235	-820
Lower Quartile	-	776	-361
Upper Quartile	-	1,948	-1,533

Gauging the ratio of residents per park in the future is also beneficial to ensure the provision of an appropriate level of service over time. Data from the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) shows the average annual growth rate in White Salmon was 0.9% between 2000-2019. During 2010-2019, the growth rate increased to 1.8%. Population forecasts are available from the OFM at the county level. The high growth forecast (identified in the Urbanization Study) for Klickitat County (0.96%) most closely aligns with the average annual growth rate trend White Salmon has seen in the past 19 years (0.9%). This analysis uses the high growth forecast rate for Klickitat County (0.96%) to forecast population growth of White Salmon. Using this rate, White Salmon is projected to increase in population over the next 20 years. To accommodate this growth, White Salmon will need to increase the number of parks it owns and operates to continue to provide a quality level of service. The number of parks needed to at least maintain the current level of service over the next 20 years, with the forecasted population increases, is calculated in Table 2.4b.

⁴ Washington State Office of Financial Management, April 1 Official Population Estimates. 2022.

Table 2.4b. Residents Per Park Projection

RESIDENTS PER PARK PROJECTION						
Year	Population	Ratio (Population / 6 Existing Parks)	# of Parks Needed to Maintain Ratio (Population / 415 Residents Per Park)	Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2022	2,490	415	-	1,235	776	1,948
2023	2,514	419	0.1	1,235	776	1,948
2028	2,635	439	0.3	1,235	776	1,948
2033	2,761	460	0.7	1,235	776	1,948
2038	2,894	482	1.0	1,235	776	1,948
2043	3,033	506	1.3	1,235	776	1,948

As shown in Table 2.4b, the ratio of residents per park is a proportional relationship: the ratio will increase as the population increases. Therefore, White Salmon will need to increase the number of parks in city ownership over time to maintain the current level of service ratio. This population increase can be addressed by the acquisition of approximately 0.3 parks every five years. Assuming no additional park acquisition over the next 20 years, White Salmon would remain below the lower quartile level of service.

Acres of Park Land Per 1,000 Residents

The ratio of acres of park land per 1,000 residents is calculated based on the current developed acreage of park land (23 acres) and the current population estimate divided by 1,000 (2.49). Based on this equation, the acres of park land per 1,000 residents in White Salmon is 9.2 acres per 1,000 residents. For this benchmark, a higher ratio of acres per resident (upper quartile ratio) is preferred, meaning that parks are less crowded. The lower the ratio (lower quartile), the more crowded the existing parks. In Table 2.5a, this ratio is compared to national ratios

for jurisdictions surveyed with populations less than 20,000 residents. The national ratios are presented as the median ratio of jurisdictions surveyed, lower quartile ratio of jurisdictions surveyed, and upper quartile ratio of jurisdictions surveyed.

Table 2.5a. Acres of Park Land Per 1,000 Residents

PARK ACRES PER 1,000 RESIDENTS			
Population	# of Residents	Ratio (Acres of Park / 1000 Residents)	Comparison
White Salmon	2,490	9.2 Acres / 1000 Residents	-
Median	-	12.4	-3.2
Lower Quartile	-	5.2	4.0
Upper Quartile	-	21.8	-12.6

As shown in Table 2.5a, the ratio of acres of park land per 1,000 residents is higher than the national lower quartile ratio. White Salmon is also lower than the national median ratio and significantly lower than the national upper quartile ratio. Gauging the ratio of acres of park land per 1,000 residents in the future is also beneficial to ensure the provision of an appropriate level of service over time.

Using data from Washington State Office of Financial Management, White Salmon is expected to increase in population over the next 20 years. In order to accommodate this growth, the acreage of parks owned by the City will need to increase to continue to provide a similar level of service. The amount of additional park acreage needed to at least maintain

the current level of service over the next 20 years with the forecasted population increases are calculated in Table 2.5b.

As shown in Table 2.5b, the ratio of acres of park land per 1,000 residents is an inversely proportional relationship: the ratio will decrease as the population increases. Therefore, the City of White Salmon will need to increase the amount of park acreage in the city's ownership over time to maintain the current level of service ratio. This population increase can be addressed by the acquisition of approximately 1.25 acres every five years. Assuming no additional acreage acquisition over the next 20 years, White Salmon would continuously be below the median value.

Table 2.5b. Acres of Park Land Per 1,000 Residents Projection

RESIDENTS PER PARK PROJECTION						
Year	Population	Ratio (Acres of Park Land / 1000 Residents)	# of Additional Acres Needed to Maintain Current Ratio	Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2022	2,490	9.2	-	12.4	5.2	21.8
2023	2,514	9.1	0.1	12.4	5.2	21.8
2028	2,635	8.7	1.2	12.4	5.2	21.8
2033	2,761	8.3	2.4	12.4	5.2	21.8
2038	2,894	7.9	3.6	12.4	5.2	21.8
2043	3,033	7.6	5.0	12.4	5.2	21.8



OUR COMMUNITY IS GROWING RAPIDLY
 ...TO BE FAMILY ORIENTED AND TO KEEP
 OUR ECONOMY GOING WE NEED
 TO CATCH UP WITH OUR
 INFRASTRUCTURE.

Conclusion

White Salmon can expect a population increase within the next 20 years. This growth prompts the need to consider how the existing levels of service benchmarks measured both as the ratio of residents per park, and the acres of park land per 1,000 residents, can continue to at least be maintained at their current level, if not improved.

The NRPA Park Metrics describe the ratio of residents per park as a proportional relationship (the more residents, the greater the ratio), and the acres of park land per 1,000 residents as an inversely proportional relationship (the more residents, the lesser the ratio). Given the need to have a low ratio of residents per park, and high ratio of acres of park land per 1,000 residents, White Salmon should consider acquiring and developing additional parks facilities for the community in the next 20 years in order to maintain current levels.

Maintaining the current level of service at 9.2 acres of park land per 1,000 residents for a projected 2043 population of 3,033 residents will require that the City acquire and develop 5 acres of park land.

The White Salmon Level of Service Map (Map 2.2) displays existing park facilities and their associated service area, as defined by the NRPA classification system, and a walkability factor of 1/4 radius, which is the typical distance a user is willing to walk to access a facility assuming no barriers to access. This analysis informs the recommendations and implementation measures described in Chapters 5 and 6.

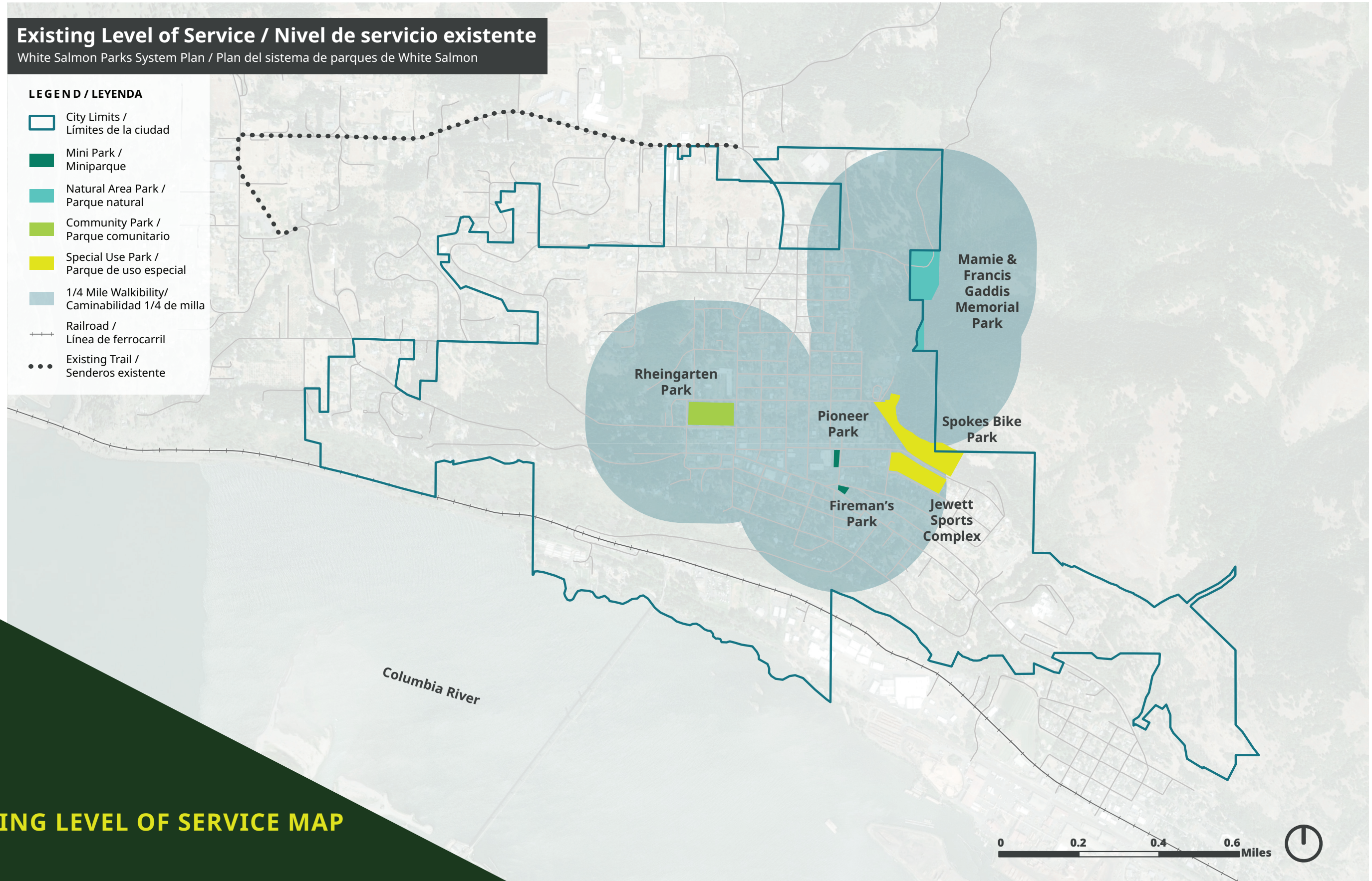


Existing Level of Service / Nivel de servicio existente

White Salmon Parks System Plan / Plan del sistema de parques de White Salmon

LEGEND / LEYENDA

- City Limits / Límites de la ciudad
- Mini Park / Miniparque
- Natural Area Park / Parque natural
- Community Park / Parque comunitario
- Special Use Park / Parque de uso especial
- 1/4 Mile Walkability / Caminabilidad 1/4 de milla
- Railroad / Línea de ferrocarril
- Existing Trail / Senderos existente



Map 2.2
EXISTING LEVEL OF SERVICE MAP



CHAPTER 03

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- COMMUNITY PROFILE
- RECREATION TRENDS AND ANALYSIS
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH & INVOLVEMENT
- FACILITY NEEDS



The needs assessment is comprised of a community profile, national and state recreation trends analysis, and findings from community outreach and involvement activities, which included stakeholder interviews, focus group conversations, a community open house event, and an online survey. Together, this data provides a view of community needs and the facilities and services that should be prioritized in the Plan. The documents that comprise the needs assessment are summarized in this chapter and detailed in the appendices.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

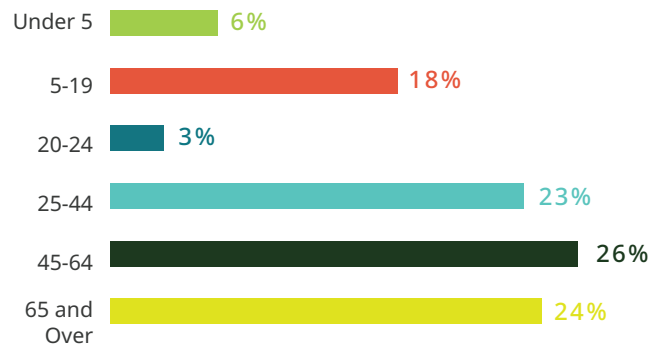
A critical step in the park system planning process is understanding the composition of the community and evaluating how the community is served by its park system. Reviewing the local demographic composition and White Salmon's regional context help clarify opportunities and constraints influential to parks planning.

