



**KITSAP COUNTY**  
**2018 PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN**  
**APPENDIX**

*Adopted February 26, 2018*

**KITSAP COUNTY**  
**2018 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan**

**Kitsap County**  
**Board of County Commissioners**

Robert Gelder, Chair, District #1  
Charlotte Garrido, District #2  
Edward E. Wolfe, District #3

## PREFACE

The 2018 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS) is intended to refresh and update the County's 2012 PROS Plan for adoption by the Board of Commissioners, to be amended into the County's Comprehensive Plan, and to be provided to Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) as a requirement for future grant funding opportunities.

This plan, through public survey, open house forums, and other opportunities for public input, acknowledges strengths in our park operations and management, identifies areas for improvement, and presents new approaches and ideas. Supporting information from related agencies and organizations help to recognize and clarify the County's major role in providing outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

Throughout the development of the plan it has been evident that County Parks has a significant opportunity and responsibility for stewardship of natural resources beyond the provision of recreation facility development.

Based on our discussions, findings, and community recommendations, this document will serve as a foundation for developing strategic agency plans as Kitsap County Parks accepts a greater leadership role in natural resource management. Future successes will require the involvement of the community in crafting land management decisions based on achievable goals, objectives, and action plans.

## PURPOSE

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS) is an element of the Kitsap County's Comprehensive Plan. The PROS plan provides a six-year plan and 20-year vision for the County's park system, the steps needed for developing and improving park facilities, acquiring new park facilities, and expanding recreation opportunities on existing areas based on expressed public need.

Updating the 2012 PROS Plan is a requisite component of the Growth Management Act (GMA). The GMA promotes wise use of limited land and resources which helps conserve open space. The GMA encourages the enhancement of recreational opportunities, and calls for the development of parks and recreation facilities, which adds to the quality of life in communities.

The PROS Plan is required for state and federal grant eligibility, which is administered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). Upon adoption by County Commissioners, the plan is submitted to the RCO for approval.

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## **Washington Growth Management Act and State Recreation & Conservation Office Planning**

Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) Provisions Relating to Parks, Recreation, and Open Space: The GMA goals that relate to parks, recreation, and open space planning are particularly important in ensuring that the area's high quality of life is sustained as communities grow (RCW 36.70A.020). The GMA goal that directly addresses parks and recreation states that Washington communities should:

- Retain open space.
- Enhance recreational opportunities.
- Conserve fish and wildlife habitat.
- Increase access to natural resource lands and water.
- Develop parks and recreational facilities.

WA State Recreation & Conservation Office – Requirements for Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plans: Many state and federally funded grant programs require completion of a recreation or conservation plan before applying for a grant. Adopted plans must be submitted to the Recreation and Conservation Office by March 1 in even numbered years.

### **Plan Requirements:**

A successful plan is one that accurately reflects the characteristics of the organization for which it has been prepared.

### **Required Elements**

1. Goals and objectives
2. Inventory
3. Public Involvement
4. Demand and Need Analysis
5. Capital improvement program
6. Plan adoption

Natural Resources Building  
1111 Washington St SE  
Olympia WA 98501  
PO Box 40917  
Olympia WA 98504-0917



(360) 902-3000  
TTY (360) 902-1996  
Fax: (360) 902-3026  
E-mail: [info@rco.wa.gov](mailto:info@rco.wa.gov)  
Web site: [www.rco.wa.gov](http://www.rco.wa.gov)

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

January 26, 2017

Jim Dunwiddie  
Kitsap County Parks and Recreation  
614 Division St MS-1  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Dear Mr. Dunwiddie:

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is a state agency that administers grants for parks, trails, wildlife habitat conservation, farmland preservation and boating. Your agency's eligibility for some of those grants will expire next year, specifically habitat and parks and recreation grants.

For grant programs where plans are required, you must have an adopted park and recreation, open space, or habitat plan on file two months before the grant application deadline. The Kitsap County Parks Recreation and Open Space plan expires March 28, 2018. To re-establish grants eligibility RCO must receive updated or new planning materials by the planning deadline of March 1, 2018.

A plan provides an agency up to six years of RCO grants eligibility from the date of adoption. In addition, to be considered eligible, the planning eligibility must extend through the meeting at which the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board awards grants for the grant program being pursued. See the enclosed information for deadlines. If you have any questions, please contact me at (360) 902-3009 or e-mail at [lorinda.anderson@rco.wa.gov](mailto:lorinda.anderson@rco.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lorinda A. Anderson".

Lorinda A. Anderson  
Resource Planner

Enclosures

**RECEIVED**

JAN 31 2017

**KITSAP COUNTY  
PARKS & RECREATION**

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board • Salmon Recovery Funding Board  
Washington Invasive Species Council • Governor's Salmon Recovery Office  
Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group



PLNEXLTR.RPT



## Communication and Public Outreach Plan

# *Think Outside*

Addressing the Future of Parks, Recreation & Open Space

September 2017

## Contents

- Plan Purpose
- Need for County Plan Update
- 2018 PROS Plan Development
- Purpose of Communications Plan
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- Goals for Public Outreach and Participation
- Key Messages
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## 2018 Parks and Open Space Plan

### Purpose

Parks & Recreation Open Space Plan (PROS) is an element of the Kitsap County's overarching Comprehensive Plan. The PROS plan provides a six-year plan and 20-year vision for the County's park system and the steps needed for developing and improving existing park facilities, the development and acquisition for new park facilities, and expanding recreational opportunities.

### Need for County Plan Update

Updating the 2012 PROS Plan is a requisite component of the GMA. The Growth Management Act (GMA) promotes wise use of limited land and resources which helps conserve open space. GMA encourages the enhancement of recreational opportunities, and calls for the development of parks and recreation facilities, which adds to the quality of life in communities.

The PROS Plan is also required for state and federal grant eligibility, which is administered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). Upon adoption by County Commissioners, the plan is submitted to RCO for approval.

### 2018 PROS Plan Development

This Plan outlines policy directions, goals and objectives, implementation strategies, capital improvements, and investment emphasis for the system of County Parks and Open Space.

PROS 2018-2024 Plan:

- Evaluates the need and demand for parks, recreational facilities, open space and other recreational lands, throughout the County.
- Identifies key issues, strengths and opportunities required to improve our parks system, and ensure the capacity to adequately plan, develop and operate park properties and facilities;
- Provides guidelines and policy direction for the County in terms of acquiring, developing and preserving properties with regional significance and recreation value;
- Identifies the strategies and objectives needed to ensure that parks are an integral part of the County's economic development strategy; and
- Assesses current funding mechanisms, partnerships, and new potential funding strategies.

The final plan is reviewed and adopted by the Kitsap County Board of County Commissioners, after a period of regional public participation and review.

## Purpose of Communications Plan

This Communications Plan is intended to outline the methods in which the County will communicate the purpose of the PROS Plan, opportunities for public involvement and the results of public engagement and input. It also identifies communication objectives and key stakeholders intended to be further involved in the plan development. This Communication Plan is intended to support the goals of the County to educate the public, communicate with them and encourage their participation.

## Public Outreach and Participation Methods

To develop a clear representation of Kitsap County recreationists and general citizenry, and understand resident recreation preferences and needs, the PROS Plan invites general community input and direction to the draft Plan through a variety of outreach and participation activities described below:

- Press releases and announcements of the plan and invitation to participate in the on-line survey and comments at major public events, such as; the County Fair, Kingston Community Open House and the local Home and Garden Show.
- Publicity inviting participation for the on-line interactive PROS Survey inviting interests and needs in recreational facilities and open space.
- Briefings and in-person interviews with planners and directors of cities and park districts, Tribes and the Navy.
- Review of the survey, goals and strategies, and draft Plan by the Parks Advisory Board.
- Review of the survey, goals and strategies and draft Plan by the Park Volunteer Stewardship Groups, and review by the County appointed technical and advisory committees; such as the Non-motorized Trails Committee.
- Parks Department hosting Public Forums at venues located in each of the three County Districts.
- On-line comments and concerns regarding the Draft Plan posted on a dedicated County Parks Website.
- Follow-up with community organizations following the adoption of the PROS Plan and discussions about support and implementation of facets of the Plan.

## Stakeholders

Stake holders have a vested interest in the PROS Plan, its policy, goals and directions and can offer essential input to the goals, strategies and direction of the plan, as well as active outreach and communication about the Plan to their constituents.

### Internal Stakeholders

- Board of County Commissioners (oversight, outreach)
- Parks Management and Field Staff (visitor contact, volunteer coordination)
- Department of Community Development (environmental)
- Public Works (non-motorized trails, mapping, environmental)
- Information Services (GIS, Web-service)
- Park Volunteer Stewards

### External Stakeholders

- Recreation Interest Groups:
  - Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
  - North Kitsap Trails Association
  - Washington Trails Association
  - Backcountry Horsemen
  - Kitsap Audubon
  - General Public and Facility Renters
- Conservation Interests:
  - Great Peninsula Conservancy
  - North Puget Sound Recovery
  - Washington Audubon
  - Washington State University Kitsap County Extension
  - Suquamish Tribe
  - Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
  - Washington State Department of Ecology
- Park & Recreation Agencies:
  - City of Bremerton Park Department
  - City of Poulsbo Parks and Recreation
  - Bainbridge Island Parks and Recreation District
  - Navy Recreation Programs
  - Washington State Parks
  - Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Following is the schedule of public outreach and participation:

<b>PUBLIC INPUT AND REVIEW PROCESS</b>	<b>Start Date --2017</b>	<b>Duration -- Days</b>
2012 PROS Plan -- Staff Review	May 5-May 20	15
PROS & County COMP Plan Review	June 1-July 14	45
Review other County / Park District PROS Plans		
Inventory Existing Open Space and Park Facilities		
Review and Revise Park Categories		
Parks Advisory Board (PRAB )PROS Sub-Committee	July 1-September 11	70
Review 2012 Vision/Goals		
Review 2012 Policy Directions & Strategies		
Identify Issues and Opportunities		
Identify Stakeholders		
Draft Public Outreach and Participation Process	August 14- September 11	28
Community Outreach Implementation	September 1-October 31	60
Media/Press Announcement & Web-Survey Posted		
REI Postcard Distribution	September 1-4	4
Community Event Announcements -- Plan & Survey		
Stakeholder Meetings; Cities, Park Districts, Navy, Tribes	September	
Kingston Community Open House	September 21	1
KBA Home Show	October 7-8	2
Community Forums:		
South District -- County Administration Building	October 3	1
Central District -- Eagles Nest	October 10	1
North District – Island Lake Community Center	October 17	1
Analysis of Survey and Public Input -- Needs/Demands	November 6-9	5
Draft PROS Plan -- Goals, Strategies and Objectives	November 1- December 31	60
Publish Draft Plan to Web / Invite Public Comments		
Key Findings and Analysis		
PRAB Review & Public Comments		
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) Review	January 10-February 23, 2018	60
Public Hearing   Public Comments Summary	January 30, 2018	1
Final PROS Plan   BoCC Adoption	February 25, 2018	1
<b>PROS Plan Submittal to RCO</b>	<b>March, 2018</b>	

## Goals for Public Outreach and Participation

- Clarify the need and purpose of the PROS Plan
- Engage various recreation and conservation interest groups to assess the update of the 2012 PROS Plan, and offer additional perspectives, concerns and opportunities for implementation.
- Provide a clear avenue for public input and draft Plan comment through the website and outreach through social media outlets to inform the public of opportunities to provide comment.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of outreach throughout the Plan development and adjust as necessary to reach missed areas of involvement.
- Track public survey responses and draft Plan comments, and provide response on how the PROS Plan addresses this input.

## Key Messages

- This Plan outlines policy directions, goals and objectives, implementation strategies, capital improvements, and investment emphasis for the system of County Parks and Open Space for the next six years, and beyond.
- The PROS Plan is also required for state and federal grant eligibility, which is administered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).
- Parks and Open Space management incorporates a responsibility for healthy natural environments and well managed ecosystems.
- “Think Outside” – consider new approaches to recreation in park development and sustainable operations.
- Citizen input is an essential demonstration of interest, demands and needs for the future of parks, recreation and open space.
- For Parks to effectively manage, maintain, and upgrade our park and recreation facilities, there needs to be clear direction of emphasis. The Community can help determine those priorities.
- New ideas and support for our Park and Open Space system are effective in the progressive improvement of parklands and park facilities.
- To move the Parks agenda forward, we will need continued public interest and support.

## Outreach Tools, Products and Activities

### Tools

- Website
- Facebook and other social media
- BKAT
- PLAN Brand –*Think Outside*
- Renters e-mail list | Golf Course e-mail list

### Products

- Community Event Poster Displays
- Parks Facility Maps
- Survey Announcement “Postcards”
- Website Survey
- PowerPoint presentation

- Press releases
- Comment cards
- Meeting Invitations to Park Stewardship Groups
- Invitation letters to Stakeholders
- Website Public Comment form & FAQ
- Survey and public forum invitation posters at park kiosks

## Activities

- Presentation display booths at the County Fair, Kingston Community Open House, KBA Home Show
- Community Forums for South District, Central District and North District Communities
- Personal Interview with Cities and Park Districts
- Presentations to County's Non-motorized Trail Committee
- Presentations to Park Stewardship Groups and Stakeholders
- Public service announcements with BKAT
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board presentations

## Communication Implementation Plan -- Roles and Responsibilities

Park Management Team (Team) and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board -- PROS Subcommittee (PRAB Sub) are responsible for the review of outreach media, materials and outreach strategies. The Parks Advisory Board is responsible for review of the communication and outreach approach and draft plan elements. Steven Starlund, Parks Planner, is lead for the PROS and communication plan. Jim Dunwiddie, Parks Director, and Travis Buell, Assistant Director oversee the development and implementation of the Communication and Public Outreach Plan and activities.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Responsible / Review &amp; Participation</u>	
2012 PROS Plan Review	S. Starlund	Team / PRAB
Draft goals and strategies	S. Starlund	Team / PRAB
Outreach materials and message	S. Starlund	Team / PRAB Sub
Communication Plan & Public Relations	S. Starlund/R. Pirtle	Asst. Director
Public Event Presentations	Parks Team	PRAB Sub
Survey	Asst. Director	PRAB Sub / Parks Team
Publication Materials / PowerPoint	S. Starlund	J. Ogo / R. Pirtle
Community Forums	Parks Team	PRAB
Stakeholder Presentations	Parks Team	PRAB Sub
Survey Results & Analysis	Asst. Director	Team / PRAB
Public Comments Review & Analysis	S. Starlund / Team	Asst. Director / PRAB Sub

## Timeline

Sept. 2017	Survey Announcements
Oct. 2017	Community Forums and Stakeholder Interviews
Nov. 2017	Analysis of Survey and Public Input
Nov.-Dec. 2017	Publish Draft Plan
Dec. 2017	Public Comments on Draft – Review and Plan Response
Jan. 2018	Draft Plan with Public Input Analysis
Feb. 2018	Final Plan

## PRESS RELEASES & NEWS ARTICLES

December 7, 2017 - Public comment sought on draft of Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan.

September 26, 2017 - Public input from open house and online survey will shape county parks plan.

September 29, 2017 - Kitsap Daily New - County seeking input to shape parks plan.

## OPEN HOUSES WERE HELD THE FOLLOWING DATES

October 3, 2017 - 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m., Eagle's Nest Community Room - 1195 NW Fairgrounds Rd, Bremerton

October 10, 2017 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m., Commissioners' Chambers at the County Administration Building - 619 Division St, Port Orchard

October 17, 2017 - 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m., Island Lake Community Room - 1087 NW Island Lake Rd, Poulsbo

## **Announcement Outline:**

### **PROS Plan Purpose**

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### **Need for County Plan Update**

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development of parks and recreation facilities, which adds to the quality of life in communities. The PROS Plan is also required for state and federal grant eligibility, which is administered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). Upon adoption by County Commissioners, the plan is submitted to RCO for approval.

**2018 PROS Plan Development**

This Plan outlines policy directions, goals and objectives, implementation strategies, capital improvements, and investment emphasis for the system of County Parks and Open Space.

The final plan is reviewed and adopted by the Kitsap County Board of County Commissioners, after a period of regional public participation and review.

**PUBLIC SURVEY PRESS RELEASE:**

**Kitsap County Parks Department is seeking public comment and review of the preliminary draft of the 2018 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan.**

The Parks Department has been gathering public input, since the summer, as it updates the 2012 Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan. The final plan will outline goals, objectives, and strategies to address improvements and investment emphasis for the County park system. It will identify key issues, strengths, and opportunities; provide guidelines and policy direction for acquisition, development, and preservation; ensuring that parks continue to serve as an integral part of the county's social and economic development.

As a foundation of the PROS Plan, various community outreach opportunities for public comment have been provided to assess operational comments and identify community needs and concerns. The Kitsap County Parks Advisory Board and Parks Department hosted a series of public meetings, and participated in local community events. An online survey provided another means to receive public feedback and ideas on the future direction of the county parks system. More than 1,100 survey responses were received. Comment and survey results were posted on the Parks Department's website in November. As the Plan is being drafted, other opportunities for public comment and review are scheduled.

The next step in the advancement of the Plan includes the posting of a preliminary draft for community and stakeholder review and comment. The working draft is available on the Parks Department website, and comments will be accepted through January 5, 2018.

The posting of the final Draft PROS Plan will be available for review mid-January, followed by the final PROS plan presented to the Board of County Commissioners in February 2018 with a public hearing to follow.

The 2018-2023 PROS plan is required to be eligible for state and federal grants administered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, and must be updated every six years. Parks Department staff, working together with members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory

Board for the last six months, developed the plan outline and summary of policy direction, along with the public outreach strategy.

For PROS Plan updates, further information and to submit comments, click [here](https://spf.kitsapgov.com/parks/Pages/PROSPlanUpdates.aspx), go to <https://spf.kitsapgov.com/parks/Pages/PROSPlanUpdates.aspx> or contact Steven Starlund at (360) 337-5350, [parks@co.kitsap.wa.us](mailto:parks@co.kitsap.wa.us).

On-Line Public Survey Form:



**Department of Parks**  
Mailing Address: 614 Division Street, MS#1, Port Orchard, WA 98366  
1195 NW Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton, WA 98311  
Phone (360) 337-5350 Fax (360) 337-5385  
[parks@co.kitsap.wa.us](mailto:parks@co.kitsap.wa.us)  
[www.kitsapgov.com/parks](http://www.kitsapgov.com/parks)

# Kitsap County Parks PROS Plan Public Comment Form

Thank you for participating in this voluntary public comment process.

What District Are You From?

Please leave your comment below

## Contact Information

Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.

Name

First

Last

Phone

Email

Would you like to sign up for updates?

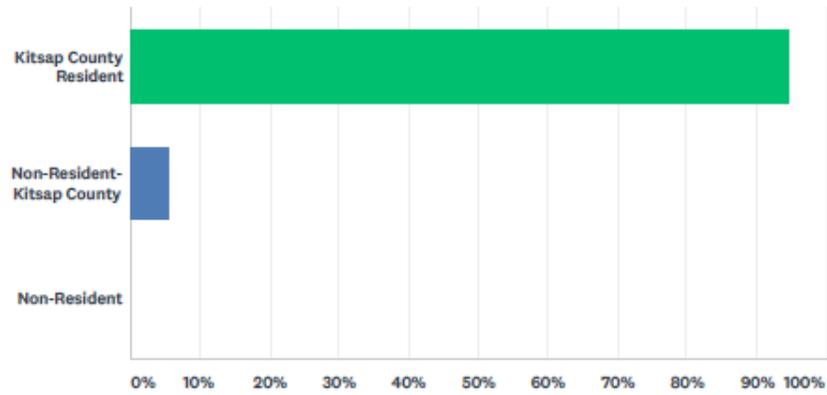
Yes  No

Today's Date

Kitsap County Parks

Q1 Which best describes you?

Answered: 1,174 Skipped: 5

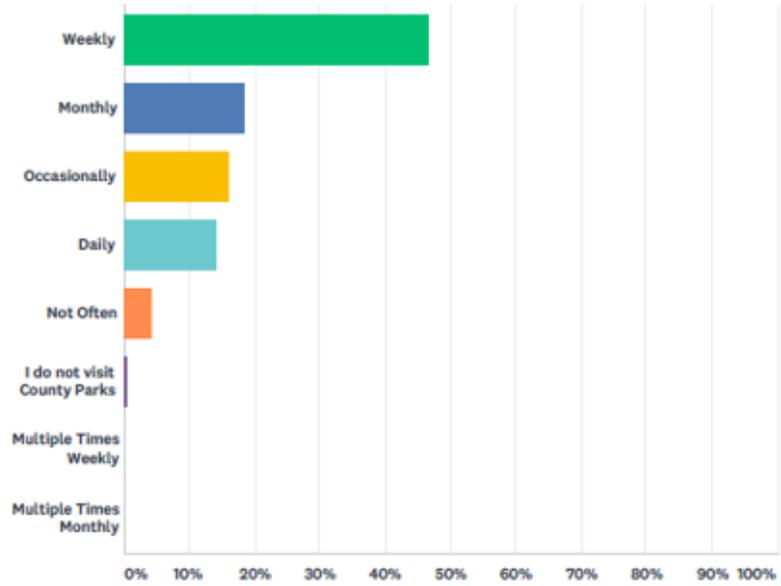


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Kitsap County Resident	94.63%	1,111
Non-Resident- Kitsap County	5.37%	63
Non-Resident	0.00%	0
TOTAL		1,174

Kitsap County Parks

Q2 How often do you visit the public parks in Kitsap County?

Answered: 1,173 Skipped: 6

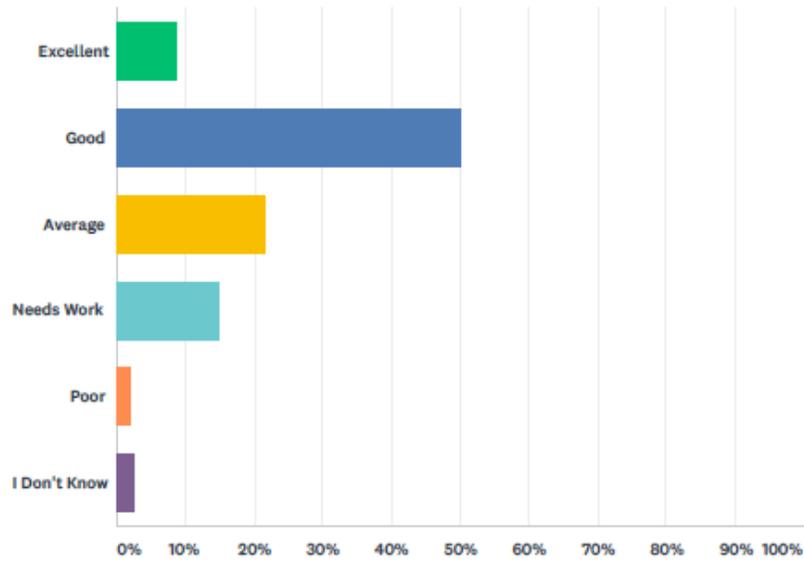


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Weekly	46.63%	547
Monthly	18.50%	217
Occasionally	16.11%	189
Daily	14.24%	167
Not Often	4.18%	49
I do not visit County Parks	0.34%	4
Multiple Times Weekly	0.00%	0
Multiple Times Monthly	0.00%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,173</b>

Kitsap County Parks

Q3 Overall how would you rate the Kitsap County Park System?

Answered: 1,171 Skipped: 8

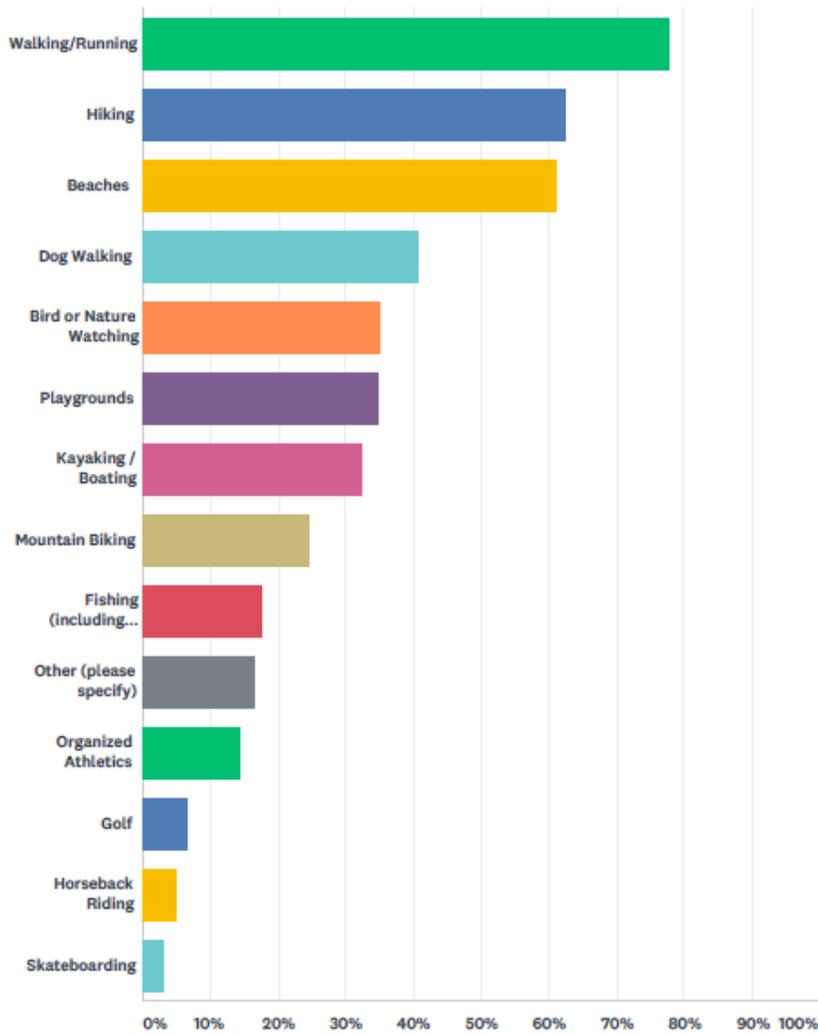


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	8.71%	102
Good	50.30%	589
Average	21.69%	254
Needs Work	14.77%	173
Poor	2.05%	24
I Don't Know	2.48%	29
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,171</b>

Kitsap County Parks

Q4 What recreational activities do you enjoy in Kitsap County Parks?

Answered: 1,175 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Walking/Running	77.79% 914
Hiking	62.47% 734
Beaches	61.11% 718
Dog Walking	40.51% 476
Bird or Nature Watching	35.15% 413

Kitsap County Parks

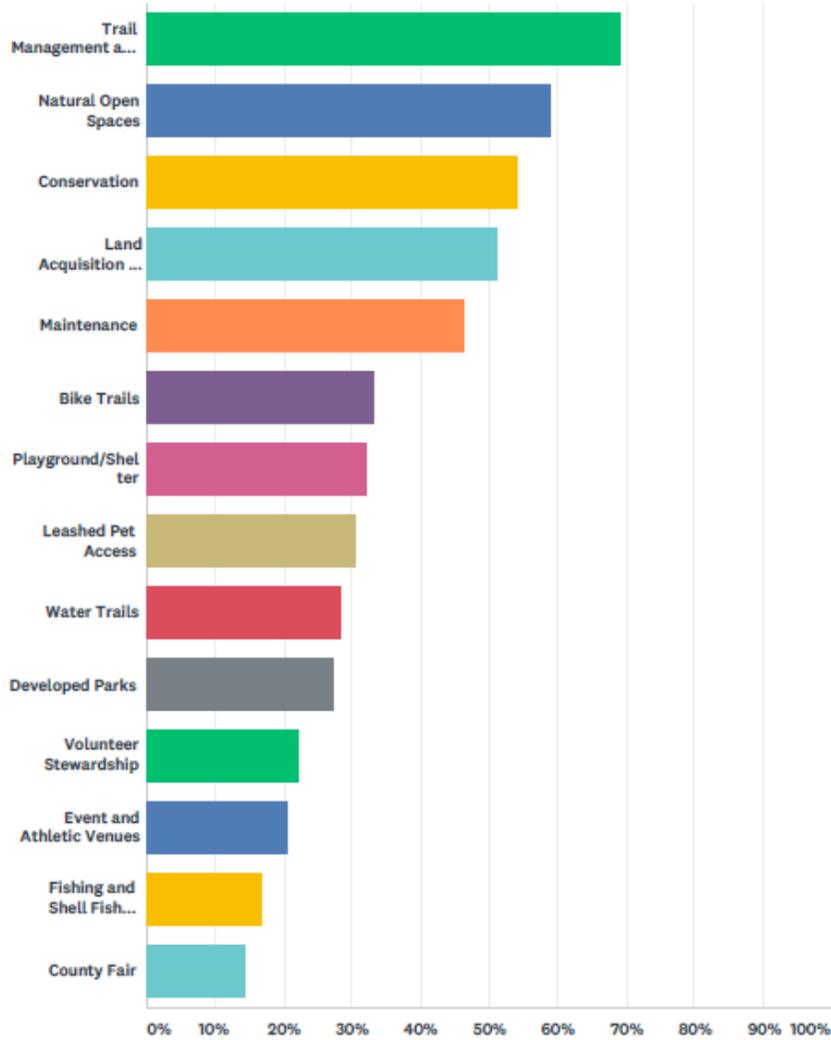
**Q5 Please tell us your 2 favorite parks to visit**

Answered: 1,090 Skipped: 89

Kitsap County Parks

Q6 Which of the following Kitsap County Park areas are important to you?

Answered: 1,176 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Trail Management and Development	69.22%	814
Natural Open Spaces	58.93%	693
Conservation	54.17%	637
Land Acquisition and Preservation	51.19%	602

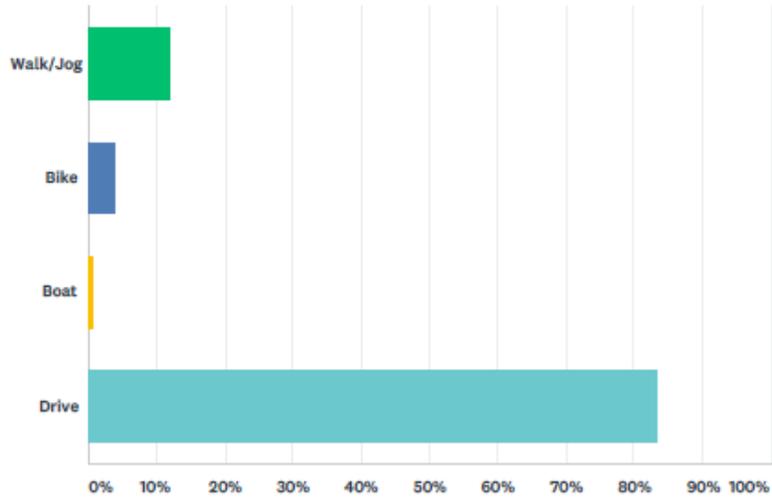
### Kitsap County Parks

Maintenance	46.26%	544
Bike Trails	33.33%	392
Playground/Shelter	31.97%	376
Leashed Pet Access	30.53%	359
Water Trails	28.15%	331
Developed Parks	27.30%	321
Volunteer Stewardship	22.19%	261
Event and Athletic Venues	20.58%	242
Fishing and Shell Fish Harvesting	16.92%	199
County Fair	14.37%	169
Total Respondents: 1,176		

Kitsap County Parks

Q7 How do you typically get to a Kitsap County Park?

