

Public Comment and Proposed Changes to Draft 2016 Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan

December 22, 2015



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The public comment period for the Draft 2016 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan ran from November 17, 2015 to December 11, 2015. During the public comment period, the following input was received:

- **E-mail** - 121 e-mail comments received.
- **OlySpeaks On-Line Forum**
 - 228 total participants
 - 55 ideas submitted
 - 43 comments on ideas
 - 924 votes
- **Public Open House** - 24 people attended a December 2, 2015 open house
- **Advisory Committees/Commissions**
 - Olympia Planning Commission December 7, 2015
 - Olympia Arts Commission December 10, 2015
 - Olympia Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee December 17, 2015

The following pages contain all of the feedback received and staff responses to all of the major themes. Multiple comments on a single topic are grouped together. The topic that received the most comments and OlySpeaks votes appears first followed by the other topics in descending order. E-mails and OlySpeaks comments on multiple topics begin on p. 70.

While staff time did not allow for an individual response to every e-mail or OlySpeaks comment, all major themes were addressed.

Public Comments Received Via E-mail and OlySpeaks

November 17, 2015 - December 11, 2015

1. LBA WOODS 27 Comments + 307 OlySpeaks Votes	
Collene Hawes e-mail 11/20/15	Thanks so much. The leadership, opportunity for community input and proposed land acquisition are great beginnings! The 169 acre land acquisition fund hopefully includes the LBA Bentrige parcel, as much of the input I heard during the community forums spoke to the 150 acre forest that includes both 70+ parcels and would provide more space for soccer fields, trails AND the wildlife (mostly in the Bentrige parcel) available currently.
Andrew Diaz e-mail 11/28/15	I think the most important point is the purchase of BOTH of the LBA woods properties. I see in the plan that the Trillium property is mentioned but not the Bentrige portion. It is critical that both lots be preserved and become a part of the LBA park. Thanks
Bob Zeigler OlySpeaks 12/6/15 24 votes	<p>It is important that the City look at acquisition of West Bay Woods and Kaiser Woods but also of critical importance is the acquisition of the 72 acres of the LBA Woods parcel that is not proposed. Both LBA Woods pieces are needed because of size and connectivity.</p> <p>The plan is an important guide to Olympia's Future. Facing climate change and growth, our City needs protection of urban wilds. Green Spaces can minimize the damage of urban living in many ways - by sequestering carbon, purifying water, minimizing runoff and passive recreation. Sustainable urban design includes urban wilds. It is important that the City look at acquisition of West Bay Woods and Kaiser Woods but also of critical importance is the acquisition of the 72 acres of the LBA Woods parcel that is not proposed. Both LBA Woods pieces are needed because of size and connectivity. A City of Bellevue Planning document discusses the import of urban wilds especially on larger tracts of lands: Bellevue Urban Wildlife Habitat Literature Review City of Bellevue Prepared for: City of Bellevue Development Services Department by Watershed Company (May 2009) http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/pdf/Land%20Use/COB_Habitat_Literature_Review_2010.pdf . It states in part: "As the United States grows in population and cities, suburbs, and rural areas support greater densities, natural wild areas become fewer and urban natural areas become increasingly valuable to both wildlife and humans. Recent scientific research has responded in kind, and a growing knowledge base confirms what is best captured in the summary: "All urban areas have the potential to contribute to conservation of wildlife diversity" (Marzluff and Rodewald 2008). In the Pacific Northwest, native habitat exists to varying extents within even the most densely developed areas. . . ."7.1 Habitat</p>

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	<p>Management Recommendations: Preserve large patches of native vegetation when possible. It has been proposed that the most effective and cheapest way to protect species diversity in the long run is to preserve as much natural habitat as possible (McKinney 2002). Habitat patch size is important to avian species richness in all landscapes and to breeding birds in some. Therefore, small- and medium sized habitat patches alone will not preserve all native species. Evidence The Watershed Company May 2009 27 suggested that vegetative complexity, and native shrub diversity in particular, contributed to higher richness and less evenness in bird communities in larger habitat patches (Donnelly and Marzluff 2004).. . " I hope the City will not pass on the opportunity to acquire both portions of the LBA Woods because of the public benefits that would provide. Bob Zeigler</p>
<p>Mike Ruth OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>Another health reference purports to claim that just a few minutes of running a week can improve health (http://mic.com/articles/95468/there-s-an-amazing-benefit-to-running-just-5-minutes-a-day#.JZ2sNBewB) Minimizing the damage of urban living also has a human face. I love walking in LBA woods and might even start running there soon. Reducing diabetes, hearth disease, obesity and improving mental health. Why are these not part of the calculus of urban planning? Wouldn't having nice wildlands for people to exercise in a beautiful woods eventually pay for itself through improved health outcomes?</p>
<p>Maria Ruth OlySpeaks 12/6/15 25 votes</p>	<p>Add second LBA Parks parcel to help meet Sustainable Thurston goals, too.</p> <p>Thanks and congratulations to all Olympia Parks staff for a strong, detailed, well-organized Parks Plan. Your hard work over the past year really shows. How lucky we are to live in a parks-hungry community with a Parks Department, City Council, and City staff newly committed to focusing on improving and expanding our parks in the wake of the recent economic recession. The Parks Plan draft clearly reflects the publically stated need for more trails, natural open space, and habitat. Great to see in the Business Plan the acquisition plans (already underway) of both Kaiser Heights and one of the two LBA Woods parcels as well as an additional unspecified 194 acres for both open-space and neighborhood parks. However...the final Parks Plan should include mention of the second parcel of the LBA Woods (the so-called "Bentridge" parcel) adjacent to the "Trillium" parcel. Given that this parcel could be utilized for sports fields. The placement of such fields—in addition to the City-owned water tower and access road and planned Log Cabin extension road—does not leave the quantity or quality of open space or wildlife habitat envisioned by the LBA Woods Park Coalition and its many supporters across the city. The Parks</p>

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	<p>Plan rightfully acknowledges (pages 24-25) that the projected population growth in Olympia and its Urban Growth Area (an estimated 21,000 people in the next 20 years) will drive demand for more and better parks. The future of Olympia’s park system must also be considered in light of the regional growth outside the City/UGA, especially in Thurston County. Luckily, the Parks Plan’s acquisition goals for open-space and habitat also meet environmental goals of Thurston Regional Planning Council as reflected in the work of Sustainable Thurston, namely to protect our natural resources and habitat while providing for public access and sustainable uses, and economic activity. Acquiring open-space parkland and habitat now will help Olympia prepare for and mitigate climate-change related impacts to our environment (such as increased flooding, sea-level rise, and dangerously high levels of greenhouse gasses). Without the adjacent parcel (still slated for several hundred homes), there will not be much woods left in this magnificent 150-acre parcel. Fortunately, the adjacent parcel meets all of the criteria the draft Parks Plan lists for Future Land Acquisition (page 89). If there is a way to include the adjacent parcel in the plan without compromising the City’s negotiating position—that would be excellent.</p>
<p>Lynn Byrnes OlySpeaks 12/6/15 24 votes</p>	<p>Please buy Bentrige to complete LBA woods!</p> <p>I would really like to see the city buy Bentrige to complete the LBA Woods. With just Trillium (or Ashton Woods) it is too small to have a long walk and really unwind, to feel like you are " away " from it all. Especially with a water tower in the middle of it. With both, you can almost feel lost sometimes, it's a real submersion into nature and a true escape from the business of the rest of the city. Plus, Bentrige has a flat part by Boulevard to make into a community garden, dog park or soccer field. And Bentrige is really, really beautiful. It would be a shame and a lost opportunity to not buy it. I vote in favor of buying both Bentrige and Ashton Woods- all of LBA!</p>
<p>Jeff Marti OlySpeaks 12/6/15 21 votes</p>	<p>More explanation of acquisition triggers and go get Bentrige, too.</p> <p>Thank you City of Olympia for the opportunity to comment on the draft parks plan. And thank you especially for committing to the purchase of the Trillium parcel of the LBA Woods.</p> <p>One lesson learned from the implementation of the 2004 Parks and Pathways ballot measure is that a number of properties and corridors identified for acquisition later became unavailable for acquisition for various reasons (e.g., cost, development, jurisdictional limitations, etc.).</p>

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	<p>To minimize the risk of these kinds of lost opportunities, I would like to see in the plan a more complete explanation of how the city will ensure that opportunities to acquire significant parcels are acted on in a timely manner.</p> <p>At page 89 of the draft plan, the plan references a Land Acquisition Fund, along with criteria which would be used to evaluate potential acquisitions. However, the plan does not specify what circumstances would actually trigger a requirement for the City to evaluate a property in the context of those criteria.</p> <p>Presumably, the new Metropolitan Parks District (MPD) will be responsible for making final acquisition decisions. At this time, however, the parks department can play an important role by describing how parks staff will keep a “watch list” of properties that would rank high on the acquisition criteria, and which are at a high risk of being lost to development. The public should be assured that the City is paying attention to the status of high value parcels when they are on the market. It should be possible to maintain such an inventory without jeopardizing the City’s need for discretion in real estate negotiations.</p> <p>The parks plan should also evince a commitment to secure such properties via the use of purchase options, pending an ultimate determination by the MPD.</p> <p>This is precisely the approach used the City to secure the purchase of Trillium and the Kaiser Woods. I personally believe that having those properties as carrots provided tremendous support for the passage of Proposition 1.</p> <p>The other half the LBA Woods matches up extremely well with the proposed acquisition criteria. It has a magnificent, mature forest, existing walking trails, and about 8 or 9 acres of Scotch Broom which are well suited for other park needs (dog park, athletic fields, etc.). It has a willing seller, but because it has been permitted and platted for development, it also is at high risk of being lost to development.</p> <p>I strongly urge the City to move forward with an option to purchase Bentrige and create Olympia’s next great legacy park. Thank you!</p>
<p>Kara Klotz OlySpeaks 12/6/15</p>	<p>LBA Woods needs Bentrige and Trillium</p> <p>It is vitally important to purchase both parcels of LBA Woods - Trillium and Bentrige. They function best together and the citizens of Olympia have</p>

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13 votes	spoken loud and clear their desire to preserve the Woods in their entirety. I'm seeing comments here expressing a desire for more sports fields and a dog park, and we can have all of that plus open space, trails and habitat if we purchase Bentrige along with Trillium. Bentrige scored well on the assessment of various parcels and it's got so many great features that complement Trillium. Please include reference in the plan to purchasing Bentrige -- that parcel meets all of the criteria for Future Land Acquisition listed on page 89. We've come too far and worked too hard to let Bentrige become high-density housing. Please purchase Bentrige AND Trillium so Olympians now and in the future can experience the beauty and habitat of the LBA Woods.
Patrick Babineau OlySpeaks 12/5/15 26 votes	Make LBA Woods a regional park that is located in the center of greater Olympia. Please include the whole 150 acres in the LBA Woods plan. We need a regional park in the very center of Greater Olympia. The area that has very little park land now and will have less in the future. The Growth Management Act calls for open space corridors and wildlife habitat areas and parkland in and around incorporated cities to protect the quality of life for its residents, protect wildlife, open spaces, water quality and recreational activities.
Glen Anderson OlySpeaks Response to comment	I did not know much about this until some friends helped me understand. Then we produced a TCTV program about this to inform the rest of our community about this exciting opportunity. Watch this informative program in the "TV PROGRAMS" part of www.olympiafor.org . It is the APRIL 2015 episode of this series. Also, to the right of the link for watching the program you can read an informative summary in either .pdf or Word format. My friends educated me, so now I am an enthusiastic supporter. OUR COMMUNITY REALLY NEEDS THIS PARK
Bob Zeigler OlySpeaks Response to comment	The plan is an important guide to Olympia's Future. Facing climate change and growth, our City needs protection of urban wilds. Green Spaces can minimize the damage of urban living in many ways - by sequestering carbon, purifying water, minimizing runoff and passive recreation. Sustainable urban design includes urban wilds. It is important that the City look at acquisition of West Bay Woods and Kaiser Woods but also of critical importance is the acquisition of the 72 acres of the LBA Woods parcel that is not proposed. Both LBA Woods pieces are needed because of size and connectivity. A City of Bellevue Planning document discusses the import of urban wilds especially on larger tracts of lands: Bellevue Urban Wildlife Habitat Literature Review City of Bellevue Prepared for: City of Bellevue Development Services Department by Watershed Company (May 2009)

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	<p>http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/pdf/Land%20Use/COB_Habitat_Literature_Review_2010.pdf . It states in part: "As the United States grows in population and cities, suburbs, and rural areas support greater densities, natural wild areas become fewer and urban natural areas become increasingly valuable to both wildlife and humans. Recent scientific research has responded in kind, and a growing knowledge base confirms what is best captured in the summary: "All urban areas have the potential to contribute to conservation of wildlife diversity" (Marzluff and Rodewald 2008). In the Pacific Northwest, native habitat exists to varying extents within even the most densely developed areas. . . ."7.1 Habitat Management Recommendations: Preserve large patches of native vegetation when possible. It has been proposed that the most effective and cheapest way to protect species diversity in the long run is to preserve as much natural habitat as possible (McKinney 2002). Habitat patch size is important to avian species richness in all landscapes and to breeding birds in some. Therefore, small- and medium-sized habitat patches alone will not preserve all native species. Evidence The Watershed Company May 2009 27 suggested that vegetative complexity, and native shrub diversity in particular, contributed to higher richness and less evenness in bird communities in larger habitat patches (Donnelly and Marzluff 2004).. . " I hope the City will not pass on the the opportunity to acquire both portions of the LBA Woods because of the public benefits that would provide. Bob Zeigler</p>
<p>OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>LBA Woods – Bentrige</p> <p>Thank you to the City for doing a great job on the draft 2016 Plan. With respect to LBA Woods, I too encourage the City to specifically discuss and plan for acquisition of the Bentrige parcel, so the entire LBA Woods may be included in our legacy to our children and their children. While each of the parcels that comprise the LBA Woods are important, together, they would create a truly unique recreational opportunity for generations to come.</p>
<p>Cristiana Figueroa OlySpeaks 12/5/15 53 votes</p>	<p>Excellent plan! Please create a 150-acre LBA Woods legacy park</p> <p>Thank you for a comprehensive, well thought-out plan that addresses the multiple community park and recreation needs, most of which require land acquisition to become a reality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural open spaces • Wildlife habitat • Athletic fields (the plan recognizes there are currently no dedicated City soccer fields) • Art center • Inter-connected trail system • Waterfront parks • Neighborhood and community parks

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	<p>Thus, the plan hits the mark in prioritizing land acquisition in the first years—343 acres by 2020. In addition, it addresses the backlog of repairs (including Percival Landing), restores custodial and landscape crews, upgrades existing athletic fields, and promotes art maintenance. The investment strategy maps out how all of this (and more) can be accomplished over a 20-year time period. This is truly outstanding!</p> <p>With regards to LBA Woods, we have a rare opportunity to create a 150-acre legacy park that can fulfill multiple needs—natural open space for habitat and recreation, and in the periphery, outside the forest core, a potential for amenities like community gardens and athletic fields. It is a perfect candidate for the list of land acquisitions.</p> <p>Currently the plan includes the purchase of roughly one half of the beautiful woods and its meandering trails—including mature tall firs, cedars and maples, diverse groundcover, as well as younger trees. Yet, both halves are needed to create this unique legacy park. Volunteers are ready to help with trail maintenance and grant applications to leverage the City’s available funding. Please seize the moment and negotiate the purchase of both LBA Woods parcels.</p>
<p>Pat Rasmussen OlySpeaks 12/2/15 28 votes</p>	<p>Include Purchase of Bentrige half of LBA Woods in the plan – People asked for the whole LBA Woods in neighborhood meetings</p> <p>Include Purchase of Bentrige half of LBA Woods in the plan - People asked for the whole LBA Woods in neighborhood meetings. At all 8 neighborhood meetings that I attended, people spoke up for the purchase of LBA Woods as a park. They didn't say half of it, they said all of it. Children told their stories of loving LBA Woods as did adults. The plan only mentions the purchase of the 74 acre Trillium property. Bentrige is a willing seller. They must be approached and negotiations must lead to the city's purchase of the land. LBA Woods was the most mentioned issue. Bentrige must be specifically mentioned in the plan.</p>
<p>JJ L OlySpeaks 11/24/15 35 votes</p>	<p>Protect the other half of LBA Woods</p> <p>The City has committed now to buying Ashton Woods (the old Trillium Development) that is HALF of the LBA Woods parcel....and the MPD tax passed this month, the residents spoke overwhelmingly, so the money will be there for it. But the most beautiful, densely forested, trailed and well-used half of the Woods is not yet slated for protection. The Bentrige parcel needs clear and unequivocal protection. The City needs to act immediately on purchasing of the entire LBA Woods, the most POPULAR item by far, which came out of the many meetings and surveys produced</p>

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	by the City during this Process. Save ALL the Woods!!
Jana Wiley OlySpeaks 12/8/15	<p>Over 5000 people voiced a desire for the city to acquire both Trillium and Bentrige</p> <p>I believe that the residents of Olympia place great value on their parks, especially those with intact native habitat. Visitors to our city are enraptured with Priest Point Park and Watershed Park. LBA Woods, including both Bentrige and Trillium, would add huge value to both residents and visitors. Including the Bentrige property in park planning would offer park use diversity in the form of a real off leash dog park (!), athletic fields, and significant native habitat. It does not make sense to break up the connected habitat that the collective woods offers to animal species and human recreation. Consider this as a one of a kind opportunity to create a unique park in Olympia. You already know that many support this vision given the numbers of people who signed petitions. (In fact, they are still signing the petition in my office! I have 40 more signatures to turn in from the last few months alone.) Please hear our collective voice</p>
Manek Mistry email 12/7/15	I'm hoping the plan will be modified to add language acquiring Bentrige.
Jordan Bell email 12/3/15	I live in the Wilderness Neighborhood. Just a quick note to say first, thank you so much for your role in securing the Trillium parcel!! and second, I hope the city will acquire the Bentrige parcel too so that all of LBA Woods is preserved! I love this place. Thanks again!
Bob Zeigler email 12/4/15	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your Draft Olympia 2016 Parks Arts and Recreation Plan. The plan is an important guide to Olympia's Future. Facing climate change and growth, our City needs protection of urban wilds. Green Spaces can minimize the damage of urban living in many ways - by sequestering carbon, purifying water, minimizing runoff and passive recreation. Sustainable urban design includes urban wilds.</p> <p>It is important that the City look at acquisition of West Bay Woods and Kaiser Woods but also of critical importance is the acquisition of the 72 acres of the LBA Woods parcel that is not proposed. Both LBA Woods pieces are needed because of size and connectivity.</p> <p>A City of Bellevue Planning document discusses the import of urban wilds especially on larger tracts of lands: Bellevue Urban Wildlife Habitat Literature Review City of Bellevue Prepared for: City of Bellevue</p>

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<p>Sandra Nelson Lane email 12/5/15</p>	<p>I want to thank you, the City Council, and others involved in the effort to save our beautiful LBA woods and to acquire the Trillium portion. I am a huge supporter (and user) of the woods. Such a gem right in the middle of our City.</p> <p>I would like to encourage you to continue your efforts to negotiate the purchase of the Bentrige portion as well so that this beautiful forest will remain intact.</p>
<p>Claudia Minton email 12/5/15</p>	<p>I am in support of keeping the complete woods in rather than including only half the woods as part of the Parks Plan. Having the complete wooded package allows for an enriched experience for adults, children, students and wildlife. Please keep the LBA woods intact rather than</p>

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	splitting the area into two parcels and leaving half for development rather than having a contiguous wood of trails and wildlife habitat.
Brent Campbell email 12/1/15	As a voter in the City of Olympia I voted for the Proposition 1. Although I can support the plan in general its missing the purchase of the Bentrige portion of the LBA woods. This is basically the most interesting of the two parcels. As a voter I expect that the city would in good faith purchase <i>all</i> of the LBA woods instead of only half of them.
Liz Harrison email 12/1/15	As a neighbor living close to the LBA Woods, I have long appreciated their impact on my life and the life of my children. I am pleased that Prop 1 passed and half of the parcel will be retained as is. I ask that this is purchased without delay. I also am requesting that the other parcel is also saved and the woods are kept in their entirety. There are numerous reasons why this should be so, and I wont elaborate here. However I want to add my support to the huge groundswell of voices, who see the benefits of retaining this treasured parcel of green space for eternity. As a community we need this marvelous park, and we should never be willing to destroy treasured park-lands to appease the almighty dollar bearing developers.
Tyler Stark email 12/3/15	I'm not entirely sure what I need to do to help save the other half of the woods. So I'd just like to say me and my family voted for proposition 1, and I would love to see the whole area untouched. This is very important to me, more than you may know as you probably don't know who I am. That's all I really have to say, so I hope you are on my/our (the good) side! Thanks.
Marina Kaminsky OlySpeaks 12/8/15 23 votes	Please Conserve All of LBA Woods: Both the Trillium and Bentrige Parcels! I grew up in SE Olympia, and having close access to the trails on these parcels was a priceless opportunity for me to experience nature. I would often run on the trails with my peers during cross country practice in high school, or walk the trails in the evenings alone. I am very grateful and relieved that the city is proposing to purchase the Trillium property, and am hopeful that the city will also consider the purchase of the Bentrige parcel, allowing for a greater breadth of wilderness within inner SE. Such a purchase would be beneficial for habitat preservation and flood prevention, as well as runners (who are always looking for more trail mileage)!
Mike Ruth OlySpeaks Response to	People who want to try out "easy" mountain biking can find great beginner trails in LBA woods. Many of the trails are flat, well graded, and of course in the woods. There are some challenges, but its fun to just ride your hard-tail rig ("not fancy bike") in a park - right in town without having to make a

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comment	big expedition out of it. Easily good for an hour or two of exercise in a beautiful woods.
Bob Wadsworth OlySpeaks 12/8/15 17 votes	<p>Migratory songbirds need forests</p> <p>As urbanization converts more and more local forests to housing development with landscaping that dramatically shifts native forest and shrub vegetation to lawns and non-native ornamental plants. These provide much less food variety as seeds, fruits and insects (often sprayed in yards) than the removed native vegetation. As a result, our local bird populations dwindle to the tipping point beyond which they disappear entirely. Olympia forests and shrublands serve as habitat for summer and winter migrant songbirds as well as for year-round residents. Our summer nesting songbirds are magnificent with bright orange, red, yellow and black plumage. Our winter visitors have spent the summer in the high mountains or far north and are here temporarily before heading back in the late spring. In neighborhoods adjacent to forests, we get to see and hear these birds. To remain a viable city, Olympia needs to maintain a healthy environment for wildlife, which in turn is a healthy environment for people. Several forested parcels are candidates for purchase and the city should move ahead with these purchases before they disappear through development. In particular, we need to preserve the Bentrige parcel as well as the Trillium property to maintain the full acreage of the LBA Woods.</p>
Brian Faller email 12/11/15	
Cristiana Figueroa On behalf of the LBA Woods Park Coalition Email 12/11/15	<p>On City of Olympia’s 2016 Draft Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan Provided by LBA Woods Park Coalition</p> <p><i>Excellent plan to address park needs and population growth</i></p> <p>Thank you, City of Olympia, for the opportunity to comment on the draft parks plan. And thank you, especially, for committing to the purchase of the Trillium parcel of the LBA Woods.</p> <p>Congratulations to all Olympia Parks staff for a strong, detailed, wellorganized Parks Plan. Your hard work over the past year really shows. How lucky we are to live in a parks-hungry community with a Parks Department, City Council, and City staff newly committed to focusing on improving and expanding our parks in the wake of the recent economic recession.</p> <p>The Parks Plan rightfully acknowledges (pages 24-25) that the projected population growth in Olympia and its Urban Growth Area (an estimated 21,000 people in the next 20 years) will drive demand for more and better</p>

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parks. The future of Olympia's park system must also be considered in light of the regional growth outside the City/UGA, especially in Thurston County. Luckily, the Parks Plan's acquisition goals for open-space and habitat also meet environmental goals of Thurston Regional Planning Council as reflected in the work of Sustainable Thurston, namely to protect our natural

resources and habitat while providing for public access and sustainable uses, and economic activity.

The Parks Plan draft clearly reflects the publicly stated need for more trails, natural open space, and habitat, and the multiple needs Olympians expressed, most of which require land acquisition to become a reality.

Thus, the plan hits the mark in prioritizing land acquisition in the first six years—343 acres from 2017- 2020. This upfront acquisition strategy will enable the City to buy land while it is still available at affordable prices. If implemented, it will significantly reduce the risk of permanently losing the ability to acquire the lands necessary to meet future park demands.

Future land acquisition criteria

At page 89 of the draft plan, the plan references a Land Acquisition Fund of \$11 million that would be used to purchase an estimated 169 acres of open space from 2017-2020, as detailed in the 6 Year Capital Facilities Plan table. The plan describes the general purpose and strategies and then identifies criteria to be used for the evaluation of potential acquisitions.

We

have a number of suggestions to improve the Future Land Acquisition section:

1. Add a criterion regarding to relative scarcity of land type and vulnerability to being lost.

For specific properties, even the 2017-2020 time horizon for purchase is too long. The inventory of high quality park parcels is very limited. Critical parcels may well be lost forever with the next 1-2 years. One lesson learned

from the implementation of the 2004 Parks and Pathways ballot measure is that a number of key properties and corridors identified for acquisition quickly became unavailable for various reasons (e.g., cost, development, jurisdictional limitations, etc.) To minimize the risk of these kinds of lost opportunities, LBA Woods Park Coalition requests that City add the criterion: "Relative scarcity of land type and vulnerability to being lost."

2. Add the criterion: "Potential for grant funding."

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Parcels with the potential for the injection of grant funds will magnify the funds available by allowing for more and better quality land to be purchased.

3. Identify the usefulness of options contracts and installment contracts to secure properties.

Option agreements and installment contracts can allow the City to quickly tie up parcels subject to potential contingencies as well as to carry purchases over longer periods to obtain or to utilize other funding sources. Purchase options were the approach used to secure the purchase of Trillium and the Kaiser Heights. We suggest that the City mention these useful tools in the description.

Bentridge is essential to the concept of LBA Woods and meets or exceeds all acquisition criteria

To inform purchase decisions, the City uses suitability assessments of parcels. Since our group has over the last several years collected significant information about the 72-acre Bentridge parcel, we take this opportunity to point out how extremely well that parcel matches with the plan's proposed acquisition criteria:

Great recreation and habitat value: Bentridge is essential to the concept of LBA Woods. The parcel's magnificent, mature forest of about 64 acres has extensive existing trails. Crosscountry running groups, dog walkers, hikers, birders and others already use these woods routinely. A flat area about 8 acres along Boulevard is well suited for other community park uses, which may include sports field(s), community gardens, dog park, with associated parking. In addition, the purchase of Bentridge will greatly enhance the recreational value of the Trillium parcel and LBA park. Unfortunately, the Trillium parcel may end up fragmented with the construction of a 5-acre water tower and its access road, sports fields and parking, and potentially the Log Cabin Road extension. However, even with such fragmentation, combining both parcels (Trillium and Bentridge) would provide a contiguous corridor of habitat and trails about 2/3 mile long and ¼ mile wide. Many recent scientific studies have shown that larger parcels provide significantly greater habitat value in species diversity and number. Good location. LBA Woods is located centrally in SE Olympia, adjacent to the existing LBA Park in an underserved part of the community (per Map 6-1), and contiguous to the county and the UGA. According to demographic data, over 10,000 people live within 1 mile of the site. See attachment 1. That density

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will increase as significant inventory for infill exists in surrounding areas. In addition, an Intercity Transit bus route serves the Bentrige side of LBA Woods. Such excellent location and accessibility allows for conjunctive uses, including an expansive trail system, multiple sports fields for tournaments, shared parking, restrooms and maintenance facilities, etc.

