

Naming Park Facilities: The Armory, Yelm Highway Community Park & Kaiser Woods Park

Community Livability & Public Safety Committee

October 15, 2025



Presentation Overview

- 1) Brief review of the three park properties to be named
- 2) Naming Process To Date
- 3) OMC 12.62.050 -- Naming of Parks and Park Facilities
- 4) EIB Considerations
- 5) Questions & Discussion



The Armory

Welcome - You belong here

- The Armory facility is a three-story and almost 43,000 sq ft facility located just east of Downtown Olympia. It currently includes an outbuilding, large 10,000 sq ft event space, kitchen, and more than 18 smaller rooms.
- The community vision for this space is to be a catalyst for creativity in Olympia which inspires creative thinking, opportunities, community bonds and collaboration through the arts. It will connect people and ideas. It will foster community bonds, collaboration, and creativity through arts and culture.

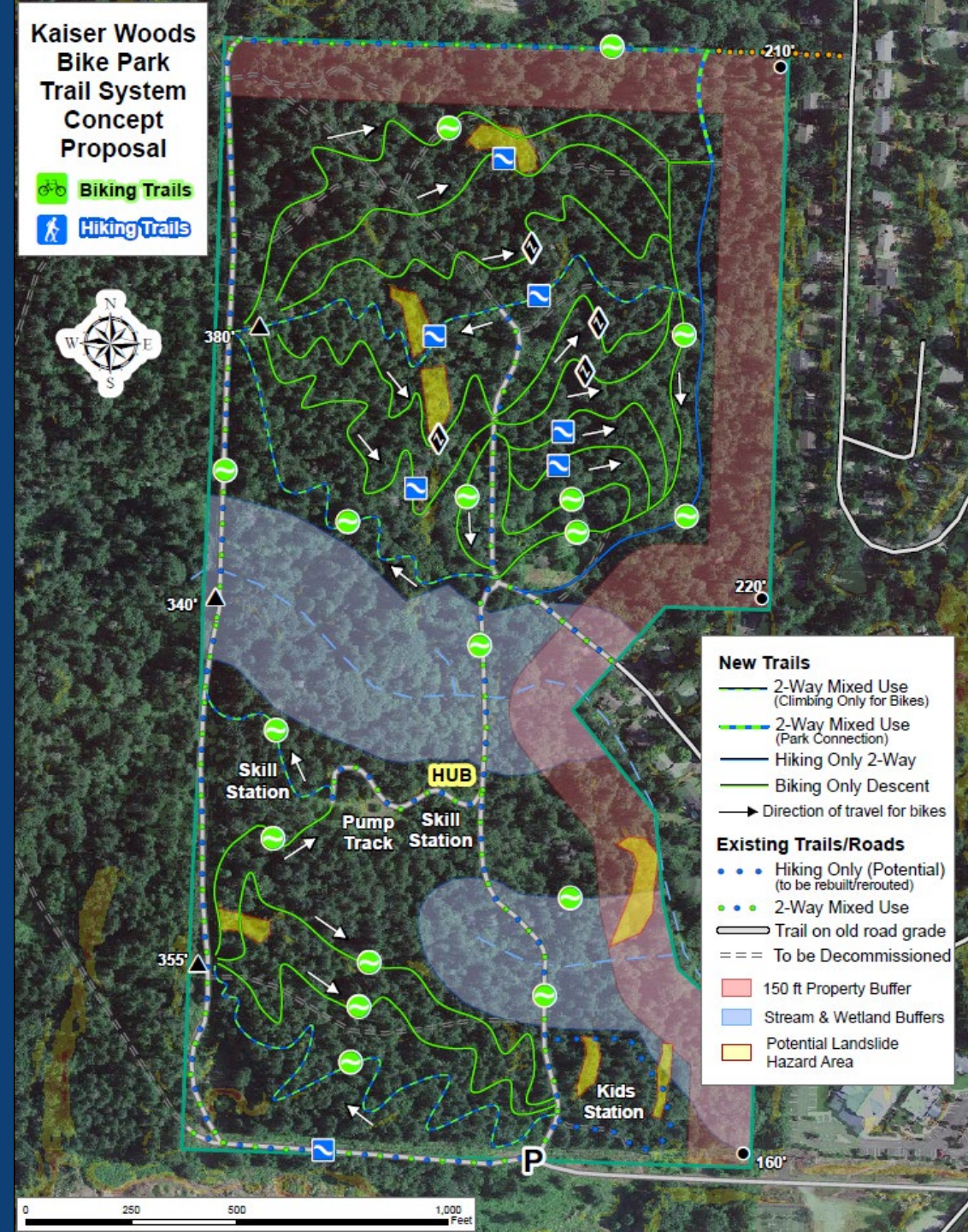


Yelm Highway Community Park



Kaiser Woods Park

- Kaiser Woods Park is a 70.19-acre forested park located in Southwest Olympia. Currently it includes hiking and mountain biking trails.
- The proposed park design includes:
 - 5 miles of trails for hiking and biking
 - Beginner to advanced trails for bikers
 - New access from Black Lake Boulevard
 - New parking lot with 25 stalls
 - A single use restroom
 - Art along the trail



Process To Date

- Solicited name suggestions for all three park facilities from the community using Engage Olympia (September 2024)
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) held a public hearing and made name recommendations (October 2024)
- PRAC revisited their recommended names at their February and March meetings in light of additional information. Final recommended names are:

Daley Arts Center

Jolene Unsoeld Community Park

Elk Ridge Trails Park

- City Council will make a final decision on official park and park facility names.





OMC 12.62.050

D. In naming parks and other park facilities, consideration shall be given primarily to:

1. Neighborhood, boundary roads, or common usage identification;
2. A natural or geographic feature;
3. Significant historical events or cultural attributes;
4. A historical figure;
5. A name chosen by an individual (living or deceased) who has made a significant land and/or monetary contribution to the park system;
6. An individual who has contributed outstanding civic service to the City or has been instrumental in acquiring or developing parks properties and who has been deceased for a period of at least one year;
7. Organizations having contributed to and influenced the betterment of the City.

E. Parks and park facilities shall not ordinarily be named for living persons unless they have stipulated the name as a condition of donation or unless the park or park facility is part of a regional facility that is named in conjunction with other governmental entities.



The following considerations align with the City of Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation Department's Equity Inclusion and Belonging vision of fostering an inclusive, joyful, and affirming environment that supports the creation of a healthy, resilient, and vibrant community.

We encourage the community to suggest and support names that promote a sense of belonging.

The examples provided are not criteria for final selection; the Olympia Municipal Code ([12.62.050](#)) remains the primary guideline for the review committee.

- Could the proposed name cause harm to any particular group, person, or demographic?
- Does the name reflect the community living in close proximity to the park or facility?
- Does the name highlight or educate about a notable person, geographical feature, or natural element present in or near the park or facility?
- Does the name reflect historical Indigenous place names?
- Are culturally symbolic terms used?
- Does the name honor the legacy of individuals, particularly those who have made significant cultural contributions?
- Does the name have cultural or social significance?

Options

- 1) Move to approve the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommendations to officially name The Olympia Armory "Daley Arts Center", the Yelm Highway Community Park "Jolene Unsoeld Community Park" and Kaiser Woods "Elk Ridge Trails Park" and forward to the full Council for consideration.
- 2) Recommend alternative names for City Council's consideration.
- 3) Do not recommend names to City Council. Council would consider park names without a Community Livability and Public Safety Committee recommendation.



Questions & Discussion

THANK YOU!