Answered: 1,174 Skipped: 5

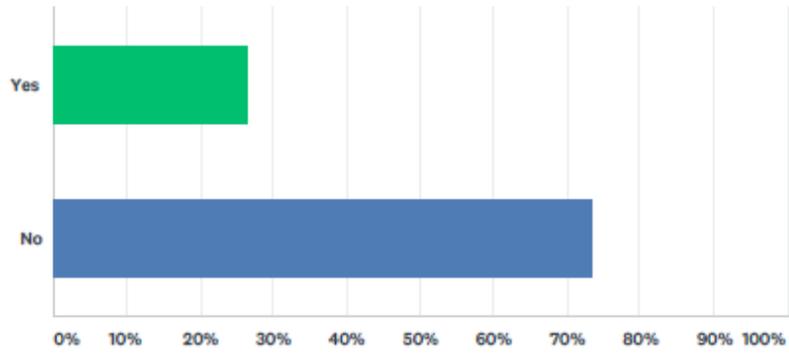


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walk/Jog	11.84%	139
Bike	4.00%	47
Boat	0.60%	7
Drive	83.56%	981
TOTAL		1,174

Kitsap County Parks

Q8 Have you volunteered in an Kitsap County Park in the last 12 months?

Answered: 1,177 Skipped: 2

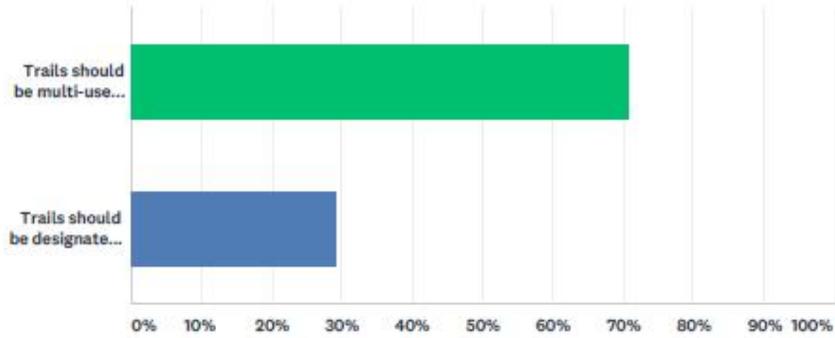


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	26.51%	312
No	73.49%	865
TOTAL		1,177

Kitsap County Parks

Q9 Which best describes your feelings toward Kitsap County trails?

Answered: 1,165 Skipped: 14

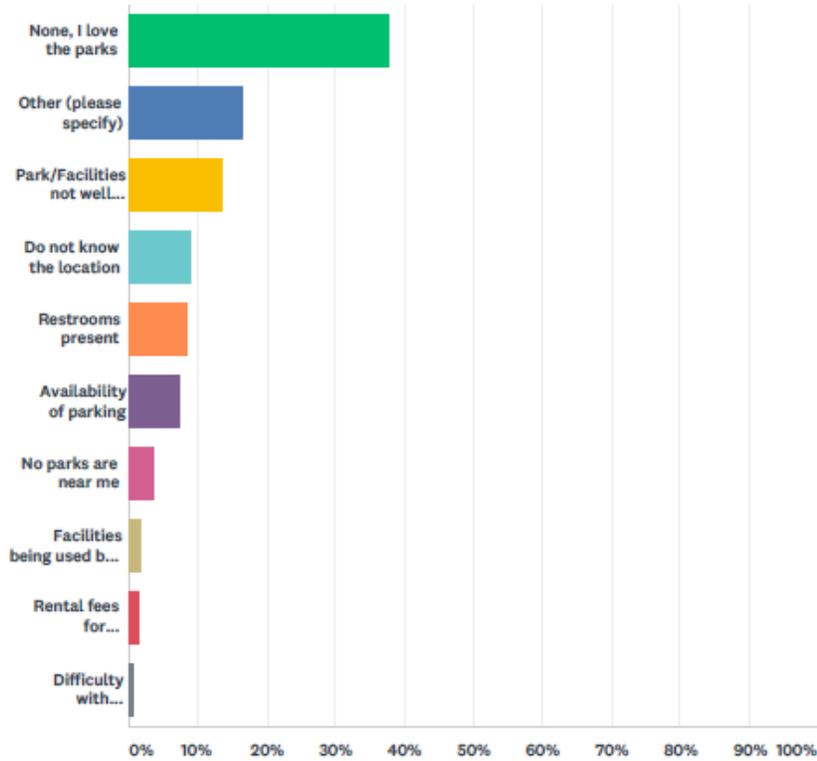


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Trails should be multi-use for all to enjoy	70.73%	824
Trails should be designated for specific user groups	29.27%	341
TOTAL		1,165

Kitsap County Parks

Q10 Please select the reason below that discourages you from visiting a Kitsap County Park?

Answered: 1,158 Skipped: 21



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None, I love the parks	37.65%	436
Other (please specify)	16.58%	192
Park/Facilities not well maintained	13.56%	157
Do not know the location	8.89%	103
Restrooms present	8.38%	97
Availability of parking	7.43%	86
No parks are near me	3.80%	44
Facilities being used by other organizations/agencies	1.64%	19
Rental fees for reservations	1.47%	17
Difficulty with reservation system	0.60%	7

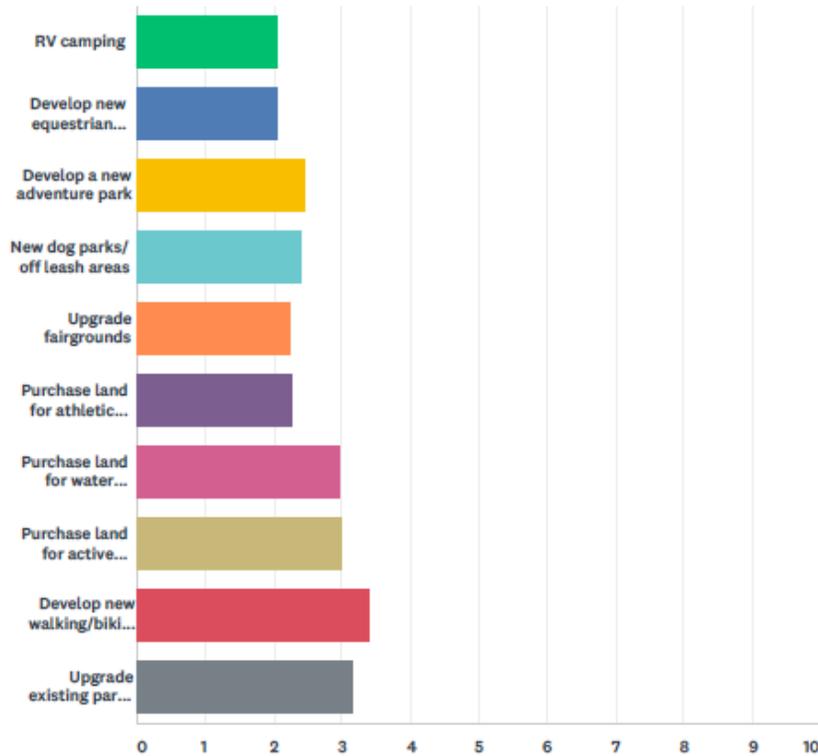
Kitsap County Parks

TOTAL	1,158
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Kitsap County Parks

Q11 Below are major actions that the County could take to improve the parks system. Please indicate your level of support to address each

Answered: 1,175 Skipped: 4



	VERY SUPPORTIVE	SUPPORTIVE	SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE	DO NOT SUPPORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
RV camping	12.81% 140	15.46% 169	35.50% 388	36.23% 396	1,093	2.05
Develop new equestrian trails	8.37% 92	16.83% 185	45.59% 501	29.21% 321	1,099	2.04
Develop a new adventure park	26.04% 287	22.87% 252	23.50% 259	27.59% 304	1,102	2.47
New dog parks/ off leash areas	20.49% 227	23.01% 255	33.48% 371	23.01% 255	1,108	2.41
Upgrade fairgrounds	11.89% 130	23.70% 259	43.09% 471	21.32% 233	1,093	2.26
Purchase land for athletic field development	13.18% 146	23.29% 258	42.69% 473	20.85% 231	1,108	2.29
Purchase land for water access	36.35% 414	32.75% 373	23.71% 270	7.20% 82	1,139	2.98

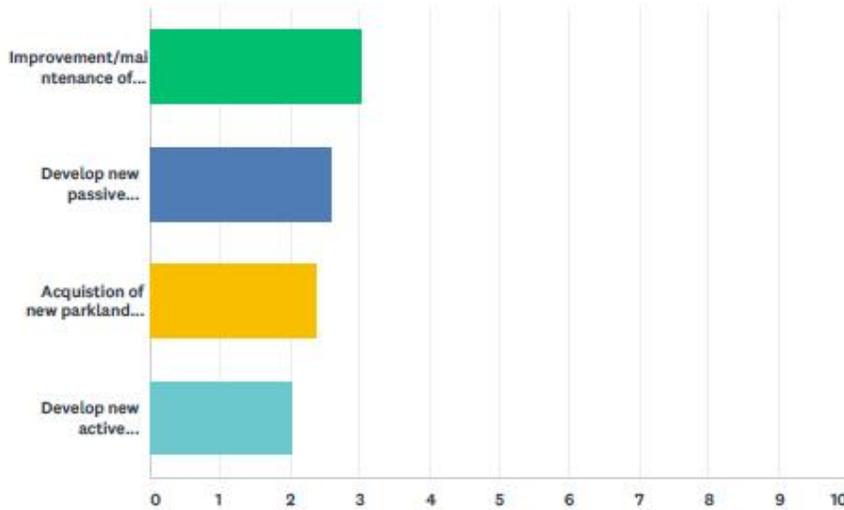
Kitsap County Parks

Purchase land for active recreation	32.27%	42.13%	18.76%	6.84%		
	363	474	211	77	1,125	3.00
Develop new walking/biking greenways	57.47%	28.99%	10.59%	2.95%		
	662	334	122	34	1,152	3.41
Upgrade existing parks, playgrounds, and structures	39.35%	39.26%	18.93%	2.46%		
	447	446	215	28	1,136	3.15

Kitsap County Parks

Q12 If Kitsap County Parks had an unexpected budget increase how should it be spent? Please rank them in order.

Answered: 1,162 Skipped: 17

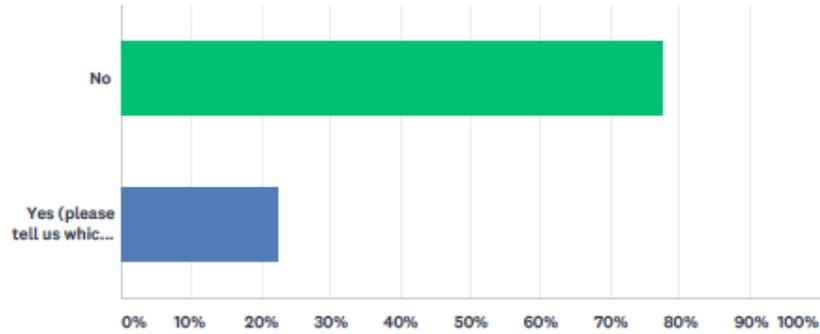


	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	SCORE
Improvement/maintenance of existing parks and facilities	43.83% 497	23.54% 267	22.49% 255	10.14% 115	1,134	3.01
Develop new passive recreation (i.e. Hiking, Trails, Education)	14.86% 169	42.22% 480	30.34% 345	12.58% 143	1,137	2.59
Acquisition of new parkland and open space	26.57% 297	18.07% 202	22.00% 246	33.36% 373	1,118	2.38
Develop new active recreation areas (i.e. Sports, Biking)	15.44% 174	15.71% 177	24.13% 272	44.72% 504	1,127	2.02

Kitsap County Parks

Q13 Do you, or a member of your family, use a Kitsap County Park for organized athletics?

Answered: 1,176 Skipped: 3

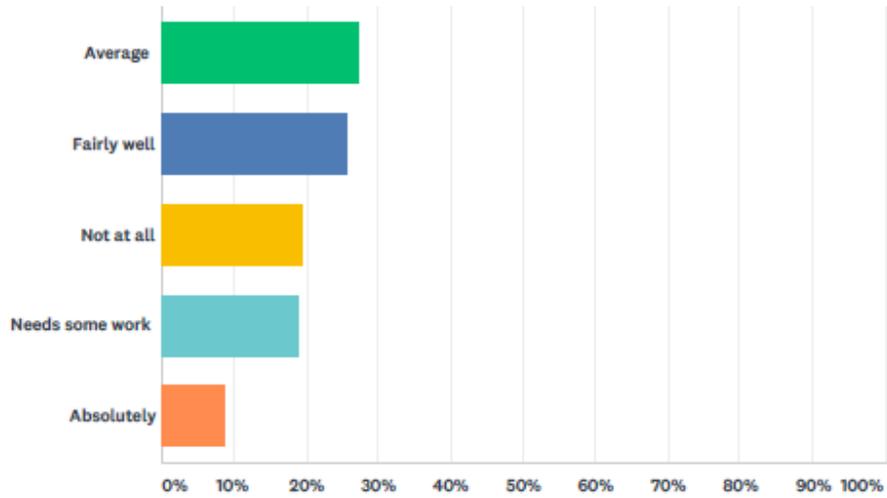


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	77.64%	913
Yes (please tell us which sports)	22.36%	263
TOTAL		1,176

Kitsap County Parks

Q14 If answering yes to question 13, do the facilities meet your needs?

Answered: 505 Skipped: 674

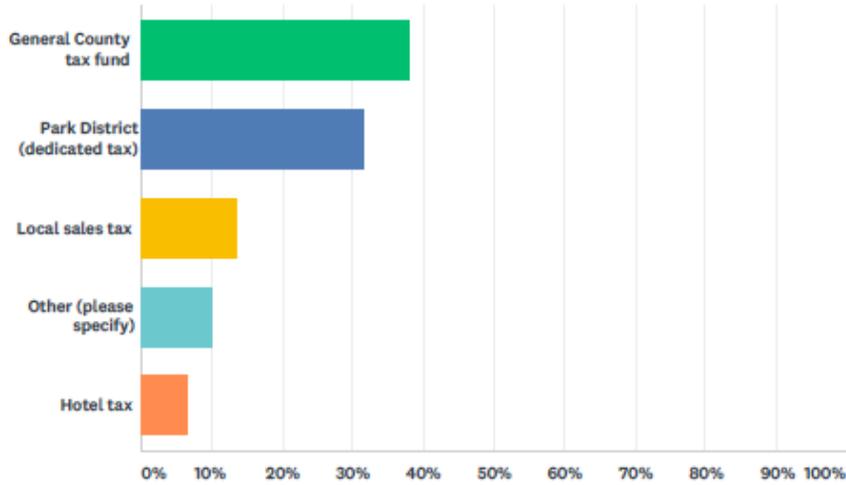


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Average	27.13%	137
Fairly well	25.74%	130
Not at all	19.41%	98
Needs some work	19.01%	96
Absolutely	8.71%	44
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>505</b>

Kitsap County Parks

Q15 How do you feel Kitsap County Parks should be funded?

Answered: 1,149 Skipped: 30



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
General County tax fund	38.03%	437
Park District (dedicated tax)	31.68%	364
Local sales tax	13.58%	156
Other (please specify)	10.01%	115
Hotel tax	6.70%	77
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,149</b>

## DRAFT PROS PLAN PUBLIC COMMENTS: November 10, 2017 --February 21, 2018

Date Submitted: 2/12/2018 5:32 PM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

**What District Are You From?**

North Kitsap

**Please leave your comment below**

It will help the County's efforts to obtain grants if the Parks Plan creates some additional specificity about our communities interest and support for developing paved shared use paths and a mountain bike Ride Park.

I appreciate the mention of the import of safe and multi-accessible trails (bike and pedestrian), but paved, shared-use paths are of particular importance and should be mentioned specifically. In NKTA's poll of nearly 700 community members, 92% stated they were comfortable biking on a paved path separated from motorized traffic. That compares to 8% being comfortable biking w/o a shoulder, and 29% being comfortable biking on a 2' shoulder in moderate traffic.

The section referring to Kitsap Forest and Bay, should mention more than a single grant source and in the Port Gamble Acquisition, as there were multiple grants.

The Goal to provide physical and public access for water oriented recreation should include a bullet to develop water access, view trails and water trail access within existing County shoreline parks, including the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park.

The Port Gamble Park Stewardship Committee would like the PROs capital plan to mention the Port Gamble Ride Park, parking improvements to include equestrian parking, shoreline access improvements, the shoreline bluff trail and access for the water trail.

The Port Gamble Park Stewardship Committee would like the PROs capital plan to mention the Port Gamble Ride Park, parking improvements to include equestrian parking, shoreline access improvements, the shoreline bluff trail and water trail access.

### Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

**Name**

Linda Berry-Maraist

Date Submitted: 2/19/2018 9:41 AM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?

Central Kitsap

Please leave your comment below

Since this plan is a six year plan and twenty year vision, it is important that the mountain bike park in the Port Gamble area be specifically included in this plan. As noted, the PROS plan will help in obtaining state and local grant funds. The concept of this ride park was a cornerstone in securing this land as a park and purposeful inclusion of the ride park in county park plans is essential to making the ride park become a reality, as well as ensuring that due planning for care and maintenance occurs through the years. We at Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance commit that we will do all that we can for this vision and ask that you, our partners in taking care of our parks, commit to the same. Including the ride park in the PROS plan is a necessary step in that endeavor.

Thank you,

Matt Slaney

President, West Sound Chapter

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

## Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name

Matt Slaney

Date Submitted: 2/18/2018 9:02 PM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?

North Kitsap

Please leave your comment below

Please include the Port Gamble Mountain Bike Ride Park in the Capital Plan. This mountain bike park will boost our local economy so dedicating some funds will be well spent.

Cheers,

Brian Kilpatrick, Advocacy

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

West Sound Chapter

## Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name

Brian Kilpatrick

**All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.**

What District Are You From?

Central Kitsap

Please leave your comment below

Help me get this correct. Kitsap County owns the Anderson Landing Preserve and Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve which were recently opened to unbridled public shellfish harvesting. And Kitsap Parks in blatant dereliction has ceded control of our Nature Reserve tidelands to the WA state Department of Fish and Wildlife. Is our Parks department so inept and unable to manage these Nature Reserves that they willfully abdicate their responsibility to a state agency? The undoing of these Nature Reserves, which were intended to be kept nearly pristine, for all visitors as an educational and nature experience is a betrayal of the previous owner's intentions. The Parks department receives taxpayer funds to care for our parks and is responsible for managing them. And to do so according to each property's intended purpose. So are they following that mandate? I say 'No'

Previous responses from Kitsap Parks are mostly lip service when there's zero mandate and zero obligation to re-purpose dedicated Nature Reserve parks into a shellfish digger's paradise. By definition nature preserves are to be managed as gently as possible and kept as pristine as possible.

These two Nature Reserves were established by a thorough and lengthy public process, where public stakeholders and Kitsap county worked diligently to create the operational policy and guidelines. So where was the public process in the Park's unilateral decision to allow public shellfish harvesting of our Nature Reserves?

In 2016, I received zero response to my repeated inquiries about shellfish surveys conducted by the S'Klallam tribe.. One year later, the Nature Reserve volunteers were instructed to post small signs announcing the public shellfish harvest. That was Kitsap Parks version of a "soft opening", attempting to soft peddle the stripping of marine life from the Nature Reserve. Those same volunteers spent years, and years, teaching visitors that shellfish harvesting was prohibited. All those years of working for the reserve gone with a rogue Park's director's order.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not against shellfish harvesting and thinning of oyster beds. That's advisable and necessary. And the tribes are entitled to 50% of naturally set oysters. Which is a right guaranteed to the tribes. A good solution would be to have a commercial-tribal harvest partnership. This would use a superior harvesting technique where mature oysters are gathered by moving from the outside of the oyster beds and working slowly inward.. Harvesting by many, many, public feet tromping across the oyster beds inevitably kills younger oysters in the process. A single harvest is the most ecological way to thin out oysters. Multiple public harvests will negatively effects existing oyster beds and other marine life on the tidelands.

Don't ruin our Nature Reserves for the benefit of a small group of public harvesters.. Nature Reserves are for everyone to enjoy, not to be stripped barren and devoid of marine life. More bureaucracy from the WDFW isn't warranted. A commercial - tribal alliance could respectfully manage these tidelands. Probably much better than Kitsap Parks or the WDFW .. Reputations don't mysteriously come and go. Opening up tidelands establishes a reputation of taking marine life in that one location. Those reputations don't die quickly.

Date Submitted: 2/20/2018 11:41 AM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?  
Central Kitsap

Please leave your comment below

Re: Guillemot Cove Preserve/Reserve

All of the comments of John Frink, Cliff Clark, BeverlyHoward, I endorse and approve. I have been spending much time recently going through my records of Minutes, maps, and meetings from 1994. The whole thing has brought back all of the frustrations and yes, anger and hurt. Very few times did the County ever listen to the volunteer recommendations or suggestions. At one point, the citizens agreed that the beach house was not worth the saving. The County put in a septic system at the beach house. The County has gone back on the agreement to not have public shellfishing. The County Commissioners signed the document. The public is careless, greedy. I have witnessed what happened by the public taking of shellfish near Holly and how it was handled, by leasing it commercially with a local caretaker to oversee the property. The County could use Guillemot Cove tidelands for commercial lease or leave it for the Tribal caretaking like now. I have carted out dirty underwear and socks used for wiping 'bottoms'. Repaired the damage when folks are looking for hidden log book or game memento brought on by some electronic gaming fad. The Stump House helps with that urge and the only reward a volunteer gets. What bothers me a great deal now is that the County leadership ignoring the neighbors who were party to the original agreements with the County. The 2 closest properties are affected by County decisions at Guillemot Cove. They had the longest attachment to the area's history. It affends me that you seem so careless to ignore it. Donna Alber

## Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name

Donna Alber

Date Submitted: 2/20/2018 11:56 AM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?

Central Kitsap

Please leave your comment below

Adventure playgrounds.

Not sure what this title is, But now that I have a Granddaughter [age 3], I have been to quite a few of the Tot to 12 yr sized play areas and think they are well worth it. It was a great place for kids to learn to be with other kids and to learn from the playmates. The mothers all get a chance to get some friend contacts. Really valuable experience for those who cannot afford the Pre-schools. It is a good place to spend the money for that age group.

If affordable, I would vouch for 'Pea-gravel" base for being safe for the accident-prone. :)

## Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name

Donna Alber

Date Submitted: 2/21/2018 11:13 AM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?

North Kitsap

Please leave your comment below

Earlier I suggested that we should think of parks not just as destinations, but as integral parts of the spatial layout of our communities, particularly as corridors that offer alternatives to roads — providing people a chance to walk through a park or other green corridor on their way to town to run errands, etc. This will become more and more of a rare and important benefit as our population increases, more relevant as rural villages grow and more people are able to walk to necessary services instead of having to drive to the nearest city. As the population grows, opportunities to do this will also become harder to find, so we ought to do as much as we can as soon as we can.

I was very pleased to see this suggestion reflected in the latest PROS plan, particularly on page 24 ("Focusing on the inter-related nature of Parks and Open Space to other Comprehensive Plan elements...Incorporate a network of trails and greenways, working with cities, other communities, and ...") and on page 31 ("Support trail corridor plans and local initiatives which would connect new residential and business centers, schools, community centers and park trail systems.")

Two other places in the plan where inclusion of this concept could be beneficial are:

—page 15: under Policy Directions, in the several sections: Activity Community Involvement, Creating New ... Opportunities, and especially under Property Acquisitions.

— page 38: The first paragraph is mainly about recreation and could be broadened to include the community corridor idea. It should also be added to the Goal and to the Objective of Set Acquisition Priorities.

Thanks for all of your good work!

## Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name

John Williams

Date Submitted: 2/21/2018 12:01 PM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?

Central Kitsap

Please leave your comment below

Guillemot Cove was originally set up as a Reserve. No shellfish harvesting or plant harvesting. As such it serves the purposes of preserving genetic diversity and supplying offspring which repopulate other beaches. Killdeer nest on the spit at the mouth of Boyce Creek, fledging young during April/May.

This is your opportunity to maintain a unique park in Kitsap County.

Thank you

## Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name

Don Seavy

Date Submitted: 2/21/2018 12:36 PM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?

North Kitsap

Please leave your comment below

Great success in creating the Kitsap Peninsula National Water Trail

More needs to be done concerning Kitsap Parks and the following should be included in the Parks PROs plan.

\* Work with Washington Water Trails to reinstate overnight water trail camping at select locations, these are not partiers but tired paddlers that are just looking for a safe place to rest and spend the night.

\* Water trail access sites should be considered for all parks locations that are on Puget Sound when appropriate. High bank no access are not ideal but low bank access to the water is preferred when selecting locations.

\* Purchase of more water front sites to be put on the trail for Kitsap Parks

\* Do not sell water front site properties currently in Parks inventory without public review.

\* Parks work more with visitor bureau, Visit Kitsap, to promote water trail as well as other park properties for tourism which generates tax revenue for the county.

Parks is doing a great job serving Kitsap. Thanks John

## Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name

john kuntz

Date Submitted: 2/21/2018 1:35 PM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

**What District Are You From?**

Central Kitsap

**Please leave your comment below**

This is my second comment on this form. I see now that Kitsap County Parks is shifting the responsibility of new public shellfish harvesting at Guillemot Cove, to WDFW, which unfortunately seems like a typical government run around, and not a satisfactory explanation.

I am EXTREMELY disappointed that Parks has opened Guillemot Cove to public shellfish harvesting. This is a Nature Reserve. Nothing on the 188 acre property is supposed to be removed by the general public. This was established by the original Stewardship Committee in 1993 by my father, Alfred Gehri, and a number of other concerned Kitsap County citizens. I have the original notes and minutes from those meetings and would be happy to share them with you, though you should be well aware of the use conditions pertaining to the Reserve when it was established.

Ironically, on your own latest leaflet - available at the Reserve for public information- it states: 5. Collection of plants, animals and sea life is prohibited. 6. Shellfish harvesting of any type is prohibited. Please reconsider this misguided decision. A number of us strongly object and are directly affected by this change.

There are other problems at Guillemot Cove that also need to be addressed. More fire hazard warnings - The Stump House and the Beach House have significant burns on the sides of them. I've found matches and lighters left in the Stump House cache. Dogs - usually leashed, are rampant. There is not enough room on the trails for dogs. There are NO BATHROOMS! Parking has become a problem in the summer. Overflow cars are parked on narrow Stavis Bay Road. The Beach House and decking is in total disrepair. It is a safety hazard and invites vandalism.

Robin D'Amico Seabeck

## Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

**Name**

Robin D'Amico

Date Submitted: 2/21/2018 2:06 PM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?  
Central Kitsap

**Please leave your comment below**

After reading the responses to previous comments, I feel obligated to provide more input concerning shellfish harvesting at Guillemot Cove. I don't think it is a good idea to let Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife manage shellfish harvesting in this Nature Reserve. Their objectives and methods will not result in the beach remaining in its most natural state. I realize there will always be those who will illegally harvest shellfish, but if the beach is officially closed to harvesting, at least we aren't inviting them in. In the Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve Management Plan, Park Goals and Objectives (adopted by the County Commissioners and passed as Resolution #145 on April 4, 1994), Goal 1 is to "Preserve and protect the ecological integrity of the reserve". Objective 12 of that goal is to "Prohibit shellfish harvesting". The goals and objectives of the Management Plan shouldn't be arbitrarily changed without due public process.

### Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name  
Clifford Clark

Date Submitted: 2/21/2018 2:55 PM

All comments, received between February 13 and the February 21, 2018 deadline, will become part of the official record of the Public Hearing.

What District Are You From?  
Central Kitsap

**Please leave your comment below**

Thank you for the work you do with the limited funds & staffing available. I was disappointed that my verbal comments to Travis were not reflected in the CK Open House comments received. I did participate in the on-line survey & now know that written comment is best. Those comments stressed my concern that PUBLIC ACCESS & PARKING be planned & implemented into KC Park properties, especially new acquisitions. My example was the Rude Road property which is accessed by a private road. Also the Jupiter Trail Road property which has no safe parking available. I fully support park open spaces which allow for necessary aquifer recharge. I also support the non-motorized use of trails. While I support advertising the Kitsap County Parks & Open Spaces to the public across the Sound to promote tourism, I strongly feel that the quality of life, recreation & concerns of the tax payers IN the county need to be the priority. I hope that the forested 30 acre DNR parcel adjacent to Waaga Way & the Ridgetop area will be a future acquisition for the benefit of those living in the urban area of Silverdale.

### Contact Information

*Optional, but will help us if we have questions or need clarification of your comment.*

Name  
Susan Anderson

1/08/2018

Chris Eardley, the Puget Sound shellfish policy coordinator, and I have reviewed the PROS plan and offer the following comments:

- Shellfish harvesting doesn't have a clear place in the PROS plan other than a call-out to "Reinforce education and communication efforts to inform public about shellfish resources and legal harvest regulations..."
- There is repeated emphasis on acquisition of shoreline pieces to "improve public access/recreation" to the shoreline. It would be valuable to have a clear sense of where intertidal shellfish harvest fits into the County's vision. Intertidal shellfishing opportunities in Kitsap County allow public access to oysters, mussels, and clams (including ever-popular geoduck) as well as wading for crab.
- The list of appendices includes a roster of "Related Stakeholders." As the appendices themselves were not attached to the draft available for review, it is unclear what this represents, but WDFW is not listed as a Related Stakeholder. As we have a stake and mandate in managing shellfishing on all publicly owned tidelands, we'd like to ensure that WDFW is properly considered as a stakeholder in this plan development.
- There are many great opportunities for new and/or improved partnerships focused on existing site management, stewardship, acquisitions and growth planning between Kitsap County Parks and WDFW.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment.

Sincerely,

Camille Speck

Puget Sound Bivalve Manager

WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife

1/08/18

Unfortunately the Tribe has not had an opportunity to review this in more detail due to holiday schedules and closures. I would like to request another opportunity for the Tribe to review and if necessary provide comment prior to finalization of the plan. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) email mentions another opportunity being available and if this is correct please confirm. The Tribe concurs with the comments submitted by WDFW and has the following additional comments.