Good value: The City purchased an option for the adjacent 74-acre Trillium parcel at about \$65k/acre—an excellent price. The county’s assessed value of Bentrige is lower than Trillium’s, thus a skilled negotiator would use that information to lock in a deal. Due to the multiple potential park uses, and its outstanding habitat, the opportunity exists for several types of state grants (e.g., WWRP-recreation and WWRP-habitat) to help fund the Bentrige purchase.

Willing seller. The Bentrige owners have been marketing this parcel for the last three years, and have approached the City on several occasions. Connectivity: The LBA Woods trails in both Trillium and Bentrige provide non-motorized connection routes between neighborhoods, and a corridor to eventually connect Olympia’s population core with the Chehalis Western Trail.

Reasonable development costs. The 8 acres for community park uses are flat, upland, and immediately adjacent to Boulevard road, which provides access to all needed utilities. The City has determined that the site could accommodate its stormwater. The forest portion already has a trail system linking to Trillium. Additionally, trail connections can be extended from Boulevard to the southwest corner of LBA Park for enhanced accessibility to all areas of the future greater park.

Reasonable maintenance costs. As noted above, the 64-acre forested portion of Bentrige already has a trail system that an energized group of volunteers have created and maintained over time, by routing trails, clearing downed trees and vegetation, removing trash, bridging large puddles, etc. Interestingly, with more users and cleanup, homeless encampments have totally disappeared in recent years. Volunteers are ready to help with trail maintenance or any other needs.

In summary, the Trillium parcel alone, with the proposed addition of the

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	<p>water tower and its access road and the potential Log Cabin extension road—does not leave the quantity or quality of open space or wildlife habitat envisioned by the LBA Woods Park Coalition and its many supporters across the city. Without the adjacent parcel, there will not be much woods left. So, we ask to incorporate into the plan criteria that will enhance the City’s ability to move forward expeditiously with a purchase option for the Bentrige parcel.</p> <p><i>Protecting habitat, in particular, for the Trillium site</i> The plan can be further improved by specifying the need for the City to thoroughly evaluate all non-park related projects within parklands designated as having high habitat value. In the case of Trillium, this translates to re-evaluating the placement, scope and implementation of the proposed water tower (including fully exploring other options for alternate locations). Re-evaluating the need for Log Cabin Road is also a task to be accomplished. We look forward to working with the City in the enhancement and protection of habitat.</p> <p><i>Creating a legacy</i> <i>Let’s embrace this rare opportunity to create a 150-acre legacy park that can fulfill multiple needs—natural open space for habitat and recreation, and in the periphery, outside the forest core, a potential for amenities like community gardens and athletic fields. Please seize the moment</i></p> <p><i>Bentrige Demographics report attached.</i></p>
<p>Bruce Fortune email 12/11/15</p>	<p>The Olympia Parks Plan should include the acquisition of the Bentrige parcel as part of the development of the LBA Park. This would provide the opportunity to create a legacy park of great value to the residents of Olympia, much greater than only purchasing the Trillium parcel. Without the Bentrige parcel the proposed purchase of Trillium is a piecemeal approach to park needs. We need more than a piecemeal approach.</p> <p>By including the Bentrige parcel we can work towards a greater vision for the area. It would allow for community gardens in the scotch broom area, protect a large mature forest, allow for perhaps an environmental learning center linked to the public schools in the immediate area, provide linkage to the Chehalis Western trail, and meet the needs of improving and enhancing an existing park (ie: the LBA ballfields). There is already parking, restrooms and utilities available.</p>

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	<p>Including acquisition of the Bentrige parcel will be at all stages a very cost effective way to increase wildlife and forested parkland, encourage public use of community gardens and interactive walking, hiking and biking, and allow for additional ballfields. A piecemeal approach will not.</p>
<p>Jane Stavish email 12/11/15</p>	<p>In response to the recently released parks plan I have the following comments:</p> <p>The nearly 150 acres of forest and trails that is collectively known as Bentrige and Trillium (Ashton Woods) must be purchased by the city of Olympia and preserved as a park for future generations. The city has repeatedly mentioned that southeast Olympia is where most growth will occur, therefore these properties must be preserved before it is too late. Combined, these parcels would have plenty of space for all the activities requested by citizens.</p> <p>The Bentrige property bordering Boulevard Road is the perfect location for a dog park and a community gardening area. While the westside of Olympia has two separate gardening areas, southeast has none. The only plant species that would have to be removed would be invasive ones such as scotch broom and blackberry. The forested hillside above has existing large evergreen trees and trails that could be used for nature education for the many schools close by (Centennial, Morse Merryman, Washington Middle School, and Olympia High school and for high school cross-country runners.</p> <p>The portion of LBA Woods known as Trillium which lies just east of the LBA park main entrance is a previous gravel pit. This area may be ideal as a stormwater retention pond, which would allow the draining of the three fields that sit unused due to high groundwater and run-off from Bentrige. This would allow full use of all fields without the need to cut down any trees anywhere on the LBA woods properties to construct more fields. The city could then fully use what they already have.</p>
<p>Donna Nickerson OlySpeaks 12/10/15 18 Votes</p>	<p>Combine the Trillium and Bentrige parcels of LBA Woods into an open space natural park that will help Olympia achieve carbon reduction goals.</p> <p>The 150 acre forest of LBA Woods produces numerous ecosystem services to our community. It has tremendous value to the public if left as a natural park with the primary purpose of active and/or passive natural use (e.g., hiking, wildlife watching, and educational use, among others). One of the services this healthy coniferous forest produces is to capture carbon from the air. Carbon sequestration is a service that companies are willing to pay</p>

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	<p>for to help offset their own carbon emissions. Microsoft has just bought the carbon offset credits of a 520 acre forest near Mt Rainier and intends to do more 'offsetting' in our state. An initiative of the state's capital city might just be an ideal next opportunity. If Microsoft would pay Olympia for LBA Woods' carbon credits, the city could have funds to help pay for the park and would also be a good few steps further in achieving climate change goals.</p> <p>We have many public open spaces reserved for athletics, including the Regional Complex, and school playing fields which can and should be used by the public after hours. What we have less of all the time, are areas that have healthy second growth forest so near to where we live.</p>
Mike Ruth OlySpeaks Response to comment	It is worth reading some of the work of Earth Economics (http://www.eartheconomics.org/). One memorable quote I've read from them is "lose an ecosystem service, gain a tax district."
Chris Hawkins OlySpeaks Response to comment	I agree that emphasis in City's land acquisition should be on open space valuable as habitat, that sees only limited, if any, development.
OPARD	The Plan's Capital Investment Strategy sets aside \$11 million for 169-acres of land acquisition. These funds could be utilized for purchasing the second LBA Woods parcel (the Bentrige parcel), the Capital Center building on the Isthmus, a different community park site, or for open space. P. 87 of the plan lists 10 criteria that will be utilized to evaluate potential purchases. These criterial would be utilized in a potential purchase of the Bentrige parcel and other potential land acquisitions.

2. SWIMMING/SPRAYGROUNDS 9 Comments + 139 Votes

Michael Harburg e-mail 11/23/15	Thank you for all your work on this plan. It would be nice to have a place such as a lake or pond to swim in. That's my preference. Thank you.
Kendra Sawyer e-mail 11/19/15	I read the summary and it looks great - nice work! I didn't see any mention of a city swimming pool, which I know many people asked for at the meetings. Is that completely off the table?
Mel Smi OlySpeaks 11/21/15 13 votes	<p>Look to cooperative arrangement to meet Aquatic and Fitness Needs</p> <p>The Parks Department should take a look at the City of Elgin, Illinois' downtown recreation center. It was built in cooperation with the city, local hospital and physical therapy partnership. Includes meeting rooms, fitness</p>

2. SWIMMING/SPRAYGROUNDS 9 Comments + 139 Votes

	center and an aquatic center. The aquatic center includes both a shallow water exercise pool and an 8 lane competitive lap pool. They could also take a look at the Kerotas YMCA in Springfield which is a cooperative facility with local hospital and YMCA.
J Waeschle email 12/7/15	I have a comment for the parks survey. What ever happened to developing a swimming area on Ward Lake I would love to see that happen.
Henry Valz OlySpeaks 11/10/15 45 votes	<p>Skip the \$1M Spraygrounds, and build a pool!</p> <p>The \$1M towards "Spraygrounds" could have better utilized by putting it towards the construction of a pool. So far as I can tell (from your data) there were zero requests for "Sprayground" water features. A cheap alternative is NOT what the people said that they wanted. We asked for and we need an accessible pool year-round for the community.</p> <p>Pool save lives. Pools are a vital part of a community that is surrounded by water. Just by receiving swim lessons a person is 88% less likely to drown. This is especially important for low-income residents, as well as minority groups, which have significantly higher drowning rates, and also have less access to private clubs.</p> <p>Olympia and Tumwater Schools need a pool. Currently Olympia High School has 35 swimmers in 4 lanes, and is forced to limit practice because of demands by other groups. Black Hills and Tumwater High School have to transport to River Ridge in order to get pool time, and this year had to run practices as late as 8:30 in the evening.</p> <p>Our current public aquatic facilities are woefully behind Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties. Lewis County has opened up an excellent aquatic facility, and Grays Harbor's YMCA dwarfs everything available to the public in Thurston County.</p> <p>The City should reach out to the Olympia and Tumwater School Districts, as well as the YMCA to come together to create a multi-agency plan to build a aquatics facility that this area deserves. Skip the Spraygrounds, and save that money for a project that is actually wanted and needed.</p>
Marcia Benton OlySpeaks Response to comment	Definitely in agreement with a pool instead of a "spray ground" water park. I have high school swimmers who would definitely benefit from a pool in Tumwater. I also have toddlers and elementary school children who would never use a spray park and would be in my opinion a waste of money. We travel to Lewis county when we want to swim with the younger children. A pool closer would be appreciated!
Karen Messmer	I attended several of the public meetings and also did not hear a request

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OlySpeaks Response to comment	for spray parks. Any pool facility should be a cooperative effort between local school districts, cities, and the county.
Lori Nesmith OlySpeaks 12/8/15 18 votes	Surrounded by water but no public pool I did not grow up here, but where I did grow up there was a public pool, outdoor and indoor. Outdoor does not make much sense for this climate, but an indoor pool is perfect for learning water safety and swimming. True there are for pay pools, but community pools are a resource for all and owned by the community. Currently local high schools have to travel to pools at Evergreen or the few schools with a pool. Olympia schools do not have a pool.
Raymond Ingram OlySpeaks 12/8/15 11 votes	Pool Please build a new pool that swim teams can practice in
Karl Jacobs OlySpeaks 12/11/15 8 Votes	Thank you for including spray parks Witness the fountain on on hot day. Even just a warm day. Spraygrounds, or spray parks, are enormously popular. They are fun and easily accessible by everyone. A few more around town would be a wonderful addition to our local park system. Thanks!
Danielle King OlySpeaks 12/10/15 44 votes	A Community Pool is Vital to our Youth As the Coordinator for Safe Kids Thurston County, part of a national coalition with the mission of preventing unintentional injury death in children ages 0 to 19, I am entreating the City of Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation to seriously consider a Community Pool as part of the 2016 Parks, Arts & Recreation Plan. Childhood unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death among children from ages one to 19 years, representing nearly 40 percent of all deaths in this age group. In Washington State, drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury death among children ages 1–17. And sadly, in Thurston County drowning deaths are the leading cause of unintentional injury deaths in children from ages 1 to 14. Learning to swim is an evidence based method to reduce this drowning risk, but without a community pool most families miss the opportunity to teach their children to swim and learn about water safety in a safe environment. Having more community members as swimmers results in a healthier society with reduced healthcare costs, too. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that approximately 37% of Americans are unable to swim. There is a larger

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	<p>disparity between races, with 62% of African-Americans and 47% of Hispanic-Americans unable to swim. Most children learn to swim at public pools. Without this, many families in our community take their children to our unsupervised open water sites. This is not a safe option. Formal swim lessons are associated with an 88% reduction in drowning risk for 1 to 4 year olds. Logically, swimming competence would also prevent drowning in older age groups.</p> <p>There are also great health and societal benefits associated with access to community pools. In 1990, no state had a greater than 15% obesity rate. By 2010, no state had an obesity rate under 20%. And since 1980, the obesity rate in children has tripled. In national surveys, swimming is listed as one of the top five exercises, particularly great as it can be done by all ages and those with disabilities who may not be able to perform other forms of exercise. There are positive societal costs, as well. Reducing obesity by 1% reduces medical expenditures due to obesity by about \$85 billion over a twenty year period. Families of lower incomes cannot afford swim lessons at many private or semi-public facilities, and therefore are disproportionately excluded from exposure to this valuable skill and these added health and cost benefits.</p> <p>The recent Thurston County Economic Development Council survey of downtown business owners indicated that respondents desire a community pool as an additional business they would like to see in the downtown area. Our unique close proximity to so much open water (over 42 lakes, the Nisqually and Deschutes rivers, and Puget Sound), children’s natural curiosity to be drawn to water, the growing body of evidence that swimming prolongs life and provides various health benefits, and the alarming statistics on drowning deaths and our community children all make for compelling reasons to earnestly contemplate a community pool as part of the 2016 Parks, Arts & Recreation Plan. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
<p>OPARD:</p>	<p>The plan proposes two sprayground water play features. Staff recognizes that a sprayground is not a substitute for a swimming pool. A sprayground does, however, provide a fun way for younger children to cool off on a hot day at a fraction of the cost of a swimming pool; A small indoor swimming pool costs approximately \$8 million to construct and takes substantial staffing to operate while a sprayground costs approximately \$500,000 and does not require lifeguards/supervision. That being said, staff proposes adding the following text to the plan:</p> <p><u>Recreation/Aquatics Center</u></p>

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	<p><u>In the random sample survey conducted for this plan, when asked what the most needed recreational amenity not currently offered was, “swimming facilities” was the number one response. As The Olympia Center approaches 30 years of operation, planning efforts should begin for major renovations or replacement of The Olympia Center. This could include a swimming pool, ice rink, indoor athletic facilities and/or additional recreation amenities.</u></p> <p><u>Proposed Action: The plan budgets \$300,000 in the “Long Range Options 2022-2035” section for this planning effort.</u></p>
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3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

Ellie Weinstein e-mail 11/23/15	While I support the listed objectives, is there any way to brainstorm around removing the "mistake by the lake?"
Melinda Mandell e-mail 11/24/15	<p>The proposed plan does not contemplate any set aside for acquisition of the hideous vacant building on the isthmus. That was a marketing point to solicit votes for the tax increase.</p> <p>Priorities should be maintenance backlog and safety and security. The drug problems in some of the parks near downtown need attention, as do parking lot break-ins/ safety issues at existing parks such as Priest Point.</p> <p>Please focus on the promised points when the tax hike was approved and prioritize in a pragmatic manner. Otherwise, the public will not trust those who requested the funds. Thank you.</p>
Rob Ahlschwede e-mail 11/28/15	<p>There is evidence of the great public process that OPARD is known for and it is pleasing to know that that process has again been embraced! Having said that, it appears that the Planning Department and a couple of council members have intervened in the Department's attempt to present a good Park Plan.</p> <p>It is disturbing to see that the Isthmus Park effort is being attacked successfully by the Planning Department's overwhelming desire to develop the isthmus parcels thru the CRA program. I urge that this Park Plan states in a more aggressive way the intent to develop a park on at least the two parcels now owned by the city.</p> <p>Furthermore, I hope to see something about razing the Mistake on the Lake and adding those properties to the city's inventory of lands available</p>

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	<p>for park development.</p> <p>The possibility for a great public/civic space at the west entrance to the downtown is too special to ignore.</p>
<p>Allen Miller OlySpeaks 12/3/15</p> <p>17 votes</p>	<p>The extension of the North Capitol Campus Heritage Park and West Bay Park and Trail</p> <p>Pages 35-36 and 80-81 of the Draft Plan need to include reference to the 1911 Wilder and White and 1928 Olmsted Brothers plans for the State Capitol Campus and the view corridor to the north across Capitol Lake, the isthmus, to the borrowed landscapes of Puget Sound and the Olympics. The North Capitol Campus Heritage Park, which has developed over the years since the 1986 Feasibility Study by Jones and Jones, from the Law Enforcement Memorial to the North Oval/Fountain block, is planned to be extended to the 3 blocks west of the Fountain. The Draft Plan should also be sure to include that the North Oval/Fountain Block is to be completed with the demolition of the remaining buildings along the Water Street side of the Block. The 2009 Feasibility Study cost figures should not be referenced since they were inflated by including development costs and are out of date. Take a look at the Thurston County assessors valuations of the parcels and notice how Parcel No. 91005201000 was valued at over \$9 million in 2008 and is now valued at \$318,000.00. A better cost figure should reference the fair market values of the remaining 4 parcels of the Capitol Center Building which add up to about \$3.5 million. It would also be good to mention the \$20-\$25 million that the City, County, State, and private sector have spent on the North Capitol Campus Heritage Park since 1990. My final comment would be for the Draft Plan to move up the timetable to expand West Bay Park and Trail to within the next 6 years rather than 10 to 20 years as discussed on Page 83 of the Draft Plan. Otherwise the Plan looks great. Glad we were able to get the Metropolitan Parks District measure passed!</p>
<p>Chris Hawkins OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>Good idea - there is not only really excellent recreation value of having a completed trail corridor from West Bay into downtown but also a major active transportation benefit (a level route, out of traffic, to connect westside neighborhoods to downtown allowing residents to leave the cars at home and be more physically active). Same goes for other multi-use, shared use paths: yes, acquire the open space and corridors, but also move up their development into useable paths in the plan (like the Mission Creek Park Interim Use Plan that opened up a bicycling/walking path connecting</p>

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	one part of the neighborhood to another).
Allen Miller Open House 11/2/15	pp. 35-36 and pp. 80-81 of the 2016 draft plan regarding the Heritage Park fountain and the Isthmus need to emphasize that these are part of the North Capitol Campus as designed by Wilder and White in 1911 and the Olmsted Brothers in 1912. The reference to the community renewal area and Downtown Strategy should be removed since the State of Washington, Thurston County, the City and the private sector have donated and appropriated over \$20 million for these areas to be in public ownership as park and civic space. Since 1992 ideas for these areas include a Squaxin Island Tribal museum, a carousel and an artesian well feature (see attached). Also the Capitol Center Building parcels fair market value is \$3.5 million so the reference to the 2009 Feasibility Plan should be deleted. The \$28 million - \$32 million figures are inflated and out of date. The West Bay trail and park should be built sooner rather than later.
Jerry Reilly Open House 11/2/15	<p>Overall, very good product, very good process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Very pleased that west parcels (former Larina site) are clearly described as park 2. Concerned that further plans on Isthmus park development are subordinated to work on the Downtown Strategy. If anything, it makes more sense to get clear plan for Isthmus (including removal of Capital Center Building) prior to finishing Downtown Strategy. If Isthmus gets mixed up with DTS it will greatly compromise possible strong consensus on DTS. At a minimum both plans should proceed together. 3. Cost estimate for Isthmus park at \$30-32 million was taken from old feasibility study from 2008. This high number is outdated. We have already spent about \$4 million on west parcels and demolition. Steve Hall just quoted in Thurston Talk that acquisition and demolition of Capitol Center Building would be \$6-\$10 million range. I suspect this may be a little low. But the \$30-32 million estimate should be revised or removed from plan. The high number makes vision happen unattainable. 4. The removal of the Capitol Center Building is a special situation that does fit easily into routing park planning criteria. This is a special and unique property that sits dead center in the middle of what would otherwise be one of great vistas in America linking out Capitol complex to Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains. It also serves as the gateway to Olympia's revitalizing downtown.
Bob Jacobs email	Here's another input on the Isthmus portion of the draft Parks Plan. This

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<p>12/3/15</p>	<p>will combine what I said Wednesday evening with what Allen Miller submitted afterwards.</p> <p>The <u>Capitol Center Acquisition and Removal</u> item is quite different from other proposed projects. A major objective is to correct a major historic mistake -- construction of a 9-story office building right in the middle of the vista around which our original capitol campus was designed -- the vista that connects the capitol to the Olympia mountains. Removal of this historic mistake (commonly called the "Mistake by the Lake") will vastly improve both our community and our capitol campus.</p> <p>Another objective of this project is to make this block part of a grand public space on the four blocks between Water Street, the Capitol Lake Spillway, Fourth Avenue, and Fifth Avenue. The purpose of this grand public space will be to (1) protect the area from high structures in the future, and (2) provide the community with amenities worthy of the setting. The actual shape of the grand public space would be determined with a high level of public involvement. Many possibilities have been suggested over the years, including but not limited to a Native American Cultural Center, ferris wheel, merry-go-round, library, Olympia History Museum, sculpture garden, green spaces, bocce courts, picnic areas, fountain, etc. Whatever the public decides.</p> <p>This is an acquisition and demolition project. Current cost estimates are in the 8-10M range. Development estimates are not included because the final development plan has not been determined and may not be determined for a number of years. This treatment is the same as that of other land acquisition projects in the budget. The city, urged on by citizens, is stressing acquisition of land for parks before it is lost to private development. Planning and construction of these park projects may be years in the future, and budgets for these purposes will be included in future parks plans.</p> <p>I hope this text will be helpful in developing the second draft.</p>
<p>Bob Jacobs e-mail 12/10/15</p>	<p>Thanks for your help on the isthmus item. After looking at the two sections, it is not at all clear to me that the Capitol Center Building is included in the draft. Esp. from the headings -- "Isthmus Parcels". At best it is equivocal. FYI, here's what I wrote to Janine Gates, who asked the question</p> <p>Janine --</p> <p><i>I checked with Jonathon Turlove at Parks, who is drafting the Parks Plan. I think he agrees that the current parks plan contains the 4-block</i></p>

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	<p><i>isthmus area as a city goal.</i></p> <p><i>He also thinks that it remains a goal per p. 36 of the draft replacement plan. It appears to me this is not the case. Reading the two isthmus sections together (pp. 38 and 81) it appears that the draft deals only with the two parcels already purchased and cleared. We will ask that the whole 4-block area be an unequivocal goal, and esp. purchase and demolition of the Capitol Center Building.</i></p> <p><i>I hope this answers your question.</i></p> <p>We understand this is a sensitive area with the current council, but hope for a parks plan that clearly includes acquisition and demolition of the Capitol Center Building and creation of a great civic space on the four blocks, the details of which would be determined after an inclusive public process. Thanks again,</p>
<p>Lee Montecucco email 12/9/15</p>	<p>I am writing to say that the Parks Plan Draft does get something wrong! It appears that the 2.3 acres that were purchased for a park with park funds and recently cleared of the derelict buildings are not proposed for the isthmus park space as they were in the current parks plan. Per page 36 of the draft , it appears that this area is proposed to be subordinated to the "Community Renewal Area process and Downtown Strategy." This implies that the area could be used for non-park purposes like condominiums. (In this context, the term "Park" can include more than just green space, e.g. carousel, native American cultural center, Olympia history museum, but the land needs to remain in public ownership and structures limited in height. "Great civic space is a better term.).</p> <p>The Olympia voting public has repeatedly expressed its support for this public park space on the isthmus, to include the purchase and removal of the "Mistake by the Lake":</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By the feasibility study initiative, 2. By huge attendance/protest at rezone (up-zone) hearings for the space in question, 3. By making the isthmus the defining issue in two City Council elections, 4. By making this area one of the highest priority major park projects in the recent scientific poll by Stuart Elway (page 14, middle), 5. By voting 60-40 for the recent Metropolitan Park District ballot issue, 6. By voicing their support in thousands of personal contacts, door-to-door and at downtown events, and signing to be on email lists regarding the isthmus and the "Mistake." <p>Please restore this part of the parks plan.</p> <p>Public sentiment for the 4-block area between Water Street, the Capitol</p>

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	<p>Lake Spillway, Fourth Avenue, and Fifth Avenue remains strong and clear. Down with the Capitol Center Building and on with a great public space!</p>
<p>Tom Holz email 12/1/15</p>	<p>In my mind the highest priority for acquisition is the isthmus.</p> <p>There is only one capital in the US with a million dollar view such as ours spoiled only by the “mistake by the lake”. Let us convert the entire isthmus to parks to enhance the view of the capitol. That is the way to add value to the community and draw investment.</p>
<p>Roger Horn e-mail 11/12/15</p>	<p>Convert the Capital Center ("Mistake on the Lake") into the Olympia Art Center (other names may be better, but it describes the concept). As I envision it, all nine floors of the building could be devoted to art-related purposes. I don't have enough knowledge of the building to make a definite proposal, but here's a possible way to use the space:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Olympia Art Space Alliance could provide live/work spaces for artists on floors 4 through 8 (and perhaps floor 3). 2) The top (9th) floor and maybe the roof could be used as observation areas, a restaurant or cafe, space for various artworks, sales of crafts, etc. If the roof can be used, part of it could be used for greenery, part for displaying sculptures, and perhaps restaurant/cafe and sitting space. 3) Floors 2 and 3 could be used for arts classrooms, arts support services (e.g., printing, supplies, kilns, shared materials), community arts organizations (such as Arbutus and Procession), performance space, and gallery space for organizations such as Evergreen and SPSCC. 4) Floor 1 could serve as rotating gallery space and perhaps some of the services I included in item 3. It may also be space for a connected retail business and performing space. <p>I have mentioned this idea to a several people. Most of them think it is an interesting concept.</p> <p>I have heard from some folks (including Chris Tucker from Artspace Alliance) that SPSCC and Evergreen are looking for art space downtown. I think this concept could garner financial support from Commerce's Building for the Arts Program, the Washington State Arts Commission, a direct appropriation from the legislature, or private arts organizations and individuals, as well as contributions from the project partners. It would</p>

