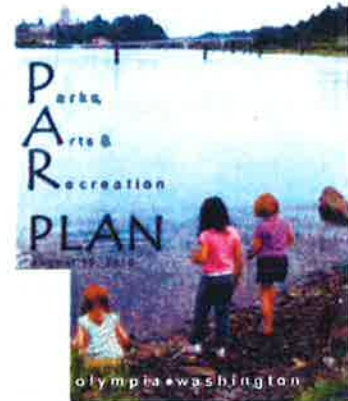




# HOW WE INVEST IN PARKS

## 1. Parks, Arts & Recreation Plan/Olympia Comprehensive Plan

- Goals
- Park System Defined
- Investment Strategy



## 2. CFP Funding Sources

- Voted Utility Tax
- Impact Fees
- SEPA Mitigation Fees
- General Fund (CIP)
- Donations
- Grants



## CFP Capital Projects

- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks
- Open Space



## 3. Park Maintenance Operating Budget

- General Fund: \$2,300,000
- Voted Utility Tax: \$700,000



Parks, Arts and Recreation (Carole)

1. Page 37, Introduction - There is a discussion of revenue sources for new park acquisition and development. Although the need for "new revenue" is discussed, I wonder why no mention of made of available grant programs? To my knowledge, nearly all park acquisition is accomplished through a combination of gifts and/or grants from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (managed by the state Recreation and Conservation Office.) Acknowledging this source of funds would enable planning for the future, as opposed to saying "revenues are limited; therefore, we will not consider new park acquisition and development." The Comp Plan, proposed master planning and the new SMP should identify new park needs (as well as the need for farmland preservation, conservation easements along the shoreline, and habitat restoration projects), and these will need to be funded to make community visions a reality.
  - **It is not true that all parcel acquisitions projects are accomplished through gifts or grants. Olympia has been successful with grants, but the majority of park acquisitions in the last 20 years have been paid for by the General Fund, Impact Fees or the Voted Utility Tax.**
  - **If there are new projects generated by the adopted SMP or Comprehensive plan, we agree that they should be included in the CFP for funding.**
  - **Grants are a potential source of funding for park projects. However they are not a reliable source. Grants require matching funds and are extremely competitive; therefore the department does not choose to list grants as a source of funding in the CFP.**
  - **Grant writing is very time consuming. In order to efficiently use limited grant writing resources, we limit our applications to those we believe have a very high likelihood of success.**
  
2. As part of the new planning that is in process, I would like to see "greenprints," or an "open space" map layer, that show the location of existing green areas and identify new green spaces to be developed, such as pocket parks and community gardens. These need to be planned before redevelopment planning, not added as afterthoughts. This would entail a relatively minor cost. Should it be included here, or in the Parks plan?
  - **The map layer suggested is actually included in the 2010 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan. The current park system is defined by three parks classifications: neighborhood parks, community parks and open space. Community gardens would be a use or feature in a park. Pocket parks could be considered neighborhood parks or become a separate classification.**