With a population of 2,490 (2022), White Salmon is a small city in southern Washington. From 2005 to 2020, White Salmon experienced an approximately 17% increase in population. White Salmon is expected to see a 19% increase in

population over the next 20 years, which is slightly higher than the growth rate over the last 15 years.

With a population of 22,645 (2020), Klickitat County ranks 30th among Washington's 39 counties in size. In 2020, as part of preparing a new Comprehensive Plan, White Salmon completed an Urbanization Study to evaluate future land needs within White Salmon and the surrounding Urban Exempt Area. Part of their methodology included analyzing population forecast data. Based on the urbanization study's high-growth forecast, the County's population is expected to increase by 21% over the next 20 years, which is significantly higher than the growth rates during the last 15 years (14%). White Salmon is the fastest growing city in the County, which suggests a need to accommodate this growth with increased provision of park facilities.

Figure 3.1 White Salmon Age Distribution

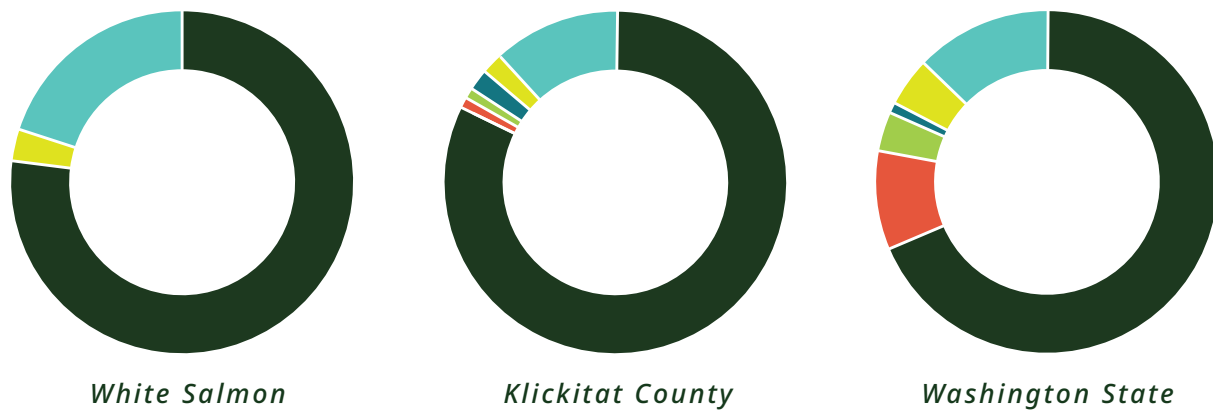


Largest Klickitat County Cities by Population



⁵ White Salmon, American Community Survey, 2019

Figure 3.2 Diversity in White Salmon, Klickitat County and Washington State ⁵



In 2019, the largest percentage of White Salmon residents (26%) was between the ages of 45 and 64. An additional 24% were between the ages of 65 and over, 23% were between the ages of 25 to 44, and 18% were ages 5 to 19. The percentage of residents between the ages of 65 and over in White Salmon is significantly higher (24%) compared to the population of Washington (16%). This shows a population with a variety of age groups where a range of park planning activities are needed to serve the entire community.

The racial composition of White Salmon is shifting. Between 2010-2019, White Salmon experienced an increase in the percentage of the population who identify as white and a slight increase among those who identify as belonging to two or more races. During that time there was a decrease in the Hispanic or Latino, and the Asian population. In 2019, African Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islanders made up 0% of the population. 3% of the population identified as Two or More races. White Salmon’s Hispanic/Latino population represents 20% of the total population, compared to 12% in the county, and 13% in the state. With increased diversity in White Salmon among some racial groups, like the Hispanic and Latino population, the City will need to adapt its park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of residents from diverse backgrounds. This diversification has implications for staffing, maintenance, and marketing of park and recreation facilities. The

1 in 5 White Salmon residents identify as Hispanic / Latinx

- Hispanic / Latinx
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Black or African American
- Asian American
- White
- Two or More

City will need to better understand the unique ways in which different groups use services to meet their needs.

Trends in income and education are also vital in understanding a community’s composition. White Salmon’s income and educational trends are influenced by its employment sectors, and proximity to educational opportunities.

In 2019, White Salmon’s median family income (\$75,530) and per capita income (\$32,287) were higher than Klickitat County income levels but lower than Washington income levels. White Salmon has a lower percentage of total population living below the poverty level (7%) compared to the state (10%) and the county (16%). However, the percentage of individuals living below the poverty level in White Salmon was 22% which is comparable to state levels (21%) but significantly lower than the county level (35%). 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 park facilities.

Educational attainment and subsequent earning potential also influence residents' ability to pay for park system improvements. In 2019, 88% of White Salmon adult residents had a high school diploma, and 47% had a bachelor's degree or higher. The percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree or higher in White Salmon is greater than the county (31%) or the state (37%). The percentage of residents with a high school diploma is the same in both White Salmon and Klickitat County (88%), but slightly lower than the rate at the state level (92%).

Physical surroundings are one of the greatest environmental factors influencing community health. Parks and recreation opportunities support physical activity which has an important role in decreasing chronic illnesses such as heart disease, stroke, depression, diabetes, and some forms of cancer. The actions of park and recreation providers can influence the physical activity of the people and overall community health.

In 2021, the County Health Rankings⁶ published updated data on a wide variety of health issues. The rankings evaluate health at the county level and the state level and include the rates of obesity, diabetes, physical and mental health, and

physical activity and exercise. The assessment found that 27% of adults in Klickitat County were obese which is slightly lower than the rate of adult obesity across Washington (29%). The rate of diabetes is higher among adults in Klickitat County (12%) when compared to adults in Washington (9%). The rates of physical and mental distress were slightly higher at the county level than the state level. Physical inactivity was higher in Klickitat County than in Washington (18% and 16%, respectively). In addition, access to exercise opportunities, which is expressed as the percentage of the population with adequate access to locations for physical activity, was significantly lower in Klickitat County (74%) than in Washington (86%).

Understanding regional and community health trends and health disparities is an important consideration when planning current and future parks and recreation facilities. Research suggests that health disparities can be alleviated with access to parks and nature and that physical activity and time spent in nature can reduce the risk of certain illnesses and help manage health disorders.

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WE SHOULD INVOLVE PEOPLE FROM UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES IN THE PLANNING, EXECUTION AND MAINTENANCE OF CITY PARKS.

⁶ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation & University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings 2021



RECREATION TRENDS AND ANALYSIS

Reviewing current sports and activities in White Salmon in comparison with national and state recreation user trends informs the Plan to better provide for services that meet current and future user demands.

The City does not currently provide recreational programs to youth or adults. However, the City's parks provide a variety of facilities that support recreational activities. Rheingarten Park offers a field for informal sports, tennis courts and a playground. Informal pedestrian trails are available at Gaddis Park and the Spokes Bike Park provides bike trails. Several sports fields are located at the Jewett Sports Complex, including baseball, softball, and soccer.

There are limited providers for youth sports programs in the area. White Salmon Youth Sports offers little league, football, basketball, and soccer for youth. Organization donors offer scholarships and equipment for children. Other access to recreational activities, such as windsurfing, kiteboarding, kayaking, and rafting, are offered by local businesses or accessed by residents privately.

National Recreation Trends

The Outdoor Recreation Trends and Futures assessment reviews past national trends in outdoor recreation participation, describes current outdoor recreation participation patterns, and compares patterns across regional and demographic levels. Nature-based recreation stands out as one national category of activity that showed substantial growth in the first decade of the millennium. Generally, all outdoor recreation activities are projected to grow in the number of participants through 2060.

Additional current trends include the rise of individual activities: in the first decade of the millennium, the most popular activities in terms of number of participants were walking for pleasure, family gatherings outdoors, gardening or landscaping, viewing/photographing natural scenery, visiting outdoor nature centers, and attending outdoor sports events. Activities on the decline

include downhill skiing, inline skating, snowmobiling, ice skating, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and windsurfing.

The assessment also notes that while Hispanic/Latino populations have many of the same recreation needs as other groups, there are several key differences that should be considered. Of those surveyed, many Latino workers report having only one day off from work a week and are primarily day-use visitors to parks and campgrounds. In addition, outdoor activities are closely tied to inter-generational family bonding time in larger groups for longer periods of time, which suggests the need for amenities that accommodate more people for most of the day, such as larger picnic tables, group day-use areas, on-site cooking amenities, and adjacent play areas. Removing cultural and language barriers will also support greater parks and recreation accessibility for Hispanics/Latinos. Efforts to increase accessibility can include providing signage, park information, and promotional materials in Spanish.

State and Regional Participation

The 2018-2022 Recreation and Conservation Plan⁷ is a strategic plan for recreation in Washington State. The Plan provides guidance to local, regional, state, federal and tribal governments, along with their partners, in outdoor recreation

planning and policy decisions. The Plan identifies the following five priorities and includes recommendations, which help inform park planning and policy decisions:

Sustain and Grow the Legacy of Parks, Trails, and Conservation Lands

Washington State has a plethora of parks, trails, and conservation lands available to residents; however, the State experiences challenges in maintaining existing recreation and conservation facilities due to changing public interests, population growth, and the resources needed to build new facilities. The Plan asserts that unified funding strategies, regional communication, and anticipating recreation needs will aid in sustaining the state's recreation and conservation legacy.

Improve the Equity of Parks, Trails, and Conservation Lands

In alignment with NRPA's stance on social equity, the Plan indicates that parks, trails, and conservation lands should be equitably accessible by communities. The health of communities is improved when parks are easily accessible, adequately distributed, provide physical activities, and are well-maintained.

Plan for Culturally Relevant Parks and Trails to Address Changing Demographics

The population in Washington is rapidly growing and diversifying and these trends will continue over the next 20 years. The number of residents that identify as people of color is expected to increase to 44 percent between 2010-2040 and more than 20% of the population will be 65 years old or older by 2030. A larger population indicates greater demand on park systems and an aging and

diversifying population will mean evolving interests in various activities. It is vital to understand how the entire population participates in recreation activities and to make recommendations that anticipate those needs.