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	<p>require substantial effort to bring together all the partners, but the results could be outstanding.</p> <p>As far as the City's role, it would probably require purchase of the building and helping to bring together the parties. Now that the MPD has passed, funding may be available.</p> <p>I read in the Olympian that a developer has expressed interest in using the building for apartments, retail, and a restaurant. I don't know how far along that process is or how committed the developer is. We'll need more information on that to determine whether to move on the proposal I'm describing.</p> <p>I have mentioned the idea to Renee Sunde. I think the arts center could have a huge economic development benefit. It could serve as the anchor on the isthmus and generate many other projects and business interest. It would also attract tourists and visitors. I have seen in St. Paul's Lowertown neighborhood how two Artspace facilities built in the early '80s have helped revitalize a formerly blighted and dangerous area into one that is thriving.</p> <p>Another benefit may be to convert what many people think of as an ugly, blighted building into a piece of art using the creativity of local architects and input from the art community.</p> <p>Any thoughts? I know this concept will need a lot of refining, but I wanted get something down on paper for people to think about. It certainly would be ambitious, but maybe that's what our city needs.</p> <p>Thanks.</p>
<p>Lee Harrison Montecucco OlySpeaks 12/8/15 19 votes</p>	<p>Isthmus Park and Mistake by the Lake</p> <p>I am writing to say that the Parks Plan Draft does get something wrong! It appears that the 2.3 acres that were purchased with park funds for a park and recently cleared of the derelict buildings are not proposed for the isthmus park space as they were in the current parks plan. Per page 36 of the draft , it appears that this area is proposed to be subordinated to the "Community Renewal Area process and Downtown Strategy." This implies that the area could be used for non-park purposes like condominiums. (In this context, the term "Park" can include more than just green space, e.g. carousel, native American cultural center, Olympia history museum, but</p>

3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

	<p>the land needs to remain in public ownership and structures limited in height. "Great civic space is a better term.).</p> <p>The Olympia voting public has repeatedly expressed its support for this public park space on the isthmus, to include the purchase and removal of the "Mistake by the Lake":</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By the feasibility study initiative, 2. By huge attendance/protest at rezone (up-zone) hearings for the space in question, 3. By making the isthmus the defining issue in two City Council elections, 4. By making this area one of the highest priority major park projects in the recent scientific poll by Stuart Elway (page 14, middle), 5. By voting 60-40 for the recent Metropolitan Park District ballot issue, 6. By voicing their support in thousands of personal contacts, door-to-door and at downtown events, and signing to be on email lists regarding the isthmus and the "Mistake." <p>Please restore this part of the parks plan.</p> <p>Public sentiment for the 4-block area between Water Street, the Capitol Lake Spillway, Fourth Avenue, and Fifth Avenue remains strong and clear. Down with the Capitol Center Building and on with a great public space!</p>
<p>Bill Robinson OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>Now that the derelict old buildings have been removed from the downtown Isthmus we can better envision the wonderful public space this can be to our water front. There is broad and a growing supportive citizenry for parks and the downtown area. Now it is time to begin the planning for the next phase for this iconic space that will define the core values of our community. The Isthmus should not be part of the CRA or the other slow moving planning processes that will only deflate the momentum of the public support for a park or other public space on the Isthmus. Take down that ugly tall building – it is truly a “mistake on the lake”.</p>
<p>Bonnell Jacobs OlySpeaks 12/8/15 21 votes</p>	<p>What’s happened to the Isthmus Plan for a Great Public Space?</p> <p>What happened to the Plan for a Great Public Space on the Isthmus? It is in the current Parks Plan. On page 36 & 81 of the new Parks Plan it seems that the Parks Department is subservient to the Planning Dept.’s Community Renewal Area and its downtown strategy committee. “The Community Renewal Area (CRA) process and the Downtown Strategy will</p>

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	<p>inform OPARD’s Level of involvement in the Isthmus area.” This disturbs me for several reasons, 2 of which are: 1. The Strategy Committee does not include anyone from the Heritage Commission, The Environmental Community nor the Yes on Olympia Parks Coalition. 2. Who is to say what the Planning Department will to “take over” next. Will they hand pick another “strategy committee” to plan what should happen along West Bay? Grass Lakes? Or LBA Woods or any of the trails? This takeover seems rather high-handed given that the public just voted by over 60% to tax ourselves for parks and yet the Parks Dept. seems to be playing left out.</p>
<p>Glen Anderson email & OlySpeaks 12/10/15</p> <p>23 votes</p>	<p>ENTIRE ISTHMUS for a publicly owned + accessible park</p> <p>The people of Olympia – the REAL, LIVE PEOPLE (not absentee developers) want THE ENTIRE ISTHMUS to be a PARK.</p> <p>Remove ALL buildings. Create a park: -- OWNED BY THE PUBLIC -- FREELY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</p> <p>THE IMMEDIATE NEED IS FOR THE PUBLIC TO OWN THE ENTIRE ISTHMUS – and to ABSOLUTELY RESERVE IT FOR A PUBLIC PARK.</p> <p>We can work out the details of the park later. The City can devise a public process to engage real, live people to figure out what the park would look like, etc.</p> <p>This is the HIGHEST PRIORITY for the city!</p>
<p>Rob Ahlschwede OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>And let's make sure we define the "isthmus" so we all are talking about the same piece of real estate. The land between 4th Ave and 5th Ave, from Water Street to the end of land at the west end. That piece of land is the "jewel" of the city and should have nothing but a city owned civic space. Park can mean so many things, but it does not mean residential or high rise buildings.</p>
<p>Krag Unsoeld email 12/11/15</p>	<p>I am sending this email to express my opinion about the property on the isthmus in Olympia. Specifically, the 2.3 acres on the west part of the isthmus that the city purchased for a park, with park funds, and recently cleared of the derelict buildings, the land that is currently the site of the Capitol Center Building and the building itself, and the land east of the Heritage fountain. I want you to restore the isthmus park as a high priority project.</p> <p>The land that the city acquired for parks should be developed as a park. the</p>

3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

	<p>Capitol Center Building and the land upon which it sits should be acquired, the building torn down, and this should also be developed as a park. The isthmus is clearly going to be impacted by rising sea levels. It is unconscionable to consider developing new residential, retail and commercial enterprises on this land. The existing businesses -- Bayview Thriftway, the yacht club, and Traditions Fair Trade -- should be helped to make sea level rise contingency plans. The current parks plan calls for the acquisition and removal of the Capital Center Building. This needs to be put into the draft park plan.</p> <p>Since I am commenting on the Draft Parks Plan I will also state my feelings about the the Community Renewal Area (CRA) process and the Downtown Strategy. These are very relevant to the comments that I have made about the using the isthmus for parks. As I stated above, sea level rise is a major factor in making it inappropriate to consider new residential, retail or commercial enterprises on the isthmus land. Another reason to not do it is that Olympia should start an estuary reclamation and recovery effort. This would include recovering both the Deschutes and Moxlie Creek estuaries. This is of vital importance so that we can begin the process of recovering aquatic bird populations and modeling how a modern city can coexist with critical aquatic habitats.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my comments.</p>
<p>Walter R. Jorgensen email 12/11/15</p>	<p>The City has now completed demolition of the buildings on the two recently acquired isthmus properties and is working on the Water Street properties. Already the north-south visual corridor across the isthmus is affording spectacular views of the Olympics and State Capitol. The crown jewel will be the <i>space</i> currently occupied by the "Mistake on the Lake."</p> <p>My advice to Olympians is to go look at what you have and don't let the City or anyone else take it away from you. Noticing, enjoying, and valuing this new vista is a delight that you and the rest of the public deserve as your just reward. And now, finish the job. Reduce the Mistake to a pile of rubble, scrape it clean like the other two sites and marvel at how you've let your city breathe.</p> <p>The plan acknowledges the popularity of replacing the Capitol Center Building.</p> <p>Most Dominant Themes (Topics mentioned 20 or more times)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy the LBA Woods property

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire land in general while it is available • Buy open space/natural areas – provide nearby access to nature <p>Secondary Themes- (Topics mentioned 10-19 times)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more trails and trail/sidewalk connections to parks • Utilize Voted Utility Tax as it was intended • Construct an off-leash dog park • Increase volunteerism/Park Stewardship Program • Develop a park on the Isthmus <p>No clear priority among six potential “megaprojects”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asked to rank six potential projects, respondents scored the top four items in a tight cluster, headed by the Percival Landing project. • Close behind were demolishing Capitol Center and completing the Olympia Woodland Trail. • Acquisition of the LBA Woods ranked 4th, followed by developing the West Bay Park and Trail and Development of an Athletic Field Community Park. <p>Let's remove this blemish on Olympia's downtown waterfront and put the "mistake" years behind us.</p>
<p>Anne B. Holm email 12/11/15</p>	<p>I am really concerned that the Isthmus Park is not specifically discussed in this draft. It has been part of the current plan and should not be ignored in this proposal. Perhaps it's not mentioned because the city does not want to specify particular lots to purchase for fear that this will jack up prices. However, in the case of the "mistake by the lake", this would be a specious argument, as anyone who's been paying attention knows of the citizens' interest in destroying that building and turning the isthmus into a park.</p> <p>My concern is further aggravated by the latest discussions to erect large buildings on at least part of the area, thus ending the possibility of having a landmark park in the middle of the city, with unobstructed views between the Capitol and the Olympics. This viewscape would be unique to the world and a treasure for all of the state. Therefore, in order to help fight these shortsighted development ideas, it is <u>vital</u> that the parks plan continue to include the Isthmus Park.</p>

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I am also very concerned that buildings such as condos, hotels, etc. would be subject to flooding from sea-level rise and liquefaction from earthquakes. The city will end up paying a vast amount either for prevention techniques or repairs. It seems obvious to me that the only reasonable use of the isthmus is as a park; when damage does occur, it will be easier and cheaper to contain and repair. As evidence of the looming problems, I have also forwarded to you yesterday's announcement from the state DES regarding the current state of flooding in downtown Olympia.

Please change the park plan draft to make the Isthmus Park a priority...help protect these wonderful views for all of us. Thank you for your consideration.

HEAVY RAINFALL, HIGH TIDES CAUSE MINOR FLOODING AT CAPITOL LAKE

A combination of record-setting rainfall, flooding on the Deschutes River and high tides in Puget Sound caused minor flooding this morning around the eastside of Capitol Lake – from approximately the walking bridge at Heritage Park to the Fifth Avenue dam spillway.

Water came close to but did not reach any downtown businesses early this morning. It did, however, briefly cover a couple of city streets. Flooding is contained, at the present time, within Heritage Park, but water has inundated the pathway around a portion of the lake. The park remains open at this time.

The Department of Enterprise Services (DES), the state agency responsible for managing the 260-acre artificial lake, has been and continues to release as much water through the Capitol Lake dam as each low tide allows.

DES closely monitors weather forecasts, [streamflow](#) on the Deschutes River, [tide tables](#) and more to determine when to lower the lake below the normal winter level in advance of major storms.

Early this morning, when DES staff determined that the lake was going to flood, the department notified the city of Olympia. DES also quickly closed a section of Water Street and 7th Avenue. The city immediately implemented its flood response plan which includes pumping excess stormwater directly into Capitol Lake and placing sandbags in the area to protect nearby businesses.

3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

	<p>Capitol Lake is filled by the Deschutes River, which has been at flood stage due to heavy rain. The river crested around 4 a.m. this morning and is now dropping. At its height, the river was filling the lake at a rate of about two feet an hour.</p> <p>There will be a chance of additional minor flooding at Capitol Lake later today – during the high tide at 4:08 p.m. DES and the city of Olympia will have equipment and supplies in place to respond.</p>
<p>John Newman email 12/11/15</p>	<p>I have some comment to make on the park plans.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The isthmus should be all park and no-buildings because of the sea-level rise danger. 2. The staff does a great job of managing the parks now. <p>Thank you;</p>
<p>Sherri Goulet email 12/11/15</p>	<p>The Isthmus Parcels piece of the plan needs to be completely rewritten. I refer you to the document submitted by the Friends of the Waterfront.</p> <p><i>a. In the introduction, the isthmus should be defined as the 4-acre area bounded by Water Street, the Capitol Lake spillway, Fourth Avenue, and Fifth Avenue. Language such as the following should be added: "The remaining derelict structures on the isthmus are the 9-story Capitol Center Building (known locally as the "mistake by the lake") and its one-story Annex. As reported elsewhere in this plan, there is strong local support to remove these buildings, particularly the 9-story building, which is a long-festering eyesore that mars the northward vista that connects the State Capitol Campus with the Olympic Mountains to the north, and around which the State Capitol Campus was designed."</i></p> <p><i>b. The content of the second bullet under "challenges" should be deleted because it is inaccurate due to age and the fact that it includes development which is not included in current proposals. In its stead, an estimated cost of 8M to 10M for acquisition and demolition of the Capitol Center Building and Annex should be inserted.</i></p> <p><i>6. The "Isthmus Parcels" item on page 81 should be amended as suggested in the previous item, calling for acquisition and demolition of the Capitol Center Building and Annex.</i></p> <p>My editorial comment is: A PARK is the most practical use of that 4-acre area. Note the comments of Andy Haub about sea level rise:</p>

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	<p>http://www.eenews.net/stories/1059968975. If the city (meaning the planning department and city council) decides to use some of this property in this 4-acre area to create “public/private partnerships” and structures are built that have to be defended from sea level rise, who will pay? It is well known by weary taxpayers that when “public/private partnerships” are created, the public pays and the private profits. The 4-acre area (listed in letter “a” above) must be designated as a park, and the Capitol Center Building and Annex must be purchased and demolished in order to create that park. It is what citizens want to see happen, and it is the most financially sound decision to make.</p>
<p>Sue Lean email 12/11/15</p>	<p><i>Please restore the Isthmus Park as a high priority project. Please restore the purchase and removal of the Capitol Center Building to the new Parks Plan Draft, as they are in the current Parks Plan.</i></p> <p>I am concerned about this change and urge you to keep the isthmus a top priority. View blocking buildings on this land, vulnerable to both sea level rise and liquefaction, would represent poor planning and be contrary to overwhelming public opposition. Possible future development should not "inform" the parks plan.</p> <p>I would also encourage you to purchase the land near Watershed Park to accommodate use by visitors staying at the new hotels soon to be finished nearby. Watershed is just far enough away that tourists are likely to drive there and then drive on to wherever else they are going. Citizens worked hard to get funding for parks in order to purchase land while it is available and this seems like sensible pre-planning before overcrowding occurs in this area.</p> <p>-</p> <p>With best wishes,</p>
<p>Zena Hartung email 12/11/15</p>	<p>The isthmus parks should be a high priority. No other area in our town has gathered the sincere interest and political activism we've seen with the parks. If it weren't for these critics, today there would be no change. Unfortunately the removal of the decrepit buildings has not resulted in placing of growing things. The isthmus parks need to be developed as per the citizen's wishes, which includes the removal of the mistake by the lake aka the capital center building. Please heed the wishes of the vocal citizens of Olympia. They speak for many who will benefit from these areas as parkland.</p>
<p>Lee Montecucco</p>	<p>I am writing to say that the Parks Plan Draft does get something <u>wrong</u>! It</p>

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<p>email 12/10/15</p>	<p>appears that the 2.3 acres that were purchased for a park with park funds and recently cleared of the derelict buildings are not proposed for the isthmus park space as they were in the current parks plan. Per page 36 of the draft , it appears that this area is proposed to be subordinated to the "Community Renewal Area process and Downtown Strategy." This implies that the area could be used for non-park purposes like condominiums. (In this context, the term "Park" can include more than just green space, e.g. carousel, native American cultural center, Olympia history museum, but the land needs to remain in public ownership and structures limited in height. "Great civic space is a better term.).</p> <p>The Olympia voting public has repeatedly expressed its support for this public park space on the isthmus, to include the purchase and removal of the "Mistake by the Lake":</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By the feasibility study initiative, 2. By huge attendance/protest at rezone (up-zone) hearings for the space in question, 3. By making the isthmus the defining issue in two City Council elections, 4. By making this area one of the highest priority major park projects in the recent scientific poll by Stuart Elway (page 14, middle), 5. By voting 60-40 for the recent Metropolitan Park District ballot issue, 6. By voicing their support in thousands of personal contacts, door-to-door and at downtown events, and signing to be on email lists regarding the isthmus and the "Mistake." <p>Please restore this part of the parks plan.</p> <p>Public sentiment for the 4-block area between Water Street, the Capitol Lake Spillway, Fourth Avenue, and Fifth Avenue remains strong and clear. Down with the Capitol Center Building and on with a great public space!</p>
<p>Kathleen Callison email 12/10/15</p>	<p>Please prioritize Isthmus Park, and the purchase and removal of the Mistake by the Lake, in the Parks Plan and other planning documents and processes for downtown Olympia.</p> <p>The community has repeatedly made clear - in elections, at public meetings, and in the commitment of time and energy by citizens who care about the issue - that they the Mistake should be removed and the Isthmus should be a public space.</p>

3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

	<p>In the past few weeks, as we cross the isthmus, we can finally begin to see the realization of a vision that many of us have cherished and worked for - an open space at the heart of the city.</p> <p>It will be a betrayal of that vision, as well as a misuse of funds that have been earmarked for parks, if the City pursues a path whose primary benefits will be increased real estate values for private landowners and developers, and homes for high income residents. I completely disagree with the idea that development of the isthmus will attract more development downtown. The opposite is true: A public space at the heart of the city, linking trails and parks on either side of the isthmus and providing spectacular views of the mountains and Sound, is the legacy that will enhance quality of life in an increasingly dense urban environment.</p> <p>All great cities have great parks at their heart. The City of Olympia needs to have the courage and vision to aspire to be a great city, with open space preserved for future generations.</p> <p>Isthmus Park must be prioritized as part of that legacy.</p>
<p>Emily Ray Email 12/10/15</p>	<p>First, I loved watching Jonathan Turlove play his guitar and warble about the park plan. What talent!</p> <p>Second, re the plan, let's keep some sort of focus on the "isthmus" and getting that horrendous building down. There must be some small steps that can be financed now, even if the whole cost is currently beyond us to pay for.</p>
<p>Glen Anderson email 12/10/15</p>	<p>The people of Olympia – the REAL, LIVE PEOPLE (not absentee developers) want THE ENTIRE ISTHMUS to be a PARK.</p> <p>Remove ALL buildings. Create a park: -- OWNED BY THE PUBLIC -- FREELY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</p> <p>THE IMMEDIATE NEED IS FOR THE PUBLIC TO OWN THE ENTIRE ISTHMUS – and to ABSOLUTELY RESERVE IT FOR A PUBLIC PARK.</p> <p>We can work out the details of the park later. The City can devise a public process to engage real, live people to figure out what the park would look</p>

3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

	<p>like, etc.</p> <p>This is the HIGHEST PRIORITY for the city!</p>
<p>Walter Jorgensen OlySpeaks 12/11/15 4 Votes</p>	<p>Remove the “Mistake on the Lake”</p> <p>The City has now completed demolition of the buildings on the two recently acquired isthmus properties and is working on the Water Street properties. Already the north-south visual corridor across the isthmus is affording spectacular views of the Olympics and State Capitol. The crown jewel will be the space currently occupied by the "Mistake on the Lake."</p> <p>My advice to Olympians is to go look at what you have and don't let the City or anyone else take it away from you. Noticing, enjoying, and valuing this new vista is a delight that you and the rest of the public deserve as your just reward. And now, finish the job. Reduce the Mistake to a pile of rubble, scrape it clean like the other two sites and marvel at how you've let your city breathe.</p> <p>The plan acknowledges the popularity of replacing the Capitol Center Building.</p> <p>Most Dominant Themes (Topics mentioned 20 or more times) • Buy the LBA Woods property • Acquire land in general while it is available • Buy open space/natural areas – provide nearby access to nature Secondary Themes- (Topics mentioned 10-19 times) • Provide more trails and trail/sidewalk connections to parks • Utilize Voted Utility Tax as it was intended • Construct an off-leash dog park • Increase volunteerism/Park Stewardship Program • Develop a park on the Isthmus</p> <p>No clear priority among six potential “megaprojects”. • Asked to rank six potential projects, respondents scored the top four items in a tight cluster, headed by the Percival Landing project. • Close behind were demolishing Capitol Center and completing the Olympia Woodland Trail. • Acquisition of the LBA Woods ranked 4th, followed by developing the West Bay Park and Trail and Development of an Athletic Field Community Park.</p> <p>Let's remove this blemish on Olympia's downtown waterfront and put the "mistake" years behind us.</p>
<p>Krag Unsoeld OlySpeaks 12/11/15</p>	<p>Please restore the Isthmus Park as a high priority project. Please restore the purchase and removal of the Capitol Center Building to the new Parks Plan Draft, as they are in the current Parks Plan. I am sending this email to</p>

3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

1 Vote

express my opinion about the property on the isthmus in Olympia. Specifically, the 2.3 acres on the west part of the isthmus that the city purchased for a park, with park funds, and recently cleared of the derelict buildings, the land that is currently the site of the Capitol Center Building and the building itself, and the land east of the Heritage fountain. I want you to restore the isthmus park as a high priority project. The land that the city acquired for parks should be developed as a park. the Capitol Center Building and the land upon which it sits should be acquired, the building torn down, and this should also be developed as a park. The isthmus is clearly going to be impacted by rising sea levels. It is unconscionable to consider developing new residential, retail and commercial enterprises on this land. The existing businesses -- Bayview Thriftway, the yacht club, and Traditions Fair Trade -- should be helped to make sea level rise contingency plans. The current parks plan calls for the acquisition and removal of the Capital Center Building. This needs to be put into the draft park plan. Since I am commenting on the Draft Parks Plan I will also state my feelings about the the Community Renewal Area (CRA) process and the Downtown Strategy. These are very relevant to the comments that I have made about the using the isthmus for parks. As I stated above, sea level rise is a major factor in making it inappropriate to consider new residential, retail or commercial enterprises on the isthmus land. Another reason to not do it is that Olympia should start an estuary reclamation and recovery effort. This would include recovering both the Deschutes and Moxlie Creek estuaries. This is of vital importance so that we can begin the process of recovering aquatic bird populations and modeling how a modern city can coexist with critical aquatic habitats.

I am commenting to express my opinion about the property on the isthmus in Olympia. Specifically, the 2.3 acres on the west part of the isthmus that the city purchased for a park, with park funds, and recently cleared of the derelict buildings, the land that is currently the site of the Capitol Center Building and the building itself, and the land east of the Heritage fountain. I want you to restore the isthmus park as a high priority project.

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3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

	<p>acquisition and removal of the Capital Center Building. This needs to be put into the draft park plan.</p> <p>Since I am commenting on the Draft Parks Plan I will also state my feelings about the the Community Renewal Area (CRA) process and the Downtown Strategy. These are very relevant to the comments that I have made about the using the isthmus for parks. As I stated above, sea level rise is a major factor in making it inappropriate to consider new residential, retail or commercial enterprises on the isthmus land. Another reason to not do it is that Olympia should start an estuary reclamation and recovery effort. This would include recovering both the Deschutes and Moxlie Creek estuaries. This is of vital importance so that we can begin the process of recovering aquatic bird populations and modeling how a modern city can coexist with critical aquatic habitats.</p>
<p>Anne Holm OlySpeaks 12/11/15 8 Votes</p>	<p>Plan for park on the isthmus should be included</p>
<p>Gerald Reilly OlySpeaks 12/11/15 16 votes</p>	<p>Plan Now for Great Civic Space on Isthmus</p> <p>Please begin immediately to plan the details and features of a great civic space on the Isthmus. Through the partnership among the city, the county and the Olympia Park Foundation we have already acquired over one half of the land required for the park, The recent demolition of two derelict buildings on the site clearly shows the amazing potential for this spectacular location. Although we still need to acquire and remove the vacant nine story Capitol center Building, we should begin now specific planning for the park space we already own.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>The Plan’s Capital Investment Strategy sets aside \$11 million for 169-acres of land acquisition. These funds could be utilized for purchasing the Capital Center Building, a different community park site, or for open space. P. 87 of the plan lists 10 criteria that will be utilized to evaluate potential purchases. These criterial would be utilized in a potential purchase of the Capital Center Building and other potential land acquisitions.</p> <p>Proposed change to Isthmus section on p. 36:</p> <p>Added to the end of the intro paragraph: <u>The remaining vacant structures on the isthmus are the 9-story Capitol Center Building and its one-story Annex. The random sample survey for this plan showed strong public support for demolishing the Capitol Center Building.</u></p> <p>The 2009 Isthmus Park Feasibility Study concluded that the cost of</p>

3. ISTHMUS 27 Comments + 109 Votes

	<p>developing a park on the Isthmus would be \$28 million to \$32 million. (This cost estimate was removed because it was outdated and to make this project description consistent with other potential park acquisition projects.)</p> <p><i>Significance for the Plan:</i></p> <p>The Community Renewal Area process, and Downtown Strategy, <u>and future City-led focus area planning</u> will inform OPARD's level of involvement in the Isthmus area. OPARD supports redevelopment and the continual removal of blight and will likely have a significant role in the Isthmus area based on previous investments and strong community support for expanded parks in this area.</p> <p>Proposed change to Isthmus section on p. 79:</p> <p>Proposed Action: The Community Renewal Area process, and Downtown Strategy <u>and City-led future focus area planning</u> will inform OPARD's level of involvement in the Isthmus area. OPARD supports redevelopment and the continual removal of blight and will likely have a significant role in the Isthmus area based on previous investments and strong community support for expanded parks in this area. <u>The Plan's Capital Investment Strategy identifies \$5 million in MPD funds in 2017-2021 to support a high priority project. An Isthmus park development project is one of four projects identified as a high priority project to utilize these funds.</u></p>
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4. SOCCER/RECTANGULAR FIELDS 51 Comments + 79 OlySpeaks Votes

Angie Ragan e-mail 11/30/15	Soccer fields with lights would be nice. My kids have played soccer for many years and fall soccer is always a challenge when the darkness seems to come earlier and earlier every year. It would be nice if there was adequate lighting on existing soccer fields. We also struggle every year for soccer fields that are not like a swamp due to rain, some of the fields lack proper drainage, such as LBA park, the fields by Brigg's YMCA and of course Yauger park.
Michael Santana e-mail 11/30/15	<p>Through, Jeff Johnson, I organize Parks & Recreation's ultimate frisbee leagues. Over the last three years our frisbee leagues have grown from about eighty players to about 150 players. Additionally, I am parent of two children playing youth soccer.</p> <p>I would like to encourage the City to dedicate more resources to the maintenance of our current rectangular sports fields, and to create new</p>

