



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Olympia Planning Commission and Olympia City Council

**FROM:** Brent Barnes, Acting Chair  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC)

**DATE:** January 19, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Comprehensive Plan Parks, Arts and Recreation Chapter Recommendation

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a recommendation on the Parks, Arts and Recreation chapter of the Draft Comprehensive Plan.

In September 2023, PRAC received a briefing on the background of the periodic update of Olympia's Comprehensive Plan and the public engagement process to date. At our January 18, 2024, meeting PRAC received a second briefing from Director of Parks Planning and Maintenance, Sylvana Niehuser, which presented how feedback was incorporated into the proposed draft chapter. Committee members asked questions and discussed the chapter at length.

The Committee voted unanimously to approve the Parks, Arts and Recreation chapter of the Draft Comprehensive Plan as modified by the following items:

- Add language to the Recreation section that mentions the important role that parks play in providing spaces for community members to gather and connect with each other.
- Clarify in the goal and policies section related to equity, inclusion and belonging (GR 11, PR 11.1-11.8) which of the policies are related to departmental work and which are community-facing. Also add the importance of accessibility.
- Clarify that the department's capital asset management program utilizes measurable data (PR 6.1).

Thank you for taking the time to consider our recommendation during your Comprehensive Plan review process. Please feel free to contact me at [bbarnes@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:bbarnes@ci.olympia.wa.us) if you would like to discuss PRAC's recommendation.

Brent Barnes (Jan 19, 2024 16:17 PST)







# Recommendation on PAR Comp Plan Chapter

Final Audit Report

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