Get Youth Outside

Youth in Washington State report participating in recreation activities at higher rates than they do nationally. Youth show an interest in trending activities as well as athletics, with 57 percent of youth participating in an outdoor sport. Youth do experience barriers to recreation with one main factor being household income status.

Position As a Vital Public Service

The economy, as well as the community, benefit from public investment in parks and outdoor recreation. Parks, recreation, and conservation lands are public services that need clearly dedicated funds to maintain, improve, and expand them. The Recreation and Conservation Plan recommends promoting the outdoor recreation economy and the benefits of recreation, improving communication, maintaining a mapped inventory, and identifying funding gaps to provide consistent funding.

Additionally, a demand assessment for the Recreation and Conservation Plan identified the outdoor recreational needs of residents at state and regional levels. The top five activities for residents in the Southwest region (including Klickitat County) were walking in a park or trail setting, visiting rivers or streams, visiting a beach or tide pools, attending an outdoor concert or event (e.g., farmer's market, fairs, sporting events) and day-hiking. At the state level, unique activities include relaxing, reading, hanging out for Hispanics, trending activities and freshwater fishing for children, and driving or motorcycling for pleasure for residents 65 years and older.

⁷ Source: Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, The 2018-2022 Recreation and Conservation Plan, 2017



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT

The needs assessment included the collection of feedback from the public and stakeholders through a community outreach and involvement process. Feedback from parks and recreation users focuses on how the City can better serve residents and visitors in the future. Findings from these processes help identify and prioritize future capital projects. Summaries of key findings from the outreach processes are provided as follows.

Stakeholder Interviews

The City of White Salmon developed a list of eight stakeholders to interview in the winter of 2021. All stakeholders responded to Cameron McCarthy's request for an interview. The phone interview process documented information on the background of each stakeholder, their feedback on the current park facilities, amenities, level of maintenance and accessibility, and noted their suggestions for future parks and recreation needs.

KEY FINDINGS

- More places for youth of all ages to play (play equipment, climbing, running, etc.)
- More parks are needed; the west and north areas of town currently lack parks
- A community facility for year-round use; larger event spaces for large groups
- Improve accessibility of parks
- More trails and walking opportunities; connect the park system
- Provide access to water in parks
- Increase communication about park locations, opportunities, and events
- Provide bilingual content and signage (English and Spanish) to and at parks.
- Increase relationship-building efforts with the Latino community.

- Community volunteer partnership with the City to support stewardship of parks.

Focus Group Conversations

Conversations with two interest groups were held in 2022. The Klickitat County Senior Advisory Board and Whitson Elementary School represented older adults and youth interests, respectively.

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD KEY FINDINGS

- Accessibility in the parks can be improved (including sidewalks and bathrooms)
- Connect parks with trail system
- Create more places to walk (e.g. walking loops downtown or near senior center)
- Dog park
- Public bathroom at sports complex
- Community Center for indoor and outdoor activities
- Improve communication about park locations and uses.
- Create more parks in White Salmon

WHITSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KEY FINDINGS

- Need for accessible sidewalks and trails in parks
- Need for more play equipment and activities for youth
- Need for accessible playgrounds
- Need for trail connections and walking opportunities
- More parks are needed to accommodate new improvements





Online Survey

The planning process included an online community survey that was designed to gather community perspectives about the City’s park facilities. The survey provided park users with the opportunity to comment on the current state of park facilities and suggest improvements. Gathering preferences and opinions of community residents helps inform the responsiveness of the park system plan. The input collected through the survey also helps to ensure that the issues and recommendations outlined in the plan are relevant to current conditions.



I’D LIKE THE CITY TO HELP THE LATINO COMMUNITY FEEL PART OF THE PLACE. IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE A PLACE TO DO DIFFERENT SPORTS, A PLACE FOR MUSICALS/ BANDS...A PLACE FOR PARTIES AND GATHERINGS, MORE PLACES TO SIT.

The survey was administered through Qualtrics to collect the public's perceptions of the City's parks facilities. The survey included 21 questions, provided in English and Spanish. The City distributed the survey by sending survey alerts through the City's e-notification system (Voyent), posting the survey on the City's website, posting survey flyers around town, and posting on the Mayor's Facebook page. The survey flyers were also shared with the stakeholders, some of whom distributed the flyers to their mailing lists or in their newsletters. The survey remained open for responses from March 2022 to April 2022.

The survey received 439 responses, although not all respondents completed all questions to the survey. Since the survey was not administered using a random sample, the responses should not be considered directly representative of the views of White Salmon residents. However, it does provide valuable insight into the preferences of some residents who use the park system (95.9% of respondents indicated they had visited a White Salmon park facility in the past year).

KEY FINDINGS

Existing Conditions

Respondents were asked to identify their level of satisfaction with the quality of facilities/structures and amount of maintenance at the six park facilities in the park system.

The majority evaluation of each park by survey respondents ranges from neutral ("Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied") to moderately satisfied ("Somewhat Satisfied"). Raw data shows varying numbers of respondents evaluated each park; respondents likely only evaluated facilities with which they are familiar.

67% of respondents reported they were at least "Somewhat Satisfied" or "Satisfied" with Rheingarten Park. The highest dissatisfaction rates ("Somewhat Dissatisfied" and "Dissatisfied") reported were among several parks: Jewett Sports Complex (20%), Gaddis Park (20%), Rheingarten Park (20%), and Trails (19%). Reported satisfaction with maintenance was generally comparable to these data trends.

Respondents also reported that parks are currently used most for exercise (25%), followed by play (22%), parties/group gatherings (14%), and entertainment (attending special events sponsored by the City) (14%).

Facility Improvements

Over 70% of respondents highlighted need for additional parks or recreational facilities, and the majority of those



respondents indicated the northern and western areas of White Salmon are in the most need of additional parks.

When asked which populations are underserved by the City's parks and facilities, 16% of respondents indicated teenagers, followed by young children ages 0-5 (13%), people with disabilities (12%) and grade school children ages 6-12 (12%). Several write-in responses for this question also suggested pet-owners are another underserved group. Several write-in responses also noted that people of color and the Hispanic/Latinx community could be better served and welcomed by parks facilities. Several suggestions to better serve the underserved populations included multi-lingual signage, sports courts, and improving accessibility to and in parks.

Respondents ranked the importance of potential future outdoor park facilities to them or their households. The top five facilities that ranked as "High Importance – I feel improvement or addition of this type of facility should be a high priority" were natural areas/green space (61%), nature playground (51%), children's playground (50%), unpaved trails (46%), and paved trails (36%).

The survey also asked respondents to rate the importance of potential park features. The potential park features that were most ranked "Very Important" were walking/hiking trails (64%), restrooms (61%), nature trails (53%), and children's play areas (51%). Other high priorities were running trails and park amenities (tables, benches, etc.).

Priorities for the Future

After collecting the previously described data, survey respondents were asked to help the City prioritize one action to focus on in the next 10 years. 40% of respondents would like the City to prioritize upgrading existing facilities and equipment.

Open House Event

The open house event included staffing a display with an existing system map, four park concepts for nature play and a splash pad at Rheingarten Park, example photographs of park amenities, and a comment form. All materials were labeled in English and Spanish. The public was able to provide input on the park amenities image boards, the comment form, and the four park concepts.

KEY FINDINGS

- Five most popular park amenities are a pollinator garden, slides with boulders in hill, log play, splash pad and swings.
- Out of two nature play concepts, participants preferred concept 1. The preferred concept has a pollinator garden, slide with plant beds built into the slope, a boulder scramble, a separate swing play area and more open circulation.
- Between two splash pad concepts, participants preferred concept 1. The preferred concept has water features, plant beds and seating. This concept is near the existing restroom and gazebo/stage.
- Public comments about the concepts included a request for shade at play equipment and seating areas, reusing the splash pad water, safe play surface materials and a climbing wall feature for older kids.
- Public comments about the park system included advocating for pickleball courts at the existing tennis courts and disc golf holes at Rheingarten Park.

Overall Findings

The needs assessment takes into account White Salmon's park and recreation trends; the current condition of the park system; and the park and recreation desires of the community for White Salmon's park system. Based on the community profile and findings from the needs assessment, following is a summary of key factors considered in planning for a park system that meets the current and future needs of White Salmon residents.

- From 2005 to 2020, Klickitat County experienced a 14% population increase. Based on the urbanization study's high-growth forecast⁸, the County's population is expected to increase by 21% over the next 20 years, which is significantly higher than the growth rates during the last 15 years.
- The number of residential permits⁹ trended upward overall in the last ten years with the exception of a steep decline during 2020 which is most likely due to economic constraints related to COVID-19. In 2021, the number of residential permits returned to pre-COVID-19 levels reflecting a growing population and future need for additional parks and recreation facilities.
- Based on population projections, White Salmon's population is expected to increase by 22% over the next 25 years¹⁰. White Salmon is projected to be the third fastest-growing city in Klickitat County. Population growth will drive an increased demand for new park facilities.

⁸ Source: White Salmon, Klickitat County, American Community Survey, 2019, White Salmon Urbanization Study, 2020

⁹ Source: City of White Salmon Planning Department, 2022

¹⁰ Source: White Salmon, Klickitat County, American Community Survey, 2019, White Salmon Urbanization Study, 2020

¹¹ Source: White Salmon, Klickitat County, Washington, American Community Survey, 2019

¹² Source: White Salmon, Klickitat County, Washington, American Community Survey, 2019

¹³ Source: White Salmon, Klickitat County, Washington, American Community Survey, 2019

¹⁴ Source: White Salmon, Klickitat County, Washington, American Community Survey, 2019

¹⁵ Source: White Salmon, Klickitat County, Washington, American Community Survey, 2019