1. The Suquamish people lived, gathered food, ceremonial and spiritual items, and hunted and fished for thousands of years in western Washington. Treaty-reserved resources situated on and off the Port Madison Indian Reservation include, but are not limited to, fishery and other natural resources situated within the Suquamish Tribe's adjudicated usual and accustomed (U and A) fishing area. The Suquamish Tribe's U and A extends well beyond Reservation boundaries and includes marine waters of Puget Sound from the northern tip of Vashon Island to the Fraser River in Canada, including Haro and Rosario Straits, the streams draining into the western side of Puget Sound and also Hood Canal.
2. Please provide discussion of Tribal Treaty Fishing and harvest activities. As stated above the Suquamish people lived, gathered food stuffs, ceremonial and spiritual items, and hunted and fished for thousands of years in Western Washington. The Suquamish Tribe reserved the right to take fish at its "usual and accustomed grounds and stations" when it entered into the Treaty of Point Elliot with the U.S. in 1855. In

this Treaty, the Suquamish Tribe ceded its ancestral territory to the United States, but reserved rights to fish, hunt, and gather at all of its U&A grounds and stations. On February 12, 1974, U.S. District Court Judge Boldt ruled that treaty rights entitled Indian Tribes to half of the harvestable fish running in their traditional waters, a right which was later affirmed to include shellfish and other natural resources. The ruling also established Washington State's federally recognized Indian Tribes as co-managers (with WDFW) of fisheries resources within their usual and accustomed fishing areas.

3. There is no discussion regarding adaptive management with regard to beaver. Beaver are an integral component to the restoration of wetland and stream habitat as well as providing crucial water storage and flow control to counter climate change and the resulting increase of flashy storm events. Occasionally trails and/or structures may need to be temporarily/permanently closed, removed or relocated.
4. There is no discussion of removal or replacement of culverts and bridges that are considered fish passage barriers.
5. Page 24. Although permeable pavement is better than traditional it is still less desirable than a soft pervious surface. Impervious surfaces need to be minimized to the extent possible.
6. Page 27. More discussion regarding maintaining appropriate critical area buffers needs to be added. Pedestrian paths should be minimized to the extent possible and not intrude into the wetlands, streams or their buffers. Buffers in county parks need to set a good example for the public and should meet and/or exceed those identified in the current Kitsap County Critical Areas Ordinance.
7. Page 27. In addition to Threatened Species, Endangered Species, and Species of Concern Kitsap County Parks should also consider identifying species of local importance to provide for habitat considerations and/or protections for species that may not fall under other categories. These species can also be added to the Comprehensive Plan for consistency.
8. Page 32 through 34.
  - a. Trails constructed should generally be "soft trails" consisting of minimum widths and pervious surfaces which have fewer impacts and still provide educational and recreational opportunities for the public.
  - b. Trails should not be located within wetland or riparian (freshwater or marine) habitat areas for most of their length. Instead, locate trails well away from streams, wetlands, shorelines, and their associated buffers. An occasional bend or perpendicular side trail for viewing or access to streams and wetlands is generally acceptable. Although trails and viewing platforms are acceptable and we understand that some intrusion may be needed, the majority of the paths should try to avoid intrusion whenever possible.
    - i. Impacts to critical areas (including aquifer recharge areas) need to be avoided. If impacts to critical areas and their buffers are unavoidable a mitigation plan will need to be implemented. Please include mitigation in discussions regarding cost.
  - c. We understand that loop trails are perceived as "more interesting" however, there must be some compromise when it significantly increases the impacts (including but not limited to encroachment, vegetation removal, and introduction of invasive species, erosion, human intrusion, and soil disturbance). A linear trail is the much better choice as it would still provide access and limit impacts. Vegetation removal should be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
  - d. Creosote and Pentachlorophenol should not be used for any part of trail structures. It is preferred that if wood is used it should be only untreated wood (cedar is best).
9. Page 33. Water trails may impact Tribes ability to access a usual and accustomed fishing ground as structures can create navigational obstructions. Associated boat traffic can create potential conflicts with fishing activities impacting Tribal fishers' ability to maneuver and safely manage fishing gear and can also increase the risk of damage to/loss of fishing gear. Proposed shoreline development associated with water trails may disturb areas of cultural and spiritual importance to Suquamish tribal members. These issues can be avoided by coordinating with the Tribe and including the Tribe in discussions during design and development.
10. Page 49. The Tribe is a co-manager with WDFW regarding the State fishery resources and should also be included as a stakeholder in plan development. When implementing the Parks, Recreation and/or Open Space Plans (especially trails, bridges, culverts and other structures) it is also important to make sure that

coordination with WDFW and the Tribe occurs to ensure protection of treaty reserved natural and cultural resources.

Please keep us informed of project status and any relevant project related actions. We look forward to providing additional comment as more information becomes available. If you have questions or concerns please don't hesitate to call 360-394-8447. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced proposal.

Sincerely,  
Alison O'Sullivan  
Biologist, Suquamish Tribe Fisheries Department



*Response: The rightful considerations for Tribal “treaty-reserved” resources, and the minimizing of environmental impacts as a result of parks and recreation planning, and facility developments will be seriously evaluated in the forward planning, and future management of park lands; both as natural areas and the introduction of new public access and park facilities.*

## **PUBLIC SURVEY, COMMENTS & RESPONSES: August 23- November 10, 2017**

### **Land**

**Hansville at Buck Lake needs a children's playground. It was taken down after being deemed unsafe. There's plenty of space, and would get plenty of use. -Annette and Richard J.W. 10/2/17**

*The replacement equipment was approved in the Parks Department 2018 Capital Budget request (\$205,000). We have had discussions with local organizations to work on supplementing the project's funding.*

**North Kitsap and especially Kingston have a profound and critical lack of public beach access. The Port of Kingston and the PROS plan can help remedy that.**

**I have had the privilege of living on the beach of Apple Tree Cove for 75 years. Most of the cabins have been replaced by large impressive houses often with docks, boats, decks and sun chairs. When I am out rowing most often there is not a shoreline owner to be seen enjoying our blessings, except for the crowd of beach lovers at Arness Park. Over the years the enjoyment of the beach, water, and tide flats has dwindled except at Arness Park.**

**In the last few years the Port of Kingston has been acquiring Apple Tree Cove beach property to the west of their parking lots. As of now there is no public access to the beach area. This should and can be a cooperative endeavor with you at KCP and R and you at the Port. It is a travesty that a beach town like Kingston provides such limited beach access to its residents. The Port direction of development always seems to look to expanding tourist business rather than taking care of residents.**

**Beach enjoyment should not be only the privilege of shoreline owners. Cooperative effort on the part of you two tax payer supported agencies on opening up beach access to Port Property can fix this. -Marilyn Bode 10/26/17**

*Providing public access to Puget Sound waterways and beaches is a prime interest of Kitsap County Parks. As funds and reasonable properties become available, Parks will seek public ownership or easements to secure public access and use of the shoreline. As we move forward in our county-wide parks planning, Parks, Metropolitan Park Districts, and Ports are looking forward to coordinating our mutual public interests and we will research the potential collaboration you suggest. Public Comment and Response: August 23- November 10, 2017*

**Need more green space especially in the north end of the county. Want more trail connections outside the parks and more accessible shoreline. -County Fair August 23-27**

*Kitsap County will soon have assembled more than 3,300 acres of forested lands in the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park. This is the result of grants, donations and large-scale private fundraising.*

*The County's Non-Motorized Trail Committee is working closely with Parks to plan for trail connections to parks and safe passage along roadways. This will be a priority for the County into the future. More shoreline access is difficult. However, as funds and properties become available, the County will seek funds to acquire and promote public access to our abundance of saltwater and freshwater water areas.*

**Point No Point – when will the boat launch be finished. Soon would be great!  
-County Fair August 23-27**

*The boat launch facility at the Point No Point location is the property and project of WA State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. No timetable has been announced.*

**New bridge at Kingston at end of Apple Tree Cove should have a park.**  
**-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*Properties adjacent to the bridge at Kingston are all privately owned. Any new acquisitions go through a Needs Assessment to determine if appropriate for park use and public investment. Existing parks at or near Apple Tree Cove include Carpenter Lake and Arness Roadside Park.*

**Need more trailhead parking at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park; on at the south end and also at Anderson Point Park.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Park staff and Park Stewards are challenged with considering trail head parking at various Heritage Parks. As our parks become more heavily used, often more access parking is desired. Planning for trailhead parking needs to assess the capacity of the park to accommodate a higher influx of use, as a result. We will continue to include parking lot projects in the Department's Capital Budget requests.*

**Trail on the backside of Wildcat Lake Park. Does the County own this property?**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*No unfortunately that is not County property.*

**Need splash fountain for hottest days at parks. Need Bathrooms near playground at the Island Lake Park. -Anne Pedelaborde**

*Park staff will research*

**The Children's Park by the viewing area has unsteady rails and floor boards. -Unknown**

*Thank you. Your comment has been passed on to our maintenance staff.*

**Silverdale Waterfront Park is not handicap friendly, except for the boat that is installed for 3-5 year olds. - County Fair August 23-27**

*The existing "engineered bark" surface under both pieces of play equipment meets accessibility standards. However, we anticipate replacing this material with a "poured in place" surface, which may be more suitable for handicap access. The project was approved in the Parks Department 2018 Capital Budget request (\$105,000).*

**Need more kids' play toys or equipment at Silverdale Park where kids actually come and play.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Additional playground equipment at Silverdale Waterfront Park will be a specific grant request to the WA Recreation and Conservation Office in 2018.*

**Regarding the public shellfish harvesting now occurring at Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve. The Reynold's family donated \$554,000 by reducing their sales price to Kitsap County so a Nature Reserve could be established. I grew up with the Reynold's children as my best friends. I know what Dr. Ric and Laurel Reynold's wanted in terms of a Nature Reserve. They often talked about establishing a Nature Reserve while eating dinner with my parents and us kids present. It's no secret what the Reynold's wanted and intended. Every one of their children and friends can verify what I'm stating. Additionally, the Guillemot Cove stewardship committee spent four years working to create the 'Operational Policies' for this Nature Reserve. One important rule was established that shellfish harvesting would be prohibited. Because the shellfish were more abundant when I was younger, it's now equally important to keep the marine life intact on the Guillemot Cove tidelands. Thinning out oyster beds by the tribal groups and/or commercial harvesters is OK. Periodically that's a good idea and I have my tideland oysters commercially harvested every few years. Beyond that aspect, other forms of harvesting are a terrible idea. The other marine life forms on the tidelands ought to remain untouched so that our future children and their future children can enjoy seeing the marine creatures. If you allow geoduck harvesting, which includes digging lots of holes in the tideflats, you will destroy many of the marine invertebrates and their habitat**

including the eel grass which salmon and other fish rely upon for nourishment. Additionally commercially harvested oysters could bring money to Kitsap Parks, if the Parks department could work with the County commissioners to allow that possibility.

**-John Frink 10/29/17**

*We appreciate your insight and time to provide this information. Parks shares the concern about the impact created by those visitors which ignore or abuse shellfish harvesting rules and regulations. WDFW will be requested to assess the condition of the shellfish fishery, including damage to the flats, after the 2018 season.*

I would like Kitsap Parks to be good stewards of their parks and protect the environment. At Salsbury Point Park there's a 'Scoop that Poop' sign that gives a clear message to visitors concerning dog poop. The sign states that "2 days of poop from 100 dogs can close down a bay & all watershed areas within 20 miles to swimmers and shellfishing". So let's get this straight, you have a sign about dog poop that says it's a major public safety issue. Meanwhile at Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve, you have hundreds of visitors each year, and a large number of dogs freely running about as they accompany their owners. And at this park (Nature Reserve) there hasn't been a Porta-Potty for many, many years. Complaints have been made to Kitsap Parks by the FOG volunteers and others. Because the Parks has limited funds they ignore those complaints, instead of working to resolve this issue. So how environmentally benign is the Park's management or lack thereof? Additionally, I often carry a 5 gallon bucket and stainless steel tweezers over to the Reserve and pick up tissues wipes, pieces of clothing, etc. where visitors needed to poop wherever they could find a spot. How eager do you think volunteers are to perform this clean-up work? Is this what you refer to as engaging the Parks volunteers? The answer is obvious. FYI I took a picture of the Scoop that Poop sign. It's a GOOD sign! **-John Frink 10/29/17**

*Parks shares the concern about the impact created by those visitors which ignore or abuse shellfish harvesting rules and regulations. WDFW will be requested to assess the condition of the shellfish fishery, including damage to the flats, after the 2018 season.*

I just had the opportunity to read the comments that John Frink submitted to the PROS Plan relating to public shellfish harvesting at Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve. I agree wholeheartedly with John's assessment of the situation. I have spent hundreds of hours over the past 20 years volunteering at Guillemot Cove, and I believe Kitsap County Parks should do everything possible to ensure that future generations can experience and enjoy Nature at its best as the Operational Policies for the Nature Reserve intended. **-Clifford Clark 10/30/17**

Guillemot Cove should have a bathroom for visitors. I find it ironic that a nature reserve that can only be accessed by the public by walking down a trail, has no facilities, leaving guests no option but to "find a tree". As a volunteer steward, I do not pick up anything that looks like toilet paper or Kleenex. I suppose paper and poo eventually decomposes, but this is just not right on many levels. Additionally, I am against shellfish gathering on the beach at Guillemot Cove. We don't want visitors beaching boats with motors there, yet it is impractical to carry buckets, shovels etc. down to the beach from the parking area, so people will come by boat. This will be basically unmonitored, as Fish and Wildlife are rarely around except during shrimping season. Unfortunately we have a vandalism problem at Guillemot Cove. The Beach House needs to be torn down and hauled away. Several times it has been broken into since we originally boarded up the windows and doors. There is no way to protect it. **-Beverly Howald 10/11/17**

*Safe and sanitary park environments is a prime concern for our staff when developing plans for our parks. Adding comfort stations (restrooms) to our developed areas as funds are available to accommodate the patronage of visitors is a priority. Installing and servicing vault toilets at trailheads or remote park locations has not been affordable, to date. This is an ongoing challenge and issue that Parks will continue to seek a solution.*

*Parks works with WDFW to monitor the recreational harvest use on the beach and survey the shellfish population and overall health of the tidal shores.*

*The "Beach House" has been a liability, and is scheduled to be removed.*

**Please disallow public shellfish harvesting at Guillemot Cove. -Unknown 10/26/17**

*In response to requests by the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Kitsap County entered into an agreement with that agency and Tribes to best managed recreational harvest of shellfish on County tidelands at*

*Guillemot Cove, Anderson Hill and Port Gamble Forest Heritage parks. It was determined in the best interest of protecting and enhancing the shellfish resource that the County agreed to public harvest. The Tribes, by Treaty, have access to half of the available shellfish. They, along with WDFW monitor the population, health, and recreation harvest levels every year. We have entrusted the care and stewardship of this renewable resource to those experts to manage healthy populations. This public management can serve to create a sustainable harvest and an opportunity for inclusive use of public tidelands. Preservation of a resource does not necessarily result from "hands-off" management. As per our interagency agreement, the County requires reporting and monitoring of the harvest areas on an annual basis. From that reporting we will continue to assess the health of the shellfish population and determine its viability as a recreational resource. In addition to the annual shellfish report the county will also request that WDFW assess the condition of the shellfish fishery, including damage to the flats, after the 2018 season.*

**Regarding the deferred maintenance of the Beach House at Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve. Kitsap County rebuilt both chimneys of the Beach House, which didn't need rebuilding. The roof flashing was always the problem with rain leaking inside not the chimneys. Kitsap County installed a new concrete foundation under two sides of the cabin. Kitsap County installed a new septic system which has never been used. Typical of any local government. They are given a great asset that many groups could have used, scouts, kayakers, etc. How sad to let the house just rot and then leave it in its present condition. I am surprised no one has gotten injured and sued them, but then they would find the money to defend themselves and/ or settle. It's absolutely pathetic how these government agencies squander money and misplace their priorities. I have seen it for years and it's always the same story repeated over and over again, very sad.**

**-Unknown 10/11/17**

*The "Beach House" is located in a rather remote part of this park by trail. This structure is scheduled to be removed.*

**Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve needs a porta-potty badly. Everyone entering the property has a long walk to the beach and back to the parking lot, there is no porta-potty, so there are used bunches of toilet paper all over the place when people discover there is no other place to use.**

**-Unknown 10/26/17**

*Parks has several remote acreages which deserve toilets to control sanitation and provide for the enjoyment of our park visitors. To date, funds have not been available to install or maintain permanent restrooms or portable toilets at most areas. Providing this necessary service for our preserves and heritage parks will continue to be a high priority, and the Parks Department will continue to seek funding sources and development solutions.*

**I am not a resident. I own a vacation cabin on the water between Hood Point and Guillemot Cove. Thus, I pay property taxes to Kitsap County. The only Kitsap County Park I use is Guillemot Cove. Please do not allow shellfish gathering at Guillemot. It is a nature reserve. Birds and wildlife depend on the shellfish. Please do a better job of monitoring non-permitted activity at this reserve. How about housing a dedicated park ranger at the main house on the reserve property? It's unrealistic for the sheriff to patrol this park. Unleashed dogs are a huge concern. Also, the "beach cabin" attracts vandals and is a hazard. Last time I visited the reserve (August) someone had knocked a hole in the cabin's exterior wall. And a Porta Potti must be installed. I have observed, several times, vans from a preschool day care center visit the park. No Porta Potti is an unhygienic situation. - Betsy Lewis 10/27/17**

*Shellfish population for recreational harvesting are well-regulated and managed by the WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). The County has entered into a resource management agreement with this agency and Tribes to develop best management practices, survey and monitor the public harvests, and continue to support a healthy shellfish resource, which had gone without professional stewardship for years. The County receives regular reports on the health and vitality of that resource and any impacts from the recreational harvest. WDFW and Parks have the authority, responsibility, and expertise to modify, restrict or even close recreational shellfish seasons, if deemed damaging to that ecosystem or the shellfish population.*

*Signage of shoreline and tidal ownership is challenging in dynamic environments with tides, erosion and storm impacts. Parks will work to inform and educate the public as to the regulations on park lands, responsible use of these tidelands and shellfish, and respect for private property and private shellfish areas.*

*Parks has several remote acreages which deserve toilets to control sanitation and provide for the enjoyment of our park visitors. To date, funds have not been available to install or maintain permanent restrooms or portable toilets at most areas. Providing this necessary service for our preserves and heritage parks will continue to be a high priority, and the Parks Department will continue to seek funding sources and development solutions.*

**Wildcat Lake Park needs to fix the fishing area and put the original rail fence back along the shore.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Park staff is working to protect that shoreline and will continue to work with permitting agencies.*

**Need trees for Silverdale Skate Park.**

**-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*This concern addresses both beauty and shade considerations for the Skate Park. Park staff will need to examine the entire park to determine planting upgrades.*

**First of all.... thank you for the opportunity to have community input. We live in Port Orchard on Wicks Lake Rd SW. There are some much needed facilities in this area. We are all willing to help make this happen by volunteering and creating an organization, but will need help with this. I am only one... but I'm sure that there are other that feel we need: 1. A YMCA (or other similar facility) here in Port Orchard for our kids. With after school activities and fitness facilities (pool, indoor jogging, exercise equipment, team sport organization, etc.) 2. A park that has an off and on leash park area. Trails (walking / hiking / biking), horse facilities, bathrooms, tables, cookout facilities, etc. 3. Wicks Lake improvements, maintenance challenges, public facilities/park area, etc. I know this is a brief high level overview, but I look forward to the meeting on Oct 10th!**

**-Unknown 9/28/17**

*The County is currently researching the feasibility of locating a community based organization and facility. Parks will continue to assess suitable properties for trail, picnic facilities and dog walking area. Currently we are working to fulfill the South Kitsap Regional Park Master Plan which will accommodate much of those recreational needs. As funds are available we will continue to improve and enhance our current developed park properties and look to locate these types of mixed recreational facilities on our undeveloped parklands.*

**Kaiser Medical has interest in having safe places for kids to walk and play. Interested in supported the development of a YMCA facility at South Kitsap Regional Park. It is a central location with access to residential and business center. A "Y" can serve for employee health and fitness needs in the area. YMCA has done a feasibility study for Port Orchard and agrees that we have a need and those surveyed want YMCA there. There is county property at Jackson and Lund, with enough space to build it. -Dr. Derek Costa 10/10/17**

*Kitsap County and the Parks Department staff have been researching the potential of such a facility in South Kitsap.*

**At South Kitsap Regional Park: Why are downed limbs and debris from the forest thinning operation not cleaned up? -Unknown 10/10/17**

*The downed limbs and tree debris increase habitat for bugs, birds and small mammals, while slowly adding to the structure of the forest understory, soil moisture retention, and future soil development. As ferns, flowers, shrubs and new tree saplings emerge, this "forest litter" will be less noticeable, blending into the landscape. The existing main trail systems are intended to be maintained and clear of debris.*

**At South Kitsap Regional Park, the mess from the logging needs to be cleaned up. Was this the logging company's responsibility?**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Since the removal of diseased trees at South Kitsap Regional Park, limbs, stumps and log segments have been left to augment the development of a more diverse forest, with downed woody debris, soil development, habitat diversity, and with natural reseeding and replanting will provides a more natural selection of forest species. Major trail routes have been cleared of the debris. There have been many spur trails constructed by individuals, throughout the park, without a coordinated plan. Parks will begin a trail planning exercise to better the trail system in the park, inviting trail users and community members to assist with the process.*

Why is so little attention being paid to the areas that are west of SR16 and south of SR3? Only 3 park properties of which only one has any improvements (Horseshoe Lake) and two which have unlimited potential to supply recreational areas for the public? This area's population is growing and the need for improvements in public recreation is at high levels. Trails, fresh water access for recreation, meeting space for public use, etc. should be targeted for this area and the two so far undeveloped properties (Wicks Lake & Coulter Creek at total of 1357 acres) Why does Kitsap own two golf courses? Developers, investors, school districts or others could better put to use the property. The County Commissioners need to take a hard look at those two properties and start the process to remove them from the Parks Department. With over 10,000 acres under Parks Department expected in 2018, it is time to stop acquiring more land and to develop recreational activity areas for the public. There are other organizations that buy and preserve land, the Parks Department should not make that their priority. From the Parks Mission: "We are committed to providing quality-of-life enhancing opportunities through the management of natural areas and stewardship, and offering an outstanding service-oriented environment." I do not see where the priority is to buy property and let it sit for decades. Work with the public and open up recreational activities in areas of Kitsap that have been ignored for decades. -Roger Gay 10/12/17

*The 2018 Parks and Open Space Plan will look at regional interests and demands for park facility improvements and new facilities which have not been met especially in areas of population growth. Available funding sources will dictate how soon the County can respond to identified recreation needs. The potential uses of Coulter Creek will be discussed and examined by the community, the first-half of 2018.*

Good Luck with getting any information across to the commissioner and having her do anything about it. We lost our favorite boat launch down by the Harper pier. They wanted to open up the estuary for fish that never went up there. She asked what about the present situation was the thing the residents liked, we said the boat launch . . . they spent over a year with local meetings and promised they'd keep the launch. They spend all the money they had on studies removed the launch and opened up a freshwater marsh that was home to lots of ducks. They never did open up the estuary. What we got was no boat launch and a stinky low tide as the marsh drains.

-Bruce H. 10/2/17

*With the recent restoration of the saltwater estuary at Harper, the County and WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife are working to restore habitat and stream flow suitable for the fishery. A vehicle trail boat launch is not compatible with that kind of impact to the shoreline. However, the County is still pursuing providing suitable hand-launch boat access.*

**Add native western pond turtles to Clear Creek area. -Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*Most habitat properties around Clear Creek are either private property, owned by the Great Peninsula Conservancy (GPC), or under jurisdiction of the County Public Works Department. Parks coordinates efforts with GPC and Public Works on restoration projects in natural areas. Sometimes adding a new species to an existing environment can cause an imbalance. This is a new request and will be vetted through the County's natural resource staff.*

Thank you for the great plan development. Lot of thought and work in this draft. I have two subjects I would like to see added to the PROS; that is wetlands preservation and aquifer recharge. AS you have heard myself and Frank Strickland say many times how important for wildlife and for aquifer recharge wetlands are to the Kitsap. There are no reservoirs, mountains with snow pack, large rivers, large lakes that we can draw from for our water needs on the Peninsula. We get all our water from the aquifer (wells). That water comes from our rain and that rain does not have far to go before it ends up in the Puget Sound and useless to us here on the Kitsap for our private and public water needs. We also have the many glaciation periods to thank for our abundant and deep clay layers that make water percolation into our buried gravel bars, which make up our deep aquifer, to take so long to recharge. Imagine trying to soak through layers of cardboard instead of layers of cotton fabric. One is very porous and the other very water resistant. Wetlands hold and slow the water run off like no other, allowing the water to slowly percolate down into the clay soils to those gravel bars that we drill down into to get our water here. Wetlands are also a prime habitat for birds, fish, insects, amphibians and mammals. WE are using many resources to bring back our salmon runs; seeing as we only have streams for the salmon to go up and spawn in our small lakes and wetlands, we need all the surface water retention we can get to help this recovery effort here on the Kitsap. We are surrounded by 280 miles of shoreline and that's shorelines salt water. That is a

lot of opportunity for our streams to support salmon restoration here in the Puget Sound, if we preserve and enhance the opportunities. Because of these reasons Parks should look for and buy more wetlands for preservation and educational opportunities. Education? You won't know how important something is unless you can see it up close and learn first-hand how it works. Why do we want to preserve and retain open spaces and forests so much? One big reason, again, is aquifer recharge. We need to slow that rain water down for it to percolate into our aquifer and the best surface do that with is a surface of soil, not hard surfaces like cement, buildings and asphalt. We need development, there is no question, but we need to be very cognoscente of our needs for water for that development here on the Kitsap and our unique environment problems with getting that water because of what glaciation left us with, dense clay soils. In closing, please add wetlands and aquifer recharge to the Kitsap PROS. -John Willett 10/24/17

*An important aspect of Parklands is the opportunity to protect significant wetlands and preserve aquifer recharge areas. Parks along with our natural resource professionals at the County will work to further identify these essential resources and work to ensure the long-term sustainability of this resource.*

**You already have enough parks!! Just keep up the ones you have. If you add any it should be with Puget Sound access.**

**-Unknown 10/5/17**

*As the County grows, more diverse park properties may be required to meet public needs and demands. Access to the Puget Sound waterways is a high priority for the County.*

**With over 10,000 acres under Parks Department expected in 2018, it is time to stop acquiring more land and to develop recreational activity areas for the public. There are other organizations that buy and preserve land, the Parks Department should not make that their priority. From the Parks Mission: "We are committed to providing quality-of-life enhancing opportunities through the management of natural areas and stewardship, and offering an outstanding service-oriented environment." I do not see where the priority is to buy property and let it sit for decades. Work with the public and open up recreational activities in areas of Kitsap that have been ignored for decades. -Unknown**

*Property acquisitions for Kitsap County Parks have been the result of a variety of public interests and through a range of public and private funds. The County has received acquisitions to support such future developments as; the Sound to Olympics Regional Trail System and the expansion of the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park for trails and conservation interests. Funds to purchase new park properties have come from a variety of sources including; State Legislature appropriations to transfer State managed timbered Trust Lands to the County; State funded grants for trails and conservation; and monies from large-scale private fundraising, based on regional park initiatives. These properties serve a wide variety of County interests including: conservation and open space lands for ecosystem diversity and wildlife habitat; watersheds for aquifer and water recharge areas; future trail systems; additions to Heritage Park boundaries to further park goals (recreation and conservation); scenic vistas and historical sites; and properties on-hold for future park and recreation needs, as the County develops.*

- *Keeping an eye on critical and useful acquisitions is important to the future of parks and recreation, having been a hallmark to meet the needs of a growing community with increasing needs and demands.*
- *An important element of the 2018 Parks and Open Space Plan is to help set priorities for selection of future requests/demands for additional properties. The County also emphasizes the need to effectively steward undeveloped park resources, and plan for their recreational use.*

**Keep the parks clean with more garbage cans.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Safety and cleanliness are a prime concern for park staff and volunteer stewards. The anticipated outcome of increased "positive" uses in parks is the reduction of those negatives uses.*

**As population growth accelerates, Park land become more precious for Wildlife and People.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Part of the Parks and Open Space Plan is to assess the need for wildlife areas, greenway corridors, and a variety of natural environment park areas.*

**Need more outdoor opportunities for people with handicaps and physical limitations...young and old. -Unknown**  
*Work will continue on extending accessible trail systems.*

**No access to lakes for wheelchair users. Need the equivalent of a concrete ramp.**

**– Doug Wood, Bremerton ADA Committee member. County Fair August 23-27**

*A prime concern for park planning is to provide access throughout the system. Parks will continue to identify opportunities for nature trails suitable for wheel chair accessibility.*

**The park at Lions Field needs more activities. -County Fair August 23-27**

*Comments to be forwarded to the Bremerton Parks & Recreation Department*

**Need a spray park (urban water fountain) for kids to walk in. How do you get people to pick up their trash? Need young people to help in parks. -County Fair August 23-27**

*Spray parks are indeed an asset for some community parks, especially in areas of high population centers and paved urban landscapes. Spray parks are an expensive investment, need frequent staff attendance to maintain sanitation, and they use much water or a high cost to recycle/reuse the water. These are some limitations to this investment; however attractive this facility is to kids. The ability to acquire resources necessary to construct and maintain such a facility is not in the immediate future.*

**Want more nature trails with educational signage. – Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

**Need more trails connecting parks and residential areas. – Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*There is a growing interest in nature trails and educational signage in our parks. As funds become available, the Parks will work to increase these trail opportunities and interpretive/educational signage to better introduce our park resources, history and areas of interest.*

**Want more dog trails in Port Orchard area. – Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

**More dog off-leash parks. – Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

**Need Dog Park in Harper area. – Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

**Need a Dog Park at South Kitsap Regional Park. – Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*There are currently 3 dog parks in managed by KC Parks one in the Silverdale, Port Orchard and Bandix areas. Existing dog parks have been established where county property fits the need for access, parking, fencing and where the public has come forward to form a volunteer Stewardship group to help develop and maintain the facility. Parks department does not currently have the staff capacity to oversee additional dog park facilities.*

**Need better trail and park maps. -Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

**Need toilets at Heritage Parks.-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*Heritage Parks for the most part are maintained by volunteers Stewardship groups. These facilities continue to be a priority for Parks capital budget and operating expenses. The installation of comfort stations (restrooms) at Heritage Parks will require a public commitment to construct and maintain proposed facilities.*

**Make new parks from abandoned commercial buildings, such as those off of Hwy 303.**

**-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*Making use of abandoned commercial areas and buildings is often brought to our attention for park development. Any new acquisitions go through a Needs Assessment to determine if appropriate for park use. Park development in these areas would require substantial County funds for land/building acquisition, design, permits, construction, demolition and future maintenance staffing. Existing developed properties are typically more expensive to develop than undeveloped, barren land, however the observation of utilizing these “open spaces” is worth considering.*

**Need shore boat launch area replaced at Harper estuary. -Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*The ecological restoration at Harper estuary has precluded vehicle/trailer launching onto the shorelines. Hand-launch of recreational boats is permitted.*