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	<p>rectangular sports fields. Both of these will be necessary as Thurston County's population grows in the near future.</p>
<p>Gina Matzen e-mail 11/30/15</p>	<p>I'm out of town for the December meeting but since I watched your awesome video on Facebook and you are looking for public comment I would like to respond about Olympia's need for maintained soccer fields in the upcoming parks plan.</p> <p>With the popularity of soccer I believe that there is a need for soccer fields in close proximity to high density areas with bike trails accessible to them. An example would be LBA park.</p> <p>Thank you and good luck,</p>
<p>Sandy Hallstrom e-mail 11/29/15</p>	<p>Hi, so glad that the parks are getting attention!</p> <p>I would like to request that both soccer fields and a covered park be considered in any upcoming plans. Covered park space would be great for families with little ones needing a place to go without getting drenched during rainy times. Thanks</p>
<p>Tami Petterson e-mail 11/29/15</p>	<p>I strongly encourage the extension of soccer parks!! My son played for years and is now in college but soccer played such a valuable asset in his life. I only hope all children can have every opportunity to play. Keeping children focused and in athletics is very important!!</p>
<p>Simone Grant e-mail 11/29/15</p>	<p>I am writing to lend my support towards enlarging LBA park and including any soccer fields in the growth plan. Thank you,</p>
<p>Mike O'Brien e-mail 11/29/15</p>	<p>I have two children that play for Olympia soccer teams. Our home games involve us traveling south on I-5 to Tumwater and the Black Hills Football club fields. For the soccer club representing the states capital, it would be absolutely fantastic to be able to go to some local, well-kept soccer fields for play. Not just for youth, but for middle school, high school and even adults. It is, after all, the most popular game in the world.</p>
<p>Angie Freese e-mail 11/29/15</p>	<p>As the parent of three boys that participate in soccer, I would like to make a comment on the need for soccer space. In your parks plan, please consider putting some of the money into soccer fields, soccer is a huge sport for kids</p> <p>in Olympia. We have participated in soccer throughout the years through YMCA, Thurston County Youth Soccer Association and through Olympia High School. (Not to mention, the select soccer clubs such as Black Hills Soccer)</p>

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	<p>This affects a large percentage of people in Olympia and would be well used. (Look at RAC in Lacey, this place is always full!)</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
<p>Sally Brownfield e-mail 11/29/15</p>	<p>Please, city of Olympia, realize that there is an urgent need for soccer field space. Some land should be purchased or land already purchased should be reserved specifically for soccer. At the moment, Oly soccer has to share and/or compete for fields with the schools. A dedicated soccer field would greatly enhance the park plan. Although the process for creating the plan has been going on, I don't believe the soccer community was made aware of it or included in the planning until now.</p> <p>I strongly support that soccer be included in the plan.</p>
<p>Francois Cady e-mail 11/30/15</p>	<p>I received your contact information as part of a message from the Olympia United Soccer Club. I have been a volunteer coach for OUSC for 5 years and spend about 150-200+ hours per year in this role. I'm writing to give my support for initiatives to increase the number and quality of soccer fields in the city of Olympia. My two teams have to share middle and grade school fields with other teams. As a result, the players are compressed and literally never get the opportunity to practice of a full field which is quite limiting for overall development. The Olympia community has embraced the game of soccer, for years, and interest will only continue to grow. OUSC is one of the largest recreational soccer clubs in the region, if not the largest. The players sincerely need fields to play the game. The personal, social, and team development that comes from soccer is massive. OUSC accepts all comers, has scholarships for those in financial need, and it is a volunteer based club impacting hundreds of Olympia children. Please, please include soccer fields in the plan.</p>
<p>Michael Henry OlySpeaks 12/1/15 12 votes</p>	<p>Athletic fields for our youth!</p> <p>As a father of 2, I strongly feel that the children and youth of Olympia deserve more athletic facilities and fields in Olympia. Soccer is one of the most popular sports for youth in the US, and provides tremendous value to the community. Not only do well-maintained fields benefit the community and increase property values, a team sport like soccer promotes healthy successful children. Soccer builds healthy kids From a physical standpoint, soccer offers one of the best ways, if not the best way, for a child to get in top physical shape through participation in a youth sport. The average soccer player runs approximately seven miles throughout the course of the game; the mix of sprinting with endurance running develops long and short muscle fibers and also aerobic as well as anaerobic capabilities. Playing soccer improves flexibility, cardiovascular capability, and body composition</p>

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	<p>(lowering the percentage of body fat while increasing muscle mass) .In addition to these physical benefits, your soccer player should experience a heightened sense of self-confidence and increased social skills. Playing on a team with other peers forces you to interact in ways you wouldn't learn at school. To win as a team, you must play as a team, which includes passing and communicating on the field. Your child may learn he is better at communicating on the soccer field than he has been anywhere else up to that point. T Generally, team actions are noticed more than individual actions.</p> <p>Even though, as a parent, you may be worried about your child finding time for schoolwork when he or she is also juggling going to soccer practice or games, studies have shown that children who play competitive sports generally also perform at an above-average level in school. Whether this results from an increase in self-confidence, or an increase in physical energy which helps mental energy and stamina, it is good for your child to learn the lesson of balance in his or her daily life.</p>
<p>Marissa Duerr 12/1/15 OlySpeaks 15 votes</p>	<p>Youth athletic fields are desperately needed!</p> <p>As a mother of four and long-time Olympia resident it is a shame that our youth and their families have to commute to Hawks Prairie area to compete and practice. Our kids deserve well-maintained parks and athletic facilities in their own community. Please consider our youth when designing and upgrading parks and fields. In addition to benefiting our kids, more athletic fields will bring economic development to our own community as hundreds of families dine and shop at local businesses before, between and after games.</p>
<p>Dominique Coco OlySpeaks 12/1/15 13 votes</p>	<p>We need more youth soccer fields!</p> <p>We all know the importance of youth sports. Participation in sports by children and adolescents is associated with a range of documented physical, emotional, social, educational and other benefits that can last into adulthood. The number of kids playing youth soccer in our area has grown significantly in the past few years, and now we are struggling to find space for our kids to practice and play soccer. The current number of soccer fields in our area is inadequate, making this an urgent problem that needs to be addressed.</p>
<p>John Benford OlySpeaks 11/24/15 10 votes</p>	<p>Youth Sports need places to play.</p> <p>As a board member of a local youth baseball league, we struggle to secure athletic fields to meet our increased registration numbers. Whether this is accomplished by building more fields for other sports which free up</p>

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	existing fields or new fields are built matters little but the youth of this city need dedicated athletic fields to play on.
Rick Perry OlySpeaks 11/21/15 22 votes	More year-round soccer fields! Thurston county is in desperate need of more year-round soccer fields- that is to say lit turf fields. I see that "athletic complex" is listed in the executive summary, but want to be sure that the city understands just how desperate the need is right now. We've got more people trying to play year round sports than we can currently accommodate, and, being a rec sports board member, I'm having people complain to me a LOT about the city's lack of fields. I do tell them to call the city, but I'm not sure how many have.
Mark Stanley OlySpeaks Response to comment	Compared to other cities in Western Wa the availability of year round fields is pretty poor. It's not only the Youth programs that are in desperate need for space it's also the adult program. When the local adult league has to run a lottery for teams to join solely on the basis of lack of year round field space that's a big problem.
Bob Snuggles OlySpeaks Response to comment	This is the ONLY type of park that makes sense to build! All these other parks are ridiculous. What people need to realize is parks are COST centers. They take revenue to run. We need to generate more revenue by attracting business. That being said, ball fields like the RAC, at least generate some direct revenue (fees for use) and indirect (people coming to town to play in a tournament go to the local retailers/restaurants). Nobody just comes here to sit in an empty pocket park.
Ian Ferguson OlySpeaks Response to comment	In the fall, I play in an ultimate frisbee league on Monday nights at the lit fields at the RAC. The grass soccer fields next to the lit fields are often full of young children playing soccer by the spillover light. It's not much light, but it's all they have access to apparently. Our league was lucky to get that Monday night slot six years ago. We've been trying since then to get a different night, but that was the only one available, and now none are available. It's inconvenient and wasteful to drive all the way out there, but it's all we have.
Scott Lavis Campbell OlySpeaks Response to comment	The fact that it is difficult to get space for practicing and games speaks to the need for more soccer fields. Well maintained fields with lighting would be ideal. We shouldn't be limited by space; having to turn people away from these life-long sports that help keep our community healthy and connected.
Rob Ahlschwede OlySpeaks Response to comment	And the point about "turf"/year round fields is important. Initial cost of installation is higher than grass, but the maintenance over time most often offsets the initial investment. In this climate "turf" is necessary.
Kevin Rigg	I am in complete agreement, Rick. The demand is clearly there as any one

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<p>OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>involved in a local sports league knows based on how difficult it is to secure fields for practices and games on a year round basis. This is a huge need right NOW and would be a great way to serve our community. As Bob correctly points out above, turf fields are a great way to generate revenue year round from the community and from people coming in from out of town for tournaments.</p>
<p>Dr and Mrs Michael Henry email 12/1/15</p>	<p>Hi, I have read the draft 2016 plan. I love the direction that is being taken, for myself and my children. We are an active family, and feel that one area of paramount importance is the development of soccer facilities and fields in Olympia. While all team sports have significant benefit to the community, I feel that soccer in particular is of tremendous value to the children and youth of Olympia, for a number of reasons that I have outlined below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our team parents have a commitment to develop their sons and daughters into the best people they can be, both on and off the field. This is accomplished through well-organized games, practices and community events and emphasis on positive character traits such as good sportsmanship, fair play, teamwork, effort, persistence, positive attitude, dealing with pressure, honoring the game and respect for coaches, opponents and officials. <p>Core Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To fulfill civic responsibility by actively participating in community partnerships and activities; • To encourage and provide support allowing our athletes to achieve academic success; • To provide a pathway open to all soccer players who wish to participate, allowing them to reach their full potential by providing age- and developmentally-appropriate programming geared toward long-term success and enjoyment over short-term outcomes; • To provide an environment where soccer players build character through the development of important life skills such as time management, responsibility, resilience, sportsmanship, work ethic and teamwork; • To provide a structure and environment where winning is important but player development is paramount; • To create a safe environment that contributes to the development of mentally and physically healthy individuals that have self-confidence and respect for themselves and for

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	<p>others;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create an environment that facilitates the growth of the sport of soccer and fosters a love of the game. <p>For all of these reasons, my wife and I strongly support the development of a strong Olympia soccer program which would benefit immensely from the creation of soccer fields in Olympia as part of the 2016 Plan.</p>
David Thomson Open House 12/2/15	<p>I am advocating for several new soccer fields. I represent Oly United Soccer Club (board member) and Thurston Co. Youth Soccer Assoc. Olympia is in a serious shortage of soccer/football/rugby/lacrosse which can all be supported by the same space. Oly United has more than 1,000 families in the great Olympia area. We are the largest soccer club in Thurston County and promote healthy and happy kids that learn life lessons on the soccer pitch. Please support more fields for youth sports.</p>
Connie email 11/30/15	<p>what do you think of the 4 acres of grass on state street downtown? i've always imagined it as a soccer field. it's owned by the port but i would be curious if they would be open to it as recreation space. i'm not an expert on soccer fields, though, is it a big enough space? i would love to see more public recreation downtown.</p>
Dan Jones email 12/8/15	<p>Yes to soccer parks in OLY!</p>
Arel Solie email 12/8/15	<p>I am writing to request support for a sports complex as part of the parks plan. My daughter has played extra-curricular sports for 11 years and field space has always been an issue. In many cases, we have had to split practice fields with other teams, which don't allow us to practice full field, and sometimes the game schedule isn't child friendly because of the limited space available. I am a proponent of a soccer complex that potentially has baseball fields and a community pool. We are in desperate need of this in our community. We must build spaces for organized activity for our youth, that could also benefit adults playing recreational sports.</p> <p>Please consider funding a soccer complex, with the possibility of baseball and pool access. Many thanks for accepting my comment.</p>
Chantol Segó email 12/8/15	<p>I would like to offer a quick note in support of more soccer fields in Olympia. The soccer clubs have a large number of kids that join and play throughout the year and they need appropriate places to play. Soccer is a great way to keep the kids active and out of trouble. Please help us give them the space they need.</p>
Dominga email 12/8/15	<p>I'm a parent of a budding soccer player in the Olympia community. We have an urgent need for more soccer fields for club use as our sport</p>

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	continues to grow. Please consider making more youth soccer fields a high priority in the 20 year parks plan.
Kelly Schneider email 12/8/15	Thank you for considering the long-term needs of the Olympia soccer families. We hope you will realize that there will be a need for more fields and better facilities.
Rob Bamba email 12/8/15	<p>I'm a soccer coach in Olympia and I've been coaching soccer for last 9 years. It's really sad and unfortunate that city of Olympia does not any sports complexes. Two years ago I moved my soccer team from Olympia United to Chinqually Soccer because of the quality of fields and availability. The fields we were playing on was really a safety issue for my kids that I coached. The last thing any parent or coach wants is child breaking an ankle or blowing out a knee.</p> <p>I now coach a select soccer team for TC United. Traveling throughout the state, I've had the opportunity to see other cities parks and fields. The parks are top notch facilities that the local community play in. It's saddening to say we have absolutely no parks that would even come close to what they have. What do we have? Yauger Park? Or Yauger Lake?</p> <p>Let's do something about this for our youth and our community. It's time for a park/sports complex in Olympia.</p>
Leslie Coppin email 12/8/15	Hey, just wanted to let you know my family would love to see some soccer fields incorporated into the park plan. My boys play soccer and the fields they use are few and far between.
Michele Landa email 12/8/15	As a parent, home owner and resident of Olympia, I am eager to have ample play fields for soccer and other activities available to all who want to use them. Thanks for all you do!
Camille Wilson	Olympia needs more soccer field space! Please make this a priority for the 20 year parks plan.
Zhi Zhou email 12/8/15	We have two young boys, who LOVE soccer but we can hardly find a soccer field nearby. If possible, we like to see more soccer fields in your plan. Thank you very much for your consideration. Really appreciate.
Meghan Duffie email 12/8/15	Olympia parks are a great assets to our community. Soccer is a great motivator to get my family out to the parks and enjoying them. It is important to me that there continues to be space for youth soccer leagues.
Carrie Mingay email 12/8/15	We are thrilled about the parks that Olympia currently has as well as with the plans for the future expansion of trails and parks. One area that we don't feel is being addressed enough is the urgent need for more soccer fields! My son plays both fall and spring soccer at the age of 6 years old

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	<p>and with as much as he loves the game, I don't see that changing any time soon. His little brother will join him soon. Thank you all for your hard work and please consider adding soccer fields to the Parks Plan. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>Matthew Plummer email 11/30/15</p>	<p>I grew up playing soccer in Olympia. Even then finding space to practice and play was difficult. Now my son plays soccer in Olympia, and we struggle with the same shuffling around based on school field availability. Please make significant space for soccer in the upcoming parks plan. Blessings,</p>
<p>Ian Ferguson email 11/30/15</p>	<p>Thanks for accepting feedback on the parks plan. I have a few points to address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I would like to encourage the City to provide dedicated rectangular athletic fields for team sports. Either at LBA or at the upper, flatter portion of the Ward Lake parcel would be fine. Something along the lines of Pioneer Park in Tumwater would be a great start (although I am sure they will be reserved completely full before they are ready to play on). My kids, my wife, and I all play in the Ultimate Frisbee spring leagues at LBA, and it's great, but the older kids and adults need larger and better fields. Ultimate Frisbee is a great sport for the City to encourage because of its accessibility. Men and women can, and often do, play together. As my kids age, there have been a few times this year when my whole family has been able to play at the same time. Also, Ultimate requires no goals, just flat grassy space and some plastic cones. 2. Reading the plan, I see that the "new athletic field complex" was ranked below other "mega-projects" in a survey. Is it necessary to make it a mega project? Could it just be some fields with some parking and a bathroom? I also wonder if it were presented in a survey with the cost attached, if a lower-cost version of an athletic field complex might be more popular than some of the very expensive mega projects. 3. It seems like the Yelm Highway (at Wiggins) site would be a cost effective place for the athletic field complex as envisioned by the suitability study from 2014. However, the parcels near LBA would be closer to downtown and therefore more convenient and centrally located. The LBA parcel might be better suited to a smaller project, perhaps two fields, perhaps just natural grass instead of synthetic, lit fields. After reading the study (Athletic Complex Community Park Suitability Assessment), I was hoping to find in the parks plan some concrete steps being taken to address the consultant's recommendation. Perhaps in the next draft the plan can include a more direct response.

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	<p>4. Last spring I was in the area, so I thought I'd stop by Kettle View Park, since I'd never been there, and was wondering if we might be able to play frisbee there. I was pleased to find a smallish grassy area with an acceptable grade that would be big enough for a small game of Ultimate. It had some kid-size soccer goals up on either end. But when I walked out onto this "field" it wasn't actually flat, and it was extremely wet and soft. It wasn't even a suitable place for a family to practice throwing and catching, and I imagine it would be even worse for soccer players, since the ground was so uneven. So I was surprised to see that the parks plan lists it as fully developed and in excellent condition.</p> <p>5. In the section for "Community Park Demand Analysis" I felt like there was information that belongs there to quantify the demand. There was some data for softball field use, but the Plan fails to convey the extreme requirements of youth soccer. When my son plays at Rainier Vista, every field is in use, with the younger kids filling the softball outfields. When I play Ultimate at the RAC on Monday nights, the fields next to the lit fields are full of kids using spillover light to practice. I'm not sure how you could quantify how many kids aren't using Olympia's non-existent soccer fields, but it might be possible to contact the local organizations that need fields, and find out what they would sign up for. I know the local ultimate organization, South Sound Ultimate Players (SSUP) would love to sign up to run leagues on fields in Olympia. Thanks for listening</p>
<p>Anne Kilgannon email 12/8/15</p>	<p>I couldn't figure out a place to mention this issue in the Parks comment section. Once again, today, I read about grave concerns regarding artificial turf used for soccer fields (and other sports). The New York Times ran a large article today referenced here:</p> <p>http://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/09/sports/soccer/on-turf-us-women-dig-in-their-heels-at-last.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=second-column-region&region=top-news&WT.nav=top-news</p> <p>detailing the dangers of these fields for the players. Finally, teams are refusing to play on these surfaces and demanding grass fields for health and safety reasons. And yet, I have heard Parks staff promote the use of artificial turf for sports fields for Olympia area kids many times. Please, please, listen to the concerns about these dangerous fields and stop</p>

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	<p>looking for ways to bring them to this community. Yes, we need sports fields. But NO, those fields should not be made of this material. Please do more research and consider the health of team members. It would be deeply ironic if parents signed their kids up to play sports only to have them poisoned and injured on these fields.</p> <p>Thank you for listening,</p>
<p>Mark Porter email 12/8/15</p>	<p>Please make sure soccer fields are part of the new parks plan. They are desperately needed in a soccer-mad community that is often forced to go to other surrounding cities to play. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
<p>Audrey Seamons OlySpeaks 12/9/15 4 votes</p>	<p>How about some turf soccer fields now?</p> <p>We always focus on youth sports but how about sports for adults too! I am an adult over 40 soccer player and my two children (ages 9 and 11) play competitive and rec soccer. I hope considerations for field use include the adult soccer community as well as the kids! The draft plan says something about a community park project with synthetic lighted fields for phase II development 2022-35. A complex is a great idea (and very much needed!) but that is a long time to wait for something that is really needed now! As has already been ascertained by several others, there are no good (dedicated) field spaces for soccer in Olympia city. Even the women’s soccer league put on by Olympia Parks has to play on a super crappy field at one of the middle schools. It would be really nice to have a place to play that didn’t have giant holes to step in or calf-deep mud to suck your shoe off as you play. A synthetic multi-field complex would be very well used if it were available!</p> <p>As an adult soccer player, I love the part of spring and summer seasons when we can play at the RAC fields in Lacey. That complex is fantastic, however, they only have one turf field to be shared by many different types of teams and the grass fields are closed in the winter. In the fall, our adult soccer moves to Yauger Park in Olympia and this move makes me very unmotivated to play. The “soccer” fields are on the baseball field and the dirt sections of the field are very concrete-like. When the concrete-dirt gets wet, it is really slippery and dangerous to run on. The two lower fields also tend to get swampy -sometimes so swampy that you can’t really use that part of the field. We apparently have nowhere else to play because I don’t think any adult soccer players I know would choose to play on those fields. In the winter, adult soccer does not have enough field space for the demand and the league has to turn many teams away. I think creating</p>

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	<p>more year round field use areas should be made a priority.</p> <p>Regarding soccer for the kids, we went to Lacey to play rec soccer because there was consistently available, well-maintained field space available and that is not really the case in Olympia city. There are also okay fields in Tumwater. Our kids mostly play at the Capitol soccer complex in Tumwater but in the winter, these fields are often too flooded to play on and the grass needs some serious recovery time as it gets trashed by being over-used by all the youth soccer teams in the area and the club team nightly practices. In the winter, the kids cram 6-8 different team practices on a single turf high school field and those fields are not even available for the twice weekly practices. Also, I am a manager for my son's competitive team and it is very difficult to find field space to play the games on in the late fall and winter. More all-weather surfaces are needed for everyone to play on. If space is an issue for a complex, what about instead turning more school properties into synthetic surfaces and making them open to non-school field sports year round? At this point, any place turned into to a place we could use year-round would help the situation! 2035 is too far away.</p>
<p>Brad Grimsted OlySpeaks 12/9/15 7 votes</p>	<p>Year Round Sports Fields</p> <p>Sports fields that can be used year round provide needed recreation space for the community and also can be a significant contributor to the economy. Look at how many people are at the Lacey RAC every day and you get an idea of impact that could occur if a facility was located proximate to downtown Olympia. We have enough parks.</p>
<p>Heather Thompson OlySpeaks 12/9/15 8 votes</p>	<p>Youth Soccer</p> <p>Where is the support for Youth and Adult Soccer? The City of Olympia has already invested a great deal of support and funding to the Arts. There has been no investment in support of the youth soccer movement. The City of Olympia has no dedicated soccer fields for youth sports. Given the size of this city, compared with other cities in the Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma area, this is not in congruence with what would be expected for the youth and adult soccer communities. Soccer is a very popular sport that promotes health and wellness. A dedicated soccer complex would also increase the opportunities for events that could bring financial opportunities for the city of Olympia as well. I highly encourage the City of Olympia to reevaluate the current Parks and Recreation plan to include dedicated soccer fields, something that has not been given attention in the past, while other items</p>

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	<p>that have been included on the plan have been given attention and focus in previous plans. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this proposed change.</p>
<p>Malia Flynn OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>I agree! Our kids and adults need more soccer fields! We have to go to Lacey or Tumwater to practice and play soccer with my 10 year old daughter. Where are the soccer fields in Olympia? Even Lacey and Tumwater are short on fields. Please consider helping with this great outdoor activity. We play all year except winter. We need soccer room to play!!!!</p>
<p>Double Tsquared OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>We need less fat ass little kids so more soccer fields would be great! As long as we can keep the homeless and heroin addict off them....</p>
<p>Jessica Markowitz email 12/9/15</p>	<p>I write to share my support of more soccer fields and year round sports structures as a Mom of a soccer player and Occupational Therapist in the school systems. Our kids, and adults, benefit from accessible, affordable outdoor healthy options.</p> <p>As a Volunteer for Stand Up for Kids and Big Brothers and the Food Bank, I see soo much need for increased structured play and physical outlet opportunities especially downtown.</p> <p>If we had the fields, our coaches wouldn't have to spend all their time fighting for play places, and maybe we could do more outreach for youth. Places like the RAC and the Tumwater facility are great, but we have many undeveloped spaces in and around Olympia. Even seeing basketball at the Artesian Well is a positive direction.</p> <p>Please consider prioritizing soccer fields in your planning.</p> <p>Thank you for all you do and Happy almost Holiday.</p>
<p>Alexandra Fallot email 12/9/15</p>	<p>Please consider including plans for a number of soccer fields in the 20-year parks plan for Olympia. There is a dire shortage of practice fields, with many teams having to share a field for practice time. While this is not horrible for younger teams, which play on a smaller field, it is hard for teams that play on a full sized field to get in a good practice. The teams would benefit from the chance to scrimmage on a full field in order to get used to the game play using the full size of the field. Soccer continues to be a growing sport in the area and failing to plan for its expansion will severely limit future soccer in the Olympia area.</p>

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Diana & Duncan MacQuarrie email 12/9/15	Olympia is a soccer city. Our granddaughter has played for years and loves it--- so do we! Keep our soccer fields in your planning for city parks. Thank you!
Millard S. Deusen email 12/10/15	Although not a resident of Olympia my granddaughter participates in Olympia Youth Soccer and thus relies on soccer fields in the Olympia area for her games. Please be sure to consider soccer fields, in park expansion and in park maintenance, both of which are important aspects needed for youth soccer. Thank you,
Molly McGinty email 12/9/15	<p>I just wanted to weigh in on the parks proposal. Soccer fields are in huge demand and it seems as if there are never enough to accommodate demand. As a family physician, youth soccer coach and adult co rec soccer player, I know the importance of team sports for youth and adults. Our community should be supporting youth and adult team sports, including soccer. A financial commitment to support our local soccer clubs would allow for field maintenance and creation of much needed additional fields.</p> <p>Thanks for your time,</p>
Megan German email 12/9/15	I just wanted to let you know that it is very important for our kids in the Olympia community to have access to soccer fields. My son and daughter love playing and it would be so sad to see the sport suffer because of lack of access to fields. I hope you will take this into consideration as you plan for next year.
Kim Tovani email 12/10/15	Olympia needs soccer fields. Our son played when he was younger and our daughter currently plays soccer. The sport of soccer continues to become more and more popular and we need enough fields to host practices, as well as, games. Thanks for your time and careful consideration of this need.
Carla Borgaard email 12/10/15	<p>I am the Club Manager of Olympia United Soccer Club (OUSC) and the parent of 3 children that have played soccer with OUSC and have or are currently attending school in the Olympia School District.</p> <p>OUSC came into being in 2009 when Westside Soccer Club (serving West Olympia) and Olympia Youth Soccer Club (serving East Olympia) merged. We are a non-profit, recreation soccer club that serves youth soccer players ages 3-18 years old. We strive to keep our fees low at \$60-\$75 per season. In addition, our board provides scholarships to every person that requests in an effort to make quality soccer available to all families.</p>

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	<p>In the 2015 calendar year, OUSC had 2719 players participating on 246 teams across three seasons of play. The majority of these players reside in Olympia and attend Olympia District schools. In fall of 2015, OUSC registered 1126 players onto 107 teams. Of these, 1045 (92.8%) listed their address as residing in the city of Olympia and/or attending OSD schools.</p> <p>Our program has steadily grown over the past 9 years (see attached chart) and we are feeling the pressure of inadequate field space. As you know, the City of Olympia does not maintain one single designated soccer field in its inventory. We are 100% dependent on school fields to run our program. We compete with school programs and other youth programs for practice space. School programs have priority on fields and their schedules are often subject to changes and reschedules which cause our teams to be bumped – often with little or no notice. In addition, school fields are not maintained at the same level as city fields so are in much rougher shape.</p> <p>I strongly urge you to consider the installation of large, rectangular patches of grass in the park plan. With the popularity of soccer on the rise across the nation, we continue to see greater interest and larger numbers of players registering to play. Our program has completely maxed out the space available to us and we have been forced to secure space in Tumwater and Lacey to accommodate Olympia teams. With the addition of soccer fields in the City of Olympia, we would be better able to meet future demand and it would give us some flexibility to run our program a little greener by keeping families closer to home.</p> <p>Thank you for allowing us to provide feedback and for your consideration of athletic fields to meet the current and future needs of the residents of the City of Olympia.</p>
<p>Angie Warner-Rein email 12/11/15</p>	<p>Please plan for and develop more "dedicated" soccer fields for Spring and Fall youth soccer practices and games. This is a very popular sport in Thurston County that many families participate in during the week and weekends. Considering the lack of space currently and the increase in future population growth to this area, this would be a valuable community asset for our youth's health, physical, emotional and social. This is a major community building sport that whole families attend during much of the year. Outdoor lighting would be a bonus.</p> <p>I am a parent of two soccer players and one family among hundreds that would value increased soccer fields space that are close to schools, close to</p>