CULTURAL BARRIERS

EXIST. THERE ARE PEOPLE

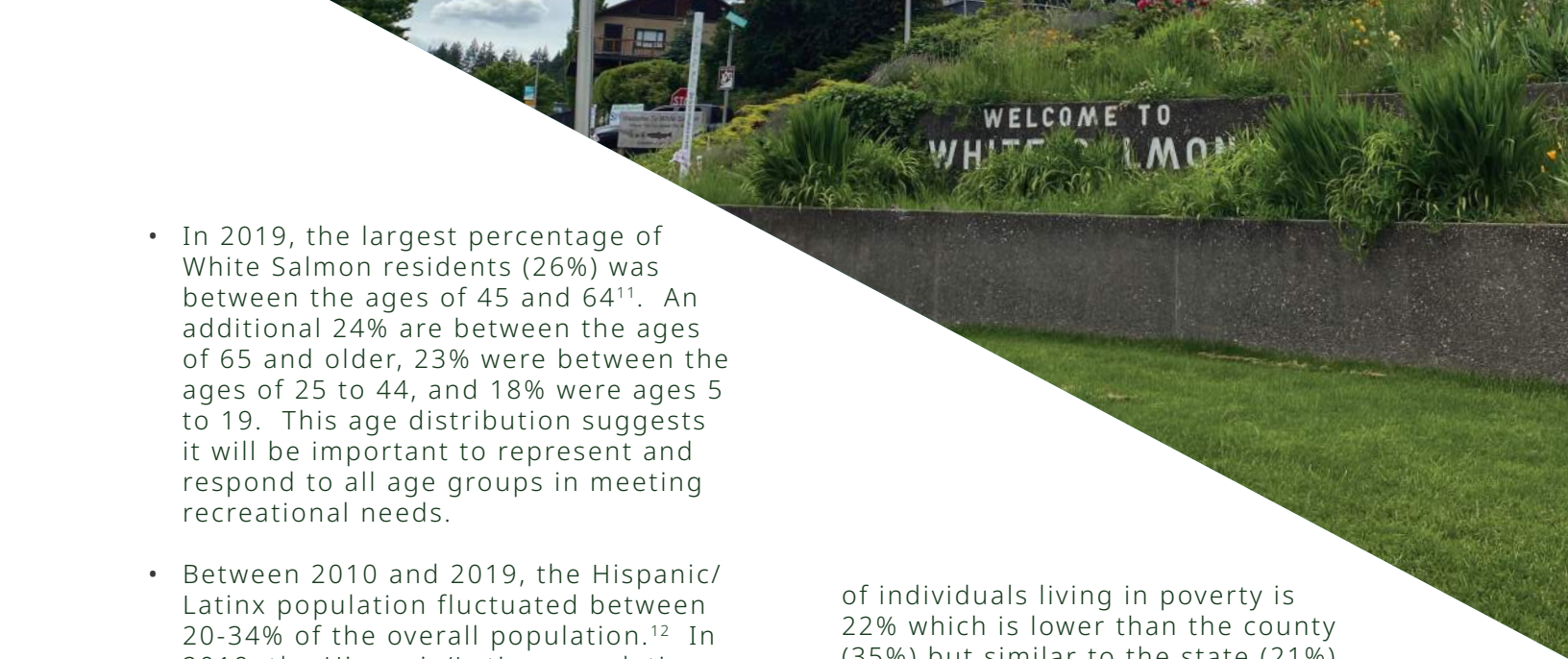
WHO DON'T HAVE EXPOSURE

TO USING PARKS, SO THEY AREN'T

COMFORTABLE OR DON'T FEEL WELCOME.

GROUPS THAT NEED MORE OUTREACH ARE SENIORS,

LOW-INCOME, AND THE LATINX COMMUNITIES.



- In 2019, the largest percentage of White Salmon residents (26%) was between the ages of 45 and 64¹¹. An additional 24% are between the ages of 65 and older, 23% were between the ages of 25 to 44, and 18% were ages 5 to 19. This age distribution suggests it will be important to represent and respond to all age groups in meeting recreational needs.
- Between 2010 and 2019, the Hispanic/Latinx population fluctuated between 20-34% of the overall population.¹² In 2019, the Hispanic/Latino population in White Salmon represented 20% of the total population compared to 12% in the county and 13% in the state. The needs of Hispanic/Latino residents are considered in the parks planning process and help inform recommendations.
- The number of family households and non-family households is approximately the same (52% and 48%, respectively).¹³ 28% of the non-family households are residents aged 65 years or older who live alone. This highlights a need to provide park and recreation opportunities for a wide spectrum of individuals with different household circumstances.
- More than half of residents in White Salmon own their home (60%) while 40% are renters.¹⁴ The rate of homeownership is lower in White Salmon than it is compared to the county (68%) and slightly lower when compared to residents across the state (63%). This reflects a need to serve residents who do not have access to private outdoor spaces.
- In 2019, White Salmon's median household income (\$55,652), median family income (\$75,530) and per capita income (\$32,287) were similar or greater to Klickitat County but lower than Washington.¹⁵ The percentage

of individuals living in poverty is 22% which is lower than the county (35%) but similar to the state (21%). This data suggests that the City should manage parks and recreation services, and their benefits, to target participation from medium to lower-income residents.

These factors are influential to the park system planning process and help shape the future of White Salmon's park system. This chapter concludes with a list of facility needs based on aggregating data from the needs assessment.

FACILITY NEEDS

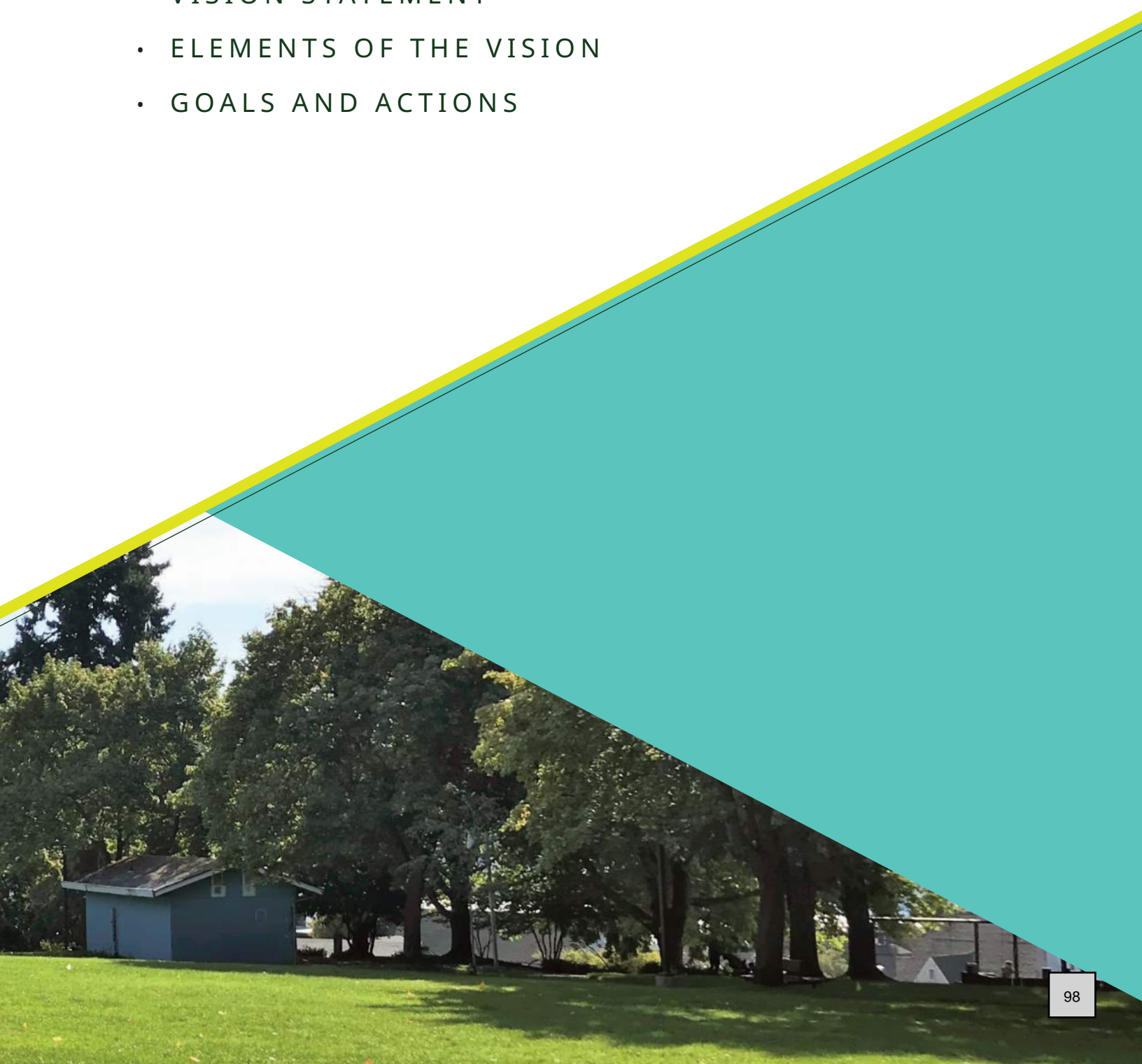
- *Accessible facilities*
- *Updated and accessible play areas*
- *More walking opportunities and trail system connections*
- *New parks to the west and north*
- *Increase bilingual communication about park locations and park uses*
- *Community center*
- *Additional and accessible public restrooms*
- *Increased maintenance*
- *Provide water access*



CHAPTER 04

VISION

- VISION STATEMENT
- ELEMENTS OF THE VISION
- GOALS AND ACTIONS



This chapter describes the vision, goals, and actions established through the planning process. The vision is intended to represent community needs and desires. Goals represent the general end toward which organizational efforts are directed. Actions are specific steps needed to achieve stated goals. Recommendations, as detailed in Chapter 5, are specific projects needed to achieve the Plan goals and implement the vision.

VISION STATEMENT

A vision statement is based on the strengths, needs, characteristics and values of a community. The purpose of a vision statement is to provide direction in both long-term and short-term planning decisions and prioritize parks and recreation improvements. The goals and recommendations outlined in the Plan support and align with the vision statement.

White Salmon provides a variety of park facilities with a range of accessible, connected, and inclusive experiences that encourage play and exploration in the scenic and natural environment and meet the needs of a diverse and growing community.



ELEMENTS OF THE VISION

ACCESS

Park systems provide an important network of facilities that are integral to physical and mental health, social gathering, and mobility. The existing parks and trails in White Salmon are valuable resources to the community. Improving the accessibility of existing facilities and developing new universally accessible routes, equipment, and facilities support a welcoming park system that offers service to all residents.

HEALTH AND RECREATION

Physical surroundings are one of the greatest environmental factors influencing community health. Parks and recreation opportunities support physical activity which has an important role in preventing diseases and health disorders. Rates of physical and mental distress were slightly higher in Klickitat County than at the state level. Klickitat County residents also experience higher physical inactivity than residents across Washington, with 74% of residents with adequate access to locations for physical activity in the county compared to 86% of Washington residents. Park facilities and opportunities to be in natural environments can alleviate stress and offer recreation options.

DISTRIBUTION

Park system planning emphasizes serving all residents through distributing facilities equitably within the system. In accordance with guidance from the Trust for Public Land Center for City Park Excellence, all neighborhoods should

have a park within a ¼-mile radius of residences. Additional parks can fill gaps in the park system and address currently underserved areas.

CONNECTIVITY

In addition to recreation, a network of trails supports active transportation for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other mobility device users. These facilities provide access to the natural environment but also local amenities and essential services. Pursuing a highly connected network of trails can also address inequities in underserved areas in the park system.

INCLUSION

Diversity in age and race is increasing in White Salmon. Specific needs were identified in the outreach process and the needs assessment that address the unique needs of older adults and the Hispanic and Latino communities.

NATURAL RESOURCES

White Salmon is located on a bluff above the Columbia River and surrounded by several natural features, including the White Salmon River, Jewett Creek, and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Conservation and restoration of natural resources can protect and improve sensitive habitats and water quality.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE

Updating aging facilities can help the City maintain the park system as the community grows. In the findings from the online survey, residents prioritized updating existing facilities as their top priority for the City. During the outreach process, participants voiced an interest in enhancing volunteer groups and building new partnerships with the City to support maintenance and stewardship.