**Replace yellow slide at Buck Lake Park. -Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*It is common to remove playgrounds that are deemed a safety or liability issue. Buck Lake Playground equipment is a priority for replacement, and is awaiting available funding.*

**Open Calvinwood as a County Park. -Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*Calvinwood is a County-owned property with past church camp facilities. It is currently leased to Washington State Parks to accommodate community retreat facility. State Parks upgraded much of the buildings and infrastructure, but no action has been taken to further public use. Calvinwood is adjacent to the undeveloped Coulter Creek Heritage Park and Square Lake State Park. There is some interest in linking these properties together. Parks is currently studying the potential of this combination of parklands.*

**Need Full-Access Playgrounds. -Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*Parks is always looking for opportunities to make our playground and play areas more accessible to all ages and abilities. As funds become available, Parks will continue to enhance these facilities.*

**Emphasize park land acquisitions, especially wetlands. -North District Open House October 17**

*Parks acquires land as needed for structured recreation play and natural resource protection. The County will continue to assess and work to protect essential wetland resources. Acquisition of these resource-valued lands is within the County's goals and purview.*

**Make walkable communities, walk to work, park spaces close to business/residences.**

**-North District Open House October 17**

*The 2016 County Comp Plan reflects this concern and public interest. Kitsap Cities of Bainbridge Island, Bremerton, Port Orchard and Poulsbo are responsible for park development within their incorporated areas. Kitsap County tends to be more rural, less urban, hence most park development is outside urban areas. As the County develops parklands, there is consideration for pathway connections to nearby businesses and residential communities.*

**In favor of beavers creating habitat on our park creeks and beaver relocation program.**

**-North District Open House October 17**

*Where there are streams suitable for beaver populations and minimal potential risk to adjoining private property, relocating beavers to these park habitats would be considered in our park management plans.*

## Usage

**The 2012 report suggests there is an absence of public swimming pools in our area. Five years later, that still seems to be the case. We do not happen to live in a neighborhood with an HOA funded outdoor pool but even those are seasonal in nature. Is there any chance of an indoor swimming facility like the Snohomish Aquatic Center or Lynnwood Recreation Center coming to North Kitsap? I have completed the 2018 online survey but besides providing fill-in responses I didn't feel that it tried to tease out this subject. -Phillip G. 9/28/17**

*County Parks' primary role is to provide outdoor park facilities and areas for various opportunities. Kitsap County will continue to work with community organizations in supporting regional opportunities. We understand that public swimming is available at the North Kitsap High School.*

**I urge the County Parks Department to adopt a policy allowing pedal assist bicycles in all county park trails normally used by other bicyclists. There is adequate research (IMBA, 2015) that the trail impact of these bikes is negligible in a trial including bikes, pedal assisted bikes and motorbikes. Nationwide, parks are working to understand and incorporate policies addressing the use of pedal assist electric bikes. Kitsap parks should adopt a policy which allows greater accessibility for Kitsap residents using bikes with such electric pedal assists. The values expressed by this policy are: inclusion, accessibility, and research based decisions. This policy will be even more important as the Sound to Olympics Trail route is confirmed through NK Heritage and PG Heritage Park. This is a shared use path for all ages and abilities. -Judy Willott 9/26/17**

*Currently Kitsap County does not allow any motorized vehicles on our trails. As new forms of recreational-assist inventions become available, the County will research and consider the resource and wildlife impacts, user conflicts, and potential advantages of each new proposed park use.*

**Will the Fair have an astronomy exhibit? Where are the amateur radio people?**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Special interest organizations may request exhibit space at the Fair & Stampede. Applications and additional information are available on the Parks Department website [www.kitsapgov.com/parks](http://www.kitsapgov.com/parks)*

**No lockable bike racks at the Fairgrounds.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Thank you for the observation! We will ensure that the equipment is located near the main gate.*

**At the Fairgrounds: Can the County bring back large music concerts and large-scale outdoor festivals? Would the County be interested if an event promoter organized and the County hosted the event? What is the cost of security for such an event? -County Fair August 23-27**

*Fairgrounds facilities are available to event organizers with various rental options.*

**West Sound Disc Golf is very interested in adding a Disc Golf course at South Kitsap Regional Park.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Park staff will research this potential, as it is currently not part of the Park Master Plan. However, there may be an opportunity for a facility at Coulter Creek Heritage Park. Land use classifications, at Coulter Creek, is scheduled for the first half of 2018.*

**Disc Golf has 4 courses in the County and is a fast growing sport that “no one has heard of “. Looking for more space and opportunities for the 190 Disc Golf local organization members. Fairgrounds course could add a set of T pads for beginners, and have a mix of technical challenges with a variety of gold-hole lengths. Could put a 30-50 acre course at the Coulter Creek forest area. Need 10-15 car parking, sanicans, signage, etc. Course can be built by volunteers. -North District Open House October 17**

*Park staff are researching areas in our undeveloped parks for disc-golf facilities.*

**At South Kitsap Regional Park: Will the user-built BMX track in the forest be restored with jumps?**

*Parks will be reconsidering the use of the forested part of the park for any additional trail development, including a BMX bike track area. This trail facility is included in the parks Master Plan. As the park completes an overall trail plan, this past user-built facility will be re-evaluated.*

**Can horses use the trails at South Kitsap Regional Park? -County Fair August 23-27**

*Currently South Kitsap Regional Park does not support equine activity. We do however suggest using nearby Banner Forrest Heritage Park.*

**Interest in locating park property that can be used for 4x4 off road vehicle recreation. Ideally want 100 acres with obstacles, and well maintained and controlled area. Open to the idea of a fee-based 4x4 recreation area. - Unknown 10/10/17**

*To-date Kitsap County Parks does not allow motorized recreational vehicles on county parkland. WA Department of Natural Resources offers this recreational opportunity in selected areas around the state.*

**Can park-owned land be leased to local farmers? -Unknown 10/10/17**

*Agricultural use of parklands is not allowed under current policy. Operation of a farm-lease may be a future consideration for historical farmland preserves.*

**Keep Bikes on special trails separate from Hikers. -County Fair August 23-27**

*Many park trails are “shared-use” trails available for hikers, dog walkers, bikers and equestrians. It is recognized, as our park trails become more popular for one type of trail use, such as bikes, there may be a need to look at*

separation of trails to preserve trail experiences for other trail users. This can be accomplished by design and trail location in the future. As formal trail plans are developed, the issues of trail design standards for specific users may lead to the separation of trails to achieve satisfactory experiences.

**Need more tennis courts and keep them clean. -County Fair August 23-27**

County Parks is currently not pursuing the development of tennis courts, but courts are noted in the South Kitsap Regional Park Master Plan. The County recently partnered with the Central Kitsap School District to address the renovation and on-going maintenance of the Fairgrounds/Event Center courts. Similar agreements may be available through coordinated efforts with local park districts, school districts, and municipalities.

**Dogs! Loose dogs creates dog waste in parks. -County Fair August 23-27**

Managing dog waste in the parks is the responsibility of dog walkers, and dogs off-leash are often the most difficult for dog owners to supervise. Dogs off-leash are only allowed in specific off-leash dog park. Park staff and volunteers are challenged with patrolling and controlling this misuse of park environments and the park user's experience.

**Need more play fields with lights. Want areas for "ultimate Frisbee" play.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

Artificial turf athletic fields, included in Department Capital Plans, all include the installation of lights to facilitate longer seasonal uses.

**How to manage dog crap?**

**– Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

Dog feces is a constant concern and problem on our park fields and trails. Signs posted alerting dog walkers to their responsibility has not been sufficient. Refuse bags are provided at most parks, but it will take more public peer pressure to enforce the clean-up.

**Need for overnight water trail camping sites at current water trail sites.**

**-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

**Want county-run RV camping: -Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

Current County policy does not allow overnight camping in County Parks with the exception of Vendors at the Fairgrounds during County Fair. Overnight camping at County Parks would require a significant increase in Parks long-term commitment to new site developments, restroom facilities, on-site management, safety, patrol and risks.

**Lacrosse needs more turf fields.**

**-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

There appears to be a growing interest in Lacrosse in the County. Park will look for opportunities in our developed athletic field complexes to accommodate this sport. Currently we would suggest working with parks staff to modify soccer fields to accommodate your need for rental use.

## Management

**We need to get a new long term action plan for Norwegian Point Park. We have been told that a fishing pier is a priority and funds will be available through a state grant and that it is in the process. Is this true? We have volunteers ready to assist in the planning process and the community is waiting for action and to provide input.**

**When can we get started with the plan? -Fred Nelson 10/12/17**

Funding for the community meetings planning and permits were approved in the Parks Department 2018 Capital Budget request (\$99,000).

**Anderson land preserve needs better signage. I live on Anderson landing road and many people drive the private drive looking for the park. Having a sign directing traffic to the park would be helpful for the community.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

Currently there are two directional signs on Anderson Hill Road as well as signage at the park entrance. Please contact Parks Department if this is not what you had in mind.

**I'm writing in support for the Illahee Preserve Timber's Edge project. The Preserve is a gem in our county, with immense value for residents and for our shoreline ecosystems. We need help in expanding the Preserve properties and conserving more valuable habitat. Please include the Timbers Edge project in the budget (which can be funded by a trade of excess county property and/or conservation futures funds) and we can work with any differences as there are supporters who have previously helped. The long-term vision for the Preserve is for it to become a "Forested Central Park" which will require more acquisitions noted on the 2018 map. Some of the prime properties on the map are not for sale at this time, but others have landowner agreements and will be considered for a grant in 2018. -Jill Hamilton 10/29/17**

*Staff and grant consultant are in the process of working with Illahee Stewards in applying for State acquisition grants. During the last RCO grant cycle, the acquisition project ranked #11 in the State (unfortunately, the top 10 received funding). The County appreciates the community's support and fundraising efforts, and we hope for better success in the 2018 grant cycle.*

**We support the expansion of the Illahee preserve and very much encourage the purchase of the Avery Homestead. We walk the preserve at least three times per week. This crown jewel in Kitsap needs to be preserved, protected and expanded at every opportunity. Future generations will thank the current county leaders and locals who embraced this unique opportunity.**

**On a personal note we have previously and in the future, will financially support this wonderful open space. This is one of many reasons Kitsap is the unique and beautiful place we all call home.**

**-Cecilia/Jim Adrian 11/5/17**

*Staff and grant consultant are in the process of working with Illahee Stewards in applying for State acquisition grants. During the last RCO grant cycle, the acquisition project ranked #11 in the State (unfortunately, the top 10 received funding). The County appreciates the community's support and fundraising efforts, and hope for better success in the 2018 grant cycle.*

**I would like to register support for the Illahee Preserve's 2018 plans as shown on the back of the handout showing volunteer hours. -Unknown 10/24/17**

*Your comment will be relayed to the Illahee Stewardship Group.*

**We support the Illahee Forest Preserve. Please support funding and grants.**

**-Sandra and George Walz Sr. 10/26/17**

*Staff and grant consultant are in the process of working with Illahee Stewards in applying for State acquisition grants. During the last RCO grant cycle, the acquisition project ranked #11 in the State (unfortunately, the top 10 received funding). The County appreciates the community's support and fundraising efforts, and we hope for better success in the 2018 grant cycle.*

**Kitsap Fair needs its own website.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*The Kitsap County Fair & Stampede is an activity of the Parks Department. The new County website may make it easier to find Fair & Stampede information on the Department site with additional improved mobile access.*

**It has taken many years to build public awareness that shellfish harvesting is or was prohibited at Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve. I've walked out 1,000 feet during extreme low tides to stop many would be harvesters. Occasionally they plead ignorance and say "There's no signs posted". I tell them they need to get binoculars and read the large white sign near the Beach House. From 1,000 plus feet away the white sign isn't readable with the naked eye. Most harvesters recognize that I'm telling the truth and stop. Sometimes they keep digging, sometimes they get belligerent, and some threaten me. I'm not afraid of them, although it's a stressful interaction that all neighbors have performed over the years. There have never been problems with the tribes or commercial harvesters. The commercial guys are hardworking people, and respectful of the environment, after all their livelihood depends on it. Problems would be quite minimal if the tidelands were ONLY harvested by contract with the tribes and commercial harvesters...The harvest revenue from the commercial side would go to Kitsap County. You're always begging for money! Here's your chance!!! Another concern is that WDFW rules**

have long stipulated that the public leave their empty oyster shells on the beach... I couldn't easily find that regulation on the WDFW website, so the public may likely be unaware about it as well...And who's going to enforce leaving the empty shells on the beach? The honor system, forget it... Kitsap County Park rules are violated almost every day at the Nature Reserve. Evidence can be seen by the dog poop, beer cans, toilet paper, and other items currently on the Nature Reserve. For my property, I hire Sunset Beach Oyster Company to harvest my tidelands and they always return with oyster shells after each harvest to start the growing cycle again. Does anyone believe the public will shuck oysters on site, pack them up, then transport the raw contents, while simultaneously returning the empty shells onto the tidelands? Will the public trudge, across the muddy tide flats to distribute their empty shells in the area where they initially harvested them or dump the shells upland (if at all)... What happens if a harvester cuts themselves badly during shucking? OK call 911, and pay Kitsap County EMS to deal with it, at great expense. This is a remote location with zero facilities to aid people. By doing further research I finally found the oyster shell regulation:

[http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/shellfish/oysters/shuck\\_on\\_beach.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/shellfish/oysters/shuck_on_beach.html). "Shucking oysters and leaving the shells on the public tidelands where they are harvested from is required for the conservation-based reasons". If the public begins harvesting oysters and shucking them, they may also decide to cook their bounty. And you need a fire to do that....So if you think some bad actors will refrain from starting a fire, think again. In a remote Nature Reserve, flagrant disregard for "No fires allowed" will happen and already has several times in the recent past. The ramifications of public shellfish harvesting at Guillemot Cove are contrary to the intrinsic reason which Nature Reserves are established. This isn't some grand experiment to see if social engineering will induce the public to act gently upon the land and beaches. There's zero oversight at the Nature Reserve. Using airplanes, drones, or satellite over flights is eye-in-the-sky, big brother thinking. That approach will be too late and too little. By opening up public shellfish harvesting on the Reserve tidelands, it immediately removes the low impact use by the public necessary for marine life preservation and recovery. It will be open season on all marine life species living on those tidelands, regardless of the harvesting rules. The nearly extinct sand dollar colony will certainly disappear. Multiple species of crabs, moon snails, clams, geoducks, eel grass, seaweeds and other sea creatures will be fair game. Once the public is allowed to bring buckets and shovels, that's the end of the tidelands. In the future where will children get real life experiences with marine life? At the aquarium? This is a Nature Reserve! These tidelands were to be preserved. Fifty years ago, as a young child I played on those tidelands. Marine life was extremely plentiful at that time and now it's less so... And if Kitsap County keeps these tidelands open to public harvest it will be stripped. Too many buckets, too many souvenirs, too many greedy filches, and it will happen faster than you think. Another consideration is that the tenants of the Nature Reserve rental house aren't caretakers. Despite two different Kitsap county deputies (each living) in the Reserve's rental house, the neighbors and volunteers remained the primary caretakers of the Reserve. The deputies when off work, were enjoying their free time, and disinterested in being a steward. Previously Kitsap County had caretakers who lived in the on-site-house in exchange for free rent...That was a mutually beneficial partnership which protected the Nature Reserve. Regarding shellfish access, the worst shellfish offenders have previously arrived by boat. People who walk to the beach usually have proven to be cooperative and understanding. That will change once the public realizes it is open season for shellfish harvesting. And what defines shellfish harvesting? Many people will remove much more than the oysters and/or geoducks. Opening the Reserve tidelands to public harvesting is undoing years of protection by the volunteers and neighbors whose dedicated time and efforts have made Guillemot Cove a nearly pristine landscape and living laboratory. The was intentional!~!!!. Rescind the public shellfish harvesting on this beach and Nature Reserve. Most Puget Sound, Hood Canal, Grays Harbor, and Willapa Bay beaches are privately owned. SHELLFISH and SEAWEED may not be taken from private beaches without the owner's or lessee's permission. Private tideland owners and lessees, and members of their immediate family (grandparents, parents, spouse, siblings, children, and grandchildren) are exempt from personal use daily limits when taking CLAMS, OYSTERS, and MUSSELS harvested for their own personal use from their own tidelands. Daily limits apply for all other shellfish, all other people, and all other beaches. Everyone harvesting shellfish in excess of the daily limit from private beaches for presumed commercial purposes needs a shellfish certification from the Department of Health (see RCW 69.30.010(8)). The way it was intended. Rescind the public shellfish harvesting on this beach and Nature Reserve.

-John Frink 10/12/17

*Shellfish population for recreational harvesting are well-regulated and managed by the WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). The County has entered into a resource management agreement with this agency and*

*local Tribes to develop best management practices, survey and monitor the public harvests, and continue to support a healthy shellfish resource, which had gone without professional stewardship for years. The County receives regular report on the health and vitality of that resource and any impacts from the recreational harvest. WDFW and Parks have the authority, responsibility, and expertise to modify, restrict or even close recreational shellfish seasons, if deemed damaging to that ecosystem or the shellfish population.*

*Signage of shoreline and tidal ownership is challenging in dynamic environments with tides, erosion and storm impacts. Parks will work to inform and educate the public as to the regulations on park lands, responsible use of these tidelands and shellfish, and respect for private property and private shellfish areas.*

*Parks shares the concern about the impact created by those visitors which ignore or abuse shellfish harvesting rules and regulations. WDFW will be requested to assess the condition of the shellfish fishery, including damage to the flats, after the 2018 season.*

**Here's my on-site observations of last summer's public shellfish harvesting at Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve. During the first low tides in June we had an aluminum skiff arrive with six people on board. They beached their boat, unloaded their buckets and shovels, then proceeded to remove as many geoducks as humanly possible. They worked quickly and several additional people walked in from the parking lot to help. Once the harvest was finished, they loaded up their boat and headed north. I thought it was odd that only two people were in the departing boat. Then I noticed the reason. As the aluminum skiff heading out into Hood Canal it was so heavily loaded that the gunwales were nearly touching the water's surface. Because the boat was so overloaded the remaining 10 or so diggers left the beach by walking to the parking lot. Thanks to this well-orchestrated harvest, I'm certain that a minimum of 30-50 geoducks or horse clams were removed. And this was only one of many boats that arrived last summer. The neighbors kept track and I can accurately calculate that the public removed the same amount of geoducks that ALL my neighbors, friends and family would ever harvest over a 25 year time span. So good on you Kitsap County. You're well ahead of schedule with your destruction of Guillemot Cove's tidelands and its vibrant marine life. Kitsap County Parks unilaterally opened up this Nature Reserve without public process. Rather than reaching out to the neighbors, the volunteers, and other stakeholders, Kitsap County covertly opened up the tidelands and in a way that created "frenemies" So don't bother me with your excuses, you're blatantly violating the Operational Polices of this Nature Reserve. For the short term gains of a few fortunate boat owners, you think it's OK to deny future generations the right to explore and enjoy a nearly pristine marine area. Yes marine life can regenerate, however mass harvesting of tidelands that were intended to be preserved in a sustainable manner is the exact opposite of what Kitsap Parks is doing.**

**-John Frink 10/30/17**

*Thank you for your comment. Parks shares the concern about the impact created by those visitors which ignore or abuse shellfish harvesting rules and regulations. WDFW will be requested to assess the condition of the shellfish fishery, including damage to the flats, after the 2018 season.*

**I read your 15 question Survey monkey questionnaire and found it to be limiting. So I clicked on the Kitsap Parks Comment Form and it has a narrow window (six sentences tall) to enter comments.**

**1. Could you please tell me which Parks employee or employees are archiving and responding to the public comments about the Parks PROS plan? Perhaps an email is better than your Comment Form?**

**After sending a comment your web page says "Thank you for submitting your comment(s)" There is no traceable way that I can be assured that my comment has actually been read and/or received.**

**And I have zero record of what I sent, unless I keep a draft copy of my comment. And yes I did do that.**

**2. One last request please. What is the final day to submit comments regarding the Kitsap Parks PROS plan? -**

**John Frink**

*The Parks Director, Assistant Director, and Parks Planner are reviewing and responding to all comments. Comments are being shared with the Parks Advisory Board, leading to publication by Friday, November 17. All comments and responses will be posted*

*The draft plan will be available by December 7. Comments will be accepted through December 31. A final draft will be available for review mid-January. A Public Hearing in February 2018 will provide an additional opportunity for review and comment.*

*Please also reference email sent directly on October23, 2017.*

**We watched the geoduck harvest done at Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve during the lowest tides last summer. Several boats came in, each with multiple people, with digging tubes, and they successfully each dug many geoducks each day. There aren't that many to be harvested, there was no one checking how many they took, soon there won't be any left. There is also NO property line marker on the tidelands, so the public wander off the property and try digging on our private tidelands, and we have to go out and ask them to move back onto the property. Since we pay significant taxes for the rights to our tidelands, this is frustrating and a major concern to all of our family who share our property. The intention of the original owners who donated the property for the future of the property was for the public to have beach access to enjoy the beach and the woods, NOT to take shellfish. Those who took it on themselves to change this and open the beach were out of line. This needs to be changed ASAP. -Patricia Kribbs 10/26/17**

*Recreational Shellfish Harvesting on County-owned tidelands is regulated and monitored by WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), in conjunction with the Tribes. It is in the best interest of this public resource to have their best management practices applied and enforced. Often best management will include managed harvest of the shellfish, as overpopulations can damage that resource. We will pass on you concerns about resource management on public tidelands to WDFW and request a report on the health and recreational use of those resources, since they became open for recreational harvesting. Often the recreational public is not aware of the park boundaries. Parks will begin posting signage and notification from the waterside and upland access to the park.*

**Stavis Bay Spit is private property, yet the park map indicates it is a county park. It is only accessible over private land and boat to the small KC lot.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Park staff will research this issue.*

**I was told that after the commercial logging was done in South Kitsap Regional Park the trails would be cleared and reclaimed. Over half of them have not. (I have walked them for a decade) In fact the destruction has been such that it would be hard to find the old trails. There seems to be a lot of machine trails being made but they are not in the part of the wooded areas which have been enjoyed in the past. They are in fact all around the railroad tracks which is not where most people would prefer to hike as this is near traffic noise and (sometimes) train noise. I voiced my opposition to the logging along with many others of the community. We were ignored outside of being told the trails would return. They have not. -Susan Keller 10/27/17**

*Park staff and interested volunteers will soon be working to locate all the major trail routes and develop an overall trails plan. Many of the through trails and trail segments have been developed by users over the years and this myriad of intersecting trails is not necessarily the best laid plan for a trails system. Parks looks forward to reclaiming trails as part of a trails system with trail map and signage. Recently an extension of the park perimeter trail has been cleared for gravel surface improvement, which will be suitable for walker, strollers and ADA accessibility needs. Parks has interest in creating a local parks stewardship group which can further help to define and refine park trail use. The forest restoration work to control the laminated root rot in the conifers has resulted in some impact to spur trails. We look forward to reestablishing a trail system for this regional park.*

**In regards to the Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan (PROS), I am very disappointed. I looked at the Draft from 9/20/17 and what stood out was the lack of plans to improve any recreational opportunities in a very large area of South Kitsap. If you look at a map of South Kitsap, and divide it into two sections, East & West of SR16 you see a definite difference in the availability of recreational opportunities. The PROS shows 12 Parks facilities East of SR16 and 3 West of SR16. On the East side you have numerous areas for hiking, dogs, water access, skate boards, etc. West of SR16 you have one 39 acre park with lake access and two other Parks properties totaling over 2300 acres with very little to offer besides some rough trails. The number of parks facilities in each Commissioner District is fairly close, the acreage is by far lead by North Kitsap, with Central Kitsap trailing by almost 1000 acres.**

**The distribution of Parks assets needs to be closely looked at, especially West of SR16. A six year plan with a 20 year vision with zero details leaves a lot to be guessed. Kitsap County keeps buying property and yet still has minimal plans or a solid public backed vision. Having served on the Parks Board decades ago, it has not changed. The concentration is on increasing the acres the Parks has, minimizing any major improvements in the new**

**acquisitions, and reducing the Parks Department budget on a regular basis over the years. It makes no sense. If you do not have a plan for new property or funding to improve or maintain, do not acquire the property. Use and improve what we have now, especially in areas with limited or minimal recreational assets available -Roger Gay 10/10/17**

*Supporting ample park and recreation facilities and open space in all Districts of the County and providing close-in opportunities to developing areas is a high priority. It is an important aspect of the Parks Advisory Board to review and assess future park needs and plans. The policy direction of the 2018 PROS Plan can promote this kind of regional evaluation and hopefully help fill out the park facility picture throughout the county. Citizen input and reminders are important to our county-wide planning, as well as public input to facility needs and designs. As county and grant funds are available, Parks will work to keep an eye on the balance of opportunities.*

*It is important that the County have recreation and management goals for any new property acquisitions. Within the last few years, Parks has initiated Landscape Classification and Public Use Plans for all new acquisitions, to best determine the goals for resource protection and recreational interests. This process will continue for new property interests. Volunteer stewards will continue to work on improving those park resources and facilities. The County will continue to seek funding for recreational facilities through operational partnerships, in those areas having limited recreational access.*

**Develop a rating system for level of volunteer skills and project opportunity; Ex. Picking up litter = low, Monitor trail conditions = low to moderate, Trail maintenance= moderate to high, Chain saw heavy work= highest. Have designated leaders for a park would help organize a volunteer group.**

**-Unknown 10/10/17**

*Parks staff are currently working with volunteers and stewardship groups to increase the level of knowledge and skills for the diverse range of projects associated with environmental, cultural, and historical property stewardship. Having trained volunteer project leaders is important. Parks currently has one volunteer coordinator, overseeing several formal stewardship groups. We are interested in developing those volunteer skill levels and potentially offering various skill-level "certifications" for the various type of park projects.*

**It would be great to have a pamphlet with all these parks and directions. Thanks!**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Park maps and directions are available on Kitsap County Park website: [www.kitsapgov.com/parks](http://www.kitsapgov.com/parks).*

**Need a County Parks web-link to "Maprika" for trail maps in parks.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Staff is working with County Information Services Department for the potential link.*

**Lots of interest in trails; hike, bike run. Need maps of where to go to run in parks.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Park staff and park volunteers are working to develop additional on-site and web-available maps for our parks. For our Heritage Parks, trail markers will be installed with coded tags, which can help emergency response teams locate the park visitors in more remote park areas.*

**I would like to be able to hook up with other kayakers and have a map of Kitsap Water Trails.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*This website is designed to serve the Kitsap Water Trail users. Web link: <https://www.visitkitsap.com/kitsap-peninsula-water-trails>.*

**Need more trail maps at park kiosks.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Park staff and volunteers are working to develop park trail plans and maps to be posted on our park kiosks, and available on the website. Park staff and volunteers are working to install better trail signs throughout our large Heritage Parks and have initiated an emergency response locator code system, soon to be installed at trail intersections throughout our Heritage Parks.*

**NO SMOKING in Parks – Please post with signs.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Smoking in park open areas is currently allowed. Responsible smokers should take note of the impact their smoking has on non-smokers and work to move away from other park users. Parks will consider signage to create an awareness of this perceived nuisance.*

**Make an effort to beautify park spaces, updating information signs, kiosks, etc.**

**-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

**Need better marketing and branding to distinguish government parks ownership.**

**-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*Parks has an ongoing priority to develop Park standards that will provide consistent signage throughout the park system, and standards for park architecture for new and retrofitted park structures.*

**Need a stable funding source to upgrade park facilities, toilets, parking etc.**

**-Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*The Parks Department is funded by the County's General Fund. Capital projects for new development and upgrades to existing facilities are currently funded through the County's Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), with some grant opportunities. REET revenues are spread across administrative, maintenance and planning needs. The County welcomes creative approaches to increase the budget capacity.*

**Need a Metropolitan Parks taxing ability for park support.**

**-North District Open House October 17**

*Any new taxing authority would require a vote from the citizens and approval by the County Board of Commissioners. Parks is researching sustainable funding solutions to support park maintenance, operations and development.*

**No gun shooting at Stavis!! -Home Builders Show Oct. 8-9**

*Gun shooting is not allowed in any County park. If shooting is heard, contact the Sherriff's office-- 911.*

**Hansville Greenway is omitted from Parks inventory.**

**-North District Open House October 17**

*Parks is correcting the inventory of parks and conservation lands in our 2018 Parks and Open Space Plan. The adjacent property, Buck Lake, is shown on Park maps and on the County Parks webpage.*

**More education is needed about the forest restoration effort.**

**-North District Open House October 17**

*Parks Forest Stewardship Plans are posted on the Kitsap County Parks webpage. Parks will work to provide education and informational materials and signage for our forest restoration program and other ecological improvement activities on parklands.*

**Tim Ryan has possible heavy equipment available for park construction to move rocks. He does civic service.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*Park staff will research this offer for park construction work. Kitsap County supports licensed and certified equipment operators providing and operating equipment to support volunteer projects*

**Need law enforcement "citizen deputy" for remote park areas. -North District Open House October 17**

**Need dedicate deputy in parks, trails, and backcountry. -North District Open House October 17**

*Law enforcement funding/staffing is under the jurisdiction of the Sherriff's Office. Currently there is not enough law enforcement capacity to patrol our remote park areas. Active park and trail use, and reporting hazards is a deterrent to negative park activities. Please report any unlawful or dangerous situations to the Sheriff – 911. Parks is installing emergency trail location markers along the trails in our Heritage Parks to help emergency responders locate help-required situations in the parks.*

**Safety is the most important for Parks now. No homeless or drugs.**

**-County Fair August 23-27**

*We agree safety of our patrons and neighbors is the highest priority. We continue to look at ways to improve upon this. Your suggestions are welcome.*

You asked for everyone's thoughts, ideas, and criticism or praise. I wish that I felt inclined to give you praise however the past two years have been exceedingly tenuous trying to deal with Kitsap Parks. Let me offer you a past example: When Donna Alber (Guillemot Cove Nature reserve volunteer) once asked a Parks manager if the Boy Scouts could cut some branches from a holly tree on the Nature Reserve in order to make Christmas wreaths. Donna was firmly told 'NO' by that Parks manager who said if the Boy Scouts took some holly it would be "a gifting of public property". The above situation demonstrates just how ridiculous Parks management can sometimes be. And this inflexible, rigid decision to protect a holly tree which is an invasive species that displaces native plants within a Nature Reserve. There are other examples where I've found the Kitsap Parks department to be rule bound, inflexible, unable to think outside the box. If the Parks staff were taught to use critical and creative thinking perhaps the Parks would be in much better condition. I have ideas and don't wish to share them with people who operate in a regimented and robotic manner. Regimens are fine, so is a flexibility in one's perspective... Hope this helps. I'm not singling out any one person. Everyone deserves an opportunity to learn and grow and treat others with respect. And to earn that respect back from others. Thank you.