4. SOCCER/RECTANGULAR FIELDS 51 Comments + 79 OlySpeaks Votes

	<p>Olympia's core if possible, well maintained and well organized in it's calendar use.</p>
<p>Gary Burris email 12/11/15</p>	<p>Having coached probably 40 youth soccer teams over the last 15 years and being an adult player for the last 35 years in Olympia, I would like to voice my support for additional soccer fields as outlined in the plan and encourage you to expand on what is in the plan. There is a tremendous need and massive overcrowding on the currently available space.</p> <p>Many thousands of children are playing youth soccer and many hundreds of adults play as well. On any Saturday, March through October, you will find literally thousands of kids playing. At LBA there will be two morning time slots, with 14 mini fields being used by teams with around 8kids each. That's just the SuperMod 4 to 7 year olds. The older kids are playing on every other available field around the county. For adults, the only lit Winter option in Olympia has been Yauger Field. I haven't personally played there in many years, when I stopped playing there, however, the condition of those fields was awful. During the rainy season, if you ran onto the baseball infield, you were ankle deep in mud.</p> <p>There's a lack of space for older kids as well. When I've coached elementary age kids, we always have to share fields. Typically, at Washington Middle School, there are four 10 to 12 year old teams using the one soccer field and the surround grass areas. In the field behind Pioneer elementary, next to Olympia High School, there are typically three to four teams practicing at the same time. Not only does the lack of a full field limit the types of games and drills that can be done, it also limits the running to shorter distances.</p> <p>Another concern is that with so few fields, the fields get greater wear than if there were fewer players on each field each day. All of the school fields are in bad condition due to overuse. The Black Hills Soccer Club is a major asset to the children of Thurson County. However, their fields are also drastically overused and it is showing in the condition of the turf.</p> <p>I hope the plans to add fields can be put on a fast track and additional fields will be added to those currently in the plan. Four additional fields will be a great help, but that will only partially address need. I like the idea of having four fields together for the purpose of tournaments and other gatherings. I'd also recommend adding additional fields in parts of the city away from where this large complex is sited. This also provides the added benefit of reducing the commutes for parents driving kids to practices, as the younger teams are grouped by elementary schools and regions.</p>

4. SOCCER/RECTANGULAR FIELDS 51 Comments + 79 OlySpeaks Votes

	<p>Thank you for your work on this project. I recognize there are many competing needs and the prioritization process is difficult.</p> <p>Regards,</p>
<p>Guy Bowman email 12/10/15</p>	<p>I would like to express my concern and desire that the Olympia Parks plan includes several areas for soccer fields for our kids. I am a coach for one of the local kids recreational league teams in Olympia and Have two kids who play. I can say that our fields (to the extent we have any) are quite substandard, especially when compared to the facilities available in Lacey, and to a lesser extent Tumwater.</p> <p>Lacey has numerous fields available for soccer (rainier vista, RAC, etc.) and Tumwater has pioneer park. Even Yelm has better facilities available. In Olympia, we have nothing.</p> <p>We practice at the local schools, where we can be squeezed in amongst other school activities. Often we are bumped off of the fields. And we have NOWHERE to play home games in Olympia. We always have road games, luckily other places like Lacey and Tumwater can accommodate this for now. But that would look change as the area grows.</p> <p>In short, the kids and families of Olympia deserve to have decent soccer facilities in Olympia. Any new parks proposals should provide for several soccer fields. This is the most popular game for kids and adults alike to play, and we should be able to do that here in Olympia.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>Candice Bock President Olympia United Soccer Club Email 12/10/15</p>	<p>On behalf of Olympia United Soccer Club, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the plan.</p> <p>Olympia United’s mission is to promote active play for kids from 3 through high school in a safe, fun environment with a strong focus on sportsmanship. To that end we are funded by modest player registrations fees and offer scholarships to anyone in need. Olympia is a thriving soccer community. Soccer’s popularity continues to grow and Olympia United Soccer Club continues to experience growth especially in our Super Mod program for kids ages 3 through 7. During the current Fall season Olympia United will have 60 youth teams and 40 Super Mod teams. Unfortunately, there are no suitable sports fields within Olympia to host home games for our 60 U-8 and up teams. Our teams have to play all of their games on fields outside of Olympia. We even struggle to find suitable practice fields in the community. Many of our parks and schools do not have fields that are in adequate condition for practices. For those that do there is</p>

4. SOCCER/RECTANGULAR FIELDS 51 Comments + 79 OlySpeaks Votes

	<p>significant competition from other sports. The OUSC Board is concerned that in the near future we may have to turn children away because we simply lack the fields to accommodate all of the teams.</p> <p>Olympia needs to improve our sports fields and add field capacity to meet the growing demand for outdoor recreation and serve our community into the future.</p> <p>Thank you for your work on the plan and we look forward to our continued partnership.</p>
<p>Scott Carte Email 12/10/15</p>	<p>I understand you are collecting public comment regarding future park enhancements for the City of Olympia. As a parent and volunteer coach for multiple youth sports leagues I'd like to encourage the City of Olympia to invest in additional year-round ball fields for area youth to utilize. Specifically I'd like to see additional baseball/softball and soccer fields constructed. Youth sports leagues fight a continual battle to find adequate facilities for our teams to use for practices and games. Too often, leagues are forced to limit the number of practices and games that our kids can participate in due to the limited number of well maintained fields in the area. This is an area where demand definitely exceeds the supply. Please consider increasing the inventory of year-round ball fields as you move forward with the planning process.</p> <p>In addition to acting as a volunteer coach I also serve as a board member for Capitol Little League so feel free to contact me if you have any follow-up questions relating to our experience with the local field inventory.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p>
<p>Kevin Rigg OlySpeaks 12/11/15 1 Vote</p>	<p>Year Round Soccer Fields!</p> <p>The demand is clearly there as any one involved in a local sports league knows based on how difficult it is to secure fields for practices and games on a year round basis. This is a huge need right NOW and would be a great way to serve our community.</p>
<p>OPARD:</p>	<p>Staff is in complete agreement that Olympia has a shortage of soccer/rectangular fields. P. 68 of the revised draft Plan notes that there are no dedicated soccer/football fields in any Olympia parks and that to meet today's existing demand, four dedicated rectangular fields would need to be added to the inventory. Proposed change (p. 88): Proposed Action: <u>The plan budgets \$580,000 in 2017 for upgrades to existing athletic fields.</u> The plan budgets \$300,000 in 2018 for an athletic field park</p>

4. SOCCER/RECTANGULAR FIELDS 51 Comments + 79 OlySpeaks Votes

	<p>design and \$1 million \$900,000 for phase 1 development in 201921. <u>The Plan’s Capital Investment Strategy identifies \$5 million in MPD funds in 2017-2021 to support a high priority project. Soccer Fields are one of four projects identified as a high priority project to utilize these funds. The Plan’s “Long Range Options (2022-2035)” section of the Capital Investment Strategy budgets \$3.5 million in 2022-2035 for an athletic park Phase 2 development project including lit, synthetic turf fields and \$700,000 for upgrades to existing fields.</u></p> <p>Regarding Kettle View Park Drainage Issues: Proposed change to the Kettle View Park section on p. 76 - This 4.8 acre neighborhood park was opened in 2011 and is in excellent condition <u>except for some drainage problems on the playfield. Staff will assess what it would take to improve the playfield.</u> <i>Proposed Action: Prior funds have been allocated for a bike shelter and interpretive signage. If time and resources allow, maintenance staff will implement drainage improvements to the field.</i></p> <p>Regarding concerns about the safety of crumb rubber in synthetic turf fields: Staff is indeed aware of the concerns that have been raised about crumb rubber in synthetic turf fields. There are natural alternatives to crumb rubber that can be used for synthetic fields and we will look into what our options would be should we build a synthetic turf field at some point.</p>
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5. Arts 12 Comments + 100 Votes

<p>Andrew Goldstein OlySpeaks 12/7/15 12 votes</p>	<p>Where are the arts?</p> <p>Though I appreciate and understand the needs that our beautiful Olympia parks have, the Arts are severely lacking in this plan. The Olympia Arts Commission has done wonderful work uniting the local arts community, but there is a dire needs for more arts spaces in this region.</p> <p>Venues like the Washington Center are overbooked, and there aren't many other options for flexible performance/theater spaces. New organizations, especially, have a hard time bring new arts to Olympia because of this lack of available space. If we want to see growth in our performing (and visual) arts sectors, we need more space.</p> <p>With more performance space comes the potential for more inter-organizational collaboration. Theater lobbies can double as visual art galleries and display spaces. It also opens the opportunity for more organizations to offer arts-based educational opportunities to the community like classes, workshops, school partnerships, etc. Also with</p>
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5. Arts 12 Comments + 100 Votes

	<p>more performances or art exhibitions comes more opportunity for local business. Think of the restaurants, bars, and coffeeshops that benefit when there is an arts & culture event in downtown Olympia.</p> <p>Look at the arts space availability of the cities around us. Tacoma has dozens of theaters for only about 3x the population size. Seattle, though much bigger in size, has thousands of performance and art spaces. Their Office of Arts & Culture was able to create an online tool for artists called SpaceFinder, which connects local arts with available arts spaces.</p> <p>If the arts in Olympia are to expand any further, we need more space!</p>
<p>Stacey Waterman Hoey OlySpeaks 12/6/15 16 votes</p>	<p>Request City to participate in discussion about community art space</p> <p>The plan appears to need more development around art in general but the need for a community art space in particular.</p> <p>The Arbutus Folk School is a non-profit founded in 2013 to promote the Pacific Northwest's regional craft culture, identity and economy through education and community events. There is a significant ecologically and socially sustainable economic development opportunity which can be realized through advancing craft education and tourism. Arbutus has successful partnerships with other organizations in need of art space, including Kokua Services, and we support the work of the ArtSpace Alliance. The community is coalescing around the need for an art space and we would like the city to participate in the dialogue.</p>
<p>Sara Holt OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>Arts organizations such as Arbutus and Projects like Hummingbird Studio and the Earthbound Productions, Procession Community Art Studio are the things that feed and nurture our communities love of art and make our City Art's Walks such a success.</p>
<p>Bobbi Chase OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>An "art culture" in the area is another important way to engage in community activities and education - especially for adults (one that doesn't necessarily involve going to restaurants and shopping -- although that is a nice side benefit). In addition, the more "developed" it becomes, it offers connections to outside communities and opportunities for a much larger network. And there is SO much talent in the area, a resource we don't have to buy!</p>
<p>Susan Ahlschwede OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>The Arbutus Folk School, Art Space Alliance, Kokua, The Procession of the Species, the City of Olympia - All need space. I hope that these organizations sit down and develop a plan for moving towards a community art facility. Of course, there are other arts organizations that could be a part of this conversation.</p>
<p>Monica Gockel OlySpeaks</p>	<p>Community Art Studio</p>

5. Arts 12 Comments + 100 Votes

<p>12/1/15 14 votes</p>	<p>I would love for Olympia to have a year round community art studio like the one for Procession of the Species. With classes!</p>
<p>Mariella Luz email 12/7/15</p>	<p>I attended the presentation last week at the Olympia Center on the City's plan for Parks, Arts and Recreation. I would like to second Kris Tucker's comments that there should be more emphasis on the "Arts" part of the plan. It seems to me that the current plan for the next 6 years is almost exclusively focused on parks, the only specific art plan was to hire someone to maintain existing works. Nothing new dedicated to art funding. Please consider supporting more arts funding and planning for our community.</p>
<p>Susan Christian email 12/2/15</p>	<p>To whom it may concern - and that should mean everyone! -</p> <p>In planning for the future, Olympia needs desperately to provide physical space for the arts. Since the performing arts have been housed in the Washington Center, life in our pathetic state capitol have improved mightily. Could this serve as an example to our planners?</p> <p>I've lived here for 40 years. I'm an artist. I've always shown my work at Childhood's End Gallery, which I love. It is a gift shop which supports a non-profitable gallery space because the owners believe we should see non-gift serious visual art. They lose money on the gallery. They support it by selling beautiful decorative objects.</p> <p>There are two (2) other galleries in Olympia. One is supported by its frame shop. I also own a gallery, Salon Refu. Don't look for a website; I can't afford to pay someone to build me one. I support this gallery on my own dime. I show serious art; I don't sell framing services, I don't sell gift items. I take a tiny commission on work sold. In a grown-up city, I would be able to pay my expenses from sales.</p> <p>Olympia's vibrant music scene is supported by bars and cafes. The visual-arts scene is supported by almost nothing. For example, the Washington Center welcomes visual artists to show their work in the lobbies, but no one can get in there to look at it unless they buy a ticket for a performance. This precludes viewing by a great many citizens.</p> <p>We have visual artists here, and many of them are excellent. They're here because they have jobs here and because housing is cheap. Not because the community is supportive. It isn't.</p> <p>We need housing for artists; we need a gathering place for artists; we need</p>

5. Arts 12 Comments + 100 Votes	
	<p>places for artists to show their work where non-artists will enjoy themselves and learn something.</p> <p>We can do better. Not that hard. Let's do it.</p>
<p>Lila Adams OlySpeaks 11/21/15 14 votes</p>	<p>Where's the "Arts" in the plan?</p> <p>I'm new to Olympia. After a quick look at the plan, I do not see much "Arts" listed as suggestions. Are there already places to go to learn to draw, paint, do pottery, etc. in the city? If not, I would like to see an arts center type of place added. If that already exists, I'd love to participate, so please inform me.</p>
<p>JJ L OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>The Olympia Center has many classes---for example I do ceramics down there, and there is painting, and all manner of arts offerings. Catalogs come out 3 times a year, I believe, maybe 4....with the offerings, and you can also see them online. Also the cities of Lacey and Tumwater each have their own catalogs and series.</p>
<p>Kris Goddard OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>Nothing wrong with our current regular offerings, but I would suggest formation of an ad hoc arts committee of local artistes who might have some new, exciting and even income-generating ideas for program expansion.</p>
<p>Maria Ruth OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>The budget should include several cans of exterior paint to emblazon "OLYMPIA CENTER" on the Olympia Center Building--top floor on both sides of the street. The low sidewalk-level signs are not easy to spot when you are driving past (they are blocked by parked cars). Right now, the Olympia Center just looks like another non-descript state government building.</p>
<p>Jean Mandeberg email 12/10/15</p>	<p>I am writing to respond to the draft plan - as a former member of the Olympia Arts Commission, former chair of the Washington State Arts Commission, visual art faculty at The Evergreen State College, and local artist.</p> <p>My question: Where is the ART in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan??</p> <p>My suggestion: make an Arts Center a higher priority in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. Move the funding for an Arts Center to the first six years of the next plan. Olympia calls itself an "arts town" but many local artists feel discouraged and neglected - many new residents, eager to move downtown, are looking for a cultural life that will require the city to pay more attention to the visual, performing, and literary arts in our community. Thanks!</p>
<p>Kris Tucker, Chair</p>	<p>Please see the attached letter from the board of the Olympia Artspace</p>

5. Arts 12 Comments + 100 Votes

Olympia Artspace
Alliance email
12/11/15

Alliance.

As a musician and performer, we know that you value and understand the ability of the arts to enhance and facilitate broader goals. Just as your song delivered an exclamation point to the need for public comment about the draft 2016 Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation Department Plan, arts support will contribute to the city's broader economic and community goals identified in its Comprehensive Plan and Municipal Arts Plan.

The 2016 Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan should strengthen the City of Olympia's support for the arts.

Olympia Artspace Alliance (OAA) appreciates the city's effort to craft a 20-year strategy for parks, arts & recreation in the 2016 plan and endorses policies in the plan that give city support for affordable housing and studio/rehearsal space for artists.

OAA seeks changes in the plan to clarify the city's vision for the arts in our community and make progress towards the city's long-standing goal of realizing an arts center.

An art center is important to Olympia's future. The city should be part of a collaborative effort to make this a reality.

Olympia Artspace Alliance encourages PAR staff to expand on a few key points in the draft plan to initiate future discussion and action about how the arts can be supported and how the arts can support broader city goals. Specifically, we request that the plan include language that makes a partnership between the city and OAA more concrete, and anticipates city leadership and participation in collaborative efforts to address facility needs of artists and arts organizations.

We suggest that the "Arts Center" section (page 90) include more specifics from the 2007 Market and Feasibility Analysis for a Community Arts Center, including the construction costs and projected operating budget. OAA also recommends that the plan move funding for an arts center to the first six years of this plan (2016-2022).

In addition, OAA recommends that the City add one staff person (1.0 FTE additional) to ensure the goals and policies of this plan can be realized.

Olympia Artspace Alliance has been working for more than five years to build affordable spaces for the arts in Olympia and, with city support, will advance the city's arts goals. We need the city's continued support to meet the facility needs of our arts community and the plan provides a timely and appropriate avenue for this support.

Our organization is led by a passionate and dedicated group of volunteers with broad community support. OAA has resources to share with the city effort, including data from our 2013-2014 survey of artists and creative sector organizations, and our 2015 feasibility study as well as anecdotal evidence of artists' and arts organizations' needs, and about arts facilities

5. Arts 12 Comments + 100 Votes

	<p>in other communities. On behalf of the Olympia Artspace Alliance Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your willingness to accept input and recommendations to the draft plan and for the city’s continuing partnership in realizing an arts center in downtown Olympia as the current, and future, plans are implemented. Sincerely,</p>
<p>Ron Hinton OlySpeaks 12/11/15 3 Votes</p>	<p>Need for Multi-use Arts Facility</p> <p>What a great time to live in Olympia—so many positive things are happening that can shape our future for years to come. Because of the hard work of so many, the LBA Park is becoming a reality, and revenue is available for future growth laid out by the new Parks Plan. The Downtown Strategy is on its way, and the Council has established a Community Renewal Area (CRA) process. All of this could not have happened without a huge commitment from the City and its citizens.</p> <p>Now’s the time to work together with all these tools to get the most out of them.</p> <p>I’d like to see the OPARD Plan strengthen the City’s support for the arts. The current Plan should better clarify the City’s vision for the arts in our community, which will help make progress towards the City’s long-standing goal of realizing an arts center.</p> <p>As cities have shown for decades, the Arts are an economic driver and a catalyst for urban development and renewal. With the CRA process in place, the downtown strategy happening, and the Council’s focus on the downtown core, it seems appropriate to move the Art Center Project in the Capital Investment Strategy from 2022 -2035 to the 2016-2021 time frame. In addition, the Capital Investment Strategy lists the Art Center Project at only \$1.5 million. However, the City’s own Art Center study conducted in March 2007 showed a cost of \$10 million.</p> <p>Large and small arts organizations across the community have expressed a need for a multi-use arts facility, and a study commissioned by the Olympia Artspace Alliance quantified that this need goes beyond organizations to include individual artists as well.</p> <p>We need to act as a community as soon as possible to get a multi-use facility for the Arts up and running.</p>

5. Arts 12 Comments + 100 Votes	
Susan Ahlschwede OlySpeaks 12/11/15 13 votes	<p>The Olympia area needs a community art center</p> <p>There are so many arts organizations that need space for their programs. I hope the City of Olympia will participate in a conversation with groups such as Arbutus Folk school, Art Space Alliance, Kokua, the Procession of the species, etc. to plan an art center that meets the needs of the community.</p>
Chris Hawkins OlySpeaks Response to comment	<p>Agree with this and previous commenters that a multi-purpose art facility would be a great addition to Olympia. What the City has done with the Olympia Center and Percival plinths in recent years is great, the plans goals (in G8 on p. 58 of the Draft Plan) acknowledge this aspiration, and the discussion on p. 90 is also good. I think this comment brings forward the important partnerships that the City should mention in the plan and should engage in the near-term to make an arts center realizable. the discussion should encompass support of a Procession and other arts studio as well as live-work housing needs of artists</p>
Kris Tucker OlySpeaks 12/10/15 11 votes	<p>An art center is important to Olympia’s future. The city should be part of a collaborative effort to make this a reality</p> <p>Olympia Artspace Alliance encourages PAR staff to expand on a few key points in the draft plan to initiate future discussion and action about how the arts can be supported and how the arts can support broader city goals. The "art center" section (page 90) should include more specifics from the 2007 Community Art Center study, including construction costs and projected operating budget. Olympia Artspace Alliance has been working since 2011 to build affordable space for artists and the arts, and has resources to share with the city, including data from our 2013-2014 survey or artists and creative sector organizations, and our 2015 feasibility study as well as anecdotal evidence of the needs of artists and arts organizations, and arts facilities in other communities. We recommend that the plan move funding for an arts center to the first six years of this plan. We also recommend that the City add a staff person (1.0 FTE) to ensure the arts goals and policies can be realized.</p>
Susan Ahlschwede OlySpeaks Response to comment	<p>I strongly agree with Kris that funding for an Arts Center be moved to the first 6 years of this Plan</p>

5. Arts 12 Comments + 100 Votes	
<p>Joyce Mercuri OlySpeaks 12/9/15 17 votes</p>	<p>Support the Procession and other home-grown festivals</p> <p>We so often see the Procession of the Species mentioned in information about Olympia arts and parks and our city's unique culture. Therefore, I think the parks plan should be more specific about material support of the Procession, art studio, and other grass-roots community festivals like love our local and others (but especially the Procession). An example might be city support and collaboration with putting up the batik banners that used to be put on downtown light poles during procession week. I also want to voice my support for having the downtown strategy and renewal area process be coordinated with any planning for the isthmus properties - these need to be thought about together and a coordinated approach developed. In general, I would like to see the city take extra measures to provide information to the public about the activities and plans for both the renewal area and the ithsmus. Perhaps consider using some of the neighborhood blogs just to keep people posted as to what is going on.</p>
<p>Sue Lean OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>Olympia Parks Department Please restore the Isthmus Park as a high priority project. Please restore the purchase and removal of the Capitol Center Building to the new Parks Plan Draft, as they are in the current Parks Plan.</p> <p>I am concerned about this change and urge you to keep the isthmus a top priority. View blocking buildings on this land, vulnerable to both sea level rise and liquefaction, would represent poor planning and be contrary to overwhelming public opposition. Possible future development should not "inform" the parks plan.</p> <p>I would also encourage you to purchase the land near Watershed Park to accommodate use by visitors staying at the new hotels soon to be finished nearby. Watershed is just far enough away that tourists are likely to drive there and then drive on to wherever else they are going. Citizens worked hard to get funding for parks in order to purchase land while it is available and this seems like sensible pre-planning before overcrowding occurs in this area.</p> <p>With best wishes, Sue Lean</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Proposed change to Arts Center section on p. 89: Proposed Action: <u>The Plan's Capital Investment Strategy identifies \$5 million in MPD funds in 2017-2021 to support a high priority project. An Arts Center is one of four projects identified as a high priority project to utilize these funds.</u></p>

6. BATHROOMS AND SHOWERS 1 Comment + 32 OlySpeaks Votes

Sfirah Madrone OlySpeaks 12/29/15 32 votes	Please have more bathrooms and shower facilities available for our homeless neighbors.
OPARD	OPARD does expend a significant amount of its maintenance resources cleaning, maintaining, and managing restrooms in our parks. These restrooms are available to everyone.

7. PARK NAMES 1 Comment + 29 OlySpeaks Votes

Sfirah Madrone OlySpeaks 12/29/15 29 votes	Please change the names of parks to the original names given by the Squaxin and Nisqually.
OPARD	Thank you for the suggestion. Whenever the City Council names a new park, there is always a public input process to suggest names. That would be a great time to suggest a Squaxin or Nisqually name.

8. WEST BAY PARK AND TRAIL 4 Comments + 19 Votes

Jacob Kostecka e-mail 11/23/15	My only comment is that I would love to see a completion of the Rotary Point Park on the west side with a walking path all the way to downtown. Thanks.
Phil Weigand e-mail 11/19/15	<p>Congratulations to all on the successful public acceptance of the new Metropolitan Parks District. I have one strong apprehension that the revenues raised will be used for other non-park items as the whims and needs of the city council vary with time, much like the utility tax revenues have been “raided” for non-parks and sidewalk improvements.</p> <p>In the Executive Summary of the Plan, one of the nine bullet items listed in the Park Development section on page 6 lists “West Bay Park and Trail Phase 2” as a substantial park development project. Can you tell me where this item falls on a priority basis? This item has been listed in several prior park planning documents but has failed to begin to be seriously acted upon.</p>
Phil Weigand e-mail 11/20/15	After realizing that Phase 2 of West Bay Park becoming a reality (with the long range proposal to develop the park in 2022-2035) I have surmised that the park will not become a reality during the first quarter century of 2015. While I have been discussing with you and your fellow Parks leaders and staff for more than 15 years the development of West Bay Park, it

8. WEST BAY PARK AND TRAIL 4 Comments + 19 Votes

	seems to me that there is no realistic expectation that the park will be developed in the next decade. In futility, I shall stop bothering you and your colleagues and leave it to other citizens to follow up.
Chris Strode OlySpeaks 11/21/15 19 votes	Connecting Capitol Lake to West Bay Park West Bay Park connecting to Capitol Lake will be a phenomenal addition to Olympias parks. Perhaps a large soccer field on West Bay Park with views of the Sound and the shipyard too?
Luke Noble OlySpeaks Response to comment	I think the lot north of the old Brown Minneapolis Tank site would be a great spot to put a lit turf soccer field. It would get a lot of use. There are not enough fields in the area for everyone to play who want to. Most folks who live in Olympia have to commute to Hawks Prairie for a good part of the year. It would bring a number of folks from the surrounding county into town regularly with new revenue for neighboring and downtown businesses. Connect a trail all the way from 5th to West Bay Marina and have it be wide enough for bicyclists and pedestrians. A trail into downtown from West Bay Marina may encourage more folks living there to bike or walk into town rather than drive. It could also become a part of a new commuting corridor for cyclists headed downtown from the Westside. We could also run a new trail down to the field along the green belt off the end of either Dickinson or Hays. It would make for a new hilly running loop when paired with the Garfield nature trail. Could even potentially build a trail all the way from Bowman to West Bay along Schneider Creek for an even longer loop, though this may bring up a number of concerns.
Larry Leveen OlySpeaks Response to comment	The West Bay Trail has been on the books for years, it received several comments in this plan update process, and it has even been voted a priority at least once in City Council retreats, yet not much visible progress has been made to constructing it. We need to elevate it and find ways to work with the necessary partners to make real, tangible progress on this very important asset to the community. It will get a whole other group of folks to walk/bike to/from the Westside and downtown. COMPLETE THE WEST BAY TRAIL! Thanks.
Karen Messmer OlySpeaks Response to comment	Ditto what Larry says above about West Bay Trail. This has been a priority for many for a long time and it is time to complete the trail for cycling and walking.
Janae Huber OlySpeaks Response to comment	I'd say the same thing for the Olympia Woodland Trail. It has the potential to meet both recreation and transportation needs once completed.
OPARD:	The City, Port of Olympia and Squaxin Island Tribe are currently working

8. WEST BAY PARK AND TRAIL 4 Comments + 19 Votes

	with a consultant to conduct an environmental restoration assessment of West Bay which includes West Bay Park and Trail in the study area. OPARD intends to resume the master planning process for the park and trail in 2016. The plan then budgets \$450,000 for environmental cleanup of West Bay Park and \$300,000 for Phase 2 design in 2017, \$300,000 for a restroom in 2020, and the Plan's "Long Range Options (2022-2035)" section of the Capital Investment Strategy budgets \$5,000,000 for Phase 2 development in 2022-2035. While this puts full development of West Bay Park and Trail out for several years, it does provide progress towards that goal. The Plan proposes that the most expensive development projects (such as this) come later to allow for substantial land acquisition in the next few years while the land is still available.
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9. USE PARCELS PURCHASED FOR PARKLAND FOR PARKS PLEASE 1 Comment + 19 Votes

Robert Ahlschwede OlySpeaks 12/9/15 19 Votes	Will the Planning Department always be able to override the Park Plan and "take" land/properties purchased to add to the parkland holdings in able to offer those city owned properties for development? My mind goes from the isthmus to LBA to Grass Lake and beyond. The properties on Water Street, being cleared as this is written is the best example--two buildings purchased with the intent of adding that land to the Fountain "Block" now being considered for development???? Why is that place referred to as the Fountain "Block"??
Donna J Nickerson OlySpeaks Response to comment	I agree. This area is an important public space. It allows fantastic scenic views to the Sound and Olympics, from the public spaces surrounding the capitol campus. A majority of Olympians have asked for a park in this space and its a natural use of the area. Given a future of sea level rise in our lifetime, it would be irresponsible to build in this 'park block'. The area could be a true asset to our city if made into a park where all could enjoy the recreational and scenic benefits of an open space plan that would fit into the setting.
Rob Ahlschwede OlySpeaks Response to comment	Further information: The two parcels on Water Street being cleared were both purchased with park monies. The first was purchased in 1997 to be included in the Fountain block park--purchased with Park impact fees plus the rental payments for the building. The second one was purchased later to add to the same park, using the Voted Utility Tax monies plus rental incomes. And this demolition is being covered by the rental payments. The city should not turn back on its "promise" of including these parcels in the Fountain Block park.
OPARD	Thank you for your comments.