GOALS AND ACTIONS

1. ACCESSIBLE AND CONNECTED EXPERIENCES

Provide accessible park facilities for all residents.

- Improve accessibility and circulation within parks (including sidewalks and paths and trails).
- Improve play accessibility (including accessible play surfaces and equipment).
- Improve and expand the connections between all parks and trails in the park system (including sidewalks, paths, trails and bicycle facilities).
- Enhance safe access from neighborhoods to parks with protected pedestrian and bicycle facilities (including sidewalks, paths, trails and bicycle facilities).
- Provide accessible community gathering spaces (e.g., spaces for events and social gatherings).
- Provide facilities that support youth recreational activities.
- Provide water access points (e.g., river or stream access that does not damage the environment).

2. COMMUNICATION & PARTNERSHIPS

Enhance communication and service to all residents.

- Increase communication about park and recreation opportunities for residents (including park locations, facilities, and allowed or suggested recreational activities).
- Expand bilingual communication (English and Spanish) for park and recreation information (including through City social media accounts, Voyent alerts, publications (pdf documents), and park signage).
- Develop and maintain partnerships with organizations and private entities that support park and recreation opportunities, natural resource protection, conservation, and sustainability.

3. MAINTENANCE AND FACILITY UPGRADES

Provide a safe, accessible, and welcoming user experience through regular maintenance and facility upgrades.

- Upgrade or replace facilities and equipment in poor condition.
- Provide additional facilities to support park cleanliness and safety (including trash receptacles, pet waste receptacles, and recycling collection).
- Implement water conservation maintenance practices (including irrigation watering schedules).
- Foster partnerships with community organizations, neighbors and local schools to help with trail maintenance, clean up, or other simple maintenance tasks.

4. FUNDING

Identify and implement new funding mechanisms to support current park operations and the development of future park and recreation facilities.

- Pursue federal, state, and local grant awards to fund park acquisition and development.
- Identify opportunities for donors to support park and recreation facility development in response to new growth.

5. CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION

Promote environmental stewardship to preserve undeveloped natural resource and open space areas and restore ecological functions within existing parks and recreation facilities.

- Pursue opportunities to restore wildlife habitat, remove invasive species, support pollinator species, increase tree canopy, and address erosion.



- Communicate environmental stewardship and ecological function values through educational signage, programs, and events.
- Improve water quality and evaluate opportunities for stormwater facilities and pervious surfaces.
- Introduce landscape areas that conserve water (e.g. xeriscape gardens).

6. INCLUSION

Regularly evaluate and support the ongoing park and recreation needs of all residents.

- Assess the City's interest and commitment level in collaborating with local leaders and community organizations in ongoing park and recreation planning and improvement projects.
- Deepen relationships with community leaders and determine their interest level in being consulted about park development opportunities.
- Ask community members and leaders which communication and outreach methods work best for their community prior to future park development or public engagement processes.
- Conduct additional outreach with under-represented park and recreation users prior to undergoing future park

improvement projects. These users include the Hispanic/Latinx community, low-income residents, seniors, youth, and people with disabilities.



THE ONLY COMMUNITY PLAY STRUCTURE IS DATED. AFTER SCHOOL THE CHILDREN LOVE TO WALK OVER TO THE PARK. IT WOULD BE AMAZING IF WE COULD GIVE THEM AN UPDATED STRUCTURE TO PLAY ON.



CHAPTER 05

RECOMMENDATIONS

- RECREATION FACILITY DEVELOPMENT
- PARK FACILITY DEVELOPMENT
- PARK ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT
- TRAIL DEVELOPMENT
- OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE



RECREATION FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

Recreation facility development recommendations in Table 5.1 focus on a community center and one full-sized basketball court.

WHITE SALMON COMMUNITY CENTER

The 2021 Comprehensive Plan lists a community center as a future planned facility. The City is considering using a 0.8-acre site at 100 N Main Street in White Salmon. The City owns this property located across from the Whitson Elementary School. The community center would provide space for the public to hold meetings and events. Recommendations include conducting a feasibility study and a master plan.

BASKETBALL COURT (UNSITE)

Select an appropriate site and construct one basketball court (full) to serve the community.

PARK FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

Mini Park Facility Development

Park facility development recommendations listed in Table 5.2 include the improvement of two parks: Pioneer Park and Fireman's Park. Recommendations focus on the development of a walking loop and site furnishings at Pioneer Park and constructing a sidewalk and educational stormwater facility at Fireman's Park.

PIONEER PARK

Pioneer Park is an existing park at NE Tohomish Street and NE Pioneer Place that

includes trees and a memorial. Proposed improvements include the construction of a short walking loop around the inside perimeter of the park and the installation of site furnishings such as benches and upgraded trash receptacles.

FIREMAN'S PARK

Fireman's Park is an existing park at the intersection of NE Grandview Blvd and E Jewett Blvd. Proposed improvements include constructing a sidewalk and stormwater facility along E Jewett Blvd. Educational signage to promote environmental awareness of stormwater is proposed to accompany the facility.

Community Park Facility Development

Park facility development recommendations listed in Table 5.3 focus on improvements to Rheingarten Park. Recommendations include the development of a replacement playground, splash pad, sports court, sidewalk improvements, landscape, and site furnishings.

RHEINGARTEN PARK

Rheingarten Park is the most popular and well-known park in White Salmon. Proposed improvements include replacement of playground equipment with new features and amenities that are accessible and include natural play elements, a splash pad, updating the tennis court surface and equipment, and adding equipment and court striping for pickleball. Improvements will also address circulation and accessibility by upgrading the sidewalks and paths to remove any gaps or inaccessible sections. A replacement restroom will include gender-neutral restrooms and a family restroom. Habitat improvements include plantings to support pollinators. Site furnishing upgrades include proposed bike racks. Evaluate the application of stormwater facilities as a water quality improvement. The proposed nature play and splash pad improvements are shown conceptually in Exhibits 5.1 and 5.2.

Table 5.1 Recreation Facility Development Recommendations

RECREATION FACILITY DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		
Project ID	Site	Description
R1.1	Community Center	Conduct a feasibility study and master plan for a community center.
R1.2	Unsitied	1 basketball court.

Table 5.2 Mini Park Facility Development Recommendations

MINI PARK FACILITY DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		
Project ID	Site	Description
P1.1	Pioneer Park	Construct a walking loop along the inside perimeter of the park.
P1.2	Pioneer Park	Install benches and upgraded trash receptacles.
P2.1	Fireman’s Park	Construct a sidewalk and a stormwater facility with educational signage along E Jewett Blvd.

Table 5.3 Community Park Facility Development Recommendations

COMMUNITY PARK FACILITY DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		
Project ID	Site	Description
P3.1	Rheingarten Park	Address standing water at the restroom area. Evaluate watering schedule and water conservation opportunities. Make any needed repairs/upgrades to the irrigation system and/or drainage system. Evaluate the application of stormwater facilities as a water quality improvement.
P3.2	Rheingarten Park	Design and construct a replacement playground with accessible equipment.
P3.3	Rheingarten Park	Design and construct a splash pad area for water play.
P3.4	Rheingarten Park	Resurface tennis courts, update striping to include tennis and pickleball, and update court equipment.
P3.5	Rheingarten Park	Replace restroom facilities to include gender-neutral restrooms and a family restroom.
P3.6	Rheingarten Park	Upgrade gaps or inaccessible sections of sidewalks and paths for improved connectivity throughout the park.
P3.7	Rheingarten Park	Design and install landscape for pollinator habitat.
P3.8	Rheingarten Park	Install bicycle racks.

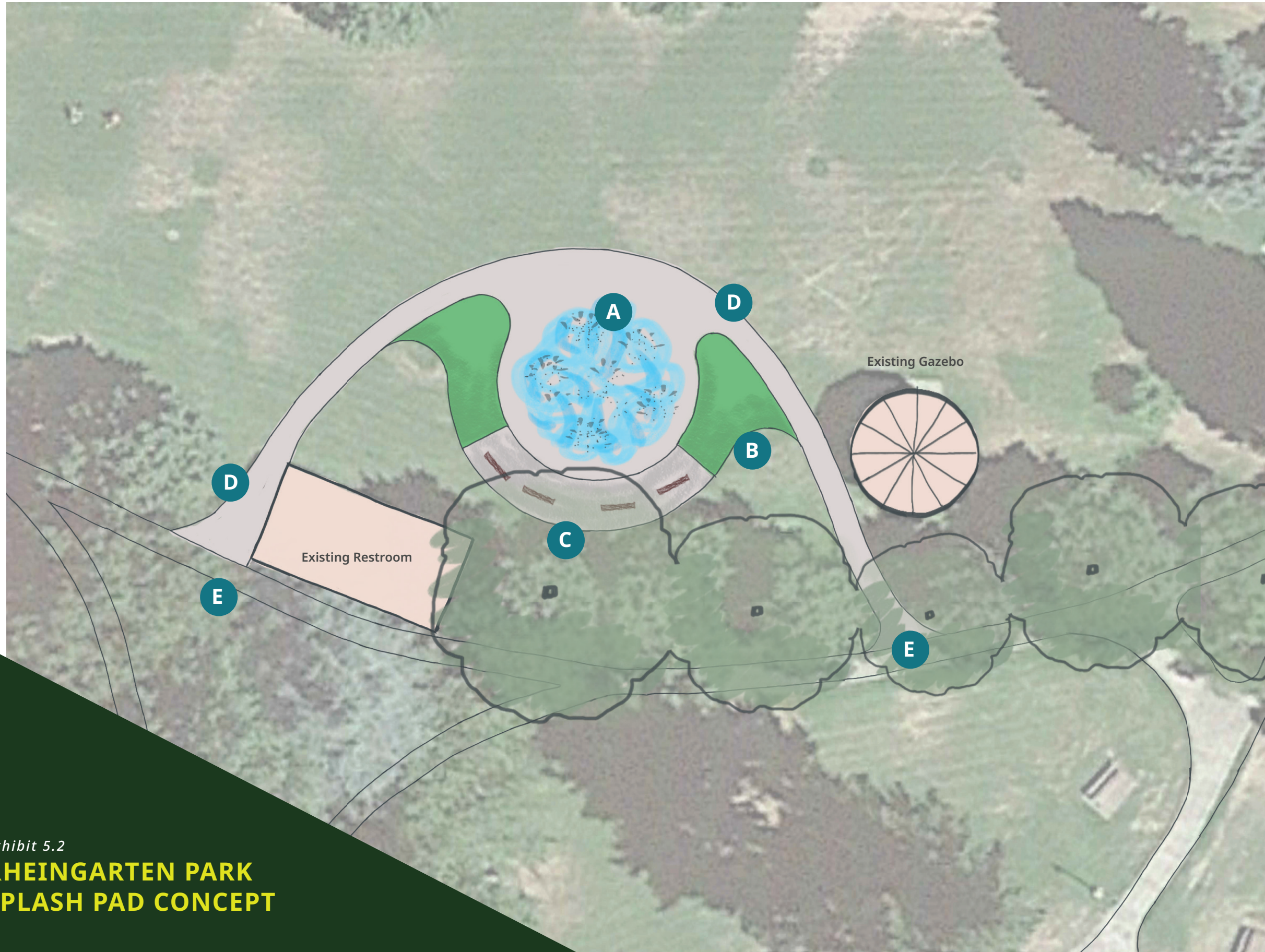


PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

- A** Picnic Tables
- B** Boulder Scramble in Bark Mulch
- C** Log and Stump Play
- D** Meeting Circle
- E** Activity Trail
- F** Accessible Slide
- G** Xylophone/Musical Play
- H** Sand Play and Accessible Sand Table
- I** Accessible Swing
- J** Concrete Ramp
- K** Sidewalk/Concrete Paving
- L** Rubber Surfacing
- M** Plant Bed
- N** Pollinator Garden
- O** Quiet Play Area
- P** Retaining Wall
- Q** Seat Wall
- R** Connect to Existing Paving



Exhibit 5.1
**RHEINGARTEN PARK
 NATURE PLAY CONCEPT**



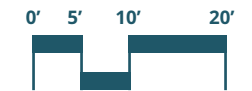
PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

- A** Splash Pad
- B** Plant Bed
- C** Seating
- D** Sidewalk/Concrete Paving
- E** Connect to Existing Paving

Existing Restroom

Existing Gazebo

Exhibit 5.2
**RHEINGARTEN PARK
 SPLASH PAD CONCEPT**



Natural Area Park Facility Development

Natural area facility development recommendations listed in Table 5.4 include the development of Gaddis Park. Recommendations focus on the development of previously planned features like an educational center, demonstration garden, water quality facility, parking lot, and site furnishings.