**-John Frink 10/30/17**

*Thank you for your comment*

**Coordinate PROS plan with the Great Peninsula Conservancy (land trust) Strategic Conservation Plan.**

**-Peter Best 11/1/17**

*GPC has been contacted in regards to the PROS plan. A meeting is expected but has not happened as of the release of this response.*

**Thank You! -County Fair August 23-27**

*Thank you.*

////

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM? Central Kitsap

12/2017

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT BELOW

I would like to recommend an addition the Special-Use Park plans for a 3-wall handball facility. This would provide opportunity for exercise and recreation for the entire county, and could be built for a comparatively low cost; not much space is needed. There is a community of active handball players in Kitsap County that could provide 'seed mentoring' for new players needing instruction and competition.

Here's a link to an example court:

[https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fphcbigblue.com%2F8.27.05.4.jpg&imgrefurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fphcbigblue.com%2F&docid=TurCB2pYAl3l6M&tbnid=XZma0E2BdRH-2M%3A&vet=10ahUKewiTj-6a7\\_rXAhUDxGMKHxK9BHoQMwhlKAwCQ..i&w=576&h=377&hl=en&bih=472&biw=1024&q=three%20wall%20handball&ved=0ahUKewiTj-6a7\\_rXAhUDxGMKHxK9BHoQMwhlKAwCQ&iact=mr&uact=8](https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fphcbigblue.com%2F8.27.05.4.jpg&imgrefurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fphcbigblue.com%2F&docid=TurCB2pYAl3l6M&tbnid=XZma0E2BdRH-2M%3A&vet=10ahUKewiTj-6a7_rXAhUDxGMKHxK9BHoQMwhlKAwCQ..i&w=576&h=377&hl=en&bih=472&biw=1024&q=three%20wall%20handball&ved=0ahUKewiTj-6a7_rXAhUDxGMKHxK9BHoQMwhlKAwCQ&iact=mr&uact=8)

and here's a link to the dimensions:

[https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.handballcity.com%2Fimages%2F3wallcourtdiagram.jpg&imgrefurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.handballcity.com%2Fdimensions.htm&docid=B\\_HMj\\_wTg361EM&tbnid=m1HUsJZk5-Y\\_YM%3A&vet=10ahUKewiTj-6a7\\_rXAhUDxGMKHxK9BHoQMwhlKAwCQ..i&w=331&h=522&hl=en&bih=472&biw=1024&q=three%20wall%20handball](https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.handballcity.com%2Fimages%2F3wallcourtdiagram.jpg&imgrefurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.handballcity.com%2Fdimensions.htm&docid=B_HMj_wTg361EM&tbnid=m1HUsJZk5-Y_YM%3A&vet=10ahUKewiTj-6a7_rXAhUDxGMKHxK9BHoQMwhlKAwCQ..i&w=331&h=522&hl=en&bih=472&biw=1024&q=three%20wall%20handball)

Thank you for your consideration of this idea.

*Park amenities can be added if enough public concern is expressed.*

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM? Central Kitsap  
Archie Mitchell 12/2017

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT BELOW

**My comment is for the Banner Forest Park. My wife and I LOVE Banner Forest, just the way it is. We want it to stay a totally natural park. No pavement. No buildings. No lights. It is so rare to have a place like that close to town and we and others go there often. Please don't mess that up...Also we heard you are making plans to cut timber out of the park. That sounds like a terrible idea to us. I hope that idea goes away...**

*Banner Forest is classified as a Heritage Park, therefore park development is limited to modest improvements such as non-paved parking lots, trailheads and kiosks. Selective forest thinning is done at parks that require removal of disease-infected trees, or in areas that have been over-planted too closely in the past.*

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM? South Kitsap  
Stephanie Campbell 12/2017

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT BELOW

**I wish we had a better park district like Gig Harbor has. PenMet has done amazing things in the last few years. Too bad we've got nothing similar. The programs and parks Gig Harbor has are all amazing.**

*Establishment of a park district requires a vote and support from the citizens. The previous South Kitsap Park District was dissolved in 2007 and absorbed into Kitsap County. Kitsap County Parks is currently funded from the County's General Fund.*

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM? South Kitsap  
Sally Hubbell 12/2017

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT BELOW

**PLEASE allow South Kitsap High School rowing total access to the Long Lake Park, including storage for the rowing shells and equipment. In traveling to lakes such as Stevens, Vancouver and Union, their rowers have shell houses at these lakes. Rowing season is spring and fall and would not interfere with the summer usage of the park.**

*New park amenities are discussed through the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB). A Memorandum of Understanding, or another similar legal document with a third party would need to be authorized prior to usage and construction of any physical improvements.*

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM? South Kitsap  
Jim Heytvelt 12/2017

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT BELOW

**I have read the PROS plan and approve. It is a well written guide directed to manage the future of Kitsap County parks and open space. There will be questions in the future I am sure. However these will be addressed as they arise.**

*The PROS Plan will be the end result of working with the Community and its many Stakeholders.*

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM? North Kitsap  
John Willis 12/2017

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT BELOW

**History; how about the land swap with Suquamish Tribe for the Place of the Bear and North Kitsap Heritage Park? This is a real win for the Tribe and Kitsap County Parks. Suquamish gets back historic tribal lands and Kitsap gets additional park lands that are critical (salmon) habitat. The money from the sale of the Place of the Bear was used to buy this additional park land and critical habitat. This is a huge Government to Government achievement for the Tribe to Kitsap County acquisitions.**

*Expansion of North Kitsap Regional Park was the realization of a long-term community goal. In December 2014, Kitsap County acquired 366-acres of property from Pope Resources for long-term open space preservation and public access. This acquisition expanded the park to 814 acres and allowed improved land management and regional and community trail access to the public. The property includes several high quality wetland systems, headwaters to Grovers Creek and important wildlife habitat.*

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT  
BELOW

Excellent plan overall; I agree with the goals, strategies, and general direction. Thanks for planning ahead. The plan could use another proofreading for punctuation and grammar before final release. Just two specific comments:

1. I would like to see a definition of "Partnership Properties" in the "County Parks Inventory by Category" section beginning on page 17. That is the only category that is not defined in the "Strategy" section beginning on page 15. As a Hansville Greenway volunteer trail steward, I expected to find Hansville Greenway listed under "Open Space and Greenbelts" instead. I understand the "partnership" category because many of our trails are on easements from Olympic Property Group, but would still like to see a definition of the category.
2. Under the Water-Oriented goal on page 25, one bullet point is "Denote public and private tidelands and shorelands ownership with signage...." Many private tideland owners have placed signs of varying quality and content at their boundaries. Some cite specific WAC sections claiming to completely exclude the public; others ask the public to respect their property and forbid loitering, fires, clamming, etc. I'm not sure the "right to traverse" has ever been really settled. How do you plan to accommodate landowners' diverse expectations?

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*Partnership properties will be further explained in the Final Plan. Hansville Greenway does address Open Space needs for the County.*

*Tideland and shoreline ownership varies with each private and public ownership. Public notification and appropriate signage for tideland ownership is a continual challenge and Parks will work to address this "respect for private property rights" responsibility.*

**WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM?**

North Kitsap

**PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT BELOW**

Regarding the new park land in Port Gamble. I and apparently many others (since a lot of people who walk their dogs leashed in the new park are saying most of the people who walk their dogs there do so off leash, via a facebook conversation currently going between about 100 people) would like to see about a thousand of the acres of the 4000 acres set aside for off leash dog walking. No need to fence etc. just signs on existing trails line drawn on maps stating this area is an off leash area. Everyone could still use the area but they would not be allowed to whine about dogs being allowed to run with owners, explore, etc. Dog owners would still be responsible for their dogs behavior. I walked my dogs there for many years and every dog we met was off leash, owners got along as did the dogs with a rare dust up with the dogs which owners easily handled. I quit going here a few years ago when the park plans were announced and many new people started showing up with snarling darlings on leashes who spend their entire lives confined, leashed, and appear anti social not just to other dogs but to people as well. My two dogs are trained labs. If I walk them in populated areas I leash them but this is a large wooded area perfect for off leash. I ask you to please consider giving us a 1/4 of the land for dogs to be dogs. The neurotic, snarling darling crowd has the rest of the county. All you need to do is leave the land the way it currently exist. We are hearty people our dogs are well behaved, we like exploring new ground. Thank you so much for your consideration.

12/2018

Mike Kavanagh

**WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM?**

North Kitsap

**BY BETH BERGLUND 12/2017**

**PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT BELOW**

I strongly encourage Kitsap County to reconsider carrying it's on-leash only dogs policy into the heritage parks located in Unincorporated Kitsap County. As you know, North Kitsap is striving to maintain its rural character. We don't want to see North Kitsap become a Seattle suburb. I guess the question comes down to

"what does rural character" mean to each of us. It broke my heart to hear the NONE of the approximately 3,000 acres of Port Gamble Forest Heritage park trails would provide for responsible off-leash dog walking. I would have thought that at the very least one loop on an edge of the park could be designated for that use. I recognize you have 3 county dog park areas in addition to certain city run parks, but for large breed dogs who live to run full out, swim, and to trot with their canine friends in forested trails, those venues just don't satisfy. I also recognize that some portions of the heritage parks require particularly gentle use to support sensitive habitat -- those areas should be restricted as preserve space with no use by dogs, horses, nor bikes.

Please consider some compromise in Port Gamble and Hansville -- designated trails, specific days, or certain times for off-leash dogs. People and their leashed dogs have every road, sidewalk, and paved park path to walk safely. Nothing is more joyful than watching dogs play and run! Let's give our four footed companions space for the full expression of themselves.

*Recreating with dogs off-leash in County Parks are allowed in designated dog parks. Managing all sorts of dogs and dog-owner behavior in developed park facilities parks is a challenge. Managing dogs and dog-owners in larger landscape, relatively undeveloped parklands, can rise to conflicts between dog walkers, with other users such as equestrians, family excursions and even wildlife encounters. Many dog walkers have very well behaved and trained companions. However, to date, it has not proven responsible to allow off-leash dogs as an allowable activity in County Heritage Parks. This is an issue that will continue to challenge park managers, and there may be some creative solutions to this competition for safe and enjoyable park experience in the future as we work to apply best management to our large-scale landscape parks. Stay tuned.*

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM?  
COMMENT FROM DRAFT PLAN  
12/2017

North Kitsap  
Shaari Unger

I am a KITSAP County Master Gardener of many years and am involved in many Master Gardener programs throughout the county. I volunteer at the Anna Smith garden and appreciate the relationship with the county to continue to beautify and educate through the plantings and programs we provide there. Challenges we face together relate to power, parking, access, and bathrooms. Let's resolve the results of Power removal from the garden shed and covered picnic area. To improve safety consider allowing access to the space across the street, adding crossing and parking area lighting. To address access consider making available/visible the accessible parking area. Consider adding Accessible playground equipment similar to Evergreen Park in Bremerton near the accessible parking area. Consider keeping the bathroom facilities open through 1 November as closure on 1 October misses beautiful weather is still quite beautiful weather. Thanks very much for the opportunity to comment.

*The involvement of Master Gardeners has proved to be a very valuable asset to the operation and function of Anna Smith Park. The suggestions noted for park improvements will be considered in our park planning and operation priorities*

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM?

Central Kitsap

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PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT  
BELOW

Here's my on-site observations of last summer's public shellfish harvesting at Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve. During the first low tides in June we had an aluminum skiff arrive with six people on board. They beached their boat, unloaded their buckets and shovels, then proceeded to remove as many geoducks as humanly possible. They worked quickly and several additional people walked in from the parking lot to help. Once the harvest was finished, they loaded up their boat and headed north. I thought it was odd that only two people were in the departing boat. Then I noticed the reason. As the aluminum skiff heading out into Hood Canal it was so heavily loaded that the gunwales were nearly touching the water's surface. Because the boat was so overloaded the remaining 10 or so diggers left the beach by walking to the parking lot.

Thanks to this well orchestrated harvest, I'm certain that a minimum of 30-50 geoducks or horse clams were removed. And this was only one of many boats that arrived last summer. The neighbors kept track and I can accurately calculate that the public removed the same amount of geoducks that ALL my neighbors, friends and family would ever harvest over a 25 year time span.

So good on you Kitsap County. You're well ahead of schedule with your destruction of Guillemot Cove's tidelands and it's vibrant marine life. Kitsap County Parks unilaterally opened up this Nature Reserve without public process. Rather than reaching out to the neighbors, the volunteers, and other stakeholders, Kisap county covertly opened up the tidelands and in a way that created "frenemies" So don't bother me with your excuses, you're blatantly violating the Operational Polices of this Nature Reserve. For the short term gains of a few fortunate boat owners, you think it's OK to deny future generations the right to explore and enjoy a nearly pristine marine area. Yes marine life can regenerate, however mass harvesting of tidelands that were intended to be preserved in a sustainable manner is the exact opposite of what Kitsap Parks is doing.

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## Contact Information

NAME

John Frink

*In response to requests by the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Kitsap County entered into an agreement with that agency and Tribes to best managed recreational harvest of shellfish on County tidelands at Guillemot Cover, Anderson Hill and Port Gamble Forest Heritage parks. It was determined in the best interest of protecting and enhancing the shellfish resource that the County agreed to public harvest. The Tribes, by Treaty, have access to half of the available shellfish. They, along with WDFW monitor the population, health, and recreation harvest levels every year. We have entrusted the care and stewardship of this renewable resource to those experts to manage healthy populations. This public management can serve to create a sustainable harvest and an opportunity for inclusive use of public tidelands. Preservation of a resource does not necessarily result from "hands-off" management. As per our interagency agreement, the County requires reporting and monitoring of the harvest areas on an annual basis. From that reporting we will continue to assess the health of the shellfish population and determine its viability as a recreational resource.*

*In addition to the annual shellfish report the county will also request that WDFW assess the condition of the shellfish fishery, including damage to the flats, after the 2018 season.*

WHAT DISTRICT ARE YOU FROM?  
BY COLLEEN MIKO

South Kitsap

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMMENT  
BELOW

I appreciate the addition of the capital plan to the latest draft--concrete info there, where as the rest is fairly vague with regard to individual sites and specific actions. This list helps see concrete priorities v. overarching goals/desires. In terms of line item for moving log cabin from fairgrounds in 2019, would like to see more details re: that process, for instance, moving how & where?

p. 43 would have liked to see a list of potential sites that would be considered for sale/transfer/not meeting parks goals.

p.41 Nice to see specific mention of Master Gardeners as environmental education partners considering their valuable active role at Buck Lake, Illahee Preserve, Anderson Landing, Anna Smith Park, and fairgrounds for going on 30 years--thank you for the recognition of those volunteer efforts.

Noticed that the format of the first draft that listed the individual sites and their attributes, etc. was changed. Wondered why.

Maintenance & operations, in particular "public use management" items need to be seriously addressed in our developed parks as well as backlog of deferred maintenance, please.

Anna Smith Park has access challenges--roadside parking is unsafe & inadequate. If the corner of Tracyton/Fairgrounds were to be upgraded for safe, visible parking with an upgraded crosswalk this would be a big benefit to not only the access to Anna Smith & increase participation in a well-loved community space, but also for additional fairgrounds parking. The current parking area is a target of trash dumping, which creates maintenance issues for Park staff--a more visible parking area would address this challenge. If a goal of maintenance & Operations is to increase Green Infrastructure Management, permeable surfaces

combined with bioretention in an upgraded parking area in that location could advance this goal, as well as address stormwater pollution challenges at Anna Smith Park wetland/pond areas.

p. 26 Habitat plan strategy is sound & all goal worth following.

Would have liked to access additional information mentioned on p. 49 as Appendices. In particular, agency responses and a list of stakeholders consulted within each stakeholder categorization as well as a list of locations and dates where public input was sought.

Thank you for time and hard work on this important plan. I appreciate the opportunity to put forward suggestions and feedback.

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*This six-year Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan emphasizes major policy and management directions. Some specifics are offered in the plan to demonstrate various objectives, however, the overall plan is intended to help direct department resources and management priorities in the upcoming years.*

*The park improvement suggestions are well-founded, and they will be included in any implementation and park improvement plan as we go forward.*

## General Comments

### 1. Plan Purpose

This reviewer, a citizen of Kitsap County and frequent parks user, is confused as to the purpose of the plan. If it is simply to meet the requirements of a mandate and it's passable, then it accomplishes this goal. However, if it is to be a guiding organizational document, providing a blue print of actions that feedback into improving the parks system as well as guide the overall future goals and efforts of the Department, then this plan, as written, has glimpses of this purpose but needs a stronger focus on actions and commitments. This plan would be better served with strong guiding statements early in the document, and then key actions and commitments summarized in the closing, along with a commitment to implement the plan to the best of the County's abilities. A streamline and direct plan would better serve the citizens of Kitsap garner public and organizational support.

### 2. Parks History/Summary Section

The historical summary of the parks of Kitsap County are enlightening and interesting. The extensive background information provides the public a synopsis of the development of the parks system and the status of the current depth and scope of the system. It is remarkable the acreage of parks is now over 8,000 and will increase to 10,000 in 2018. Recommend moving the excellent summary information on pages 14-16 into the Overview section. It is impressive and sets the tone of the scope of the Parks system.

### 3. The Table of Contents and Document Organization

The organization of the draft document was challenging for this reader to review. The headings in the document were more numerous than what was in the Table of Contents on page 3. There were no page numbers associated with the headings in the TOC. Also, the lack of numbers

and letters that were associated with the headings in the TOC were not in the document so that this reader was often confused. Another challenge is that an entire section is missing that is in the TOC. It is titled "Open Space, Environment and Habitat Plan" "Land Classification System".

4. Goals, Objectives, Strategies throughout the document are inconsistent

Some goals have strategies and no objectives, other goals have very clear strategies and objectives. Recommend organizing each section with a clear outcome based goal or set of goals, strategies that support getting the goal, and then a set of actions that will be committed to a timeline and assigned to a staff position for implementation. In general – a Goal and an Objective can be the same; the overall desired outcome of a set of strategies (the philosophical approach) and actions (specific actions that lead to the desired goal/outcome). For example, on page 40, "Continue to expand the volunteer program" is not a goal. This is a vague statement with no measurable outcome. However, further down the page an excellent example of a goal/objective is "Expand the parks docent programs for interpretive programs for natural, cultural and historical sites through training and partnerships". This is a goal/objective with a specific desired outcome. The strategy is to support the volunteer coordinator to develop and implement the training. This section goes on with a specific action – although labeled a strategy – to perform specific training for Pt. No Pt. Lighthouse docents. For this action – when will it be completed and who is responsible for it? Additional actions could include "determine natural, cultural and historical opportunities for developing docent training" and "prioritize identified natural, cultural and historical opportunities for developing docent training".

5. Plan Strengths

Overall the following sections were solid in terms of explaining the goals, strategies and objectives (Sections 5 d-f):

- Developed Event & Athletic Venues
- Fairgrounds

- Volunteer and Stewardship programs
- M&O
- Park Acquisitions
- Capital Funding (although this entire section seems more in line with the previous headings and don't understand why it has its own separate heading)

The above sections of the plan are clear and directly relate to the parks system comprised of the recreation complexes, heritage parks, and open space. The goal and strategies (really actions) relate well to the mission of the parks, although this reviewer does not support parts of the mission (more to come later). The objectives provide for projects that will inform decisions, funding and direction for the parks system. These stated objectives would be improved with establishing target dates for completion of each action and, better yet, assignment to specific staff positions. Additionally, this kind of assignment could be used as an ongoing tool for assessment of implementing the plan, if that is what the intention is of this plan.

#### 6. Plan Weaknesses

Section 5 a-c of the plan could be trimmed significantly or omitted. The Goals are aspirational at best, the strategies are vague and the objectives, if present, are not clear and do not give this reviewer confidence that this part of the parks program is on solid ground. The Environmental Stewardship section and Trails Opportunities seem redundant and overlap with creating recreational opportunities and park land acquisitions.

Page 48 in the document is titled "Research and Public Survey – Key Findings" and the TOC titles, what I think is this section, "Public Involvement and Comments". The heading in the TOC does not match the heading on page 48. The Text on page 48 is actually a series of statements with no sources to support such statements. Some are obvious, but others are so broad brush it is difficult to understand the purpose and placement here.

#### Specific Comments

##### 1. Page 14 – Mission Statement

"Fostering community stewardship" is the last item of the mission. I was surprised to not see an

emphasis on developing recreational opportunities as the parks system has grown substantially. As a Kitsap County citizen I support the development of recreational opportunities through the upkeep or expansion of venues, development of a trails system that serves many users, installation of parks access areas such as parking lots and shoreline access ramps, and other recreation such as disc golf courses and bike paths. This reviewer recommends omitting “fostering community stewardship” and replacing or adding “developing recreational opportunities”.

## 2. Page 14 Policy Directions

Six are listed. It seems like the first and third could be combined to state an overarching direction to manage resources responsibly as operations and maintenance are implemented. Consider rearranging these “directions” and stating these are overarching areas of the program where needed to operate and maintain so that Kitsap County parks are enjoyable for all and serve the needs of the Citizens. Consider then folding under each of these five major areas their own set of Goals, Strategies and Actions.

The below order is suggested:

- Sustainable Operations etc... M&O for the venues, fields, heritage parks, and open space; forestry program to generate revenue.... Seems like operating and managing what is existing is important.
- Capital Program..Capital may be a stand alone item, but seems like it should be one of the major program arms.
- Creating New Opportunities for Recreation etc... Information about protecting wildlife while developing trails, access; here’s where the public could learn what are the priorities for cultural and historical preservation, trails, access, etc.,
- Land Acquisitions etc... conservation, open space, etc.
- Community Involvement/Partnerships/ Customer Service/ Public Relations etc ...Parks Stewardship program, other parks oriented organizations, land conservation programs; this is where the parks integrate directly with Kitsap County citizens.

Information about how you'll use surveys for feedback to improve parks, garner support or customer satisfaction, as well as park use information – visits per season at key sites, number of events, attendance numbers, etc.

It seems like these five areas are where Parks is stating they have Goals, Strategies and Actions.

The rest of the plan could be reorganized to fit within these.

3. Page 25 – Environmental Stewardship and the Goal to support the needs of indigenous wildlife and native flora.

It seems this goal is over reaching the mission statement. I support protection of wildlife and native flora when developing existing properties, or new heritage sites. However, is the intent for parks to actively pursue properties solely for watershed protection, and to preserve natural watershed functions? It seems that these kinds of protections are more based in land use zoning, or of private non-profit conservancy organizations. The bullets on page 26 and 27 promote conservation of lands.

4. Page 29 – what is meant by “dispersed recreational opportunities”?

5. Page 31 – In Park Trails

This section seemed lacking in clear goals, strategies and actions for specific outcomes. There are good ideas, but a lack of focus of how to get to a system of trails for the parks as a whole.

Consider keeping only a “strategy” that is a clear action. Omit strategies that are not actions – such as “Provide for effective “ This is vague, not a goal and not an action.

This citizen fully supports trail use designations and avoiding “multi use” strategies. Recommend consideration of assembling an advisory group of trail users (or maybe you have one) – hiking, mountain biking and equestrian, to provide input on the actions described. This group could be valuable in developing and completing many of the desired actions.

Recommend adding the following action “develop, implement and evaluate using social media as a communication tool for trail conditions, uses, status,

and rules". Other communities such as Bend, Oregon and Boise, Idaho have implemented very successful social media sites to keep trail users up to date, while performing outreach about trails, and garners cooperation among the various users. There seems to be a great focus by parks about enforcing park rules. What is the end goal of the program? 100% compliance is not possible and there needs to be an acceptable level of enforcement so that the system works. Consider implementing a system to track violations, strategies implemented to address violations, and follow up with measuring the level of violations. Data of this type would inform parks when the level of enforcement is adequate. Also, understanding why people violation rules, and attempting to address these more specifically rather than always resorting to more "DON'T" signs.

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NAME

Mindy Fohn

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*Much of these suggestions relate to the organization and layout of the PROS Plan document. The well-thought out suggestions will be considered for readability and clarity of "goals, strategies, and objectives. Implementation actions would be the next phase following the acceptance of our overall priority directions in the 6-year agenda.*

*It is reasonable that that it is best to emphasize expansion of existing venues, and upkeep of those investments. New recreational opportunities and facilities demand further commitment to management, and stretch available resources. There is always a challenge of how to best dedicate resources to avail the county of potentially new park and recreation opportunities, requested from citizens, yet keep committed to previous park priorities and assets, as the County grows and demands more.*

*Also, with our ever-enlarging parkland portfolio, there can be strong support for considering multi-objectives; to protect and enhance environmental stewardship responsibilities across the County, while providing for outdoor recreation in a balanced landscape plan.*

*Communication and enforcement of park rules and managing appropriate behavior in parks is a constant challenge. Parks does keep track of abuses and violations in our developed parks. Analysis of this data and refitting of how best to deliver the rules, and gain compliance is an ever-artful matter, considered by park professionals. The use of "Don't Signs" has proven essential, as a minimum legal requirement, yet it is incomplete park introduction and welcoming. As park orientation and interpretive signage progresses in the County's park system, there is a intention that communication can be more relational with our park users. It is understood that as the reasons for park use guidelines, and understanding of our sensitive park resources become more evident to our park visitors, natural respect follows and behavior changes.*

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT PLAN COMMENTS/EDITS

Alison O'Sullivan 1/06/18

Biologist, Suquamish Tribe Fisheries Department

11. The Suquamish people lived, gathered food, ceremonial and spiritual items, and hunted and fished for thousands of years in western Washington. Treaty-reserved resources situated on and off the Port Madison Indian Reservation include, but are not limited to, fishery and other natural resources situated within the Suquamish Tribe's adjudicated usual and accustomed (U and A) fishing area. The Suquamish Tribe's U and A extends well beyond Reservation boundaries and includes marine waters of Puget Sound from the northern tip of Vashon Island to the Fraser River in Canada, including Haro and Rosario Straits, the streams draining into the western side of Puget Sound and also Hood Canal.
12. Please provide discussion of Tribal Treaty Fishing and harvest activities. As stated above the Suquamish people lived, gathered food stuffs, ceremonial and spiritual items, and hunted and fished for thousands of years in Western Washington. The Suquamish Tribe reserved the right to take fish at its "usual and accustomed grounds and stations" when it entered into the Treaty of Point Elliot with the U.S. in 1855. In this Treaty, the Suquamish Tribe ceded its ancestral territory to the United States, but reserved rights to fish, hunt, and gather at all of its U&A grounds and stations. On February 12, 1974, U.S. District Court Judge Boldt ruled that treaty rights entitled Indian Tribes to half of the harvestable fish running in their traditional waters, a right which was later affirmed to include shellfish and other natural resources. The ruling also established Washington State's federally recognized Indian Tribes as co-managers (with WDFW) of fisheries resources within their usual and accustomed fishing areas.
13. There is no discussion regarding adaptive management with regard to beaver. Beaver are an integral component to the restoration of wetland and stream habitat as well as providing crucial water storage and flow control to counter climate change and the resulting increase of flashy storm events. Occasionally trails and/or structures may need to be temporarily/permanently closed, removed or relocated.
14. There is no discussion of removal or replacement of culverts and bridges that are considered fish passage barriers.
15. Page 24. Although permeable pavement is better than traditional it is still less desirable than a soft pervious surface. Impervious surfaces need to be minimized to the extent possible.
16. Page 27. More discussion regarding maintaining appropriate critical area buffers needs to be added. Pedestrian paths should be minimized to the extent possible and not intrude into the wetlands, streams or their buffers. Buffers in county parks need to set a good example for the public and should meet and/or exceed those identified in the current Kitsap County Critical Areas Ordinance.
17. Page 27. In addition to Threatened Species, Endangered Species, and Species of Concern Kitsap County Parks should also consider identifying species of local importance to provide for habitat considerations and/or protections for species that may not fall under other categories. These species can also be added to the Comprehensive Plan for consistency.
18. Page 32 through 34.
  - a. Trails constructed should generally be "soft trails" consisting of minimum widths and pervious surfaces which have fewer impacts and still provide educational and recreational opportunities for the public.
  - b. Trails should not be located within wetland or riparian (freshwater or marine) habitat areas for most of their length. Instead, locate trails well away from streams, wetlands, shorelines, and their associated buffers. An occasional bend or perpendicular side trail for viewing or access to streams and wetlands is generally acceptable. Although trails and viewing platforms are acceptable and we understand that some intrusion may be needed, the majority of the paths should try to avoid intrusion whenever possible.
    - i. Impacts to critical areas (including aquifer recharge areas) need to be avoided. If impacts to critical areas and their buffers are unavoidable a mitigation plan will need to be implemented. Please include mitigation in discussions regarding cost.

- c. We understand that loop trails are perceived as "more interesting" however, there must be some compromise when it significantly increases the impacts (including but not limited to encroachment, vegetation removal, and introduction of invasive species, erosion, human intrusion, and soil disturbance). A linear trail is the much better choice as it would still provide access and limit impacts. Vegetation removal should be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
  - d. Creosote and Pentachlorophenol should not be used for any part of trail structures. It is preferred that if wood is used it should be only untreated wood (cedar is best).
19. Page 33. Water trails may impact Tribes ability to access a usual and accustomed fishing ground as structures can create navigational obstructions. Associated boat traffic can create potential conflicts with fishing activities impacting Tribal fishers' ability to maneuver and safely manage fishing gear and can also increase the risk of damage to/loss of fishing gear. Proposed shoreline development associated with water trails may disturb areas of cultural and spiritual importance to Suquamish tribal members. These issues can be avoided by coordinating with the Tribe and including the Tribe in discussions during design and development.
20. Page 49. The Tribe is a co-manager with WDFW regarding the State fishery resources and should also be included as a stakeholder in plan development. When implementing the Parks, Recreation and/or Open Space Plans (especially trails, bridges, culverts and other structures) it is also important to make sure that coordination with WDFW and the Tribe occurs to ensure protection of treaty reserved natural and cultural resources.