10. DOG PARKS 3 Comments + 15 OlySpeaks Votes

Lee Rimmer	The city recently presented a draft plan for the city parks. I go to city parks
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e-mail 11/19/15	often. We love the parks. Thank you for your work. I do not support funding for a dog park. Parks with dogs keep us from enjoying the park. The dogs bark and growl. It gets ugly. Parks with dogs smell. We cannot use these parks. Currently, people already take their dogs off the leash at most Oly. city parks. The Oly. Parks Dept. does not enforce lease laws. Why? Your dept. does not have the time or money. We do not need a dog park, all of the Parks already are dog parks. No enforcement of laws.
Kate Gormally e-mail 11/24/15	Still think the dog park response is weak- because the last dog park built was so popular it was closed and no real plans are included for more dog parks. I think with all our parks a suitable portion of land could be dedicated to a dog park – if several were opened that would decrease the traffic to any one site. In Seattle where land is very limited they have been able to provide dog parks. For lots of people who live here this is what we do for recreation we play with our dogs outside.
JJ L OlySpeaks 11/24/15 15 votes	Dog park... Olympia needs an off-leash dog park! Actually, it needs more than one, but most folks can't truck out to Hawk's Prairie, just to run their dog. I suggest the City-owned property at Ward Lake has a great area near Yelm Highway, which could be relatively easily converted...but City seems to lack the will, despite all the requests, and the work done on siting a dog park.
OPARD	Approximately 40% of Olympia residents own dogs. The creation of an off-leash dog area has been one of the most oft-requested park amenities for many years. The very high use seen at the Sunrise Park off-leash dog area demonstrated the pent-up demand for off-leash dog areas in Olympia. OPARD believes that if a suitable site in a future community park can be found that would have limited impacts to adjacent residences, and off-leash dog area could be both healthy for dogs and also an enjoyable recreational amenity for their owners.

11. OLYMPIA WOODLAND TRAIL/WATERSHED PARK 1 Comment + 16 OlySpeaks Votes	
Olympia Wildwood Neighborhood Association OlySpeaks 12/6/15 16 votes	Complete the Olympia Woodland Trail and Purchase additional parking for Watershed Park The draft Parks Plan misses two critical opportunities: to complete the Olympia Woodland Trail and purchase additional parking for Watershed Park. The Olympia Woodland Trail has been long in the making and has two more phases for its completion. The draft plan funds only Phase 3, and

	<p>takes 20 year to do that (connecting current trail head to Watershed Park). By not funding Phase 4, Olympians miss having a trail that acts as both transportation and recreation, connecting neighborhoods from Olympia to Lacey with Tumwater Historical Park and then downtown.</p> <p>In addition, Lot 4 of a property adjacent to the Henderson roundabout is currently for sale. The lot would make perfect overflow parking for much-used Watershed Park AND for the Olympia Woodland Trail, ensuring that there is a usable trail head in southeast Olympia.</p>
<p>Mike Ruth OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>We need connectivity for bikeways and walking. Once you have a network of trails you get huge uptake on usage for both transportation and recreation. I'm a bike commuter - I get my healthy exercise on the way to and from work. Having safe trails that actually work for people getting from point A to point B requires attention to planning connectivity, parking, and trailheads.</p>
<p>Chris Hawkins OlySpeaks Response to comment</p>	<p>Agree strongly with the Wildwood Neighborhood comment on completing Woodland Trail Phase 3 sooner. Having such multi-use trails connect to more neighborhoods bring us closer to the walkable city toward which we have long aspired (at least since adoption of first Comprehensive Plan in 1994) and remains the vision of our long range plans. So also agreeing with the comment above.</p> <p>The impetus for this is even more acute now - not only do such trails, if well connected and continuous, increase livability and recreation and efficient ways of traveling to and through the community, they also increase community health. In fact, trails of this kind (and measures of the total length available in the County) are recognized as key indicators for the health of Thurston County. I encourage the City to accelerate the completion of this long-planned (mid-1990s) urban trail, not waiting to amass enough local funds to do it all, but to pursue low-hanging fruit of connections to existing streets (Hillside and Rowen), allowing Wildwood neighbors to get to Watershed Park more easily, and recreation or transportation grants that would help build Phase 3 and Phase 4 within more like the 5-10 year timeframe.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Proposed additional language for the Olympia Woodland Trail section on P. 86: <u>The first two phases of the trail were built utilizing strong partnerships with the Woodland Trail Greenway Association, Washington Department of Transportation, and Thurston Regional Planning Council. The City will seek to continue and expand these partnerships moving forward with Phases 3 and 4.</u> (For more detailed information on this trail corridor, see p. 3-41 of the Thurston Regional Trails Plan.)</p> <p>Proposed Action: This plan budgets \$350,000 in 2018 for Phase 3 design and the Plan's "Long Range Options (2022-2035)" section of the Capital Investment Strategy budgets \$4.5 million for Phase 3 construction in 2022-2035. The plan budgets \$5.3 million for open space/trail acquisition in the</p>

	<p>“Long Range Options (2022-2035)” section of the plan, some of which could be utilized for Phase 3 and/or 4 Right of Way acquisition. <u>The plan budgets \$5.3 million for open space/trail acquisition in the “Long Range Options (2022-2035)” section of the plan, some of which could be utilized for Phase 3 and/or 4 Right of Way acquisition. The City will pursue partnerships and grants for Phase 4 planning efforts.</u></p> <p>Regarding Lot 4 – Staff is aware of that parcel and will evaluate it based on the land acquisition criteria on p. 89 of the Plan.</p>
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12. OPARD PRIORITIES FOR HABITAT 1 COMMENT + 11 OlySpeaks Votes

<p>Daniel Einstein OlySpeaks 12/11/15 11 Votes</p>	<p>In a very real sense the Deschutes Estuary / Budd Inlet ecosystem ties all of Olympia’s remaining and compromised habit together. All of our streams drain into either the Deschutes River or Budd Inlet. All violate water quality standards set by the department of Ecology. Our remaining woodlands and wetlands are watersheds for these bodies of water. All of this matters because the Deschutes Coho population is now functionally extinct two out of every three years. We can change that and we must. State and Federal law requires it.</p> <p>The fact that the Parks Plan includes a category for habitat is profoundly important for our City’s ability to redress this issue because it enables OPARD to competitively apply for state and federal funds for habitat preservation – for the first time in our city’s history. Specifically, it will enable the City to acquire key properties that are important habitat in and of themselves, as well as properties that have important water quality potential with respect to Puget Sound. The match for these acquisitions must come from a combination of MPD funds and community support.</p> <p>Specifically, through a combination of fee simple acquisitions and conservation easements, we should preserve and restore the West Bay Woods and the Schneider Creek basin, follow through on the purchase of the first parcel of LBA Woods and Ken Lake, as well as acquiring the second parcel of LBA Woods, currently not under consideration, and we should move forward with the Isthmus Park, through a combination of regulation and acquisition. The Isthmus and West Bay trail should connect through the woods with our Northwest Neighborhood.</p> <p>However, even this is not enough. The West Bay shoreline – currently undeveloped but threatened by sea-level rise - should not be developed but rather re-wilded to establish quality salmon habitat. We need to begin to think about habitat not just as acres but also as interconnected corridors. We need to be smart about growth both for the future of our</p>
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	<p>environment and for the future of our economy. Olympia can become a destination known for its balance of urban growth and urban wildlife. We can become truly the gateway to Puget Sound, the Olympic Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. To get there, we must make strategic acquisitions now.</p> <p>I will be the first to tell you that this challenge coupled with the challenges of sea-level rise and legacy contamination cannot be the sole responsibility of OPARD. You may be surprised to learn that very little of our city's stormwater passes through Lott. In the NW neighborhood, where I live, ALL of the stormwater enters Puget Sound through a number of outfalls. Thus, Public Works has a very specific and clear responsibility as well. The woods between our neighborhoods and Puget Sound are currently the only filter. Thus, restoration of our undeveloped upland shoreline forests and riparian corridors should also be a Public Works priority. As citizens we also have a specific responsibility to be aware of and treat locally our personal stormwater.</p> <p>Passage of the MPD by a wide majority is a reflection of the fact that we as citizens get this. It is an important tool that we have vouchsafed to our City administrators. Now is the time to use it.</p>
Chris Hawkins OlySpeaks Response to comment	<p>Good points. The City's land acquisition should focus on land that is valuable as habitat, and is only developed in ways that are compatible with restoring that and adjacent habitat - the funds for purchasing these lands can and should be leveraged by combining with stormwater and other fees intended to mitigate development and accomplish restoration goals. West Bay Trail and other trails can double as wildlife corridors, connecting people with parks but also allowing migration among larger tracts of land, streams/rivers, and the inland sea of Puget Sound, by the creatures that share our local environment.</p>
OPARD	<p>Thank you for your comments. Staff is excited to move forward with preserving the habitat projects outlined in the plan.</p>

13. MORE RECREATION PROGRAMS FOR OLDER TEENAGERS 1 Comment + 9 OlySpeaks votes

<p>Tammy Ramsey OlySpeaks 11/24/15 9 votes</p>	<p>More Recreation Programs for Older Teenagers</p> <p>Great job, team. You have done excellent work to distill hundreds of hours of material into a comprehensive plan that gets pretty close to aligning with all the special interest groups and types of populations in Olympia. I do wish we were seeing a stronger focus on the class side of the Recreation Plan. While there are many classes, camps and excursions offered for our area youth (and Oly's are the best in the region), there is a distinct lack of services for the 12-18 aged individual. Right at the very moment they become most vulnerable to outside ideas, we drop/greatly reduce most</p>
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	forms of safe and structured fun, leaving these kids to roam downtown, or engage in otherwise unsavory choices. PLEASE ADD MORE summer camps, winter break camps, volunteer programs, leadership in training programs, etc... for the 12-18 year old!
Sandra Lange Bellinger OlySpeaks Response to comment	Olympia should develop and build a public swimming pool in an existing City park near the geographic center of the city. It should charge nominal fees and be staffed by certified lifeguards and several administrative staff. Summer temperatures have been rising the past ten years, which will likely continue, and Olympia no longer has anywhere for children to safely swim.
OPARD	<p>Teen programming is, admittedly, a gap in our services. Older teens are especially difficult to program for as they develop their independence and explore life behind the wheel of their first car.</p> <p>The Recreation Division operates on a cost recovery system and virtually all of our programs are fee based. This requires our recreation staff to understand what the market will support in terms of fees and types of programs offered. The community will notice that offerings do indeed fluctuate over the years as we respond to trends while maintaining our cornerstone programs. A key indicator for program expansion is reaching registration maximums and waitlists. We will continue to respond with expanded programs in areas that we see opportunities, including teen programs.</p>
14. KAISER HEIGHTS NATURAL AREA-PARK: YES 1 Comment + 8 OlySpeaks Votes	
Marian Bailey OlySpeaks 12/10/15 8 votes	Purchase Kaiser Heights and manage it as a natural area. Don't purchase it and cut the trees down to make a playground or some other type of traditional play park. It is a mature, intact conifer/hardwood forest with an existing system of trails. It is land for wildlife that has it's own inherent value. It is also important as it abuts rural or presently undeveloped land (outside city limits) including the Capitol forest area. Keeping that linkage is important for wildlife to survive and hopefully thrive. Migratory songbirds such as varied thrush, chestnut-sided and black-capped chickadees, nuthatches, brown creepers, ruby and golden crowned kinglets, bushtits, robins, spotted towhees, ect.; pollinators such as painted ladies, western swallowtails, mourning cloaks, wood nymphs, skippers, etc.; and raptors such as great horned, barred, and western screech owls, osprey, Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks, and bald eagles depend upon this specific forest for prey, breeding/nesting, and shelter. Black bear, coyote, black-tailed deer, flying and Douglas squirrels, Townsend's chipmunk, and other mammals also depend upon this high quality habitat. Olympia would be a better place with this particular parcel protected from development and conserved for community residents and visitors. A fabulous place for our communities' residents to re-create and relieve stress of life.

OPARD	Kaiser Heights is proposed to be purchased for Open Space which is defined in the draft plan as “primarily undeveloped land that is set aside to protect the special natural character of Olympia’s landscape.” While there may be bicycle and/or pedestrian trail development with associated facilities, it would not be our intent to “cut down the trees and make a playground.”
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15. MCGRATH WOODS 2 Comments + 6 Votes

Samantha Carlson email 12/1/15	Hello, I live across the street from McGrath Park. I thought this would be a wonderful resource for my son and his friends. This has not been the case. My child is afraid to go to the park. We have seen so many drivers burn rubber in the parking lot, people parked in cars in the dark smoking and drinking, people dumping garbage and animals, drunk or drugged park dwellers, that it feels like the park is a liability to our neighborhood instead of a resource. I don’t consider our pocket park as a safe place for kids to play. I have read the current parks plan and I am disappointed. I really don’t think this city has any business adding more parks until we are able to make the ones we’ve already got safe for use by the community. Help with the occupation of transients, drug/alcohol abusers, homeless, and mentally ill people that tragically reside in our parks and the cleanup that requires, should be an issue that receives park funding. Maybe funding some lighting in our neighborhood parks would be a help? Our police force cannot possibly patrol our parks consistently as they have funding issues of their own. Making an investment in something you can’t maintain makes no sense to me. I’m sure my feelings aren’t popular, but I am truly concerned.
Henry Carson OlySpeaks 11/23/15 5 votes	McGrath Woods I'm a little late to this party since the plan is already out, and from the plan it appears there are more potential open space acquisitions than we have money to explore. That said, has the department taken a look at the forested parcel immediately adjacent to McGrath Woods Park that is for sale? If not, is there a mechanism to get this "on the list" of places to evaluate for potential purchase? Thank you and nice plan.
OPARD	Safety concerns: Sorry to hear that you don’t feel safe in the park. The plan proposes significant increases in funding for park safety including more proactive park enforcement, safety and lighting upgrades, and more resources for illegal encampment cleanup. Hopefully this will help the situation at McGrath Woods Park. Adjacent acquisition: While this would make a nice addition to the park,

	our priority for neighborhood park acquisition is providing neighborhood parks for areas of the city that currently have none.
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16. EXCELLENT ADDITION OF OFF-ROAD BIKE FACILITIES IN PLAN UPDATE! 1 Comment + 7 Votes

Larry Leveen OlySpeaks 11/23/15 7 votes	The draft plan update has simple-but-clear language regarding off-road bike facilities — those already existing in Yauger Park, those proposed for a couple other locations on pages 91-92 and 93-94, respectively, and the inclusion of funding for construction of a bike park in 2017. These are excellent additions, and very responsive to the needs of the community now and in the future. Well done
Chris Hawkins OlySpeaks Response to comment	Yes - I hope the City will continue the partnership with SSBPA (the bike park alliance) and make more of these multi-use play and skill-building spaces available within the timespan before the next plan update (in 5 years).
OPARD	Thank you.

17. PARKS AND REC BUDGET 1 Comment + 4 OlySpeaks Votes

Mike Auderer OlySpeaks 11/25/15 4 votes	I think the discussion is great and needs to happen but it needs to happen with some financial facts behind it. City of Olympia please post the budget for parks to this forum. I know its somewhere deep in the city website but a version here would be helpful.
OPARD	Thank you for the suggestion - We provided a link to the Plan’s Capital Investment Strategy from the web page.

18. MISCELLANEOUS AND MULTIPLE TOPIC COMMENTS

Shana Barehand e-mail 11/30/15	We love parks and thanks for taking comments. I would like to see more soccer fields, running/walking trails and a dog run for folks with friendly dogs. Thank you.
OPARD	All of those projects you are requesting are in the plan.
Pete Bergford e-mail 11/30/15	Hey, I want to throw in my 2 cents worth! You could probably already guess that I would love to see more soccer fields in town. I’m sure you’ve heard this many times and I know you guys are on it, so good job! But wanted to say, you can’t go wrong with big green soccer fields, we are WAY BEHIND as far as sports fields are concerned. Thankfully Lacey built the RAC and Tumwater built Pioneer and Black Hills. Also, we need an ice rink!!! Let’s get some hockey, and general skating and ice performance in downtown port area! Yes I know, may be out there a ways but I keep hearing from others how great it would be and another fun venue in the city. We need one. All I want for Christmas is an ice skating rink! I’ve talked to Walker John, he said “hmmm”.

18. MISCELLANEOUS AND MULTIPLE TOPIC COMMENTS

	<p>Lastly, I would like to redevelop Priest Point Park into an overnight destination. Some of our best camping close by is at State and City or County parks. Invest in national park type architecture (rock retaining walls, a big lodge in the trees, interpretive amphitheater down at the old house site maybe or in the forest somewhere, etc). There could be a system of canvas tents to rent and stay in. The few canvas tents they have out at Millersylvania are booked out 2 ½ years at \$200/night. I could manage getting drawings of the park for you for free. The ideas are endless.</p> <p>Sorry, too much coffee this morning J Have a great day!</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Soccer – see soccer response (#4) above.</p> <p>Ice Rink – This idea has come up from time to time. Proposed change: <u>Recreation/Aquatics Center</u> <u>In the random sample survey conducted for this plan, when asked what the most needed recreational amenity not currently offered was, “swimming facilities” was the number one response. As The Olympia Center approaches 30 years of operation, planning efforts should begin for major renovations or replacement of The Olympia Center. This could include a swimming pool, ice rink, indoor athletic facilities and/or additional recreation amenities.</u></p> <p>Camping at Priest Point – At this point we do not have the resources to manage a permanent campground, but we do offer a camping experience once a year via our recreation program.</p>
<p>Rob Ahlschwede Open House 112/2/15</p>	<p>The two parcels on the Isthmus the City has purchased and cleared should be developed as park land, as it was identified in the last park plan and as park money was used for purchase. By park land I really mean publicly owned “civic” spaces. Not just open space but realizing the other activities and services fit this ‘civic” uses idea. There should be <u>no</u> thought to allowing any residential on the land west of Water Street.</p> <p>Acquisitions: the property on the west side owned by the Church of the Living Water should be somewhere on the target.</p> <p>LBA Woods should also include the Bentrige property. It is the most pristine piece – second growth for sure but mature second growth. I also realize that the Bentrige property is the target for the Log Cabin extension, BUT this is too valuable to give over to cars/roads.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Isthmus and LBA Woods – see responses #1 and 3 above. Church of Living</p>

18. MISCELLANEOUS AND MULTIPLE TOPIC COMMENTS	
	Water property – we are aware of that parcel and would use the acquisition criteria we have established in the plan to determine if it’s a good candidate for acquisition.
Holly Gadbow Open House 12/2/15	<p>Criteria for acquisition should include areas underserved areas and low income areas. Low income areas should be criteria for locating community gardens.</p> <p>Need more neighborhood parks as first priority.</p> <p>Why regional art center – why not City art center?</p> <p>Each park acquired should have long-term maintenance plan</p> <p>Each acquisition <u>should</u> be analyzed for population displaced</p> <p>No outdoor swimming area in plan</p> <p>What is the advantage of an arts and entertainment district?</p> <p>Public participation process does allow for adequate public comment.</p> <p>State property and school district property should be counted as acres toward level of service. With ¼ mile of S. Capitol neighborhood there are 20 acres of open space – still it appears that S. Capitol on the map of deficits leaves a deficit in parks with the Capitol campus and Lincoln school the S. Capitol does <u>not</u> need a neighborhood park.</p> <p>Arts center should be moved in to first 6 years of Capital Facilities Plan – money for planning for this facility should be in first six years</p> <p>Another staff person for arts program</p> <p>Support keeping decision on Isthmus in the Downtown strategy</p> <p>Should show how capitol facilities project maintain LOS</p> <p>Do not support keeping capitol center acquisition and demolition in the plan</p> <p>Plan is not well integrated. CP – just a plan to qualify for recreation and conservation funds.</p> <p>Change PR8.1 to delete the word “regional” and replace with “city”</p>
OPARD	Thank you for your comments – many of these topics are addressed in responses above. Other comments:

18. MISCELLANEOUS AND MULTIPLE TOPIC COMMENTS

	<p>Low income areas for parks – We are trying to provide a park in all areas of the City including low-income areas.</p> <p>Neighborhood Parks as first priority – The plan proposes acquiring 5 new neighborhood parks in the first six years.</p> <p>Why regional arts center? – Olympia is the region’s center for the Arts.</p> <p>What is advantage of Arts and Entertainment District? - Can potentially be utilized as a tool for community and economic development.</p> <p>State property and school property counted towards level of service – state property with recreational value (i.e. Heritage Park, Sylvester Park, Capitol Campus) <u>is</u> counted towards Level of Service Standards (see Figure 6.4, p. 67). School District property is not counted since it is not available for community use at all times.</p>
<p>Kris Tucker Open House 12/2/15</p>	<p>Don’t’ make the Isthmus one big park! Instead, we need to build out the isthmus in include a series of smaller parks among the between mixed use buildings that provide housing, retail, etc.</p> <p>As more housing is built downtown, we need more parks and a different variety of parks downtown</p> <p>Trail connections should be a priority including along the waterfront/West Bay-East Bay</p> <p>Olympia needs more investment in the arts</p> <p>How will the “high priority projects” be identified/prioritized at \$1million/year?</p> <p>Jonathon – thanks for the song!!!</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Thanks for your suggestions. In answer to your question about how the “high priority” projects will be prioritized, based on public input on the first draft the revised draft proposes four projects to be supported with those funds: an Art Center, Soccer Fields, Isthmus Park Development, and Percival Landing Bulkhead replacement.</p>
<p>Jack Horton Open House 12/2/15</p>	<p>Establish a mechanism to be notified when land becomes available</p> <p>Purchase green space near trails when it becomes available</p> <p>Provide a campground rule: out by 10 am can return 3 pm – clean up every day</p>

18. MISCELLANEOUS AND MULTIPLE TOPIC COMMENTS	
	<p>Provide rental storage for camping supplies</p> <p>Zero tolerance for camping in parks or near trails</p> <p>Secure ROW through church property etc. for the Capitol to Capital trail in the area west of Grass Lake Park</p> <p>Follow through with opportunity to buy green space near trails</p> <p>Sell bonds, buy land – never will land be cheaper</p> <p>Lots of IUMP – gravel trails</p> <p>Key opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSDOT property between I-5 bike path and woodland trail • Thurston County parcels near woodland trail • Land swap in Indian Creek neighborhood
OPARD	Thanks for your suggestions. We will consider your ideas related to park encampments as we put more resources towards proactive park enforcement.
Mike Vandeman e-mail 11/18/15	<p>First, you need to answer the question "What is a park?" A park is wildlife habitat! That is what makes it attractive to people. From that we can deduce that wildlife should be given top priority, and then everything else will fall into place. Mountain biking, off-road bike parks, golf, and other intensive (ab)uses don't belong in any park. The off-road bike park, for example, teaches behaviors that are destructive and totally inappropriate in wildlife habitat. Please remove all such facilities from your plan.</p> <p>I am working on creating wildlife habitat that is off-limits to humans ("pure habitat"). Want to help? (I spent the previous 8 years fighting auto dependence and road construction.)</p> <p>Wildlife <u>must</u> be given top priority, because they can't protect themselves from us. Please don't put a cell phone next to any part of your body that you are fond of!</p>
OPARD	Staff agrees that an important function of parks is to protect wildlife habitat. This is the first Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan that includes a habitat section – this will allow the City to apply for habitat grants through the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office. The plan 313 acres of open space to be added to Olympia’s inventory, the vast majority of which would likely provide additional wildlife habitat. Staff disagrees, however, that active recreation such as mountain biking does not belong in any

18. MISCELLANEOUS AND MULTIPLE TOPIC COMMENTS	
	parks. The public input we have received in this planning process has shown us that people enjoy both active and passive recreation opportunities.
John Newman e-mail 11/19/15	Congratulations on your years of work with the Parks and Staff of Olympia. Parks will be a more exciting for everyone next year and on.
OPARD	Thank you. We are grateful for the community's support.
Jim Nieland e-mail 11/10/15	<p>With the further development of West Bay Park as a pedestrian travel route to down town, it might be good to identify the Garfield Nature Trail as a feeder trail into the system. It is already being used to access West Bay Park, and its use would reasonably be expected to increase with the extension of a trail around to the Isthmus. It is good to see bridge replacement listed in the plan. The trail also suffers from areas of stream erosion (undercutting) and poor grade alignment. When new bridges are considered, the grades should transition smoothly onto the bridge deck surfaces without steps up. There are areas where the tread is eroding and could be reinforced with grid blocks.</p> <p><i>Suggestion: Expand actions to include grade improvement, retaining walls and erosion control.</i></p> <p>I notice that donations and financial contributions are listed in the current plan review. Missing from the chart is the financial (in-kind) contributions made by volunteers in the stewardship program. On page 33 is mentioned that volunteers contribute on average 6,500 hours per year. Calculating this at \$15 per hour, that comes out to an annual donation \$97,500. This is a huge contribution, far greater than many of those listed. Adding a financial component to volunteer donations raises the importance of the program.</p> <p><i>Suggestion: Add volunteer financial contribution to donation list.</i></p> <p>Under “Current Conditions—Proposed Projects”, on Page 84, I was surprised to see no projects listed for Yashiro Japanese Garden. I disagree that the park is in good condition and that no major improvements are needed in this planning horizon. I have had the pleasure of assisting with volunteer maintenance at the park once a month for the past two years. This has given me the opportunity to observe some major problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Drainage in the park is terrible. The lawn area in the park center is flooded or saturated year long. Adjacent areas also exhibit a high water table and are in need of an underground drainage system. o Park pathways have been allowed to spread and for some reason wide areas of pea gravel have been placed outside

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the pathway curb stones. (This may be an outgrowth of the poor drainage.)