GADDIS PARK

Mamie and Francis Gaddis Park is an existing park in NE White Salmon at the end of NE Spring Street and is bisected by Jewett Creek. The Jewett Spring Park concept plan proposes the acquisition of additional property at the north end of the existing park to accommodate the following improvements. Specific projects and amenities identified in the 2001 plan may be modified, adjusted, reduced or deleted based on current conditions and changes that have occurred since 2001. Proposed improvements include constructing an educational center with adjacent demonstration gardens and compost and tool shed at the northern end of the site. The educational center will be accessed by a new driveway entrance and parking lot with a drop-off area. The parking lot will accommodate 20 cars and 2 buses. Stormwater from the proposed architectural and hardscape improvements will be treated with a water quality facility located in the north parking lot. The trailhead will be improved with a new kiosk and small parking area that accommodates 6 cars as well as bicycle and mobility device parking. Accessible paths are proposed throughout the park along with directional and interpretive signage. A meadow with a picnic area is proposed to the east of the trailhead parking lot. A proposed soft surface path south of the meadow leads to a new bridge crossing over Jewett Creek and connects to the Jewett Creek Trail. East of the meadow a demonstration wetland with boardwalk and restored tank/water feature are proposed. Restoring riparian vegetation is proposed along Jewett Creek. In addition to the concept

plan improvements, ongoing landscape maintenance and invasive species removal are proposed.

Special Use Park Facility Development

Special use park facility development recommendations listed in Table 5.5 include the development of Jewett Sports Complex and Spokes Bike Park. Recommendations focus on the development of sidewalks, site furnishings, and a portable restroom enclosure.

JEWETT SPORTS COMPLEX

Jewett Sports Complex is an existing athletic facility owned by the White Salmon Valley School District and maintained by the White Salmon Community Youth organization. The City should consider entering into a shared-use agreement with the School District and the White Salmon Community Youth organization prior to recommending any improvements. A shared-use agreement would allow the City to commit support to facility with park improvements and supplemental maintenance, if reasonable long-term assurance was provided. Proposed improvements include seating, accessible sidewalks and viewing areas adjacent to ball fields. Completing the projects listed in the table for Jewett Sports Complex is contingent upon affirming partnerships and implementation of a shared-use agreement as previously referenced.

SPOKES BIKE PARK

The Spokes Bike Park is an existing facility owned by the City and maintained by The White Salmon Bike Club (The Spokes Bike Club). Proposed improvements include a portable restroom enclosure, additional signage, and trash receptacles.

Table 5.4 Natural Area Park Facility Development Recommendations

NATURAL AREA PARK FACILITY DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		
Project ID	Site	Description
P4.1	Gaddis Park	Acquire additional park property.
P4.2	Gaddis Park	Construct educational center.
P4.3	Gaddis Park	Construct demonstration gardens.
P4.4	Gaddis Park	Construct compost and tool shed.
P4.5	Gaddis Park	Construct water quality facility.
P4.6	Gaddis Park	Construct new accessible paths in the park.
P4.7	Gaddis Park	Construct new entry drive, educational center parking lot (20 cars, 2 busses) and drop off area.
P4.8	Gaddis Park	Install directional signage.
P4.9	Gaddis Park	Install new kiosk and trailhead.
P4.10	Gaddis Park	Install trailhead parking area (6 cars). Install bicycle and mobility device parking.
P4.11	Gaddis Park	Install meadow with picnic area.
P4.12	Gaddis Park	Install soft surface path.
P4.13	Gaddis Park	Restore riparian vegetation along Jewett Creek.
P4.14	Gaddis Park	Construct new bridge crossing over Jewett Creek.
P4.15	Gaddis Park	Construct trail intersection plaza.
P4.16	Gaddis Park	Construct demonstration wetland.
P4.17	Gaddis Park	Restore water tank/water feature.
P4.18	Gaddis Park	Construct boardwalk at demonstration wetland.
P4.19	Gaddis Park	Install interpretive signage along trail.
P4.20	Gaddis Park	Perform landscape maintenance, including relocating fallen trees and natural debris where it interferes with park access and use.
P4.21	Gaddis Park	Remove invasive plant species throughout the park.

Table 5.5 Special Use Park Facility Development Recommendations

SPECIAL USE PARK FACILITY DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		
Project ID	Site	Description
P5.1	Jewett Sports Complex	Increase frequency of field maintenance.
P5.2	Jewett Sports Complex	Construct accessible sidewalks and paths in park facility.
P5.3	Jewett Sports Complex	Install benches.
P5.4	Jewett Sports Complex	Construct accessible viewing areas adjacent to ballfields and back-stops.
P6.1	Spokes Bike Park	Install portable restroom enclosure.
P6.2	Spokes Bike Park	Add signage to clarify allowed users.
P6.3	Spokes Bike Park	Install trash receptacles.

PARK ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Park System Plan is designed to promote equitable distribution of parkland for residents. There are several important park facilities in White Salmon; however, they are primarily located within a half mile of E Jewett Blvd (Highway 141). Areas deficient in parks, to the north and west, represent land acquisition and future park development areas. Map 5.1 Proposed Park System identifies recommended areas for land acquisition and park development and the relationship to existing parks, trails, and open spaces. There are two main geographical areas proposed for new neighborhood parks, the north and the west. One mini park is also proposed in the north area and one natural area park is proposed along the riverfront.

FUTURE NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD AND MINI PARKS

The northern area of the city is identified in the level of service analysis to be deficient in park land. This project involves the acquisition and development of a 5-15 acre neighborhood park and a 2,500 SF to 1 acre mini park to serve

this area of the city. The majority of the northern area of White Salmon is designated as a low or medium-density residential zone.

FUTURE WEST NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

The western area of the city is identified by the level of service analysis to be deficient in park land. This project involves the acquisition and development of a 5-15 acre neighborhood park to serve this area of the city. The majority of the western area of White Salmon is designated as a low-density residential zone.

FUTURE RIVERFRONT PARK

The City is pursuing ownership of a 13-acre parcel along the Columbia River from Klickitat County. The Riverfront Bridge Park Concept Plan was developed for the property in 2018 by the City and the National Park Service: Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance program. The Plan identifies a vision for the site as a natural area park; development opportunities are limited as the site is situated in a floodplain and 7 acres of the property are underwater. There are also several site constraints including the

Hood River-White Salmon Toll Bridge that divides the site in half, and Highway 14, the railroad and private property that limit access from the north. The Plan identifies wildlife viewing, fishing, and water access for non-motorized paddle sports as site opportunities.

in park land. This project involves the acquisition and development of a 5-15 acre neighborhood park to serve this area of the city. The southeastern area of White Salmon is predominantly zoned for low-density and high-density residential uses.

FUTURE SOUTHEAST NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

Based on the level of service analysis, the southeastern area of the city is deficient

DOG PARK (UNSITED)

Select an appropriate site and construct one dog park to service the community.

Table 5.6 Park Acquisition and Development Recommendations

PARK ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		
Project ID	Site	Description
A1.1	Future North Neighborhood Park	Acquire 5-15 acres for future development of a neighborhood park to serve the northern residential area of White Salmon.
A1.2	Future North Neighborhood Park	Plan and develop Phase 1 of the park.
A1.3	Future North Neighborhood Park	Plan and develop Phase 2 of the park.
A2.1	Future North Mini Park	Acquire 2,500 SF to 1 acre for future development of a mini park to serve the northern residential area of White Salmon.
A2.2	Future North Mini Park	Plan and develop the park.
A3.1	Future West Neighborhood Park	Acquire 5-15 acres for future development of a neighborhood park to serve the western residential area of White Salmon.
A3.2	Future West Neighborhood Park	Plan and develop Phase 1 of the park.
A3.3	Future West Neighborhood Park	Plan and develop Phase 2 of the park.
A4.1	Future Riverfront Park	Acquire 13-acre riverfront parcel from Klickitat County to provide a natural area park with water access.
A4.2	Future Riverfront Park	Plan and develop Phase 1 of the park.
A4.3	Future Riverfront Park	Plan and develop Phase 2 of the park.
A5.1	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park	Acquire 5-15 acres for future development of a neighborhood park to serve the southeastern residential area of White Salmon.
A5.2	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park	Plan and develop Phase 1 of the park.
A5.3	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park	Plan and develop Phase 2 of the park.
A6.1	Unsitied	1 dog park.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Multi-use paths and trails improve system-wide connectivity and enhance quality of life in communities by supporting movement along corridors and between park facilities. Trail systems connect communities to services as well as parks and recreational opportunities. Map 5.1 Proposed Park System shows existing and proposed trails. Trail development projects listed in the recommendations include on-street and off-street trail projects for four trail facilities that improve connections between parks. Community input and the needs assessment findings strongly suggest improved safety and design of trail facilities, and a more connected network of trail facilities.

LOOP TRAIL

There is a future facility listed in the White Salmon Comprehensive Plan (2021) for a regional multimodal transportation connection, the Loop Trail. The trail alignment would consist of right-of-way controlled by Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), City of White Salmon, City of Bingen, and Klickitat County. Improvements to the Loop Trail would include directional signage, visual separation between vehicles, and bicycles and pedestrians. The trail would be approximately 11.5 miles; however, the exact alignment has not been determined at this time.

RIVERFRONT PARK TRAIL BRIDGE

The Riverfront Park Trail Bridge project is included in the Comprehensive Plan as part of the City's initiative to provide river access to residents. The bridge access is intended to connect the upland area of

White Salmon to a riverfront property. The City is in the process of pursuing ownership of a 13-acre parcel from the County. The bridge location has not been determined and will be informed by a future Hood River bridge replacement project.