*The rightful considerations for Tribal "treaty-reserved" resources, and the minimizing of environmental impacts as a result of parks and recreation planning, and facility developments will be seriously evaluated in the forward planning, and future management of park lands; both as natural areas and the introduction of new public access and park facilities.*



**Kitsap County Parks Department**  
 1200 NW Falgrounnds Road, Bremerton, WA 98311  
 Mailing address: 614 Division, MS-1, Port Orchard, WA 98366  
 Phone (360) 337-5350 • Fax (360) 337-5385

10.03.17  
 Eagles Nest  
 1 of 3

PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN MEETING <u>PLEASE SIGN IN</u>		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION (e-mail address)	PHONE NUMBER
Susan Anderson	Contact information on file.	
Hank Anderson		
Cliff Clark		
Lucinda King		
Rick Feeney		
Cothy Cohoon		
Meilane Charles		
Sorrel Perrone		
JIM AHO		



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10.03.17  
 Eagles Nest  
 2 of 3

PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN MEETING <u>PLEASE SIGN IN</u>		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION (e-mail address)	PHONE NUMBER
Carrie Kale	Contact information on file.	
Bart Kok		
John Frink		
Shannon Hartness		
Colleen Wilko		



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10-03-17  
 Eagle  
 Nest  
 323

PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN MEETING <u>PLEASE SIGN IN</u>		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION (e-mail address)	PHONE NUMBER
Bob McBride	Contact information on file.	
John Plant		
John Confar		
Patricia [unclear]		
Stelley Douglas		



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PORT ORCHARD  
 10/16/17  
 #1

PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN MEETING <u>PLEASE SIGN IN</u>		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION (e-mail address)	PHONE NUMBER
Tania Filandon	Contact information on file.	
Michael Vasselt		
Roger Gray		
Ben Howard		
Dr. Derek F. Costa		
John Finne		
Jim Hestwell		
Frank [unclear]		
Cory Maltoner		



Port Orchard  
10/10/17 #2/13

**Kitsap County Parks Department**  
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PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN MEETING <u>PLEASE SIGN IN</u>		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION (e-mail address)	PHONE NUMBER
Charlene Gilder	Contact info on file.	
Laurie Sterling		
Elizabeth Gentry		



Port Orchard #3/3  
10-10-17

**Kitsap County Parks Department**  
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PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN MEETING <u>PLEASE SIGN IN</u>		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION (e-mail address)	PHONE NUMBER
Marilyn Kestrel	Contact info on file.	
Cindy Bilgus		



Douglas 1/3  
10-17-17

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PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN MEETING <i>PLEASE SIGN IN</i>		
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Michael Armstrong	afa	Contact information on file.
Bill Nasson	l_u	
Mary Eul	clear	
John Frink	frink	
Kathryn Thompson	Kath	
Gabe Carter	Gab	
John F. Williams	JFW	



Douglas 2/3  
10-17-17

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Art Ellison		Contact information on file.
Pat Stricklen		
Frank Stricklen		
John C. Casbon		
Dennis Crisman		
Dustin Miller		
Jim Aho		
Jean Willett		



PWSBO 3/3  
10.17.17

**Kitsap County Parks Department**  
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PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN MEETING <u>PLEASE SIGN IN</u>		
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION (e-mail address)	PHONE NUMBER
Cathy Colson	Contact info on file.	
Rob Golden		
Amy Lawrence		
Tom Coleman		
Clate Hultman		

# Kitsap County Landscape Classification and Public Access Planning Process

Designed for the Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources, and Management of Public Access and Recreation

## Our Resource Management Approach

*“Kitsap County Parks assumes the responsibility as guardian of our inherent park resources -- natural, cultural, and historic; and works to provide for recreational use and facilities which are compatible with those inherent park assets, including native forests, wetlands, fish-bearing streams, shorelands and shellfish. “* -- 2012 Kitsap County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

**Our park resource management planning includes:**

1. **Developing Landscape and Recreation Guiding Principles:** Every park has a distinct landscape history, a unique arrangement of natural attributes and varied possibilities for public use and recreation activities. For landscape and recreation plans and management actions, there is a need to set some common guidelines to acknowledge those inherent values and how best to design for public use. These resource and recreation core values are set “in stone” with a set of Guiding Principles. A Park’s Guiding Principles are developed together with Parks Staff, Park Stewards, and interested citizens.
2. **Identifying and Addressing Management Issues & Objectives.** In addition, Stewardship Groups, Park staff, technical advisors, identify, clarify and discuss specific management issues which are currently impacting the Park property. These discussions highlight anticipated resource protection needs, public use needs and potential new recreational opportunities.
3. **Applying a Landscape Classifications System.** Each park landscape classification recognizes outstanding and sensitive resource areas, worthy of conservation and protection, and depicts those landscape areas where various recreational activities and levels of intensity are compatible. These land-use and conservation areas will provide for diverse recreational use, exceptional

outdoor experiences, while protecting key resource values. This system is depicted on our **Landscape Classification Stewardship Map**.

4. **Stewardship requires community partnership and committed volunteers** that have been the foundation of the acquisition of this park. Volunteers have invested thousands of hours and many years in working to acquire the property, maintaining and improving the trails and supporting events.

### **Developing Landscape Stewardship and Public Use Guiding Principles**

Example: Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park

#### **Stewardship Guiding Principles:**

Protect, Restore and Enhance Natural Resources:

1. Protect, restore and enhance Natural Resources; sensitive natural areas, plant species and wildlife habitat
2. Work toward a forest restoration regime for forest health and habitat diversity; create a diverse forest community with varied tree age and species, and suitable for diverse wildlife habitat
3. Protect the aquifer recharge function of this landscape
4. Protect and enhance shoreline habitat; including shellfish and forage fish
5. Protect the water quality of Bay through management of shoreline and uplands
6. Understand the importance of the Pacific flyway (avian “highway”) and this landscape’s key role
7. Plan for stewardship and public use as part of the large-scale surrounding landscape

Respect Historical and Future Cultural Integrity:

1. Preserve cultural and historical aspects of the lands and shore, inclusive of all Tribes; recognize and protect populations of medicinal plants and other culturally significant flora
2. Preserve and enhance the State Scenic Highway 104 viewshed along the Heritage Forest alignment

Promote Responsible Recreation and Public Use of the Park:

1. Meet recreational needs of the Region
2. Develop a cohesive trail system; create trail loops, trails close-in, and extensive travel trails
3. Develop safe public access points and trailhead parking
4. Plan for connecting corridors for recreation trails (Sound to Olympics) and wildlife travel
5. Recognize and planning for “water trails” as part of Kitsap Peninsula Water trail system
6. Explore land adjacent to the Shoreline Block intended for a mountain bike ride center, and discuss how to integrate this activity area with park’s natural resources protection
7. Engage all users/activities to get them excited about nature-education and conservation through recreation.

## Identifying Management Issues & Objectives

Identifying management issues and potential solutions or objectives will assist in the landscape management planning details and action agenda.

Example: **Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park**

### Native Vegetation vs. Invasives

**Issue:** Selective forestry began in 1878. In the 1920's timber production began in earnest. The majority of the acreage was clear-cut then replanted with a monoculture of Douglas fir trees planted closely together to maximum future timber-harvests. Some old growth trees on steep slopes remain, most likely due to the high cost of timber harvest in those areas.

### Management Objectives:

- Trees are stressed, as they do not have sufficient space for normal growth and development. Forestry tracts are to be mapped and selectively thinned to open up the existing dense tree canopy, allowing light to reach the forest floor. In opening up the forest floor, space for under-planting with native species such as Western red cedar and Western hemlock can occur; approximating the original forest conditions prior to the 1920's clear-cutting.
- Concurrently, invasives such as Scotch Broom are being removed, allowing native shrubs such as salal, huckleberry and salmonberry to naturalize. Identify and control invasive vegetation with the purpose to enhance native plant populations and communities and create natural habitats

### Historical / Cultural Resources

**Issue:** Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park and surrounding OPG property have a rich and varied history. Native inhabitants gathered resources from the shoreline and uplands. In addition, logging operations occurred for approximately 90 years in the uplands. The visitor's experience in the park can be enhanced by sharing the information gathered for this project.

### Management Objectives:

- Determine area of historical interest.
- Highlight areas of past historical activities by working with the Tribes and Port Gamble Museum to present information to the public.
- Reference researched articles and books on the county website and QR codes access for more in-depth interpretation.
- Develop signage and interpretive trails where appropriate. Provide interpretation of historic and current subsistence and ceremonial resource use and respect.

### Applying a Landscape Classification System

*This landscape classification or "stewardship zoning" system strives to recognize, map, and direct management of inherent resource values (natural, cultural, historic), while providing for public access and compatible levels of recreational use and facilities.*

## **Classification Categories:**

1. NA = Natural Area [Natural / Historic / Cultural Significance]
2. C = Conservation Area
3. PR = Passive Recreation
4. AR = Active Recreation
5. DR = Developed Recreation
6. SP = Specialized Recreation

### **NA = Natural Area** [Natural | Historic | Cultural, Significance]

Purpose: To protect, restore, and enhance inherent natural, cultural and historic attributes. Ecosystem reserves represent the biodiversity of an area, provide habitat for species, and provide sites for scientific research, long-term monitoring, and education. Natural, cultural and historic sites are protected with best management practices.

Acceptable Land Management: Let natural processes prevail. Observe and monitor health. Ecosystem restoration activities only.

Allowable Activities: Generally “off-limits” to public. Authorized access by permit. Management activities to promote health and longevity; ex. invasive species control. No developed recreational access or use.

### **C = Conservation Area**

Purpose: To conserve key resource elements including historic and cultural features. Minimal, limited, and resource-compatible public access. Conditional Access intended for education, restoration and resource management purposes. Restricted access due to potential environmental or heritage impacts. Research, monitoring, and study activities allowable.

Acceptable Land use: Active and prescriptive habitat restoration. Monitor ecosystem health. Invasive species management and control.

Allowable Activities: Discourage organized large group activities. No pets, livestock, or bicycles. Educational and interpretive activities which have minimal resource intrusion and impact. Limited recreational harvest activities and those which sustain and complement resource health and diversity; ex. shellfish, berries, brush picking.

### **PR = Passive Recreation**

Purpose: To allow moderate and dispersed public use with minimal impact or degradation to the significant features or ecosystem. [Ex. pedestrian trails, viewpoints]

Acceptable Land use: Manage landscape for recreational safety and limited impact use. Determine a carrying-capacity for trail access and use.

Allowable Activities: Some recreational harvest of traditional-use vegetation, low impact trails, manage “hazard trees” in concentrated areas, some conditional commercial harvest for stand maintenance. No large recreational events. Public amenities; ex. restrooms, interpretive and educational activities, view areas and bird “blinds”.

### **AR = Active Recreation**

Purpose: To encourage and provide for moderate to high intensity public use and recreation activities, where the resource base is of already modified, or of lower overall value to the greater park area. Provide for some developed “comfort” facilities. e.g., restrooms, trailhead parking, wide, high-impact trail routes.

Acceptable Land use: An area of high level of recreational activities and facilities. Modification of landscape is allowable with the protection of sensitive and critical resource areas. Design and operation of active recreation facilities are responsible for protection of sensitive natural areas and waterways.

Allowable Activities: Nature-based recreation activities and facilities. Events are allowable with permit and scheduling. Large event impacts need to be mitigated. Provide for visitor comfort amenities. High capacity designed trails, parking. Dog walking, on-leash allowed. Conditional use: Dog walking off-leash with horse use acceptable with voice control.

#### **DR = Developed Recreation.**

Purpose: Developable land-base for moderate to high levels of recreation use and facilities. Site impacts and landscape modification are acceptable with appropriate environmental reviews and mitigations.

Acceptable Land use: High capacity urban-style recreation with developed facilities for access and visitor comfort. Natural areas and landscape amenities are in keeping with “park-like” environment and experience.

Allowable Activities: All forms of developed playfields; ball fields, trailheads, skate park, picnic shelters, nature trails, camping, ADA facilities,

#### **SP = Specialized Recreation**

Purpose: To provide for a specialized recreational use with some public amenities and management controls.

Acceptable Land Use: Dependent on recreational experience and activity demands.

Allowable Activities: Dependent on recreational needs. Ex.; bike recreation areas, amphitheaters, model airplane fly fields, non-motorized organized events such as runs, walks, bike rallies, water trail activities.

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

**Conditional Uses:** Allowances are made for resource use for recreation and public access which are not identified in the land classifications and which may be determined an acceptable “conditional use”, on a case-by-case basis, through a Kitsap County Parks planning process. These will be noted in a Park Management Plan.

**Forest Restoration Activities:** As a result of historic silvicultural practices on this property, directed to commercial timber harvest, the current forest structure and composition has limited diversity, age class and understory complexity throughout much of this landscape. Restoration activities, directed for forest health and habitat purposes, may include, but limited to; types of restorative thinning, inter-planting of native tree species, and introduction of other native plants.

## **LAND CLASSIFICATION RESOURCE ASSESSMENTS**

Landscapes can sustain various levels of public access and recreation, however, to understand where to “draw the line” for recreation and resource protection, there needs to be a clear understanding of the natural and cultural resources and their level of sensitivity. In the mapping process, indicate the minimum optimum for protection of resource values and the minimum optimum public use and recreation areas. Then determine who best to integrate these landscape uses or how best to buffer or divide the landscape management areas.

### **Resource Assessments:**

- Vegetation inventory -- site analysis
- Wildlife assessment & habitat values
- Superlative and key features
- Sensitive ecosystem areas
- Threatened and Endangered species
- Viewshed qualities
- Land-use history
- Current management issues

### **Public Use Assessments:**

- Historical public access and land use
- Recreational desires and demands of the region
- Recreation facilities needs to support potential use e.g. parking restrooms, road and trail access and connections
- Existing and potential public use impacts
- Management concerns and safety issues
- Recreational opportunities and funding potential

## **LANDSCAPE CLASSIFICATION & BASE-MAPPING PROCESS**

**MAP:** [outline these areas on a contour or aerial map]

1. Outline key resource features and sensitive areas
2. Identify wildlife habitat needs and areas of protection
3. Identify corridors of existing and potential public access and recreational use
4. Locate areas of singular resource protection and areas where public use interest does not conflict.

### **DETERMINE RESOURCE/USE COMPATIBILITY:**

1. Discuss area of conflict, “overlap of values” or agreement for mixed use/protection
2. Identify areas of prime concern for protection
3. Map at least two alternatives emphasizing different levels of protection and use.
4. Record final draft recommendations on an area-colored map with management directions.

### **RESOURCE AND PUBLIC USE -- LANDSCAPE PLAN APPROVAL PROCESS:**

1. Present Draft Plan to Kitsap County Parks staff for consultation review.
2. Final Draft presented to Parks’ Director and Parks Advisory Board for review and approval.
3. Parks Director recommends to Board of County Commissioners for adoption.

**KITSAP COUNTY 2016 COMP PLAN –Parks and Open Space Elements**

KITSAP COUNTY  
CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN

**Exhibit 4-44. County-Owned Active Recreation Facilities (Units)**

Type of Active Recreation Facility	Kitsap County Capacity
Baseball Fields (250"+)	8
Baseball Fields (200"+)	19
Indoor Gymnasium	1
Basketball	7
Volleyball	6
Soccer	18
Tennis Courts	9
Horseshoe Pits	32
BMX Track	1
Golf Course Holes	36
Skate Park	3

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

**Exhibit 4-45. County-Owned Passive Recreation Facilities (Units)**

Type of Passive Recreation Facility	Kitsap County Capacity
Playgrounds	12
Garden features	1
Off-leash areas	3
<b>Trails</b>	
Trails (Paved)	1
Trails (Unpaved)	73
Total Trails (Miles)	74

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.



Kitsap Kids Playground, Fairgrounds and Events Center

**Other Recreation Facilities**

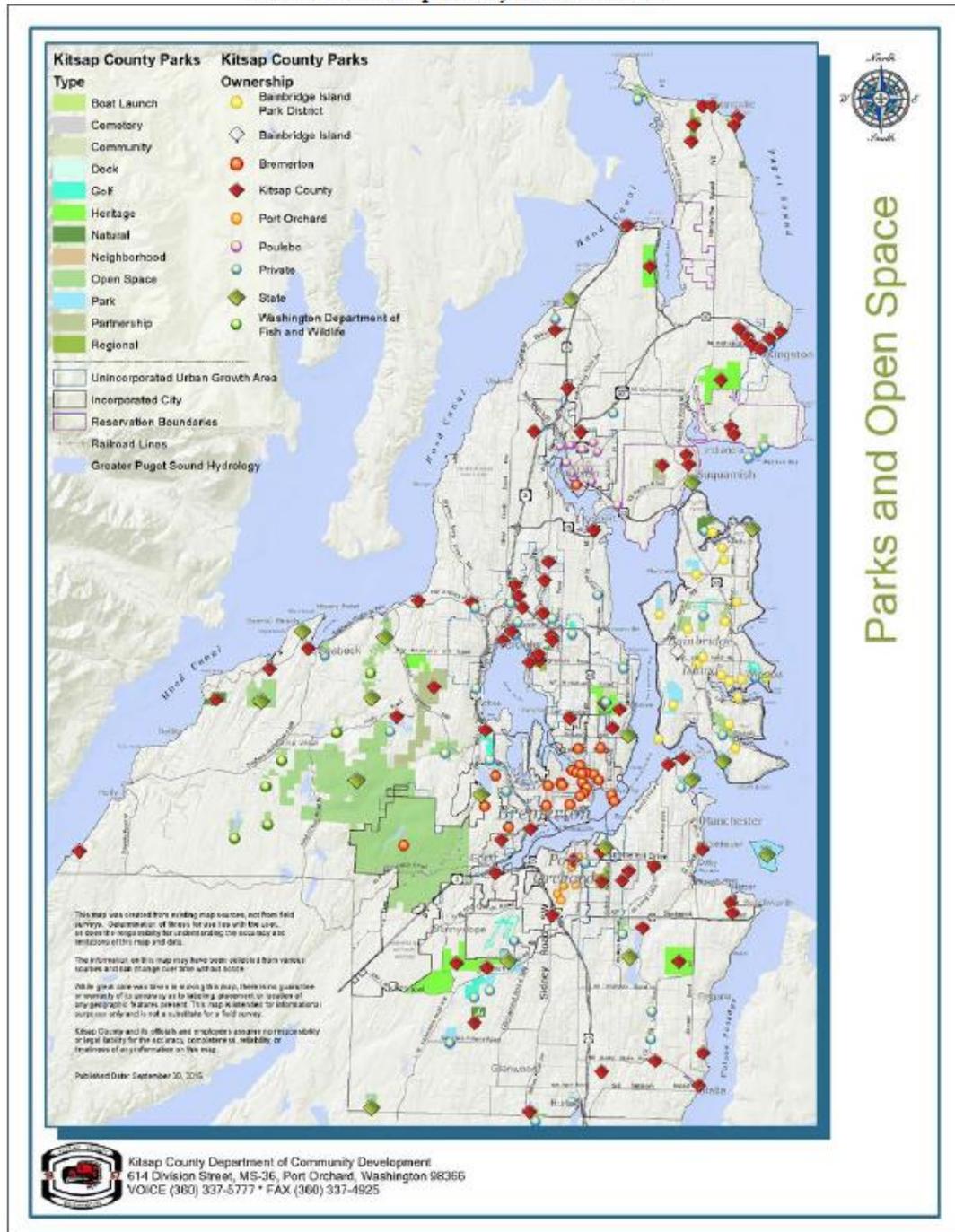
Exhibit 4-46 shows the inventory of additional recreational facilities owned and managed by the County, including beach and water activities, and community centers.

**Exhibit 4-46. County-Owned Facilities by Category (Units)**

Type of Passive Recreation Facility	Kitsap County Capacity
Boat launches - motorized	2
Boat launches - non-motorized	4
Docks	3
Piers	5
Benches	21
Shelters	5
Swimming Shoreline	1,512 linear feet
Saltwater Shoreline	29,051 linear feet
Freshwater Shoreline	5,361 linear feet
Showers	10
Restrooms	23
Drinking Fountains	14
Camp Sites	56
Parking Spaces	892

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

Exhibit 4-47. Kitsap County Parks Facilities



Source: Kitsap County Community Development 2015

### Level of Service Capacity Analysis

The LOS analysis for parks is based on the 2012 Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan that was adopted in March of 2012. For most of the parks and recreation facilities include two forms of LOS: The “target” LOS is from PROS, and “base” LOS was the standard adopted in the 2012 based on the fundable plan.

#### Natural Resource Areas

The adopted LOS for natural resource areas is 71.1 acres per 1,000 population, including both County and non-County facilities. Currently, the County is not meeting this standard as shown in Exhibit 4-48.

**Exhibit 4-48. Target LOS Requirement Analysis – Natural Resource Areas**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to meet Target LOS Standard	Acres Available	Net Reserve or Deficit
Natural Resources Area LOS Standard = 71.1 Acres per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	18,332	17,890	(442)
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	19,787	17,890	(1,897)
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	23,647	17,890	(5,757)

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

The 2012 CFP included a base LOS of 57.1 acres per 1,000 population. The County has sufficient capacity to meet this LOS standard now and through the six-year planning period, but will have a deficit in the twenty-year planning period, as shown in Exhibit 4-49.

**Exhibit 4-49. Base LOS Requirement Analysis – Natural Resource Areas**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to meet Target LOS Standard	Acres Available	Net Reserve or Deficit
Natural Resources Area LOS Standard = 57.1 acres per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	14,743	17,890	3,147
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	15,913	17,890	1,977
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	19,017	17,890	(1,127)

Source: Kitsap County CFP 2012; BERK, 2016.

To meet the target LOS in all periods and the base LOS in 2036, the County is working on a community effort called the Kitsap Forest and Bay Project that could double the County’s open space and passive recreational acres. The Forest and Bay project is anticipated to add up to 4,910 acres by purchasing Pope Resources land with public and private resources, and dedicating the land for public use. The land includes:

- Port Gamble Upland Block – 3,316 acres
- Port Gamble Shoreline Block - 564 acres, including 1.8 miles of shoreline (already acquired)
- Divide Block - 664 acres (180 acres already acquired)
- Park Expansion Block - 366 acres (already acquired)

Working with DNR, some State land may also be transferred to County ownership through the legislatively-funded Trust Land Transfer (TLT) Program. Under this program DNR’s timbered

properties are transferred to another public agency that will manage and protect it for public use and enjoyment. The current proposal includes:

- Olympic View proposed TLT - 50 acres

The additional Kitsap Forest and Bay Project properties are not currently classified as Natural Resource Areas, but these properties can be managed as natural resource areas or open spaces where logging is permitted, which could help solve the Natural Areas LOS deficit. The Parks Department can determine appropriate classifications and a management approach as it updates the PROS Plan scheduled for 2018.

### Regional Parks

The adopted target LOS for regional parks is 16 acres per 1,000 population, including County and non-County facilities. The County currently has a deficiency of 1,199 acres, and this deficiency continues and increases through 2036, as shown in Exhibit 4-50.

**Exhibit 4-50. Target LOS Requirement Analysis – Regional Parks**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to Meet Target LOS Standard	Acres Available	Net Reserve or Deficiency
Regional Parks LOS = 16 acres per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	4,131	2,932	(1,199)
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	4,459	2,932	(1,527)
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	5,329	2,932	(2,397)

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

In 2012, the CFP identified a base LOS of 8.9 acres per 1,000 people. At this standard, the County would meet the needs of growth in the 2016-2021 period, as shown in Exhibit 4-51, and would have a slight deficit by the 2022-2036 period. The deficit could be addressed by additions in non-County regional parkland or by changing the base LOS to 8.8 acres per 1,000 persons for the outer years of the planning period.

**Exhibit 4-51. Base LOS Adjustments for Regional Parks**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to Meet Target LOS Standard	Acres Available	Net Reserve or Deficiency
Regional Parks LOS = 8.9 acres per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	2,298	2,932	634
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	2,480	2,932	452
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	2,964	2,932	(32)

Source: Kitsap County CFP, 2012; BERK, 2016.

If the County elected to adjust its LOS to a base level, the standards shown in Exhibit 4-52 would allow the County to meet the base standards under the Preferred Alternative for the 2016-2021 period and the 2022-2036 period.

**Exhibit 4-52. Potential LOS Adjustments for Regional Parks**

Alternative	Target LOS	Estimated Deficiency	LOS Needed to Address Deficiency (Acres/ 1000 people)
2015	16 acres/ 1,000 people	(1,199)	11.4
2021 Preferred Alternative	16 acres/ 1,000 people	(1,527)	10.5
2036 Preferred Alternative	16 acres/ 1,000 people	(2,397)	8.89

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

#### Heritage Parks

The adopted target LOS for heritage parks is 19 acres per 1,000 population and assumes the full acres owned by the County. The County is currently deficient in heritage parks, as shown in Exhibit 4-53. Heritage parks are only provided by Kitsap County.

**Exhibit 4-53. Target LOS Requirement Analysis – Heritage Parks**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to Meet Target LOS Standard	Acres Available	Net Reserve or Deficiency
Heritage Parks LOS = 19 acres per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	4,906	4,699	(207)
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	5,295	4,699	(596)
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	6,328	4,699	(1,629)

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

The 2012 CFP base LOS is 11.5 acres per 1,000 population. Using this standard, the deficits would be reversed, as shown in Exhibit 4-54. Due to heritage park additions since 2012, it is likely the County could increase its base LOS.

**Exhibit 4-54. Base LOS Requirement Analysis for Heritage Parks**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to Meet Target LOS Standard	Acres Available	Net Reserve or Deficiency
Heritage Parks LOS = 11.5 acres per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	2,969	4,699	1,730
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	3,205	4,699	1,494
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	3,830	4,699	869

Source: Kitsap County CFP 2012; BERK, 2016.

The County could reassess its LOS standards for heritage parks and adopt base LOS standards reflecting its larger inventory since 2012. The County could have a base LOS of 17 acres per 1,000 persons from 2015 to 2021 and a base LOS of 14 acres per 1,000 persons by the close of the 2036 planning period.

If the County elected to adjust its LOS to a base level, the standards shown in Exhibit 4-55 would allow the County to meet the base standards under the Preferred Alternative for the 2016-2021 period and also for the 2022-2036 period.

**Exhibit 4-55. Potential LOS Adjustments for Heritage Parks**

Alternative	Target LOS	Estimated Deficiency	LOS Needed to Address Deficiency (Acres/ 1000 people)
2015	19 acres/ 1,000 people	(207)	18
2021 Preferred Alternative	19 acres/ 1,000 people	(596)	17
2036 Preferred Alternative	19 acres/ 1,000 people	(1,629)	14

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

**Community Parks**

The adopted target LOS for community parks is 4.65 acres per 1,000 population. There is a small deficit in 2015 that grows by 2036, as shown in Exhibit 4-56.

**Exhibit 4-56. Target LOS Requirement Analysis – Community Park**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to Meet Target LOS Standard	Acres Available	Net Reserve or Deficiency
Community Parks LOS = 4.65 acres per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	1,201	1,145	(56)
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	1,296	1,145	(151)
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	1,549	1,145	(404)

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

In 2012, a base LOS of 3.50 acres per 1,000 was adopted. That LOS would be sufficient through the six-year period and result in small deficiencies by year 20, as shown in Exhibit 4-57. Changing the base LOS to 3.44 acres per 1,000 persons would address deficiencies in the outer years of the planning period.

**Exhibit 4-57. Base LOS Requirement Analysis – Community Park**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to Meet Target LOS Standard	Acres Available	Net Reserve or Deficiency
Community Parks LOS = 3.5 acres per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	904	1,145	241
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	975	1,145	170
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	1,166	1,145	(21)

Source: Kitsap County CFP 2012; BERK, 2016.

If the County elected to adjust its LOS to a base level, the standards shown in Exhibit 4-58 would allow the County to meet the base standards under the Preferred Alternative for the 2016-2021 period and also for the 2022-2036 period.

**Exhibit 4-58. Potential LOS Adjustments for Community Park**

Alternative	Target LOS	Estimated Deficiency	LOS Needed to Address Deficiency (Acres/ 1000 people)
2015	4.65 acres/ 1,000 people	(56)	4.4
2021 Preferred Alternative	4.65 acres/ 1,000 people	(151)	4.1
2036 Preferred Alternative	4.65 acres/ 1,000 people	(404)	4.1

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

### Shoreline Access

The adopted LOS for shoreline access is 0.061 miles per 1,000 population and includes County and non-County miles of shoreline access. The County currently has a surplus of shoreline access, considering both County and non-County miles of shoreline access, as shown in Exhibit 4-59.

**Exhibit 4-59. LOS Requirement Analysis – Shoreline Access**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to Meet Target LOS Standard	Miles Available	Net Reserve or Deficiency
Shoreline Access LOS = 0.061 miles per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	16	26.5	10.7
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	17	26.5	9.5
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	20	26.5	6.2

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

### Trails

The adopted LOS for trails is 0.2 miles per 1,000 population and relies on the County’s inventory of trails. The County has a reserve of trail miles through 2036, as shown in Exhibit 4-60. Other agencies provide approximately 57 miles of trails in the county, which, if included in the adopted LOS standard, would increase the surplus.



Kitsap Park Volunteers

**Exhibit 4-60. LOS Requirement Analysis – Trails**

Time Period	Kitsap Countywide Population	Acres to Meet Target LOS Standard	Miles Available	Net Reserve or Deficiency
Trails LOS = 0.2 miles per 1,000 population				
2015	258,200	52	157	105
2021 Preferred Alternative	278,691	56	157	101
2036 Preferred Alternative	333,053	67	157	90

Source: Kitsap County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2012; Kitsap County Parks Department, 2015; BERK, 2016.

### Facilities Objectives



SKRP Skate Park, Kitsap County



Example Spray Park, Snohomish Co.

The 2012 Kitsap County PROS Plan contains a demand and needs analysis. The levels of service in the plan for park land, open space, and trails are addressed in this CFP as target levels of service. The PROS Plan also includes a demand analysis for two additional categories of facilities:

- Athletic Facilities: ballfields (baseball, soccer, football), sport courts (basketball, tennis, volleyball), multipurpose fields, jogging tracks, gyms, alternative sports facilities (skate park, BMX track), swimming pools, and others.
- Outdoor Leisure Facilities: Playgrounds, picnic shelters, camp sites, swimming shoreline, boat launches, golf course holes, nature/interpretive centers, and community centers.

The Athletic Facilities and Outdoor Leisure Facilities needs analysis from the PROS Plan is hereby incorporated by reference.

Because needs, costs, and management approaches can change over time, this CFP provides the following facility objectives:

- A. Based on community needs, provide outdoor leisure and athletic facilities to advance the PROS Plan vision and meet community needs.
- B. Recognizing differences in park classifications, site conditions, costs, maintenance and operations, and other relevant considerations, allow for a variety of outdoor leisure and athletic facilities listed under the two categories or similar to listed facilities. For example, Outdoor Leisure includes playgrounds. The form of playgrounds may vary and include traditional play structures, spray parks, adventure playgrounds, sensory gardens, or others.
- C. Promote a minimum standard of facilities to encourage community access to new parks within funding constraints. For example, full implementation of park master plan may be staged over multiple years. An early phase could install basic amenities such as a loop trail, parking, restrooms, and multipurpose lawn with later phases installed as funding and management considerations allow.



Salsbury Point Boat Ramp



Gordon Field Opening

### Land Acquisition and Management Objectives

Much of Kitsap County's inventory of land has been donated or acquired. Some of the land is ecologically sensitive and cannot be used for parks and recreation purposes. Given limited management resources and the need to create a regional connected parks and recreation system, it is important to identify objectives for land acquisition.

Land that is acquired or proposed for donation to Kitsap County should have the following characteristics to ensure it contributes to the envisioned regional park system and can be efficiently managed within limited funding resources:

- A. The property meets a parkland or facility need identified in the adopted PROS plan or approved park master plan.
- B. The property contains adequate usable area for active or leisure recreation purposes.
- C. If used for active recreation, multiple recreation activities in multiple seasons are feasible.
- D. If intended for open space conservation, a management plan is prepared demonstrating how natural resources are to be managed for ecosystem services, the level of maintenance resources needed, and the suitability for public access.
- E. The property can be feasibly maintained and operated.
- F. The property has suitable physical conditions for the intended park use, including soil structure, topography, natural features, vegetation, structures, existing facilities, and local conditions, etc.
- G. Appropriate vehicular and pedestrian access to the site is feasible.
- H. Appropriate utilities and public works systems in relationship to location and intended use of site are available.
- I. The future park, recreation, or open space use is consistent with Comprehensive Plan policies and zoning districts.

