

APPENDIX M

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Providing County and/or City parks and recreation facilities is an important service that reflects and enhances a community's quality of life. Parklands provide a variety of recreation activities, including beach access, picnic facilities, athletic fields, playgrounds, and recreation centers. Approximately 89 percent of the County's park and recreational land inventory are regionally significant sites used by County and City residents alike.

The LOS for parks is of primary importance to determine whether the park to population ratio is not diminished to a degree that the City's park system becomes overburdened. The revised (July 21, 1999) Kitsap County Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) reflects the six-year (1999-2004) forecasted need for adequate public facilities to support the adopted level of service (LOS) for each capital facility including the park and recreation needs. This forecast includes the population allocated to the City of Poulsbo Urban Growth Area.

The CFP identified the current LOS for parks and proposed a higher LOS for the County's park system, which adopted the following: 6.0 acres per 1,000 population for regional parks, 1.2 acres per 1,000 for local parks, 5.9 acres per 1,000 for open space, and 0.065 miles of trails per 1,000 population.

The City's Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan (May 17, 2000) states the City should provide 10.75 acres of park per 1,000 persons. This is greater than that required by the County. Currently the City provides 8.05 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents¹. The City will need a total of 3.74 acres of new parks by 2004 to meet the LOS. The recently adopted Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan outlines how the City plans to keep up with the needs of its growing population.

The City has acquired property just south of the Viking Way and Lindvig Road intersection to develop Nelson Park and the City has entered into a purchase agreement for the Morris property off of 7th Avenue that could also partially serve as parkland for City residents. The City has also recently entertained developing a Metropolitan Park District. The Parks Department staff is studying this issue.

A list of approved capital improvements for the City's Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is included in Table M-1 on page 3, along with potential funding sources.

¹ See Poulsbo Comprehensive Plan, pg. V-6.

INSERT TABLE M-1 PARK AND OPEN SPACE HERE