GADDIS PARK-SPOKES BIKE PARK TRAIL

The Gaddis Park-Spokes Bike Park Trail project involves constructing an off-street shared-use trail between Gaddis Park and Spokes Bike Park. The parks are situated approximately 0.25 miles apart, and a connecting trail may be longer depending on the ability to secure the necessary easements.

RHEINGARTEN-PIONEER-JEWETT SPORTS COMPLEX TRAIL

The Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail involves designating an on-street bicycle facility that connects multiple park facilities. The alignment shown in the Comprehensive Plan follows NW Lincoln Street before transitioning to NE Hood Street, NE Wauna Avenue and NE Tohomish Street. The alignment is approximately 1 mile in length between Rheingarten Park and the Jewett Sports Complex.

WHITE SALMON BLUFFS TRAIL

The Bluffs Trail includes designing and constructing a stair trail, paved parking, trailhead, and powered incline elevator. The trail connects downtown to commercial and riverfront areas.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

As the park system expands in response to population growth and the community needs, the City will need to adjust their staffing and funding levels to adequately support park operations and maintenance. The City can also implement maintenance and product standards for the park system to improve efficiency. Examples of such standards include: ensuring playground equipment and surrounding play areas



meet ASTM and National Playground Safety Institute standards; ensuring park facilities and circulation are accessible for all, structurally sound facilities with

no compromised materials, park spaces are free of graffiti, and restrooms are open consistently, clean, sanitary, and supplied with necessary facility products.

Table 5.7 Trail Development Recommendations

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		
Project ID	Site	Description
T1.1	Loop Trail	Improve the 11.5-mile pathway for multimodal transportation. Provide directional signage, visual separation between vehicles, and bicycles and pedestrians. Improvements are intended to be on rights-of-way and property easements.
T2.1	Riverfront Park Trail Bridge	Conduct a feasibility study for the design and construction of a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the railroad tracks to connect the future Riverfront Park to the area's upland and downtown. The bridge location will be informed by a future Hood River bridge replacement project.
T3.1	Gaddis Park-Spokes Bike Park Trail	Plan a trail that connects Gaddis Park and Spokes Bike Park. Obtain easements from adjacent property owners between the two city parks.
T4.1	Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail	Construct bicycle and pedestrian facilities that connect Rheingarten Park, Pioneer Park, Jewett Sports Complex and Spokes Bike Park. Route follows NW Lincoln Street, 1st Street, Hood, Wauna, and Tohomish Street.
T5.1	White Salmon Bluffs Trail	Design and construct a stair trail, paved parking, trailhead, and powered incline elevator. Pedestrian connections from downtown to commercial and riverfront areas. Pedestrian connection to riverfront to coincide with the future Hood River bridge replacement project.

Table 5.8 Operations and Maintenance Recommendations

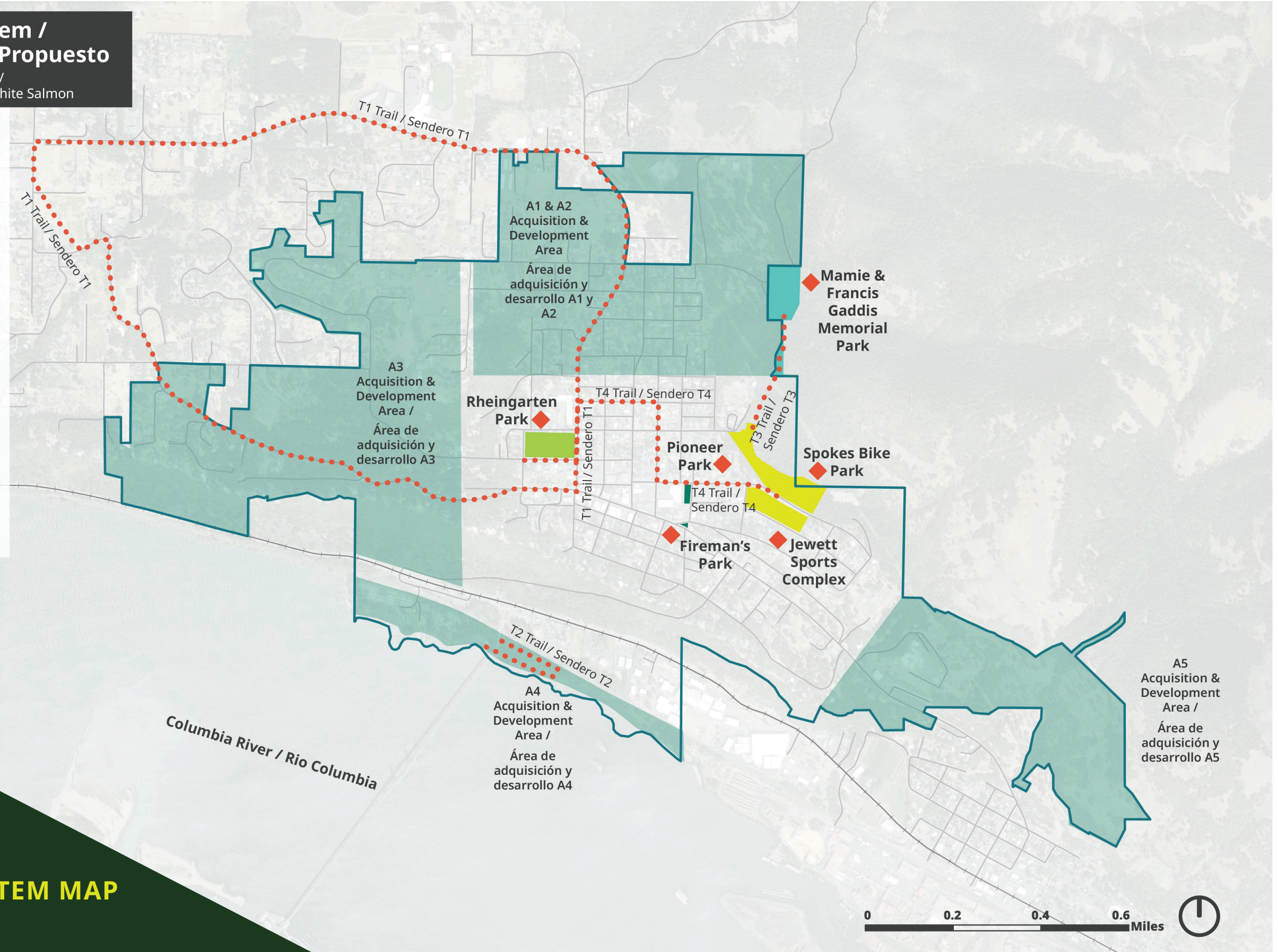
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS		
Project ID	Site	Description
O1.1	System	Update all park signage to include content in English and Spanish.
O2.1	System	Implement a family of wayfinding signs for the park system.
O3.1	System	Update all digital communication (to include content in English and Spanish).
O4.1	System	Increase the diversity of City staff to reflect the diversity of the community.
O5.1	System	Increase staff responsible for park operations and maintenance as the city population and the park system grows.
O6.1	System	Increase funding for park operations and maintenance as the park system expands.
O7.1	System	Implement maintenance standards and schedules for park facilities.
O8.1	System	Implement water conservation maintenance practices.

Proposed Park System / Sistema de Parque Propuesto

White Salmon Parks System Plan / Plan de Sistema de Parques de White Salmon

LEGEND

- +++ Railroad / Ferrocarril
- City Limits / Límites de la ciudad
- Existing Facilities / Instalaciones Existentes**
- Mini Park / Mini parque
- Natural Area Park / Parque área natural
- Community Park / Parque comunitario
- Special Use Park / Parque de uso especial
- Proposed Facilities / Instalaciones Propuestas**
- Park Acquisition and Development Area / Área de adquisición y desarrollo de parques
- Trail Development / Desarrollo de senderos
- Park Facility Development / Desarrollo de instalaciones del parque



Map 5.1
PROPOSED PARK SYSTEM MAP



CHAPTER 06

IMPLEMENTATION

- PRIORITIZATION
- PLANNED PROJECTS
- FUNDING
- OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE
- FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND STRATEGIES
- CONCLUSION



Proposed projects included in the CIP were identified and selected based on information from:

- Quantitative results from the 2022 Park System Plan Needs Assessment;
- Qualitative findings from community input;
- City staff input;
- Geospatial analysis;
- Census data
- City of White Salmon Comprehensive Plan
- White Salmon Urbanization Study
- Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022
- Other relevant plans and policies.

Proposed project funding responds to an ongoing assessment of capital assets, as well as assessments of current and future service delivery needs.

PRIORITIZATION

Projects included in the CIP were evaluated based on consideration of the following information sources to determine a prioritization schedule:

- Planning documents and tools. The City uses a variety of planning documents and tools to determine service level needs for the development of parks, trails, and recreational facilities. These documents include but are not limited to the City of White Salmon's Comprehensive Plan, the Urbanization Study; and various population and demographic forecasting resources.
- Level of Service (LOS). The Park System Plan defines level of service benchmarks for parks and trails that meet current and future community needs. These benchmarks help the City determine how well existing facilities are meeting current park and recreation needs, and what investments are needed in the future to reach or maintain the LOS as the population grows.
- Geographic distribution. The Park

System Plan and CIP consider the appropriate location for specific parks based on the facility type and their overall geographic distribution throughout the City, as well as the recommended distance of certain types of parks and facilities to residents.

- Maintaining existing facilities. The Park System Plan Needs Assessment results place a high priority on maintaining and improving existing facilities prior to developing new facilities.
- Grants. Grants provide an opportunity to seek alternative funding sources for a project. If the project matches the grant requirements and meets the needs of the City, the project may be moved up in priority to take advantage of the funding opportunity, or to match the grant funding cycle.

Each project is prioritized based on a High, Medium, and Low prioritization schedule.

- **High** priority projects are planned for the first 7-year planning period, through 2030;
- **Medium** priority projects are planned for the second 7-year planning period, through 2037;
- **Low** priority projects are planned for the third 6-year planning period, which begins in 2037 and extends to 2043.

Detailed cost estimates were developed for each project. Additional detail is provided in the 2023-2043 Capital Improvements Plan.

PLANNED PROJECTS

Planned projects listed in Table 6.1 include project and site information, which corresponds to the recommendations listed in Chapter 5.