#### **Health Objectives**

The Growth Management Act promotes planning for healthy lifestyles, such as by promoting well-designed neighborhoods with access to parks, non-motorized trails, and other recreation facilities. Parks capital projects that advance the following health objectives should be prioritized for funding and implementation:

- A. Improve the connectivity of parks, trails, and open space systems, particularly in proximity to population and job centers, to encourage more frequent recreation use.
- B. Promote the design and implementation of facilities that are usable by persons of all ages and abilities, such as improvements implementing ADA requirements.
- C. Provide active or outdoor leisure facilities usable in multiple seasons for a variety of activities.
- D. Advance sustainable design principles such as low impact development, conservation, and other environmentally best management practices.

### Capital Projects and Funding

Capital facilities projects for parks are shown in Exhibit 4-61. Exhibit 4-62 shows the capital facilities costs from 2016 through 2036 and Exhibit 4-63 shows the capital facilities revenues for the same time period.

**Exhibit 4-61. Parks Capital Facilities Projects 2016-2036 (All numbers in 2015 \$1000s)**

Category/ Project Description	Revenue Sources	Cost	Cost	Cost	Total Cost
		2016-2018	2019-2021	2022-2036	
<b>Category I: Capacity Increasing Projects</b>					
Acquisition - Heritage General	Construction Futures	410	250	TBD	660
<b>Category II: Capital Replacement, Maintenance and Operations</b>					
Improvements	REET II, Construction Fund, General Fund	4,064	3,785	TBD	7,849
Maintenance	REET II, General Fund, Fund Balance	972	780	TBD	1,752

Note: This project list may be further updated based on the 2016 Budget that is under review, and based on further Department review in association with the Preferred Alternative.

Source: Kitsap County Parks Department, 2016; BERK, 2016

**Exhibit 4-62. Parks Capital Facilities Costs 2016-2036 (In 2015 dollars)**

Category Summary	Cost Years 2016-2021	Cost Years 2022-2036	Total Cost
<b>Category I (Capacity Projects Required to Meet LOS)</b>	660	TBD	660
<b>Category II (Other Projects Needed for Maintenance and Operations)</b>	9,601	TBD	9,601
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,261</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>10,261</b>

Source: Kitsap County Parks Department, 2016; BERK, 2016.

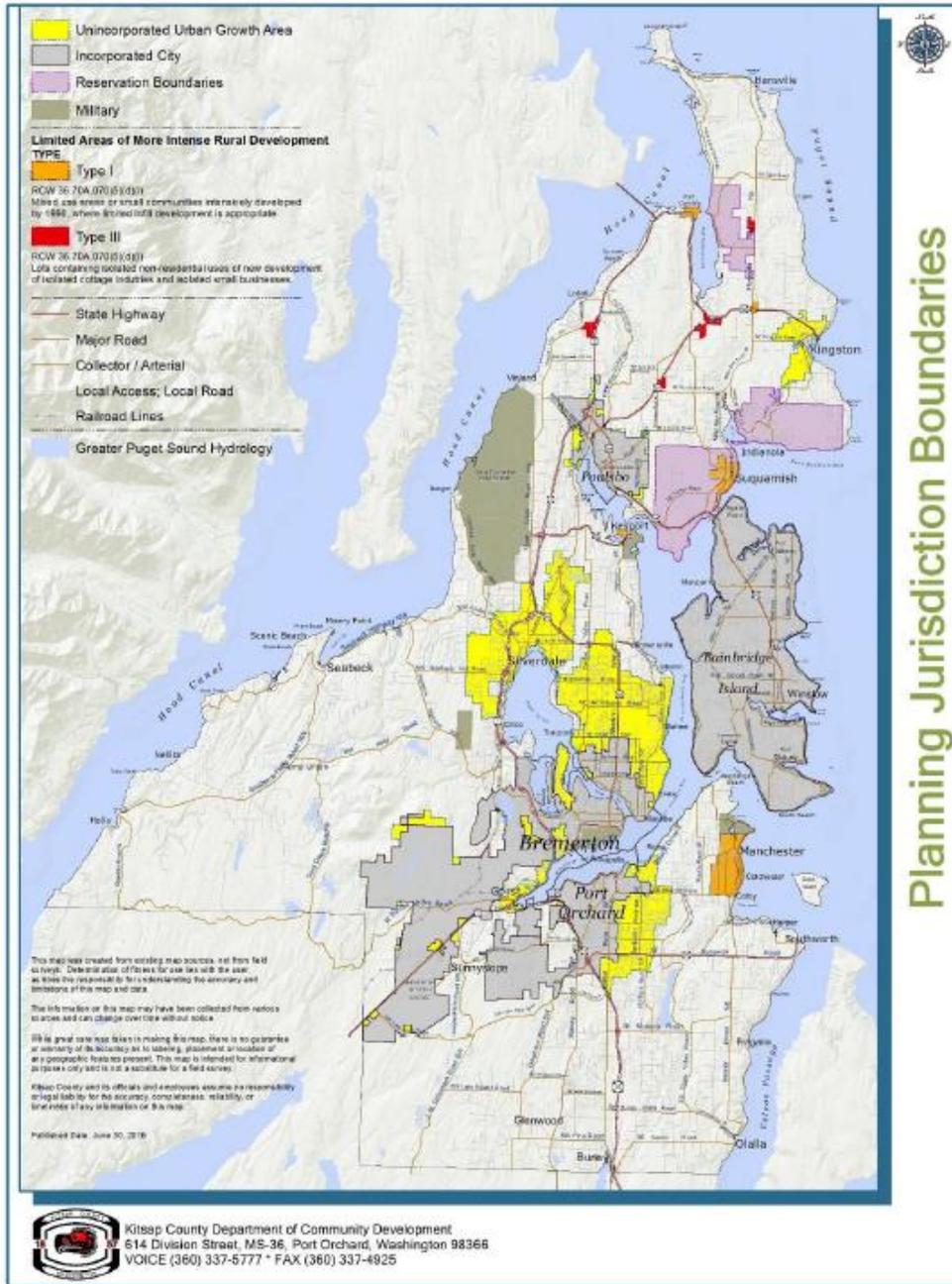
**Exhibit 4-63. Parks Capital Facilities Revenues 2016-2036**

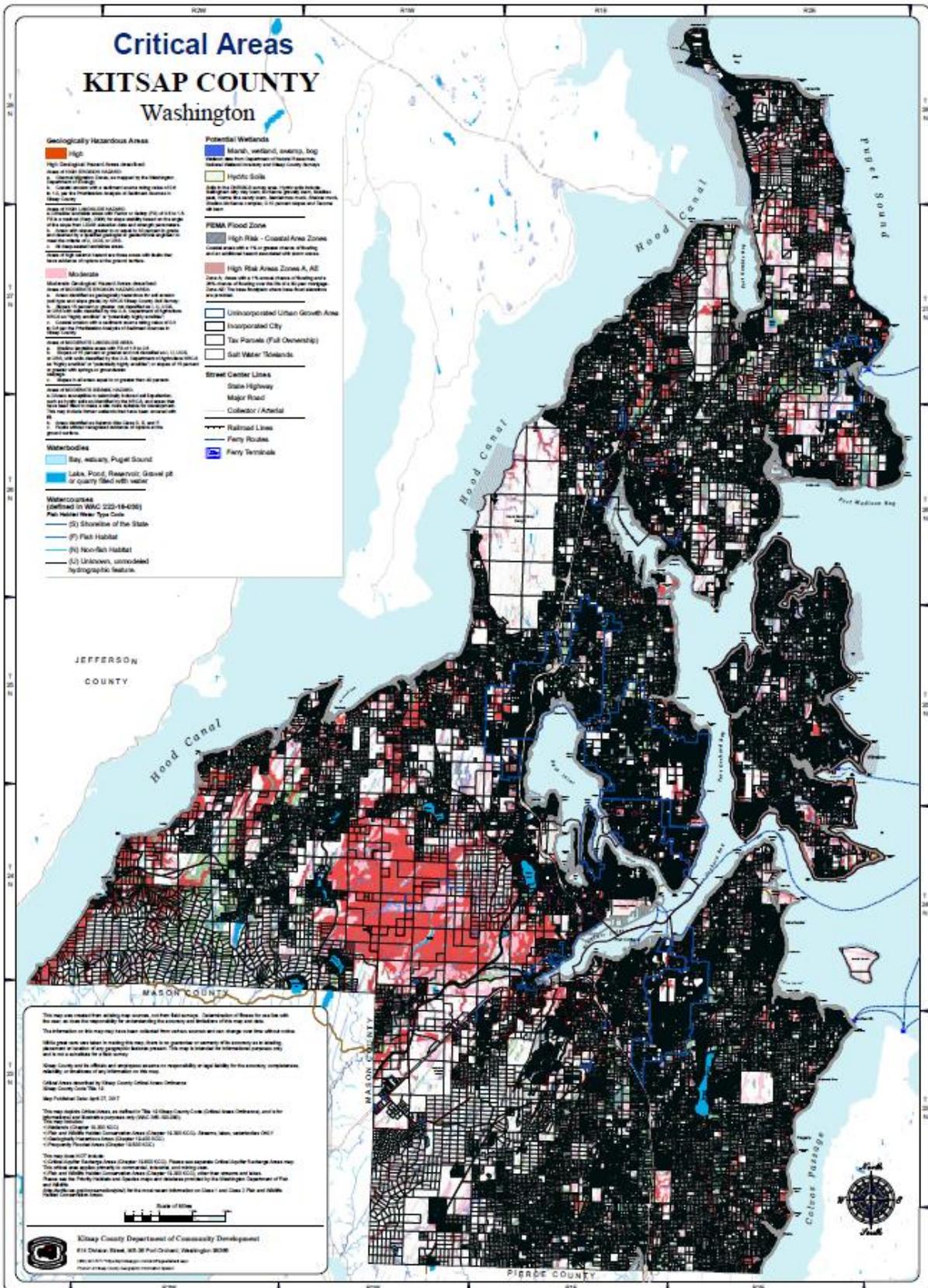
Revenue Source	Revenue Year 2016-2021	Revenue Years 2022-2036	Total Revenue
<b>REET II, Construction Fund, General Fund</b>	9,601	TBD	9,601
<b>Construction Futures</b>	660	TBD	660
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,261</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>10,261</b>

Note: Funding may be further updated based on the 2016 Budget that is under review, and based on further Department review in association with the Preferred Alternative.

Source: Kitsap County Parks Department, 2016; BERK, 2016.

# REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT OPEN SPACE MAPS





# Critical Areas KITSAP COUNTY Washington

- Geologically Hazardous Areas**
- High**

High Geological Hazard Areas (designated areas of major geological instability) as determined by the Washington Geological Hazard Survey, as reported by the Washington Geological Hazard Survey, as reported by the Washington Geological Hazard Survey, as reported by the Washington Geological Hazard Survey.
  - Moderate**

Moderate Geological Hazard Areas (designated areas of moderate geological instability) as determined by the Washington Geological Hazard Survey, as reported by the Washington Geological Hazard Survey, as reported by the Washington Geological Hazard Survey, as reported by the Washington Geological Hazard Survey.
- Potential Wetlands**
- Marsh, wetland, vernal pool, etc. (as determined by the Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Ecology and King County Survey)
  - Hydric Soils (as determined by the Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Ecology and King County Survey)
- FEMA Flood Zone**
- High Risk - Coastal Area Zones (as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA)
  - High Risk Area Zones A, AE (as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA)
- Street Center Lines**
- State Highway
  - Major Road
  - Collector / Arterial
  - Railroad Lines
  - Ferry Routes
  - Ferry Terminals
- Waterbodies**
- Bay, estuary, Puget Sound
  - Lake, Pond, Reservoir, General pit or quarry (Shaded with water)
- Watercourses**
- (Defined in WAC 220-18-030)
- Fish Habitat Water Type Code
- (S) Shoreline of the State
  - (F) Fish Habitat
  - (N) Non-fish Habitat
  - (U) Unknown, unclassified hydrographic features

This map was created for planning purposes only. It is not intended to be used as a legal document. The information on this map may have been obtained from various sources and may change over time without notice. Kitsap County does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the information on this map and is not responsible for any errors or omissions. This map is intended for informational purposes only and is not a warranty for a particular use.

Kitsap County and its officers and employees assume no responsibility or legal liability for the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of any information on this map.

Critical Areas identified by Kitsap County Critical Areas Ordinance  
 Kitsap County Code Title 14  
 May 1998 Edition, April 27, 2017

This map applies to Kitsap County and is subject to the 14 Kitsap County Code Critical Areas Ordinance, and is for informational purposes only (WAC 220-18-030).  
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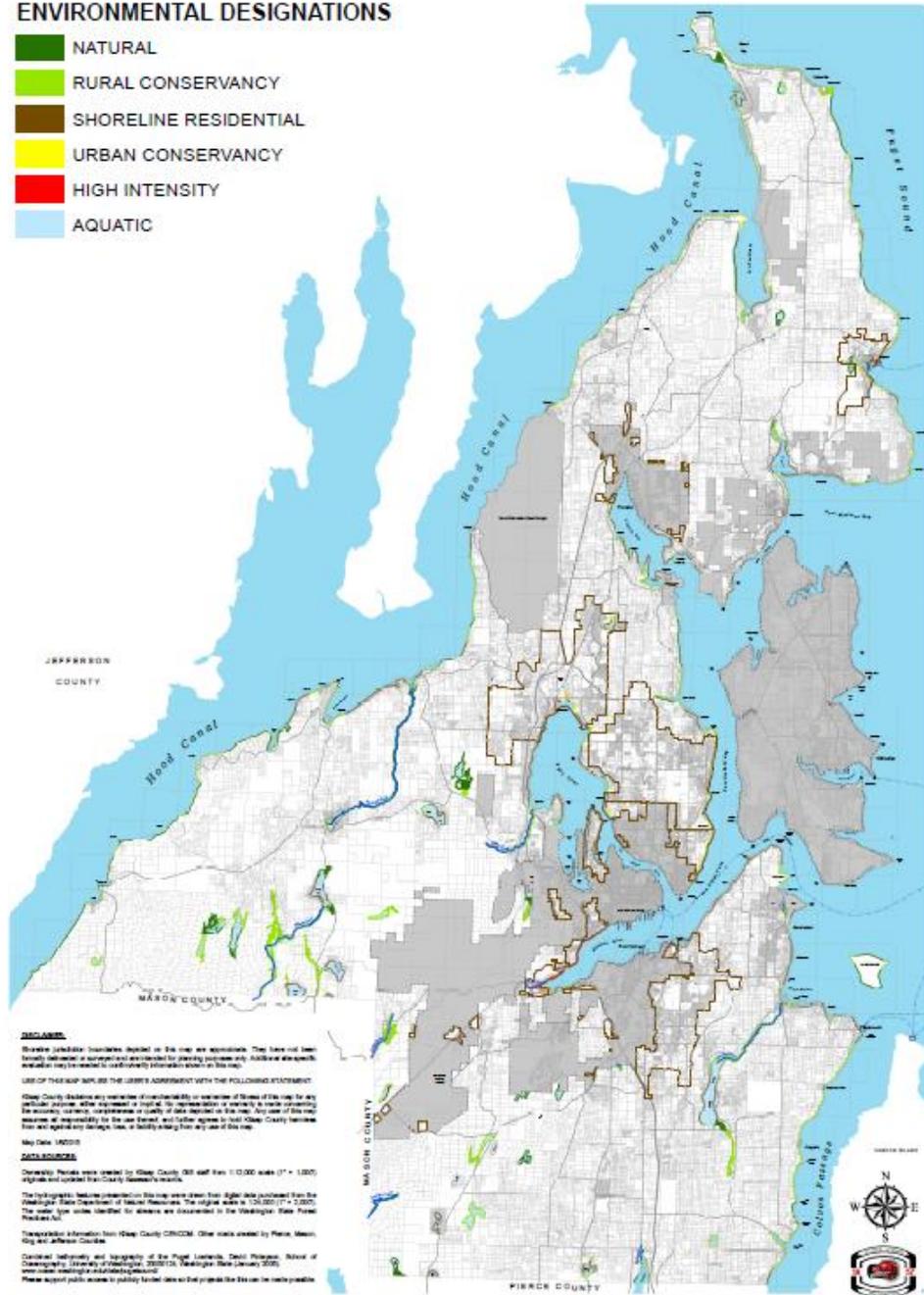
**Kitsap County Department of Community Development**  
 675 Duane Street, 9th Floor, Port Orchard, Washington 98366  
 206-871-1000  
 www.kitsapcounty.com



# KITSAP COUNTY SHORELINE ENVIRONMENT DESIGNATIONS

## ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGNATIONS

- NATURAL
- RURAL CONSERVANCY
- SHORELINE RESIDENTIAL
- URBAN CONSERVANCY
- HIGH INTENSITY
- AQUATIC



**DISCLAIMER:**  
Boundary line designations depicted on this map are approximate. They have not been formally delineated or surveyed and are intended for planning purposes only. Additional site-specific analysis may be needed to confirm information shown on this map.

**USE OF THIS MAP IMPLIES THE USER'S AGREEMENT WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:**  
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Map Date: 1/20/10

**DATA SOURCE:**  
Ownership records were created by Kitsap County GIS staff from 1:10,000 scale (7 1/2" x 12.5") original and updated from County Assessor's records.

The hydrographic features presented on this map were drawn from digital data produced from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The original scale is 1:25,000 (7 1/2" x 25,000"). The water line codes identified for streams are documented in the Washington State Water Protection Act.

Transportation information from Kitsap County CRDCM. Other data created by Pierce, Mason, King and Jefferson Counties.

Cartographic information and integrity of the Project Location, Social Programs, Status of Designation, University of Washington, 2003/04, Washington State (January 2005), and other information as indicated.

Please support public access to publicly funded data for that project for the State to be truly public.

Kitsap County Department of Community Development  
614 Division Street, MS-36 Post Orchard, Washigen 98266  
(360) 337-6777 • FAX: (360) 327-4625

## Shoreline Environment Designations Summary

The Shoreline Management Act (SMA) Guidelines (WAC 173-26-211)(2)(a) require local shoreline master programs (SMPs) to "classify shoreline areas into specific environment designations. This classification system shall be based on the existing use pattern, the biological and physical character of the shoreline, and the goals and aspirations of the community as expressed through comprehensive plans" as well as the criteria in WAC 173-26-211.

The following are the Purpose statements for each of these Designations:

### Natural:

To protect those shoreline areas that are relatively free of human influence or which include intact or minimally degraded shoreline functions intolerant of human use. In order to maintain ecological processes and functions, restrictions on the intensities and types of uses permitted in such areas are required. Restoration of degraded shorelines should be planned within this environment.

To protect ecological functions, conserve existing natural resources and valuable historic and cultural areas in order to provide for sustained resource use, achieve natural floodplain processes, and provide recreational opportunities. (To accommodate residential uses, but subject to environmental limitations, such as properties that include or are adjacent to steep banks, leader bluffs, or flood plains or other flood-prone areas.)

### Urban Conservancy:

To protect and restore ecological functions of open space, floodplain and other ecologic lands where they exist in urban and developed settings, while allowing a variety of compatible uses.

### Shoreline Residential:

To accommodate residential development and appurtenant structures which are consistent with this Program (unless further development would be restricted by sensitive environments or safety). An additional purpose is to provide appropriate public access and recreational uses.

### High-Intensity:

To provide for high-intensity water-oriented commercial, transportation, and industrial uses (in the UGA or LAM/ED) while protecting existing ecological functions and restoring ecological functions in areas that have been previously degraded.

### Aquatic:

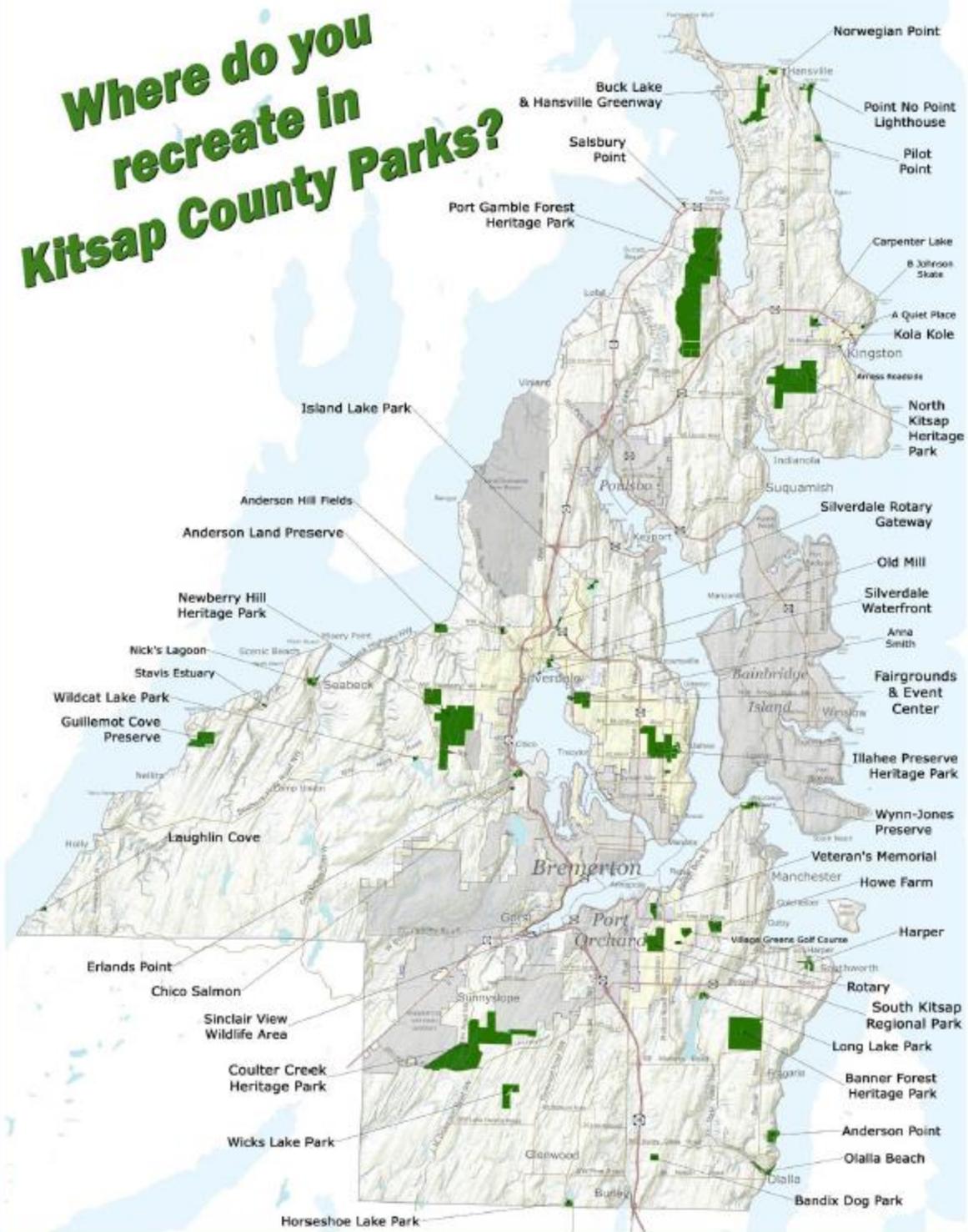
To protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of the areas watershed of the ordinary high-water mark.

Please refer to Chapter 22.000, Shoreline Environment Designations, for the complete purpose statement, selection criteria and management policies for each Shoreline Environment Designation.





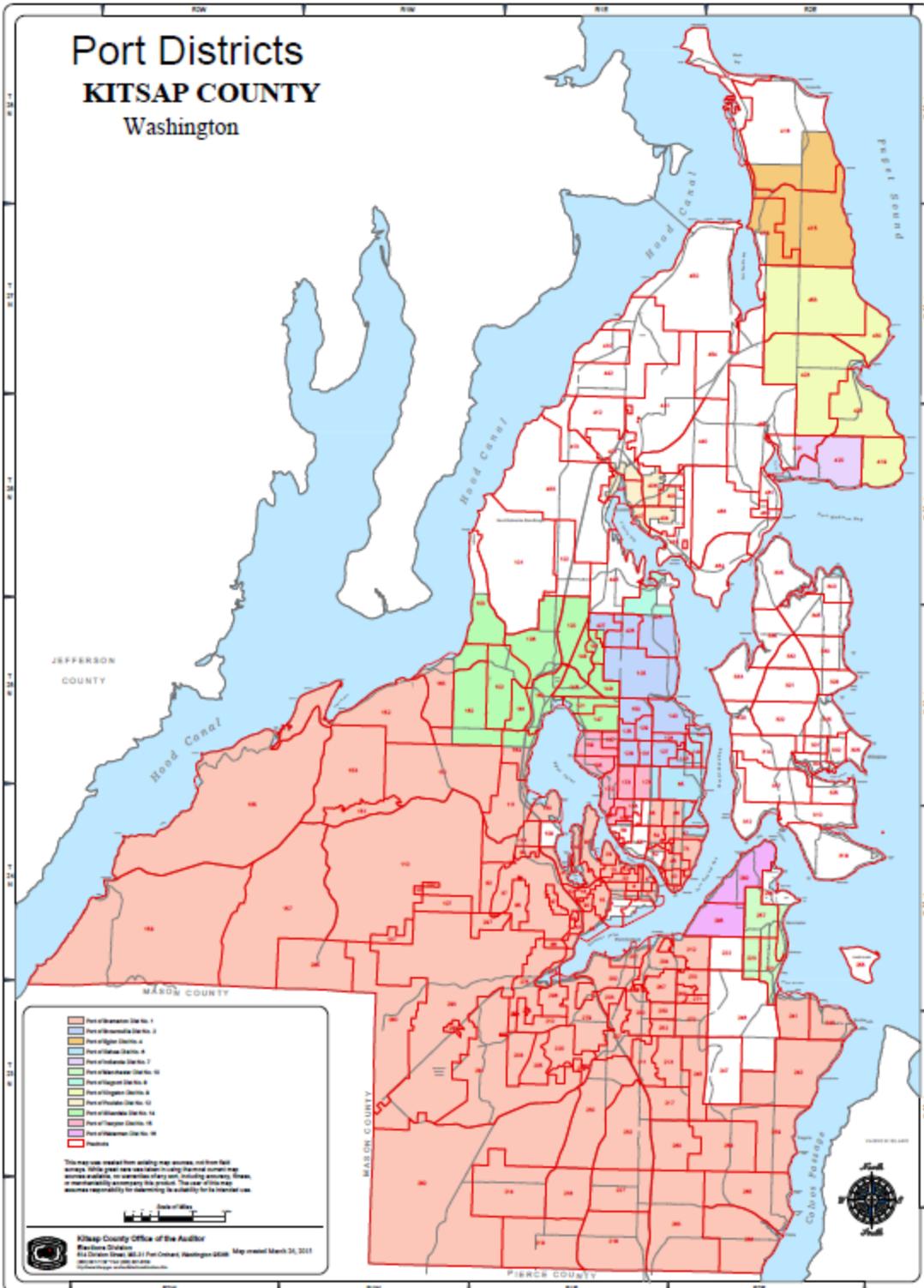
# Where do you recreate in Kitsap County Parks?



**Kitsap County Parks**  
 614 Divison Street, MS-1  
 Port Orchard, WA 98366  
 360.337.5350 ph. 360.337.5395 fax  
<http://www.kitsapgov.com/parks/>



# Port Districts KITSAP COUNTY Washington



# Bainbridge Island Parks



Key/Legend	
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:10px; background-color:lightgreen; border:1px solid black;"></span>	Park Boundaries
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:10px; background-color:lightpink; border:1px solid black;"></span>	Selected Open Space
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; border-bottom:1px solid blue;"></span>	Roads
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; border-bottom:1px solid blue; border-left:1px solid blue; border-right:1px solid blue;"></span>	BIMPRD Maintained trails
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; border-bottom:1px solid orange;"></span>	Other Selected Trails
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; border-bottom:1px solid red;"></span>	Long Distance Trails
<span style="display:inline-block; width:10px; height:10px; border:1px solid blue; border-radius:50%;"></span>	Facilities



For more information: [biparks.org](http://biparks.org)

## BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT PARKS

- AARON TOT LOT:** (1385 Aaron Ave.) Children's play structure.
- BATTLE POINT PARK:** (11299 Arrow Pt Dr) 90 acres. Picnic areas, play structure, jogging trail, soccer & softball fields, equestrian trail, picnic shelter, tennis courts, basketball courts, roller-hockey rink, wildlife pond, and community garden.
- AQUATIC CENTER:** (8521 Madison Ave.) 1 acre. 25 yard/6-lane pool with 1 & 3 meter diving boards, warm water leisure pool with spa, lazy river, water slide and zero depth entry.
- BLAKELY HARBOR PARK:** (Head of Blakely Harbor) 40 acres, shoreline access, passive recreational activities such as picnicking, kayaking and wildlife viewing.
- CAMP YEOMALT:** (900 Park Ave.) 3 acres. Multipurpose building and woodland trail.
- EAGLEDALE PARK:** (5050 Rose Ave NE) 7 acres. Pottery studio and workshop, picnic shelter, tennis court, play area, volleyball court, and off-leash dog area.
- FAY BAINBRIDGE PARK:** (15996 Sunrise Drive) 17 acres. Campsites, picnic areas, play areas & trails.
- FORT WARD PARK:** (Pleasant Beach Drive or Ft. Ward Hill) 137 acres. Picnic and play areas, boat launch & trails.
- GAZZAM LAKE NATURE PRESERVE:** (Deerpath Lane or Marshall Road) 444.6 acres. Trails and wildlife area.
- GIDEON PARK:** (274 Gideon Lane) 2.5 acres. Neighborhood children's play area.
- THE GRAND FOREST OF BAINBRIDGE:** (Miller and Mandus Olson Roads) 240 acres. Equestrian and walking trails.
- HAWLEY COVE PARK:** (1287 Wing Point Way NE) 12 acres. Low bank shoreline and related estuarine wetland communities.
- HIDDEN COVE BALLFIELDS:** (13595 Phelps Rd.) 7.7 acres, two baseball fields and soccer practice field.
- HIDDEN COVE PARK:** (8588 Hidden Cove Rd NE) Beautiful waterfront with dock.
- ISLAND CENTER PARK:** (8395 Fletcher Bay Rd) 3 acres. Community center & picnic area.
- MADISON AVENUE TOT LOT:** (598 Madison Avenue North) Neighborhood children's play area.
- MANZANITA PARK:** (7644 Day Road West) 120 acres. Hiking & equestrian trails.
- MEIGS PARK:** (Highway 305 & Koura Road) 67 acres. To be developed for nature study & trails.
- MORITANI PRESERVE:** (542 Winslow Way W) 8.5 acres of woodlands and fields in the center of Winslow.
- NOTES POND:** (1601-2101 Toe Jam Hill Rd NE) 31-acres of passive park with a captivating landscape whose central feature is a tranquil pond.
- POINT WHITE PIER:** (3949 Crystal Springs Dr. NE) Public fishing
- PRITCHARD PARK:** (4152 Eagle Harbor Dr. NE) 49 acres. Beach access and upland trails. Of historic importance and on the site's westerly side facing Taylor Av., is the debarkation point for local Japanese - Americans who were forcibly interned during WWII under executive order. This site is jointly owned by the Park District and the City.
- RED PINE PARK:** (418 Wood Ave SW) a half acre pocket park that contains an orchard and berry patches, open lawn with seating and a picnic area.
- ROCKAWAY BEACH:** (4002 Rockaway Dr. NE) Beach property with views of Seattle & Cascades. Excellent place for diving enthusiasts to observe unique underwater fissures.
- ROTARY PARK:** (7969 Weaver Rd) 10 acres. Multipurpose ballfields, meeting space, and award winning Owen's Playground.
- SAKAI PARK:** (1560 Madison Ave N) Undeveloped 22.87 acres with approximately 9-acres of upland property that is relatively flat. Below and to the east is a pond, stream and wetland complex. Sakai Park was purchased in 2015 with bonds after a successful all-island election vote. Community planning efforts have been underway.
- SANDS AVENUE BALLFIELD:** (8641 Sands Rd) 10 acres. Baseball and soccer fields.
- SHEL CHELB PARK:** (Point White Drive near Lynwood Center) This 1.64 acre park features 370 linear feet of saltwater shoreline, swimming beach, open grass area, play area, and trail linking to Gazzam trail network.
- SEABOLD PARK:** (14450 Komedal Rd NE) 3-acre park includes Seabold Hall, which holds 80 people and has an all wooden interior with a separate kitchen.
- STRAWBERRY HILL PARK:** (7666 NE High School Rd) 18 acres. Multipurpose ballfields, playground, off-leash dog area, tennis court, volleyball court, basketball court, Strawberry Hill Center (meeting and classroom space), skate bowl, district office.
- T'CHOOKWAP PARK:** (8800 NE Spangur Loop Road) 1 acre. Pt. Madison view site.
- TED OLSON NATURE PRESERVE:** (1180 Madison Ave NE) 15 acres. Wooded nature trail.
- WAYPOINT PARK:** (551 Winslow Way E) This park provides a public site for what has occurred in the road way and sidewalks at this location for generations. It is a place of homecoming and departing for local residents as they walk to and from the ferry, and a place to physically orient oneself for the visitor.
- WEST PORT MADISON NATURE PRESERVE:** (8334 NE County Park Rd, Skogen Lane & County Park Rd) 13 acres. Picnic shelters and nature trails.
- WILLIAMS-OLSON PARK:** (6200 Williams Lane) A sloping bluff and grassy lawn with access to the Manzanita Bay shoreline. 4.8 acres of upland property, approximately 8 acres of tideland, and 450' of shoreline access.