- o The irrigation system in the park is only partly functional. A large number of plants along the south border of the park died during the 2015 drought for lack of water. So, there is a situation of a high water table in one area and no water in others. This affects both the beauty and functioning of the park.
- o I have been told, but have no way to independently verify this, that the current park arrangement is somewhat different than that shown on the original plan. This may represent “creeping” changes over time. Certainly the over-use of pea gravel is suspect, and lends credence to the assertion.

Yashiro Japanese Garden is one of the “Jewels” of the Olympia Park system, but is currently faltering. The problems I mention are not intended as a check list of things to work on piece-meal by the maintenance staff. I think the problems found in the park are structural and beyond routine maintenance. An objective look at the problems is warranted.

One solution would be to conduct an architectural and engineering review of the park to identify problems and long term solutions. A landscape architect familiar with Japanese gardens could review the original plans and suggest changes for maintaining an authentic theme while at the same time making maintenance more effective. A suggested maintenance plan would be useful.

A civil engineer needs to work with the architect to make recommendations for remediation of irrigation and drainage problems. A strategy similar to new park developments would be useful.

Proposed Action: Conduct an architectural and engineering review to guide structural and drainage repairs. Develop a redevelopment and long-term maintenance plan for the park.

Trails are mentioned throughout the plan but no standards are noted. Each park seems to stand by itself with its own set of standards implied.

I think that the plan would benefit from adding a section on **trail standards**. An inventory of all Olympia park trails could be included, along with an evaluation of current condition, components and construction standards to be met.

Not all trails are the same. Some will be paved, some graveled, or native

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surface. The standards should match the expected use, and the environment in which they are found. Paved trails expected for high use such as bicycles or heavy pedestrian traffic would be different from those intended for walking only. Questions of barrier-free access might be considered for some trails but not others. Trails in highly urbanized areas of parks might be considered differently than those in natural areas, particularly when surfacing is considered.

Trail maintenance becomes an important component of the standards as well, and should be considered in scheduling maintenance work.

Paved trails in forested areas are particularly difficult to maintain due to accumulations of leaf litter and moss buildup. This is already being seen on the Olympia Woodland Trail. Planning needs to consider both the surface material and its maintenance.

Proposed Action: *Add a section on trail standards to the plan.*

Grass Lake Nature Park. Under the proposed actions is mentioned a 10 foot side paved pedestrian trail. If this is to be a pedestrian trail only (no bicycles) then the width is excessive. For maintenance purposes an 8 foot wide gravel surfaced trail would be more than adequate and would not be encumbered by the difficulty of keeping a paved trail clean and moss free. The introduction of bicycles and/or dogs that could frighten wildlife will certainly be questioned if proposed.

Suggestion: *Reduce the width to 8 feet and call for a gravel surfaced trail.*

Watershed Park, Priest Point Park. Both of these parks have actions calling for replacement of boardwalks and bridges. These changes are certainly needed. In both cases, the existing bridges are either failing or in need of upgrade. In these cases, the bridges are rather narrow and have steps leading onto the bridge surfaces.

Steps present the problem of interfering with use of mechanized equipment (or even wheelbarrows) for transport of construction or maintenance materials. The steps also create a potential safety hazard for trail users.

From a hiker standpoint, one often observes trail users avoiding the steps and creating their own parallel path. Whenever possible, steps should be avoided and steep trail grades corrected so steps are not necessary.

A standard is also necessary for boardwalk and bridge construction. In the past it appears that no particular standard has been followed, and the


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	<p>design of new or replacement bridges has been left up to the imagination of the maintenance staff. Before a major replacement project is initiated, standards should be adopted.</p> <p><i>Suggestion: create trail and trail bridge construction standards.</i></p>
<p>OPARD:</p>	<p>Volunteer Hours – Added to Grant/Donation table on p. 20.</p> <p>Proposed change to Garfield Nature Trail section on P. 85: Proposed Action: There is \$155,000 budgeted for boardwalk and bridge replacements throughout the park system as part of OPARD’s Capital Asset Management Program. The boardwalks and bridges in the park will be assessed as part of this project. <u>As bridges and boardwalks are replaced, efforts will be made to eliminate steps wherever possible to make the trail more barrier-free.</u></p> <p>Proposed change to section on Yashiro Japanese Garden: This 0.7-acre developed park is in <u>fairly good condition although there are some drainage and irrigation issues.</u> While no major improvements are planned during this planning horizon, <u>maintenance staff will pursue solutions to these issues as time and resources allow.</u></p> <p>Trail Standards: The following language will be added to the “New Open Space/Trail Land and Development” section: <u>Trail Standards</u></p> <p><u>Currently OPARD does not have trail standards for trail development or maintenance. Having trail standards would be beneficial for both new trail development and ongoing trail maintenance. OPARD will pursue the development of trail standards.</u></p>
<p>Clydia Cuykendall e-mail 11/19/15</p>	<p>Thank you for sending the OPARD 2016 Plan Executive Summary to me. I do not find the following comments reflected, although I have made them before:</p> <p><i>LBA Woods</i> (made at the Coalition of Neighborhoods Association meeting on 9/14/15): One of the concerns that a citizen expressed to me was that LBA Woods would be turned into “tract housing”. I don’t share that concern because I was raised in tract housing right here in Olympia, which like LBA Woods, was walking distance from a grade school and only 1.5 miles from where I live now. My father purchased our house after WWII where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge. I want our Iraq and Afghanistan veterans to have affordable housing in Olympia, which according to the Comp Plan, is expected to grow by 20,000 people in the next 20 years. I don’t think it is wise to remove 500 acres of land from the tax base, with</p>

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	<p>no concrete plans for its access and safe use by the public as open space. My question is where will the housing for Olympia’s new citizens be located? So far, the only answer I have heard is, “not in my backyard”. To this, I would add that the Capitol Land Trust has conserved the nearby Parsons Farm, which is closer to the Chambers Lake basin than LBA Woods and will provide more environmental benefits, as well as locally grown food.</p> <p><i>Ward Lake Park:</i> I can only hope that Ward Lake Park is under consideration for “a major community park development” (p. 6 of the executive summary). In an email earlier this year to the Olympia City Council, I reminded them that this park would be Olympia’s only fresh water swimming access for our kids. I also opined that the consultant’s design was seriously flawed, including the same kind of concrete bulkheads that proved to be an environmental disaster on the slope between the Washington State Supreme Court and Capitol Lake (ask our Senator Karen Fraser). The forest on the slope leading to Ward Lake should be preserved and access for the disabled can be provided by the funicular proposed by the consultant. I am particularly concerned that public access to Ward Lake at this park was immediately shut down, despite its \$3.5 million cost to the taxpayers. The State of Washington provides fishing access to Ward Lake at the end of 42nd Avenue without liability concerns. What is Olympia’s problem?</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>LBA Woods: To ensure that the 417 acres of land acquisition proposed in the plan did not have an adverse impact on available land for future housing, OPARD asked the Thurston Regional Planning Council to prepare an analysis of this issue. Their conclusion was that even with the acquisition of the 417 acres proposed in the plan, Olympia would continue to have enough residential land supply to accommodate future demand through 2035.</p> <p>Ward Lake: Yes, Ward Lake would be considered as a possible candidate for the funds budgeted for a major community park development in the 2022-2035 timeframe.</p>
<p>Roy Short e-mail 11/23/15</p>	<p>Just got notified that there is a new Park Plan in place. I've got just the ticket for a way to spend a couple million. The path around capitol lake is great except for the INCREDIBLY unsafe stretch that parallels the 5th Ave spillway - man, woman, child, and animal are funneled next to moving traffic - all sharing a space inches from certain catastrophe. See my bridge solution (in red) below (I always wanted to be a civil engineer - as you can probably tell from my rendition).</p>

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	<p>Only you can make it happen....</p>  <p>My only other feedback/blurb/suggestion would be to create additional safe water access for swimming at more locations in the city, if possible.</p>
<p>OPARD:</p>	<p>The walking path around Capitol Lake is part of Heritage Park and is managed by the Washington Department of Enterprise Services, not the City of Olympia. I have forwarded your comments to them.</p>
<p>Barbara Steffen e-mail 11/23/15</p>	<p>Acquisition of 417 acres of new park land: I do not want any new park land purchased UNLESS the backlog of maintenance on current parks is fully complete, and maintenance and operations for now and the future for all existing parks is fully funded. Only then should any purchases be considered. Although some residents don't want to loose the trees on the property near their homes, that is not a reason to use public money to purchase the property. Parks money should not be used to retain property in the wild state. That is a good outcome, but is not a Parks operation.</p> <p>Also - no property should be considered unless the purchase price AND the development and maintenance for the future is fully funded NOW.</p> <p>An increase of more than 25% to Olympia's existing 16-mile trail inventory: As above - although this is a great idea, no property should be considered unless the purchase price AND the development and maintenance for the future is fully funded NOW.</p> <p>Elimination of the existing \$4 million major-maintenance backlog: Absolutely - before starting any new projects.</p> <p>Management shift towards data-driven decisions with performance measures: Yes if all are in the public domain and a minimum of consulting fees are necessary to accomplish this.</p> <p>More than doubled investment in safety and security of Olympia's parks and facilities: This should be done under the recommendations of the law enforcement agencies and only if the decisions pass the test of data driven decisions with performance measures setup.</p>

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OPARD	You are correct that it is critical to ensure there is adequate funding for maintenance before purchasing new parks. In developing the plans Capital Investment Strategy, we did an analysis of how much it costs to maintain each type of park we have and used those figures to project costs of future acquisition and development projects proposed in the plan. The plan sets aside these funds to ensure that the new land and development projects will have adequate maintenance funding.
Carla Selk e-mail 11/23/15	I just take hula classes there and I want them to continue. As for all the other planning things, I think it is inappropriate for me to help you decide since I do not live in the area and cannot participate in any other parts of the program due to my work schedule. It has taken a small miracle for me to even be able to continue with the hula classes, but I have managed to keep that night clear of work. If I were able to I would participate in volleyball and possibly some other things too, but I'm not able to. Thank you for including me though.
OPARD	Glad you are enjoying the hula classes! We feel very fortunate to have Eileen Mumm as our hula instructor.
Steve Pogge e-mail 11/24/15	<p>I've been a big supporter in getting the LBA land acquisition. It surprised me how long it took to get P&R on board with this important addition to the park system.</p> <p>Just a few minor observations from the public ranks, I live next to Margaret Kenny park and I get to see the park in use all year out my back deck. It gets good use, especially in the summer and fall. The majority of use comes from walking dogs. The swings and basketball court and open area and benches in front of play area get a fair number of families and young people using them. The metal bike stands DO NOT ever get used. They are placed in the wrong place (need to be around playground) and only serve as an obstacle to mow around. Also those silly wooden bench swings just get abused and hardly ever used. I see them at many Oly. parks and if they would be replaced by normal benches, it would be cheaper and an improvement. The picnic tables get very little use. People go to the neighborhood parks to throw a ball, take a short walk or get Fido out, they seldom have a picnic there.</p> <p>Thanks for your work in promoting the parks, you are truly a good ambassador Jon. Hope to say hello one of these days again.</p>
OPARD	Thanks for your observations of Margaret McKenny Park. That's very useful to know how the various amenities are getting used and this will be helpful to know as we develop parks in the future.
Lennée Reid e-mail 11/24/15	I love Olympia. I love the parks. This is the only place in America I want to live. That's why I live and volunteer here.

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	<p>You wouldn't need to double, really double? , security if you spent the acreage acquisition money on eliminating homelessness.</p> <p>I think its disgusting how excessively beautiful Olympias parks are when homelessness can literally be solved by throwing money at it.</p> <p>Make a tiny house park. Treat homeless with respect. Start campgrounds. Something other than extravagance that's only accessible to state workers and business owners.</p> <p>The food bank provides better stable reliable support than dshs or the city combined.</p> <p>Homeless and poor people need parks and arts too.</p> <p>Make 24hr bathrooms and showers so people have some dignity.</p> <p>I just really can't believe 417 acres for what? Not the needs of the people.</p> <p>That eyesore building on the peninsula could've been housing people this whole time. What a waste.</p> <p>Olympia could only be stronger and more beautiful if we prioritized the less fortunate. Then you wouldn't need to double security. Its already the safest place I've been.</p> <p>Just my two cents. I'm aware its not probably the parks problem. But it is.</p>
OPARD	<p>While ending homelessness isn't our mission as the parks department, we do recognize the issue and try to be compassionate towards the homeless population in the management of our parks system.</p>
Curtis and Leola Clarke e-mail 11/24/15	<p>We voted for the Parks bond and agree with all that you are trying to do.</p>
OPARD	<p>Thanks for your support.</p>
Elaine Dodd e-mail 11/25/15	<p>I have been a lifelong resident of Olympia and I used to love to go downtown and especially around holiday time when the city was all lit up with christmas lights. It was safe and clean, lots of parking and fun restaurants to grab a bite.</p> <p>When the college came downtown suddenly changed. People sat on the sidewalk (still do) with their dogs or cats. Panhandling was everywhere and</p>

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	<p>drugs were being sold on the street and people were hanging out all over town. It was not safe, nor clean. A friend of ours closed his radiator business because people used the back of his building for a toilet and do drugs and he could not use the back entrance to his shop anymore. Where were his rights?</p> <p>Not all the people downtown are homeless, the money spent on the Artesian well was misguided and then a basketball hoop was added just for them, its a joke among many of us. There is no way I would go there at any time.</p> <p>Yes we need parks, we live on all of this water and we can't even get down to it. I walk the lake but can't dip my foot in the lake, my dog fell in and had to wash her twice and our vet told us to watch for any signs of illness. Put it back into wetland then, its better than walking along a polluted lake. I go to the farmers market all summer, there is no place for me to walk down on the beach unless I climb over the huge rocks. There are no places for kids to swim anymore, or just play in the water. I miss going down to Ward Lake but now I have to go get a permit...Parks are great but if they are in town they need to be protected, last time I was at Percival with my grandchildren there were drugies in the bathroom and I called the police. I stopped in town twice this year, both times I was asked for money, one of those times the man got very close where I could not shut my door.</p> <p>I am just discouraged by the lack of care the city shows to control the tattoo parlors, piercing and teen/adult clubs in town, its just like the old 1st Ave in Seattle, tacky, cheap businesses and young folks with nothing to do and drug buyers and sellers. Most of us locals have sort of given up.</p> <p>Olympia could be a great little town again, 4th ave could have angled parking on one side with just one lane open, side streets could be for pedestrians only with trees and benches. Great little shops with outside seating. But thats just my vision....parks in the middle of town are of value.</p>
OPARD	<p>We are in agreement that park safety and security needs to be a top priority. The plan allocates significant resources for proactive enforcement in parks and certainly a focus area of these new resources would be downtown parks such as Artesian Commons.</p>
Jason Kinn e-mail 11/30/15	<p>Really like this plan. I live in the Ken Lake neighborhood and my family, including an 8- and 5-year-old, is excited about the potential for a new BIG park nearby.</p>

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OPARD	Great – glad you are happy with the plan.
Jim Rainwood e-mail 11/28/15	<p>Great work!</p> <p>Two quick comments:</p> <p>1. The plan says Harry Fain Park is in basically good shape. Actually, the two sets of steps that go up to the top of the small hill are very rotten. The rebar is exposed and there are several tripping hazards.</p> <p>2. In Watershed Park, in 2001, a spring opened up under one of the boardwalks. That boardwalk will probably need to be replaced in the planning period and I hope the boardwalk will be reconfigured to expose spring and protect it. It's a rare opportunity to let folks see a spring. I love that we'll get to begin OWT Phase 3 !!!</p> <p>thanks so much,</p>
OPARD	Thanks for bringing up the issue with the steps at Harry Fain Park – I have forwarded that on to our maintenance staff so that can be addressed. And thanks for your idea to try to expose that spring at Watershed Park – that could indeed make for a good interpretation opportunity.
Heather Rime e-mail 11/29/15	<p>I would love LBA woods to stay like it is with trails. I would like more parks developed and more land purchased for parks. I don't really feel the need for dedicated soccer fields. I believe in nice open spaces and trails for people to enjoy and just be.</p> <p>Developing the trails by capital lake and the old railway and connecting to the waterfront sounds great. I think we have enough off leash dog parks for now.</p> <p>I wish you could convince Tumwater to purchase more land for parks . Swing sets at the playgrounds are a big hit and teeter totters.</p> <p>Thank you for listening ,</p>
OPARD	Thanks for your feedback.
Jack Horton e-mail 11/18/15	<p>The Woodland Trail Greenway Association is very concerned about the elimination of the Olympia Woodland Trail (OWT) Phase 4 (Tumwater connection) from the draft 2017 TIP, CIP, and the draft 2016 Parks Plan. We understand that it will be an incredibly expensive trail segment, but we believe it belongs on the plans for the following reasons:</p> <p>The reason that the City, at great cost, updated the OWT phase 4 alternatives design study last year was to be able to have a viable plan and cost estimates in place should funding became available. This happened because the City was unwilling to trust the engineering and cost estimates from the original master plan when US Representative Brian Baird asked for a large legacy project to fund. The stars had aligned and all the committees were staffed with the right people. We missed that very large funding opportunity.</p>

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	<p>Why are we deliberately eliminating the ability to fund this project after spending a considerable sum to update the cost estimates that position us to be able to fund this project in the first place?</p> <p>An outcome of the OWT Phase 4 alternatives study was a preferred alignment that was contingent on a geotechnical study of the steep slope next to Capitol Way above the upper basin of Capitol Lake. This slope has been subject to numerous landslides, and Capitol Way itself may be in danger. You can see for yourself by inspecting the leaning bollards south of the bridge over I-5.</p> <p>This geotechnical study cannot be funded if OWT Phase 4 is not on the TIP or Parks Plan.</p> <p>Ongoing ROW discussions are underway with the hotel developers at Henderson Park. The City will be unable to act if ROW becomes available unless OWT Phase 4 is on the TIP and Parks Plan.</p> <p>The City of Tumwater just received a Conservation Futures grant to acquire a "missing link" in the corridor East of the Old Brewhouse. Other smaller steps are in the works for Olympia, and the trail needs to be in the TIP to be eligible for funding of these smaller projects.</p> <p>The City of Tumwater is very far along with a full engineering design and is actively seeking funding to build the Deschutes Valley trail, which will connect to OWT Phase 4. Dropping OWT Phase 4 would diminish Tumwater's ability to win grant funding, and successful funding of the Tumwater trail is a precursor to the development of the OWT Phase 4 connection to it.</p> <p>Finally, the connection to Tumwater is the #1 trail funding priority of the TRPC Transportation Policy Board. They funded the OWT Phase 4 alternatives design study, and they are the logical source for funding of the geotech study, as well as the lion's share of other transportation funding.</p> <p>What message does it send to drop this project from the TIP after all the support TRPC has given us? How would this move affect our future funding opportunities? Please reinstate OWT Phase 4 into the TIP, CIP, and Parks Plan.</p>
<p>OPARD:</p>	<p>Proposed additional language for the Olympia Woodland Trail section on P. 84: <u>The first two phases of the trail were built utilizing strong partnerships with the Woodland Trail Greenway Association, Washington Department of Transportation, and Thurston Regional Planning Council. The City will</u></p>

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	<p><u>seek to continue and expand these partnerships moving forward with Phases 3 and 4.</u> (For more detailed information on this trail corridor, see p. 3-41 of the Thurston Regional Trails Plan.)</p> <p>Proposed Action: This plan budgets \$350,000 in 2018 for Phase 3 design and the Plan’s “Long Range Options (2022-2035)” section of the Capital Investment Strategy budgets \$4.5 million for Phase 3 construction in 2022-2035. The plan budgets \$5.3 million for open space/trail acquisition in the “Long Range Options (2022-2035)” section of the plan, some of which could be utilized for Phase 3 and/or 4 Right of Way acquisition. <u>The plan budgets \$5.3 million for open space/trail acquisition in the “Long Range Options (2022-2035)” section of the plan, some of which could be utilized for Phase 3 and/or 4 Right of Way acquisition. The City will pursue partnerships and grants for Phase 4 planning efforts.</u></p>
<p>Gar Stevens email 12/8/15</p>	<p>I spend the winter in Surprise Az. We have made 1 tennis courts into 4 courts with portable nets. You might be able to make 4 at Stevens Park. Just a thought. Thanks</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Thanks for the suggestion.</p>
<p>John Bussey email 12/8/15</p>	<p>I am commenting on the 2016 Parks, Arts and Recreation plan. I think the plan looks wonderful and is a great way to expand Olympia's Parks. My only comment is that it might be beneficial to develop and connect the existing parks instead of spending most of the parks plan on acquiring new parks like the Isthmus and Kaiser Woods. In addition, I think trails are a wonderful way to add to the parks. They connect parks, add to the parks and add to the parks recreation potential. Thank you for letting the public comment on this plan,</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>We agree that trails are very important. We have funds planned for West Bay Park and Trail, the next phase of the Olympia Woodland Trail and funds for other open space/trail acquisition as opportunities arise.</p>
<p>Troy Bussey email 12/7/15</p>	<p>I want to complement you and OPARD on a very good 2016 draft Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. This email contains a summary of my personal input on prioritization.</p> <p>My biggest comments are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the Trail Corridor Projects should have a much higher priority than parcel acquisitions. In my opinion, linear feet of trails added/connected is a much more important metric than the # of acres acquired. I think connecting our existing parks, trails, and sidewalks should be the most important priority. • I think that purchasing properties and creating open space parks in

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	<p>parcels that were slated for urban development (e.g., LBA Woods, Kaiser Woods) in order to appease NIMBY neighbors is an affront to good urban planning. Same goes for a larger park on the isthmus when we already have a great Heritage Park, Marathon Park, and associated trails. I don't understand why Olympians keep pushing for less density in the urban core while failing to recognize the impacts of these actions on regional urban sprawl.</p> <p>Specific items I am in favor of include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the Trail Corridor Projects (especially West Bay Trail and Olympia Woodland Trail) • Sidewalks • Finish renovating Percival Landing • Urban pocket parks integrated with urban development • Athletic field complex • Develop more soccer fields • Spraygrounds • Pickleball courts/stripping • Dog park • Disc golf course • Provide swimming access/swimming pool <p>Thanks for your work on this plan.</p>
OPARD	Thanks for your feedback.
Adrian Spidle e-mail 11/23/15	I am writing in support of parks planning that complies with the state's growth management act. Parks that have the effect of gobbling up developable land in the county comprehensive plan's urban growth area and pushing development out to sprawl into formerly rural areas outside the urban growth area are a bad idea for the present and future of Olympia and Thurston County. Please keep the future of the Olympia urban growth area in mind when considering whether to buy developable land and use it for internal (and external) sprawl instead of growth.
OPARD:	To ensure that the 417 acres of land acquisition proposed in the plan did not have an adverse impact on available land for future housing, OPARD asked the Thurston Regional Planning Council to prepare an analysis of this issue. Their conclusion was that even with the acquisition of the 417 acres proposed in the plan, Olympia would continue to have enough residential land supply to accommodate future demand through 2035.
Shanty Slater email 12/4/15	I just wanted to check in as I am always late to the party. I noticed (too late) that there has been a lot of talk and some (awesome) singing about the park plans. I wanted to know (as our mailbox is in county but the park that borders our property is in the city), if there is anything that we need

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	<p>to be aware of in the development in the 8th Ave Park.</p> <p>Also I was was wondering if there was any plan or talk about the noxious weed scotch broom that is taking it over.</p> <p>No hurry in your reply as I am sure you are very busy but I wanted to touch base.</p> <p>Thanks for all you do and happy winter,</p>
OPARD	<p>No, the draft plan doesn't really have a whole lot proposed anytime soon for 8th Ave Park. It proposes 5 neighborhood park development projects in the "Long Range Options" section (2022-2035 time frame) but since that's a long way off we're not identifying the which parks they would be just yet - by then there would be a new park plan in place with new community input so it seemed premature to get that specific about projects that far off.</p> <p>As to the Scotch broom, no, I don't believe there is a plan for that at this point. We primarily utilize volunteers to help manage invasive plants in our parks, but with 8th Ave Park closed due to soil contamination, it's not really practical to use volunteers at this site. That for bringing this issue to our attention though.</p>
Ron Marcoe email 12/1/15	<p>Thank you for forwarding me the Olympia Park's plan & all the meeting comments. Some great community feedback!</p> <p>Please include my comments in your plan where appropriate & you can call me anytime if you have some questions for me about this. My phone # is below!</p> <p>As you know & remember from our conversation last August, our pickleball needs are still the same for playing outdoors on the existing tennis courts at Stevens Field & Woodruff Parks. We are in need of at least one more court striped for pickleball at one or both of these parks. All this summer we have been averaging 15 players per day when we play. With that much turnout we are always requiring about 7 of our players to wait and it is very discouraging because we end up losing these players because they don't like waiting always 15 minutes in between games. When we were using the portable court (with chalked in lines) at Stevens Field it was great and player rotation was respectable. Also, without a 3rd or 4th court it makes it more difficult to schedule Tournaments & Round Robbins. We would like to do this starting in 2016!!</p> <p>If you think that it "WOULD NOT" be possible to provide a 3rd stripped</p>