Table 6.1 Planned Projects

PLANNED PROJECTS				
Project ID	Project Title	Description	Size	Cost
R1	Community Center ¹⁶	Conduct a feasibility study and master plan for a community center.	0.8 acre (Site)	\$95,000
R2	Basketball court (unsited)	Identify a site and construct 1 full-size basketball court.	5000 SF	\$226,300
P1	Pioneer Park	Construct a walking loop, install benches, and upgrade trash receptacles.	0.4 acres	\$39,500
P2	Fireman’s Park	Construct a sidewalk and a stormwater facility with educational signage along E Jewett Blvd.	0.2 acres	\$74,100
P3	Rheingarten Park	Evaluate irrigation system coverage, water schedule and water conservation opportunities and repair/ update as needed. Construct replacement playground, construct splash pad, resurface and restripe tennis courts and update equipment and add pickleball striping. Replace restrooms to include gender-neutral restrooms and a family restroom. Upgrade bike racks, sidewalks and landscape. Evaluate the application of stormwater facilities as a water quality improvement.	4.1 acres	\$1,068,200
P4	Gaddis Park	Acquire additional park property and construct facilities, circulation, parking, and landscape in 2001 master plan design. Restore riparian vegetation, maintain, and expand trail system. Specific projects and amenities identified in the 2001 plan may be modified, adjusted, reduced or deleted based on current conditions and changes that have occurred since 2001.	6.7 acres	\$20,653,100
P5	Jewett Sports Complex	Develop shared-use agreement, contribute to facility maintenance, and improve pedestrian circulation with accessible sidewalks.	4.0 acres	\$607,500
P6	Spokes Bike Park	Install portable restroom enclosure, signage and trash receptacles.	7.6 acres	\$275,900

¹⁶ Funding for future phases is dependent on the completion of a feasibility study.

PLANNED PROJECTS (CONT.)				
Project ID	Project Title	Description	Size	Cost
A1	Future North Neighborhood Park	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the northern residential area of White Salmon.	5-15 acres	\$3,255,000
A2	Future North Mini Park	Acquire and develop 2,500 SF to 1 acre for a mini park to serve the northern residential area of White Salmon.	2,500 SF to 1 acre	\$651,000
A3	Future West Neighborhood Park	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the western residential area of White Salmon.	5-15 acres	\$3,255,000
A4	Future Riverfront Park	Acquire and develop 13-acre riverfront parcel from Klickitat County to provide a natural area park with water access.	13 acres	\$1,674,000
A5	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park	Acquire and develop ~5 acres for a neighborhood park to serve the southeastern residential area of White Salmon.	5-15 acres	\$3,255,000
A6	Dog Park (unsited)	Plan and develop one site (N, W or SE) as a dog park.	5-10 acres	\$116,300
T1	Loop Trail	Improve the 11.5-mile pathway for multimodal transportation. Provide directional signage, visual separation between vehicles, and bicycles and pedestrians. Improvements are intended to be on WSDOT right of way and property easements.	11.5 miles	\$2,554,700
T2	Riverfront Park Trail Bridge ¹⁷	Conduct a feasibility study for the design and construction of a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the railroad tracks to connect the future Riverfront Park to the area's upland and downtown. The connection location is to be determined and will be informed by a future Hood River replacement project.	ND	ND
T3	Gaddis Park-Spokes Bike Park Trail	Design and construct a trail that connects Gaddis Park and Spokes Bike Park. Obtain easements from adjacent property owners between the two city parks.	0.25 to 1 mile	\$343,200
T4	Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail	Design and construct bicycle and pedestrian facilities that connect Rheingarten Park, Pioneer Park, Jewett Sports Complex and Spokes Bike Park. Route follows NW Lincoln Street, 1st Street, Hood, Wauna, and Tohomish Street.	1 mile	\$161,900
T5	White Salmon Bluffs Trail	Design and construct a stair trail, paved parking, trailhead, and powered incline elevator that fosters connections from downtown to commercial and riverfront areas.	ND	ND

¹⁷ Funding dependent on completion of project feasibility study and a future Hood River replacement bridge project.

FUNDING

Capital improvement project costs are estimated based on considerations including timing, design, construction, and land acquisition. Improvement costs vary widely based on local conditions, economic factors, environmental constraints, and the application of specific funding sources. The following land acquisition and development parameters are used for estimating costs and are based on current market conditions in the City, past projects, and other local information.

- Land acquisition costs are based on a conservative estimate of \$120,000 per acre for undeveloped land within the UGB and \$30,000 per acre for undeveloped land outside the UGB;
- Development costs for new parkland are estimated at \$300,000 per acre for neighborhood parks, \$180,000 per acre for special use parks, and \$60,000 per acre for open space areas;
- Development costs for trails are estimated at \$200 per linear foot of 10-foot wide paved trail, \$580,000 for site development of each trailhead, and \$175,000 for each bridge structure.
- Operational and maintenance costs account for the additional future costs of operating and maintaining each capital project upon its completion.

There are three primary funding sources the City may utilize for capital improvements:

- ***Municipal Capital Improvement Fund.*** Property tax revenues from this City fund are the major funding source for park and recreation annual operating costs and reserves

for future operations. CIP projects not eligible for other funding sources can be funded from this source.

- ***General Obligation Bonds.*** This type of bond is a tax assessment on real and personal property that can supplement other revenue streams. The City may issue a general obligation bond at an election after providing legally required notice but not more than twice a calendar year. A minimum voter participation of forty percent of all voters who voted in the previous state election and a three-fifths majority approval are required to approve a bond. The City does not have any current bond obligations.
- ***Alternative Funding.***
 - Grants are funds from federal or state governmental agencies or non-profit organizations that support a portion of the capital costs.
 - Donations include of monies or real property from individuals and/or non-profit organizations.
 - Partnerships include financial agreements with non-profit organizations and/or user groups to share in the cost of building facilities.
 - Other includes proceeds from the sale of surplus properties and user fees and charges for facilities.



OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

As the recommendations and implementation measures are realized, the park system will increase in size, number of facilities, and diversity. As the park system grows, the City will need to obtain additional funds to cover operations and maintenance costs associated with the expanding system. Significantly fewer revenue sources are available for funding operations than for capital projects. Following are a variety of options available for funding operations and maintenance as the system expands.

- **Grants and Donations**
Grants are typically harder to secure for operations than for capital projects. However, mechanisms such as endowment funds can be set up for park operations or the operation of a specific park facility.

- **Operating Efficiency**
Improve operating efficiency by examining possible ways to reduce costs, such as additional outsourcing, additional cost-sharing with other public agencies, avoiding duplication of services, and improving efficiency in specific maintenance tasks.
- **Volunteers**
Utilize volunteers to offset some maintenance costs, while acknowledging that it takes staff time to coordinate volunteer programs.
- **Park Services Revenue**
Increase park services revenue by expanding rental facilities, charging for maintenance services that benefit specific groups rather than the whole community, and charging for other services at highly used parks.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND STRATEGIES

The park system will increase in acreage over the planning period. To maintain the current level of service and number of facilities per resident benchmarks discussed in Chapter 2, the City will need to acquire and develop approximately 5 acres of new park facilities by 2043.

“

I'D LOVE TO SEE THE CITY SUPPORT A PARKS-FOCUSED GROUP...I THINK COMMUNITY MEMBERS NEED AN OUTLET TO BE INVOLVED WITH WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP. IT CAN HELP THE CITY FOSTER MORE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.

Table 6.2 presents a summary of proposed projects categorized by site and priority level. Total costs for planned projects are estimated to be approximately \$38,305,800. The plan includes:

- \$10,112,200 in funding for High Priority projects (2023-2030)
- \$10,224,700 in funding for Medium Priority projects (2031-2037)
- \$17,968,900 in funding for Low Priority project (2038-2043)

Table 6.2 Project Prioritization

ND - Not Determined

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION				
Project ID	Project Title	High (FY 2023-2030)	Medium (FY 2031-2037)	Low (FY 2038-2043)
R1	Community Center ¹⁸	-	\$95,000	-
R2	Basketball court (unsited)	-	-	\$226,300
P1	Pioneer Park	-	\$39,500	-
P2	Fireman's Park	-	\$74,100	-
P3	Rheingarten Park	\$589,500	\$478,700	-
P4	Gaddis Park	\$1,636,900	\$1,366,700	\$17,649,600
P5	Jewett Sports Complex	\$108,500	\$406,000	\$93,000
P6	Spokes Bike Park	\$43,400	\$232,500	-
A1	Future North Neighborhood Park	\$1,860,000	\$1,395,000	-
A2	Future North Mini Park	\$186,000	\$465,000	-
A3	Future West Neighborhood Park	\$930,000	\$2,325,000	-
A4	Future Riverfront Park	-	\$1,674,000	-
A5	Future Southeast Neighborhood Park	\$1,860,000	\$1,395,000	-
A6	Dog Park (unsited)	-	\$116,300	-
T1	Loop Trail	\$2,554,700	-	-
T2	Riverfront Park Trail Bridge ¹⁹	-	ND	ND
T3	Gaddis Park-Spokes Bike Park Trail	\$343,200	-	-
T4	Rheingarten-Pioneer-Jewett Sports Complex Trail	-	\$161,900	-
T5	White Salmon Bluffs Trail	-	ND	-
	TOTAL	\$10,112,200	\$10,224,700	\$17,968,900

¹⁸ Funding dependent on completion of feasibility study.

¹⁹ Funding dependent on completion of project feasibility study and a future Hood River bridge replacement project.

Park system improvement actions have been historically funded from Municipal Capital Improvement Fund expenditures. These funds consist of revenue from the local tax base. The Plan discusses anticipated funding sources as well as associated recommendations for leveraging resources, including:

- **Grants**
The City should pursue grants, both state and federal, for parks and trail-related capital improvements. Other planned projects are good candidates for future grant funding opportunities including Recreation and Conservation Grants, State Wildlife Grants, Federal Transportation Grants, Local Government Grants, Watershed Restoration Grants, Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants, and Urban and Community Forestry Grants. State, regional, and federal grants can provide funding for a variety of park, open space, and trail projects. The City should balance the potential application's competitiveness with required outlays of staff time when applying for grant funds.
- **General Obligation Bonds**
This type of bond is a tax assessment on real and personal property. This fund can supplement existing revenue and is more widely distributed. Funds can be used for capital projects but cannot be used for the replacement of equipment. The City should evaluate the feasibility of a bond measure with a defined development plan as outlined in the Park System Plan.
- **Partnerships**
The City should develop partnerships with local recreation service providers, specifically the School District, to improve operational efficiencies and leveraging of funds. Pursuing relationships with land trusts also provides an opportunity for collaborative efforts to contribute to the open space and natural areas of the park system.
- **Relationships**
The City should cultivate relationships with landowners, developers, and employers who may be interested in donating land or services to the City or allowing purchase at a reduced cost. Private landowners have supported local recreation in the park system in the past and may continue to do so in the future.
- **Performance Measures**
The City should explore measures to minimize acquisition, development, and operational costs: The City should investigate how to reduce operational costs, potentially through cost-efficient design and facilities; to reduce development costs through the use of volunteers and donations; and to reduce land acquisition costs by exploring alternative means of acquiring land.



CONCLUSION

The 2022 White Salmon Park System Plan is a guiding document based on a continuous and collective vision for maintaining and improving the quality of life for White Salmon residents through parks and recreation facilities. The Plan synthesizes a vision, actions, recommendations, and specific projects designed to be implemented over a 20+ year planning period.

The City recognizes that park facilities are essential to the physical and mental health of White Salmon residents and the park system provides a key foundation for a healthy community. The planning framework ensures that the future park system will provide accessible and welcoming facilities and programs that support the needs of an increasingly diverse and growing community.