BREMERTON PARKS SYSTEM & PLANNED TRAIL ROUTES

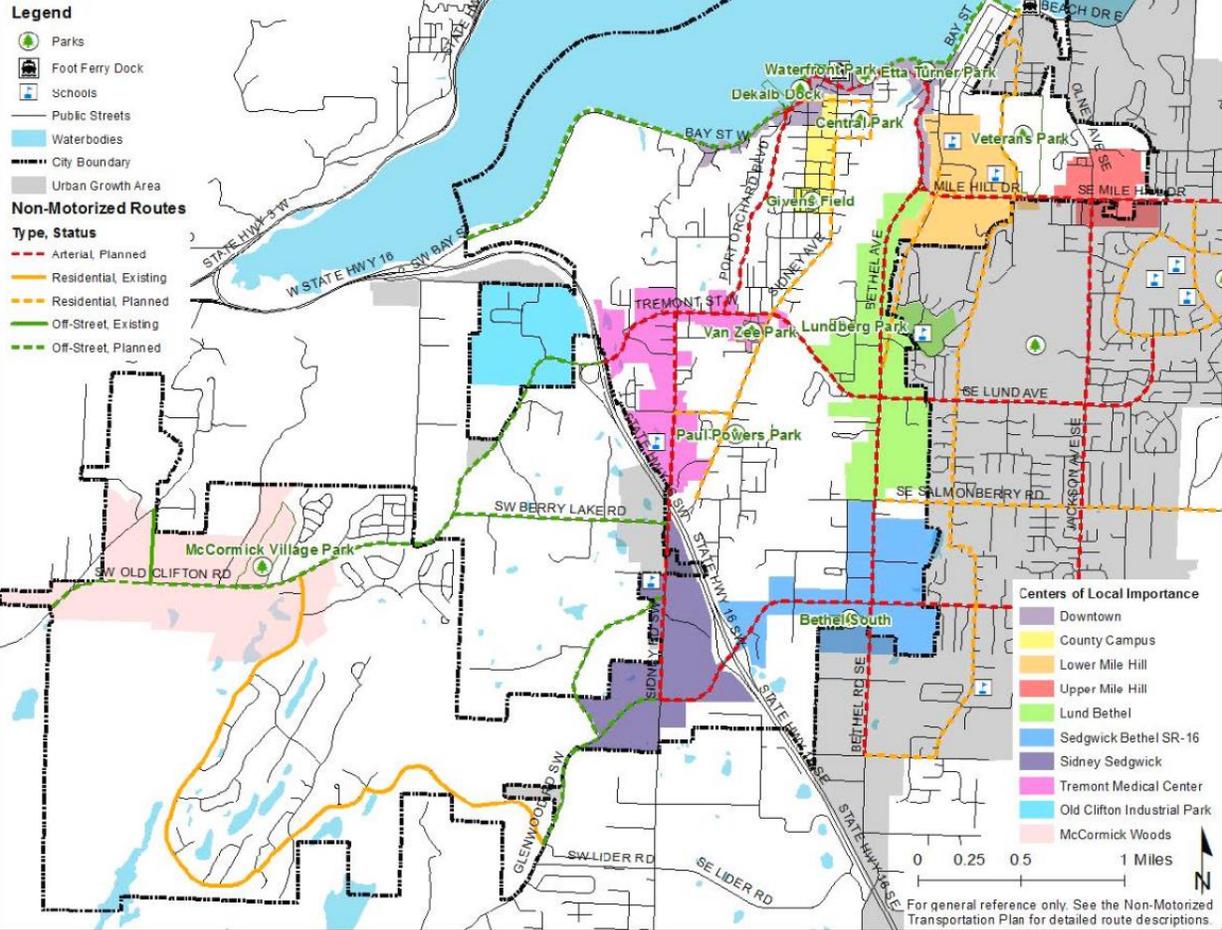


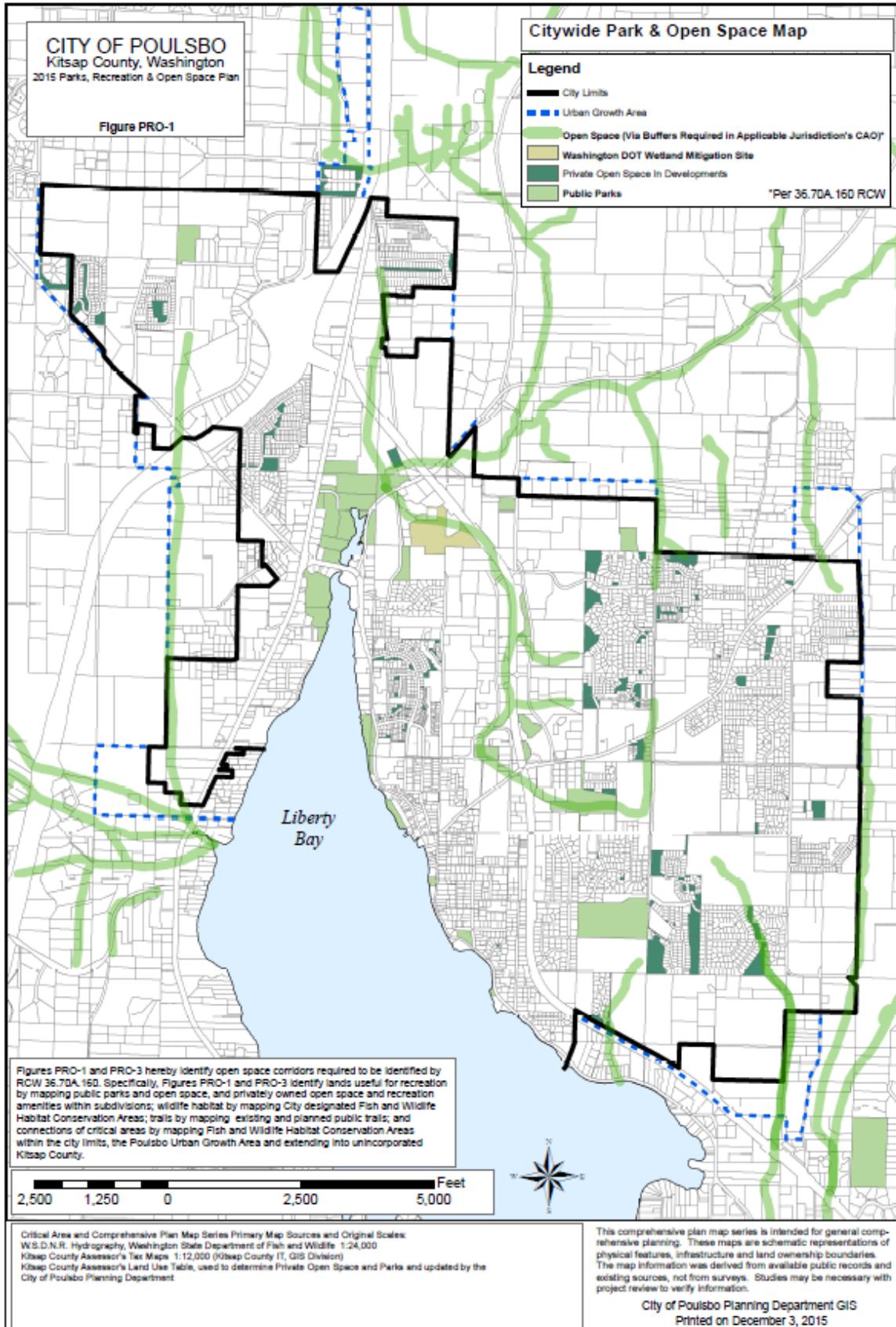
Parks & Facilities

1. Pendergast Regional Park
2. Evergreen Rotary Park
3. Lions Park
4. N.A.D. Park
5. Blueberry Park
6. East Park
7. Forest Ridge Park
8. Haddon Park
9. Kitsap Lake Park
10. Kiwanis Park
11. Manette Playfield
12. Matan Park
13. Warren Ave. Playfield
14. 9th St. Mini Park
15. Arvon Park
16. Bachmann Park
17. Baitan Park
18. Lent Landing Park
19. Lillian & James Walker Park
20. Lower Rolo Vista Park
21. Pat Carey Vista
22. Sheridan Park (Across St. from #42)
23. Smith Nature Play Park
24. 1st Street Plaza (Across St. from #28)
25. Harborside Fountain Park
26. Kitsap Conf. Ctr. Plaza (See #27)
27. Louis Mentor Boardwalk
28. Memorial Plaza
29. Whitley Damstad
30. Madrona Trails
31. Kitsap Lake Park Wetlands (See #9)
32. N.A.D. Marine Park
33. Stephenson Canyon
34. -37. Greenways not shown on map.
38. Bremerton Senior Center (See #11)
39. Gold Mountain Golf Course
40. Ivy Green Cemetery
41. Jarstad Park
42. Sheridan Park Community Rec. Ctr.

Note: Numbering corresponds with matrix on back page. Parks under 2 acres shown as smaller circles.

# Port Orchard Parks and Trails





## **PARKS & RECREATION STAKEHOLDER AGENCIES & ORGANIZATIONS**

Parks, open space and recreational opportunities are provided by various state and local agencies, and organizations throughout the County; Cities, Park Districts, School Districts, Ports, State Agencies, and the Navy Region Northwest. Each has a distinct mandate for development and management of recreation facilities, and management of natural, cultural and historic resources.

Integral to the overview of a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is an understanding of their respective roles in this field of public facility and resource management. County Park Planning staff met with the cities of Bainbridge Island, Bremerton, Port Orchard and Poulsbo, Port Districts, Kitsap County Non-Motorized Facilities Citizen Advisory Committee, Washington State Departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Parks, Great Peninsula Conservancy, Kitsap Facilities District, School Districts, and Washington State University Extension Kitsap, all to discuss mutual interests, where there may be gaps, and how we can support one another in regards to recreation and public open space.

Note: Areas of interest and concerns are summarized from in-person interviews with land managers, program managers, and planners.

### **Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Recreation District**

*The mission of the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District is to build a healthy community through effective, sustainable stewardship of the District's parks and open space, and through the development and delivery of innovative cultural and recreation opportunities.*

**Since inception in 1965, the Park District has grown substantially and provides a wide array of recreational opportunities for Bainbridge Island.** As of 2014, the Park District operates and maintains over 1,500 acres in parks, trails, and open space that is available to the community for both active and passive use. It offers countless programs for all ages in areas ranging from sports to cultural arts, and aquatics to boating and outdoor programs. The District is committed to providing a wide variety of leisure programs for all ages and interest groups including senior citizens and persons with disabilities. The recreation program is supported in a major way by user fees with class fees being subsidized by tax dollars. In addition, numerous concerts and special events are hosted by the Park District in island parks.

The Park District works in partnership with non-profit agencies such as the [Bainbridge Island Land Trust](#) and the [Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation](#).

Interests and Concerns: (highlights)

- BBI Parks are an outdoor playground for Seattle, and a growing island population.
- Lots of public interest: hiking trails in natural areas, open space for farming activities, meadows and other natural features landscapes.
- Need upgrades of ballfields, tennis courts, and other organized sports fields.

- More local interest in new and upgraded indoor pools.
- Increased interest in large, of-lease landscape park areas, not necessarily those fenced-in areas.
- The Public enjoys organized park tours and walks.
- Interest in historic sites; WWO & WWOO fortification remnants, and indigenous peoples' heritage areas.

### City of Poulsbo

*The mission of the Poulsbo Parks and Recreation department is to promote the quality of life by serving the community's needs for quality and affordable educational and recreational programs, parks and services to all residents and visitors.*

***Poulsbo Parks and Recreation offers a full range of classes, activities, sports programs, and camps for all ages; rents out facilities at city parks and at the recreation center; and manages 15 city parks totaling 133 acres and 6 miles of trails. The recreation programs serve a wide area, including communities within the North Kitsap School District boundaries.***

City of Poulsbo Parks Inventory	
Baseball Courts	1
Bike Pump Track	1
Dog Park	1
Hand Boat Launch	1
P-Patch Community Garden (52 plots)	1
Picnic Shelters/Pavilion	3
Playgrounds	7
Recreation Center	1
Tennis Courts	2

Interests and Concerns: (highlights)

- City of Poulsbo desires more walking connections. Sidewalks are considered trails.
- Emphasis on adding shoreline access and a continuation of the Liberty Bay Boardwalk.
- Accessing existing Public Works property which would be transferred to the Parks Department for expansion of Centennial Park.

### City of Bremerton

***Bremerton Parks & Recreation is committed to enriching the lives of Bremerton citizens with aquatic, athletic and recreational opportunities for persons of all ages and provide safe and attractive parks and facilities for play, health and fitness, enjoyment and celebrations.***

City of Bremerton Parks Inventory	
Aquatic Center (managed by YMCA)	1
Basketball Courts/Hoops	9
Community Recreation Center	1
Disc Golf	1
Dog Park	1
Golf Course ( 2-18 Hole Courses)	1
Hand Boat Launch	1
Horseshoe Courts	6
Indoor Soccer Center (managed by Olympic Soccer & Sports Center)	1
P-Patch Community Garden	1
Playgrounds	14
Picnic Shelters	15
Sand Volleyball Courts	3
Senior Center	1
Soccer Fields	3
Softball Fields	5
Skate Park	1
Tennis Courts	6
Youth Playfields	2
Paved Walking Path	2.5 miles
Rustic Hiking Trail	4 miles
Parks with Water Access	11

Interests and Concerns: (highlights)

- Interest in up-to-date public swimming pool facilities.
- Programs in Parks and Recreation program activities is very popular for all ages.
- There is a growing need for “citizens-on-patrol” to help deter misuse of park facilities.
- More dog-parks are needed near neighborhood concentrations.
- Bremerton citizens prefer park facilities that they can walk to vs. destination park lands in the county.
- People want “good, clean Parks”. There is a need to renovate park facilities for ease of maintenance.

- The public is not always aware of other parks and recreation opportunities in the County. Shared recreational calendars for events and services would support Bremerton citizens.

**City of Port Orchard**

*Parks Vision: **Parks and green space are essential components in the fabric of a vibrant city.** Our safe and well-maintained parks and recreation facilities knit the community together, stabilize and enhance residential neighborhoods and add vitality to the downtown while encouraging and supporting increased shoreline access and recreation.*

<b>City of Port Orchard Parks Inventory</b>	
Baseball Fields	2
Basketball Court	2
Boat Ramp	1
Horseshoe Courts	1
Picnic Shelters/Gazebos	3
Pier	1
Playground	3
Sports Fields	3
Tennis Courts	2
Trails	

Interests and Concerns: (highlights)

- Setting levels of service and facility standards is an important tool to advance park facility planning.
- Development Impact Fees have helped support playground and other new park facilities.
- Designing playgrounds for “tots” and older kids are important to consider in forward planning.
- “Pocket Parks” near developed residential communities can ease the use-pressure on larger park developments.
- Connectivity of urban and suburban trail systems is the direction of the future.
- Lights and synthetic turf for athletic fields need to be afforded to manage more efficiently.
- Park facilities are a definite asset and attractive “driver” for new residents and businesses.
- Recommend a County-wide Park District formation to best provide sustainable funding for parks.
- Interest in disc-golf is on the rise. It is challenging to provide the appropriate landscape for this recreation activity.
- Connecting non-motorized trail facilities, on-street and in parks is a new challenge that needs to be addressed.

**School Districts**

Kitsap County is served by five school districts: North, Central and South Kitsap School District, Bainbridge Island School District and Mason School District. Facilities vary from school to school, and include recreational features for public use when schools are not in session. These can include indoor swimming pools, playgrounds, ball fields, basketball courts, and running tracks.

Interests and Concerns:

- “See a school, expect a public playfield.”
- There is much public pressure to provide more sports fields with artificial (year-round use) turf and outdoor lighting.
- Safe routes to schools and parks is essential.
- Needed is close-to-schools trails which can connect parks, trails and open space areas.
- Needed are more nature walking connected to environmental education for family outings.
- Provide restroom facilities at park trailheads.
- Much interest in minimally developed trails with natural landscape environments.
- Athletic tournaments boost the local economy. Year-round appropriate field facilities are needed in all parts of the county.

### **U.S. Navy**

The U.S. Navy provides recreational opportunities for service personnel and their dependents on bases in Bangor, Bremerton and Keyport. Facilities include ball fields, bowling alleys, gyms, movie theaters, picnic areas, recreation centers and trails.

### **Port Districts**

The 1911 Washington State Legislature enacted laws that allowed citizens to establish port districts and elect commissioners to administer the districts and oversee their development and operation. The Washington’s system of politically controlled independent port districts is unique in the United States. The mission of all Washington ports by state Mandate is to improve their districts by promoting economic and community development. Port authority has broadened over the years to include improvement of waterfronts, promotion of tourism, establishment of local improvement districts; operation of rail, air, land and rail terminals, and establishment of parks and recreational facilities.

**There are currently 75 ports in the state, and the 12 separate ports in Kitsap County are the most of any county.** In Kitsap County port districts regulate a variety of public piers, docks, waterfront areas and the Bremerton International Airport. Each Port District is unique and provides an array of different amenities geared towards the needs of the respective community.

Assorted features include boat launches, kayak storage, recreational marinas, meeting rooms, docks and piers, pathways, lawn greens, benches, picnic tables, restrooms and showers, playgrounds, gazebos and stages, and parking. Ports receive income through taxes, service fees, bonds, grants and gifts. Each port is administrated by their respective elected port commissioners.

Kitsap County Port Districts include: Bremerton District No. 1, Brownsville District No. 2, Eglon District No. 4, Illahee District No. 6, Indianola District No. 7, Keyport District No. 8, Kingston District No. 9, Manchester District No. 10, Poulsbo District No. 12, Silverdale District No. 14, Tracyton District No. 15 and Waterman District No. 16.

Interests and Concerns:

Overall the recreation public needs to know more about the boating and waterfront access facilities provided by Ports. Recreational websites should reference all public facility providers.

### **State Agencies**

**The Departments of Fish & Wildlife (F&W), Natural Resources (DNR) and State Parks each have substantial land holdings throughout Kitsap County.** These lands are open for public use. The highest profile properties are the state parks at Blake Island, Kitsap Memorial, Scenic Beach, Illahee, and Manchester. Activities include beach combing, boating, camping, picnicking, and hiking/walking trails. Fish & Wildlife has a large parking lot in north county and restroom near Point No Point. F&W is also responsible for regulating fishing and crabbing activities on all public beaches. Popular DNR locations are Green Mountain, lands near Seabeck and north of Kingston on the Hansville Peninsula. DNR is popular for hiking, horseback riding and mountain biking.

DNR manages statewide opportunities for outdoor recreation across 3.3 million acres of state trust lands. DNR's recreation opportunities happen in healthy forest ecosystems, which the agency manages for timber production. Funds from these activities generates revenue for local county services, public school construction, and universities on behalf of trust beneficiaries and the people of Washington.

State lands also provide valuable aquifer and wildlife habitat. A Discover Pass is required for vehicle entry to all state-managed recreation properties.

#### Agency Interests and Concerns (highlights):

State Parks and WA Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR)

- Note: State Parks is the only provider of public overnight camping facilities.
- State Parks Need to briefing and coordination between agencies and other recreation providers; especially in the areas of trails dedicated for various user groups.
- Consideration of discussing management of state-owned properties adjacent to County parklands, and need for further discussions regarding cooperative management or recreational development.

- Overall interest in providing more opportunities for accessible recreation facilities, including trails.
- Agencies need more emphasis for outdoor education/interpretation of natural resource ecosystems and management mandates.
- Having a formal land management classification system has proved to streamline State Parks planning and resource protection prioritization.
- Interagency coordination is necessary to facilitate the development of procurement of greenway corridors and regional trail systems

WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW):

- Special attention needs to address native species of concern for protection within open space and other park lands.
- Parks planning needs to address sensitive habitats and work to avoid habitat fragmentation.
- Priority for land acquisition that achieves multiple environmental enhancement objectives through coordination with WDFW.
- Work with large landowners for cooperative management agendas to keep watershed protections in-tact.

### **Washington State University Kitsap County Extension**

*WSU Kitsap Extension has been serving the citizens of Kitsap County since 1917. As the front door to the University, Extension programs build the capacity of individuals, organizations, businesses and communities and empower them to find solutions for local issues and to improve their quality of life. WSU Extension engages people, organizations and communities to advance knowledge, economic well-being and quality of life by fostering inquiry, learning and the applications of research.*

*In addition, Washington State University provides over 2,200 publications, numerous online educational opportunities, and other statewide educational programs and technical assistance from four Research and Extension Centers, 15 Academic Departments and six of WSU's Academic Colleges. **Related County Programs include: 4-H Youth Development, Mater Gardeners, Watershed Stewardship and Rain Gardens and Noxious & Invasive Species.***

**WSU** Extension has provided training and active in-park programs for resource stewardship and public education. Their salmon tours and stream stewards' education programs are very popular for family exposure to the outdoors.

### Interests & Concerns: (highlights)

- Interested in more shared training and outdoor education opportunities to “combine forces” for public involvement in parks.
- Need for more outreach and shared “news” about what’s happening in parks; events, tours, education.
- Need to promote “Kitsap 1” as the official referrals for park issues.
- Much interest in getting kids involved in park stewardship activities, including “at-risk” youth.
- Partnerships offering educational programs and docent tours are highly valued.
- Outdoor education interpretation is lacking in parks and is welcomed by the public.
- Need to “cross-promote” activities and training related to parklands and the environment.

## **OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INTERESTS & CONCERNS**

### **Suquamish Tribe:**

#### **Interests & Concerns:**

21. The Suquamish people lived, gathered food, ceremonial and spiritual items, and hunted and fished for thousands of years in western Washington. Treaty-reserved resources situated on and off the Port Madison Indian Reservation include, but are not limited to, fishery and other natural resources situated within the Suquamish Tribe’s adjudicated usual and accustomed (U and A) fishing area. The Suquamish Tribe’s U and A extends well beyond Reservation boundaries and includes marine waters of Puget Sound from the northern tip of Vashon Island to the Fraser River in Canada, including Haro and Rosario Straits, and streams draining into the western side of Puget Sound and Hood Canal.

The Suquamish Tribe reserved the right to take fish at its “usual and accustomed grounds and stations” when it entered into the Treaty of Point Elliot with the U.S. in 1855. In this Treaty, the Suquamish Tribe ceded its ancestral territory to the United States, but reserved rights to fish, hunt, and gather at all of its U&A grounds and stations. On February 12, 1974, U.S. District Court Judge Boldt ruled that treaty rights entitled Indian Tribes to half of the harvestable fish running in their traditional waters, a right which was later affirmed to include shellfish and other natural resources. The ruling also established Washington State’s federally recognized Indian Tribes as co-managers (with WDFW) of fisheries resources within their usual and accustomed fishing areas.

22. There needs to be resource planning efforts and discussion about adaptive management with regard to beaver. Beaver are an integral component to the restoration of wetland and stream habitat as well as providing crucial water storage and flow control to counter climate change and the resulting increase of flashy storm events. Occasionally

trails and/or structures may need to be temporarily/permanently closed, removed or relocated.

23. There needs to be planning and discussion of removal or replacement of culverts and bridges that are considered fish passage barriers.
24. For park planning, although permeable pavement is better than traditional it is still less desirable than a soft pervious surface. Impervious surfaces need to be minimized to the extent possible.
25. Parks need to consider maintaining appropriate critical area buffers. Pedestrian paths should be minimized to the extent possible and not intrude into the wetlands, streams or their buffers. Buffers in county parks need to set a good example for the public and should meet and/or exceed those identified in the current Kitsap County Critical Areas Ordinance.
26. In addition to Threatened Species, Endangered Species, and Species of Concern Kitsap County Parks should also consider identifying species of local importance to provide for habitat considerations and/or protections for species that may not fall under other categories. These species can also be added to the Comprehensive Plan for consistency.
27. Trails:
  - a. Trails constructed should generally be “soft trails” consisting of minimum widths and pervious surfaces which have fewer impacts and still provide educational and recreational opportunities for the public.
  - b. Trails should not be located within wetland or riparian (freshwater or marine) habitat areas for most of their length. Instead, locate trails well away from streams, wetlands, shorelines, and their associated buffers. An occasional bend or perpendicular side trail for viewing or access to streams and wetlands is generally acceptable. Although trails and viewing platforms are acceptable and we understand that some intrusion may be needed, the majority of the paths should try to avoid intrusion whenever possible.
    - i. Impacts to critical areas (including aquifer recharge areas) need to be avoided. If impacts to critical areas and their buffers are unavoidable a mitigation plan will need to be implemented. Please include mitigation in discussions regarding cost.
  - c. We understand that loop trails are perceived as "more interesting" however, there must be some compromise when it significantly increases the impacts (including but not limited to encroachment, vegetation removal, and introduction of invasive species, erosion, human intrusion, and soil disturbance). A linear trail is the much better choice as it would still provide access and limit impacts. Vegetation removal should be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

- d. Creosote and Pentachlorophenol should not be used for any part of trail structures. It is preferred that if wood is used it should be only untreated wood (cedar is best).
28. Water trails may impact Tribes ability to access a usual and accustomed fishing ground as structures can create navigational obstructions. Associated boat traffic can create potential conflicts with fishing activities impacting Tribal fishers' ability to maneuver and safely manage fishing gear and can also increase the risk of damage to/loss of fishing gear. Proposed shoreline development associated with water trails may disturb areas of cultural and spiritual importance to Suquamish tribal members. These issues can be avoided by coordinating with the Tribe and including the Tribe in discussions during design and development.
29. The Tribe is a co-manager with WDFW regarding the State fishery resources and should also be included as a stakeholder in plan development. When implementing the Parks, Recreation and/or Open Space Plans (especially trails, bridges, culverts and other structures) it is also important to make sure that coordination with WDFW and the Tribe occurs to ensure protection of treaty reserved natural and cultural resources.

1/10/218

Comment from Lynn Wall

Naval Base Kitsap Community Planning Liaison Officer

I'm sorry we didn't make it over to meet with you in person to discuss the Kitsap County PROS Plan prior to the close of your comment period. With the holidays and a few short fused deadlines here, time passed quickly.

I've reviewed your proposed plan and note that many of the goals and objectives in your plan align well with Navy goals. As you move some of these goals to implementation we would like to continue to coordinate with you.

Related to your goals of Environmental Protection and Stewardship and Wildlife and Riparian Corridors, the Navy has authority under our Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration program to partner on open space protection efforts. We currently have a very active partnership in Hood Canal. When you identify projects of these types I encourage you to discuss partnering opportunities with us. In the past you Commissioners have approached us about partnering on locations such as the Olympic View acquisition. While your parcels and priorities may not always align with our program it's always good to explore this option.

We have protected several riparian corridors in Jefferson County and are focused on the Dewatto watershed corridor now.

Related to your goal of improving public access to the trail system and coordinating your trail system with other Regional efforts, this is probably the issue I hear most frequently as a desire or need from our sailors and staff. As highly active individuals there is great interest in biking and running trails. I realize this effort is complicated in rural jurisdictions but applaud the efforts to continue to develop a robust trail system.

Related to your Water Trails goals, as you know the Navy has been an active member of the Water Trails coordination goal. This effort is a unique recreation opportunity in Kitsap County. Our goal is to help ensure outreach materials and information provide Water Trails users with a general understanding of Navy Military Operating Areas along the water trails routes. Generally, this is a compatible use but awareness and understanding of these operations areas is key to ongoing success.

The one area of potential compatibility concern would be if the County were to propose a new boat ramp in Hood Canal. I didn't see this in your plan but in the event such a need were to develop, we would want to coordinate closely to de-conflict with our operations.

Related to your Volunteer and Park Stewardship goals we have opportunities and mechanisms to connect your volunteer needs with our supported command and staff. We frequently engage on a variety of community service and volunteer activities. So please reach out if you have a need to identify volunteers or Stewards for a particular project or area.

Happy to sit down with you and discuss future planning and implementation in person. I understand your deadline to deliver is today so wanted to get my input to you.

Thanks for your work to improve the quality of life in Kitsap for our sailors, staff, and families.

**END OF PROS DOCUMENT**