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	<p>court at Stevens Field or Woodruff would it be possible for you to provide a portable pickleball court for us to use at Stevens Field?</p> <p>We have been playing indoor pickleball at TOC since October 1st with 2 courts and will soon have a 3rd court available. We have been averaging about 10-12 people per day and have had up to 16 & 18 players on a few days. There are many more players in this area that will be coming out in the future. I have been coordinating this with Jeff Johnson and this has worked out pretty good.</p> <p>This is my comments & ideas about what I would like to see happen, in the future, in Olympia and/or in the Thurston County area. I think that the Oly Center is way too small and we need a "Community Center" with enough gym/floor space to accommodate a number of sports and/or activities; this would include floor space so that multiple sport's activity could be going on at the same time. For example, if there was a building (gym floor) that was double the size of the Oly Center, with a large curtain splitting the gym into two spaces, you could simultaneously accommodate 3-4 pickleball courts on one side of the curtain and probably 2-3 volleyball courts or 3 badminton courts on the other side. This could be a combination mix of any number of other sporting activities or other functions as well. Some sporting activities I can think of are: open play, tournaments and/or league pickleball, open play and/or league volleyball, indoor soccer, basketball, badminton, dodgeball, Indoor Field Hockey, sports Camps, fitness classes, pickleball training classes, volleyball training classes, Chunjido classes, Taekwondo classes, Jujitso classes. The gym floor could have many different court lines to accommodate all the different sports.</p> <p>I believe that if an indoor activity building such as this size could be possible, then there would be more financial opportunities for Olympia Parks because of the possibility of accommodating different activities at the same time & more often during a week. This would bring in alot more people every day, each week resulting in alot more participating fees.</p> <p>I would guess that a building would need a gym about the size of 100' X 120' or 120' X 120' or something like that. Your current gym dimensions are only 84ft X 70ft.</p> <p>This facility would be available year round and a reasonable player's (daily or monthly or yearly) fee, depending on the particular sport, these fees could be worked out, for each activity.</p>
OPARD	We will continue to work with your Pickleball group and the tennis players to assess the viability of painting additional Pickleball court lines on tennis

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	<p>courts. And you are correct that The Olympia Center is not large enough to meet all of the growing indoor recreation needs including Pickleball.</p> <p>Proposed change: <u>Recreation/Aquatics Center</u> <u>In the random sample survey conducted for this plan, when asked what the most needed recreational amenity not currently offered was, “swimming facilities” was the number one response. As The Olympia Center approaches 30 years of operation, planning efforts should begin for major renovations or replacement of The Olympia Center. This could include a swimming pool, ice rink, indoor athletic facilities and/or additional recreation amenities.</u></p> <p><u><i>Proposed Action:</i> The plan budgets \$300,000 in the “Long Range Options 2022-2035” section for this planning effort.</u></p>
<p>Tanner Bodine email 12/5/15</p>	<p>Yauger is classic but very much out dated. With little renovations or add ons to a surrounding area or to Yauger itself would be a dream come true I never thought possible. Olympia would become a hot item to just about anyone if it would come together right.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>The plan budgets funds that could be utilized to upgrade Yauger Park. The Yauger Park section on p. 82 states: <i>Proposed Action: The plan budgets \$580,000 for upgrades to existing fields in 2017. A site has not yet been identified for these upgrades. The Plan’s “Long Range Options (2022-2035)” section of the Capital Investment Strategy also budgets \$700,000 for upgrades to existing fields. OPARD’s Capital Asset Management Program budgets \$412,000 in 2016 to replace lighting on two fields, \$165,000 in 2021 to add lighting to the Alta St. parking lot, and \$120,000 in 2021 for a skate court rehabilitation and upgrade project.</i></p>
<p>James Reddick email 12/6/15</p>	<p>Over all I feel this is a good plan.</p> <p>My concerns:</p> <p>There are a number of ways to creative ways to meet our needs that are not included in parks, recreation, and arts the objects and goals of plan.</p> <p>First, you talk about the partnership with Olympia School District; however, I believe you should talk about developing the partnerships with the other jurisdictions, Lacey, Tumwater, Thurston County, and maybe with some private organizations.</p> <p>Second, I remember at one of the regional meetings at Tenino where folks from Rainer, Tenino, and the County stated they had land; however, the cities have the recreation programs and support staffs for operating</p>

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	<p>facilities build on their land. I would to see this type creative management solutions be discussed in some form in the plan.</p> <p>We need to think about different ways to meet our goals since even with the new funding we will not be able to do it all by ourselves.</p>
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<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Staff agrees that we should continue thinking of expanded partnerships when possible and appropriate. The current evaluation of the Specialized Recreation program is a great example of that. Another good example is the Artesian Leadership Committee, where we have expanded partnerships with the Downtown Ambassadors, Community Youth Services, and Illuminate. We also have a new summer employment program in partnership with Community Youth Services that is separate from the Artesian Commons.</p> <p>On your second item, it's an interesting thought, but staff is not sure about how Olympia taxpayers would feel about operating a facility and providing programs in south County. We understand the reasoning and desire, but most of the folks we talk to express frustration about having to drive to Lacey and Tumwater for field use.</p>
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<p>Wildwood Neighborhood Association Board:</p> <p>Janae Huber, Chair</p> <p>Mary Beth Lang, Vice Chair</p> <p>Christine Masters, Secretary</p> <p>Steve Worcester, Treasurer</p> <p>David Goularte</p> <p>Bonnie Knudsen</p> <p>Martha Shinnars</p> <p>email 12/6/15</p>	<p>Thanks for this opportunity to comment on the draft Parks Plan. What a huge amount of work this draft represents for Parks, Arts, and Recreation staff in terms of visioning and public process!</p> <p>I am writing on behalf of the Wildwood Neighborhood Association to share some feedback on the draft.</p> <p>Olympia Woodland Trail</p> <p>We are very pleased to see that the Parks Plan includes support for Phase 3 of the Olympia Woodland Trail. We are however deeply disappointed that the implementation of this critical link will require the Plan's 20 year duration to complete. <u>To meet local recreational needs AND support family-friendly bike and pedestrian transportation routes, the plan should not only expedite Phase 3, but also include funding to advance Phase 4.</u></p> <p>Parking for Watershed Park</p> <p>The City has a timely opportunity to <u>purchase Lot 4 of the Henderson Park property</u>, a small parcel that is perfectly sited to meet the needs of parking for the much-used Watershed Park and the future Olympia Woodland Trail. This opportunity should be prioritized in the Parks Plan; the parcel is currently listed for sale.</p> <p>Wildwood Glen Park</p>
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	<p>We respectfully request that Wildwood Glen Park, a small neighborhood parcel, remain a priority for interim use funding.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Olympia Woodland Trail and Watershed Parking: See response from Wildwood Neighborhood OlySpeaks comment above. Wildwood Glen: Wildwood Glen is classified as an "Open Space" as opposed to a "neighborhood park" so we would likely not make substantial improvements to that park. That being said, as Olympia Woodland Trail Phase 3 is developed, we will explore opportunities to include minor improvements to this parcel as part of that project.</p>
<p>Harry Branch email 12/7/15</p>	<p>Natural ecosystems tend to be productive, resilient and maintenance free. Whenever we can, we should attempt to incorporate ecological principals into our land use decisions. A science based process of ascertaining ecological value would begin with observation.</p> <p>Birds are often a good indicator of the health of an ecosystem. In 2002 the City commissioned an assessment of birds in Budd Inlet by R.W. Morse. In fifty six surveys, they counted 39 species of waterbirds and six raptors for a total of 15,231 sightings. The biggest surprise of the study was that the number and diversity of waterbirds had dropped significantly over the previous 15 years. Today, on a typical winter day, a person will see no birds. All have become functionally extinct over the last twenty years. The Common Murre, Surf Scoter and Grebe were especially plentiful.</p> <p>common murre</p> <p>surf scoters</p> <p>grebes</p> <p>The loss of these birds is an indication of some greater problem. The three major streams in Budd Inlet all flow through intertidal culverts. The largest, Moxlie Creek, flows through a half mile long pipe which empties into East Bay, a Federally Classified 303(d) degraded water body. This pipe must be viewed as part of the problem:</p> <p>http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4505844/</p> <p>Of particular importance is the intertidal zone where nutrients are incorporated into the marine environment. What was once about 160 acres of salt marsh and tide flats has been filled. There's an opportunity to regain 4 acres around the mouth of the pipe. Instead, we're going to allow</p>

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construction of a building on those parcels that will impede any efforts at significant restoration. It's like not fixing it isn't good enough, we want to fix it so it can't be fixed.

A good example of how unnatural systems are not maintenance free is the failing bank around the mouth of the Moxlie Creek pipe where the City is planning on dumping a cubic acre of rock riprap in the intertidal zone, a never-ending, backward, desperate attempt to overpower nature.

The 4 acres is also contaminated with dioxin, the chemical of concern in Budd Inlet sediments. This is a perfect candidate for clean up and restoration dollars. The community would have a beautiful asset with little local financial investment.

OPARD Thank you for your comments. The parcel you are referring to is not an Olympia Park so OPARD is not involved in that project.

Kathy McCormick
email 12/4/15

Comments on the Draft Parks Plan

Congratulation on the Draft Parks Plan as well as the substantial funding property owners and residents around the City will contribute over the years. I trust that the City will use these wisely and well. As priorities are set and decisions made I ask that the City articulate how the actions will contribute and coordinate with land use and other crucial goals of Olympia’s Comprehensive Plan as well as the City and regional sustainability goals as defined in the Sustainable Thurston Plan.

Specific Plan Comments:

1) **Neighborhood Parks should be the City’s highest priority and they need not be 5 acres!** The 1994 Parks Comp Plan goals identified that neighborhood parks should not be less than 5 acres (the reason was a determination that more small parks were too costly to maintain). The current plan reiterates this goal and should be changed to make acquisition of more smaller parks in close proximity to neighborhoods the new goal. In addition collection of impact fees for a general park fund meant that many new neighborhoods were built that did not include even small gathering/play spaces for the adjacent properties. I have always felt that this was a mistake with the result clearly shown on Map 6-1 Parks and Open Space Need with large areas of the city without easily accessible small parks within walking distance. **I encourage the City to look for opportunities for more small parks that could be located amid existing or new housing.** With the passage of Prop 1 maintenance of more parks should not be an issue. **This should be THE HIGHEST PRIORITY since MORE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK was the most cited need in the most recent**

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	<p>Olympia Parks surveys.</p> <p>2) The Draft Parks Plan should acknowledge the importance of beautiful and safe sidewalks and streets that support walking. In past parks surveys the # recreation for most residents was walking on local sidewalks. The Parks Plan should acknowledge this, support opportunities for sidewalk connections to and amid neighborhoods as well as safe passage to any park. In addition, the plan should acknowledge the connection between walking and health at every age. Easy access to close by parks as well as other neighborhood destinations is key to building and maintaining healthy residents with long term payoffs in the cost of medical care as well as helping to achieve the clean air and vehicle trip reduction goals of Olympia’s Comprehensive Plan.</p> <p>3) Link Parks Planning, and Community Policing the best solution to safe park spaces. The best way to achieve safety in parks is to locate parks amid housing where the natural surveillance of surrounding residents can work with the police to maintain safety. The fact is - the more natural surveillance that takes place the safer each park area will be. Olympia has long held community policing goals. The location of parks and encouragement of housing immediately adjacent to these parks is the most efficient and healthy way to maintain safety. Community policing is also the best way to assure safety and security amid the many acres of existing parks in downtown. Lack of housing development adjacent to Heritage Park, Percival Landing, and the Artesian Commons has kept each of these areas from achieving all day safety. Inordinate amounts of money has been used for unsuccessful “band aid” approaches that have failed to allow many of these public spaces to remain open during evening hours. This will not be necessary when many more people are given the opportunity to live in areas adjacent to parks where their surveillance and partnership with police will contribute to 24 hour safety in these areas</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Neighborhood Park size – Our goal is to get neighborhood parks walking distance to 90 percent of all areas of the City. If there is not a 5 acre parcel available we would certainly consider smaller parcels. Proposed additional sentence to section on neighborhood park acquisition on p. 86: <u>In areas where five acres are not available, smaller parcels will be considered.</u></p> <p>Walking connections to parks: The plan budgets \$25,000 annually to contribute to the Off-Street Walking Connection program to connect sidewalks and pathways to parks.</p> <p>Community Policing – Thank you for your comments on Community Policing. They will be considered as we evaluate future properties.</p>

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Nancy email 12/3/15	<p>i looked at your website and i hope this is an acceptable way to submit a comment -- i think the parcel(s) on Pifer just a block south of Olympia High and directly adjacent to North Court would make a fantastic pocket park...</p> <p>there aren't any pocket parks in this area.... places to hike yes, but not a smaller playground, picnic area....</p> <p>the owner is about 70 yrs old and may be interested in discussions -- there are two parcels there or last i looked at the accessor's site though he is consolidating them. pls advise, thanks</p>
OPARD	Thank you for the suggestion – we will look into that parcel as we begin to assess sites for new potential parks.
Allen T. Miller email 12/3/15	<p>Great job last night at the Open House.</p> <p>I left some written comments with Paul, but just wanted to reply to your email as well. I am also attaching some exhibits which help illustrate my comments.</p> <p>Pages 35-36 and 80-81 of the Draft Plan need to include reference to the 1911 Wilder and White and 1928 Olmsted Brothers plans for the State Capitol Campus and the view corridor to the north across Capitol Lake, the isthmus, to the borrowed landscapes of Puget Sound and the Olympics. The North Capitol Campus Heritage Park, which has developed over the years since the 1986 Feasibility Study by Jones and Jones, from the Law Enforcement Memorial to the North Oval/Fountain block, is planned to be extended to the 3 blocks west of the Fountain. The Draft Plan should also be sure to include that the North Oval/Fountain Block is to be completed with the demolition of the remaining buildings along the Water Street side of the Block.</p> <p>The 2009 Feasibility Study cost figures should not be referenced since they were inflated by including development costs and are out of date. Take a look at the attached Thurston County assessors valuations of the parcels and notice how Parcel No. 91005201000 was valued at over \$9 million in 2008 and is now valued at \$318,000.00. A better cost figure should reference the fair market values of the remaining 4 parcels of the Capitol Center Building which add up to about \$3.5 million. It would also be good to include the \$20-\$25 million that the City, County, State, and private sector have spent on the North Capitol Campus Heritage Park since 1990.</p> <p>My final comment would be for the Draft Plan to move up its plans to</p>

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	<p>expand West Bay Park and Trail to within the next 6 years rather than 10 to 20 years as discussed on Page 83 of the Draft Plan.</p> <p>Otherwise the Plan looks great. Glad we were able to get the Metropolitan Parks District measure passed. Thanks for all you do.</p>
OPARD	<p>Thank you for your kind words and for all you do as well. Please see response to the Isthmus and West Bay (sections #3 & #8) above for proposed changes to that section.</p>
Marilyn Gisser email 12/2/15	<p>It is exciting to see the new plan. 2 things are very important to me:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Play fields for organized sports, especially rec soccer. 2. Safe, accessible, visible trails to walk and run. That means in the open, and wide, even surfaces; not narrow, bumpy paths in wooded ravines.
OPARD	<p>We are proposing significant investments in soccer fields (see response to soccer comment section #4 above.) And thanks for your comments about trails. We will continue to improve trail gradient, bridges and surfacing as resources allow and have added the following language to the plan regarding trail standards:</p>
Sophia Danilowicz email 12/2/15	<p>I am surprised and delighted to hear about future developments around Olympia to improve the ‘quality of life.’</p> <p>With regards to the November 17th City Council meeting on the proposal, I would like to share a couple of comments that may prove helpful in consideration of execution of the plans to develop ‘the quality of life.’</p> <p>First and foremost is to consider the fact that most of the year is rainy in Olympia. Olympia has a unique micro-climate, that makes trail-running, and if permissible, cycling and biking very lovely and desirable. However, with regards to a skate park, that would need a roof to prevent rain-water from entering, otherwise would have to be made in-doors; which would add to the cost of overall maintenance and development. Likewise, only a very specific age-group and gender primarily skate-boards; thus I don’t think it is the best option of ‘community development,’ due to the rain-falling most of the year, and due to the fact that a skate-park would serve a very particular group’s interest. Unlike the skate-park, more water-fountains would attract very young children, however, they require constant maintenance, and don’t really serve any other purpose besides being costly.</p> <p>Secondly, focusing on the fact that walking trails can be used for mountain-biking, and running, or walking dogs, I believe those trails should be of priority to develop around Olympia. Likewise, trails do not require major buildings or maintenance. Trails also preserve the natural-beauty of the old-growth forests, and water-shed areas. Because trails are low-</p>

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maintenance, and are enjoyed by a great range of aged persons, additionally, they preserve natural 'open-space,' trails are truly the best 'outdoor-recreational' park to create.

Thirdly, increasing and improving upon biking trails will also greatly improve the general quality of local-life. Why? Because driving is done on highways, and highways seem to occupy the great expanse on WSDOT's own agenda. With regards to building parks for neighborhoods, that is also good for family-life, hence should be funded and figured by the relative home-owner's associations, or at least co-worked with such organizations.

How about the beautiful sound? Why not clean up the sound and make it possible for people to kayak in the area?

If recreation is truly of interest, especially with regards to tourism, there will have to be an understanding of who you are building the parks, or trails for, if it truly is for the 'local communities,' then trails, bike-paths, and kayaking access would be the most general development that would serve the most people's interest in Olympia, without the high-costs of maintenance, or major need for enforced parks-and-rec officials constantly being present.

Also, I understand parks-and-rec. officials who will be trained to 'protect' more so than maintain the parks, why develop parks that would attract homeless people? Why create parks with too many benches to be slept on? Why create parks with figures or statues whose veneer do not contribute to the natural beauty? Perhaps trails for walking, paths for biking, and water-access for kayaking is in fact the best way to 'improve the quality of life' in Olympia, for its residents, and likewise, for the future 'tourists' who want to see the old-growth regions, and the beautiful bright green forests that thrive from the year-round rain fall.

Lastly, with regards to juvenile homelessness, the only thing I can think of would be for social-services that uphold 'half-way-houses.' That way the homeless persons can attempt to build themselves up by having a home, and at the very least being off the streets. And yes, Olympia's homelessness has gone up significantly, and it is due to the fact that shrines are being formed around things like the old aquifer that's constantly running downtown. Likewise creating public structures with roofing and bathrooms will only make 'homelessness' more feasible. But insofar as the family-cell is attacked and each individual strives for his or her own good, the good they strive for will not be for the best upbringing of a child, nor for the best upbringing of well-behaved and properly-

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functioning citizens. So forget the skate park, forget the disc-golf, and change your mind about the water-fountains. Think neighborhood parks for families and a plethora of walking trails, biking paths, and kayaking access. Honestly, think about who you want to build for? For the family, or the lone straggler?

Apologies for the somewhat non-linear commentary, but, I must offer my opinion given my own experience having grown up in Olympia, and seeing Lacey develop into highways and strip-malls. Olympia, especially downtown has a grand charm to it, and it will only be preserved by preserving the natural environment around it, and that means considering minimally impacting trails, bike-paths, trees in-between sidewalks and streets to protect pedestrians, and access to kayaking areas and access to hiking trails. Just about all superfluous 'upbuilding' of benches, or buildings, will only add to the cost of maintenance overtime. Likewise, will create an artificial 'home' for the homeless. I know trails are of the least priority, and not as 'pretty' to the vain sight of one who drives through downtown as a statue or art-installation is, however, they are the most intelligent of options: because they are low-cost, encourage physical-exercise in true nature, and they won't be the best option to call 'home' for the homeless juveniles who are thriving in downtown Olympia given all the public places made just for them.

Thank you Mr.Turlove for reading this email, and thank you for taking the several points into consideration. I myself would love to raise my family in Olympia, but unfortunately, with the great decline of business and single-minded development of public-works in the area, family-life is not necessarily the most esteemed form of life, and that is clearly evident with the development of shrines and parks for people who are homeless, single or too-young to understand what developments encourage the best-upbringing and best-way-of-life. And yes, without a family, how far do most get?

I am leaving you with some thoughts. I do hope you'll be able to acknowledge the issues already foreseen by the city-council members. I myself am able to see more from their perspective than from 'the publics'. And would prefer to have less homelessness, and more places for the family to go together, rather than places for the homeless to take refuge. But I can only offer my thoughts, what you do with them is of your own will. My fondest memories of Olympia are of walks with my parents around capital lake, trail-running on the trails all around downtown, and cycling on any non-rainy day. Other than that, all my favorite coffee-shops and bakeries have closed, and an abundance of 'run-aways' have accumulated

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	in the main parts of the city that make it unpleasant to walk through.
OPARD	Thank you for your comments. Many of your ideas have been addressed in previous comments. I do want to touch on a couple of your comments, however. We have found the skate court at Yauger Park to be a very popular recreational amenity despite it being uncovered. We are therefore proposing an additional skate court as part of a future community park site. You mention your desire for more trails. You may be pleased to know that the Plan proposes over \$5 million in open space/trail acquisition.
Pat Rasmussen email 12/2/15	<p>Comments – New Parks Plan for 2016</p> <p>I attended all eight neighborhood meetings and I would like to say that the plan does respond to the public comments I heard at those eight meetings. Good job. Thank you.</p> <p>You asked what you might have missed or misunderstood. Below are my comments on what I see missing that I heard expressed.</p> <p>P. 5 Land Acquisition The plan calls for 417 acres of land acquisition over the 20-year planning horizon. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “LBA Woods” (74-acres) <p>At all eight meetings people spoke up to say they wanted LBA Woods to be purchased to become a park and often numerous people spoke out for LBA Woods’ acquisition in the same meetings. But they all said the whole LBA Woods, not just half of it. The 74 acre Trillium property in the plan is mentioned as being purchased but not Bentrige. It’s incomplete to just include the Trillium property. You mention eight qualifications for choosing lands to acquire and one of them is a willing seller. My understanding is that the owner of Bentrige is a willing seller. Bentrige must be included in the final plan in a way that reflects what people called for, which was purchase of the entire LBA Woods.</p> <p>In the earlier neighborhood meetings last fall when people asked for LBA Woods to be purchased, park staff said it wasn’t possible because there wouldn’t be money for it until after 2016. I appreciate that as time went by and more and more people spoke up about LBA Woods, you changed your stance and began to say that if the city council directed you to acquire LBA Woods, you would do your best to get it and you did that for Trillium. Thank you. And thank you for working with park advocates to shape the MPD and help to get it passed. This makes it possible for the people who attended the neighborhood meetings to get what they were requesting.</p> <p>Park Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog park, disc golf course, skate court and community gardens

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Thank you for including the community gardens in park development as it was brought up at almost all meetings. I look forward to working with you to develop community gardens in parks.

P. 10 Most Dominant Themes (Topics mentioned 20 or more times)

- Buy the LBA Woods property

Again, LBA Woods was dominant but it was the whole LBA Woods, not half of it. Bentrige must be named in a specific way in the final plan. You say that you don't mention specific parcels because it might hinder your negotiations, but in the case of Bentrige, it is necessary because of the popularity of LBA Woods acquisition. For clarity and to truly respond to people's comments, Bentrige must be named and treated as part of the plan.

P. 11 Other Common Themes (Topics mentioned 5-9 Times)

- Provide food forests in parks (fruit/nut trees, berry bushes)

I have helped to install more than 70 Edible Forest Gardens in private yards, schools, community gardens, neighborhood pathways and businesses in Olympia. I look forward to working with you to advance this goal. I remember that community gardens were also a common theme. Specifically, in my Oly Speaks comments I mentioned parks where I felt that fruit/nut trees and berry bushes could be planted: Sunrise Park (as an addition to the community garden there), Friendly Grove Park (the land used to be berry fields so it would fit with the history and theme of the park), and Bigelow Springs in conjunction with the heritage orchard that the Bigelow Neighborhood Association and the Bigelow House Museum are establishing adjacent to it using City of Olympia neighborhood matching grant funds, with the help of my local non-profit Edible Forest Gardens.

P. 22 You mention *"include security guards and security cameras" in parks for safety.*

I think security guards in parks is not something that people requested. Security cameras, maybe. But having a police presence in parks would not be good. People want to feel safe, but that goes too far. A park ranger watching over the park is normal and would not make people feel intimidated. Having security guards would change the feel of going to a park to relax. It could also invite violence. The City and others have been coming up with creative ways to improve the situation at the artesian well. I am very against security guards.

P. 32 Integrated Pest Management & Pesticide Free Parks

"The City Council adopted an Integrated Pest Management Plan for park facilities in 2006. Since its implementation, the Department has reduced

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reliance on chemicals once thought to be critical to maintaining parks. At present, the Department uses limited amounts of glyphosate (Round-Up) and synthetic fertilizers on some parks while six neighborhood parks are now designated “Pesticide Free” with no herbicides, pesticides, or synthetic fertilizers used at all. The City also works closely with the Thurston County Noxious Weed Program to eradicate noxious weeds, some of which must be removed under county mandate.”

All parks need to be “pesticide free.” You mention glyphosate “Round-up.” In recent years Round-up has been determined to be cancer causing and in fact California just named it “carcinogenic” -

<http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/2015/09/glyphosate-roundup-labelled-carcinogen>. In particular it has been linked with autism in children – see <http://www.anh-usa.org/half-of-all-children-will-be-autistic-by-2025-warns-senior-research-scientist-at-mit/> . Using Round-up in parks where children are playing is irresponsible. Your 2006 integrated pest management plan needs to be updated to reflect current science and medical concerns. The plan should commit to being “pesticide free” in all parks. If you can do it in six parks, you can do it in all of them.

P. 33 A number of people at meetings brought up volunteer park stewardship. Parks staff repeatedly said there weren’t funds to take care of parks. So people volunteered to help out. I think at every neighborhood meeting, individuals who were just neighbors or in neighborhood associations asked for better involvement of their volunteer activities in park care. The impression was that parks staff weren’t interested in their help – they wanted park staff to do it themselves. People expressed frustration with that since they were doing the work already in specific parks. In the plan you do mention park stewardship as if it’s normal, so I hope that means you will work better in the future with those volunteers. Perhaps the passage of the MPD will make that more a part of the new plan.

“Park Stewards work independently within a park of their choosing. And finally, the Adopt-a-Park program encourages local neighborhood organizations, schools, service clubs, businesses, and other community groups to “adopt” a particular park.

P. 88 LBA Woods Acquisition

“LBA Woods” refers to two undeveloped wooded 74-acre and 72-acre parcels adjacent (on page 93 you say it’s 74-acre and 80-acre) to LBA Park in Southeast Olympia. In July, 2015, the City entered into an option to purchase the 74-acre Morse-Merryman parcel. While a goal is to preserve as much open space as possible, a portion of the site could be utilized for

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athletic fields. Additional efficiencies are presented by the parcel's location adjacent to the existing developed support facilities at LBA Park. Field investigations indicate that athletic field drainage problems currently being experienced at LBA Park can be solved in a cost-effective manner by draining these fields into a former quarry excavation located nearby on the parcel.

Proposed Action: This plan budgets \$4.5 million in 2017 for acquisition of the 74-acre Morse-Merryman LBA Woods parcel. While a goal is to preserve as much open space as possible, a portion of the site could be utilized for athletic fields. Additional efficiencies are presented by the parcel's location adjacent to the existing developed support facilities at LBA Park."

People who commented at the meetings called for LBA Woods to be a natural area with trails that would preserve the natural character of the woods that people love and that children cherish. They did not mention wanting any of LBA Woods to be cut up into ball fields. People did ask for ball fields, but not in LBA Woods, a natural area. I think you misunderstood and misinterpreted that. That must be changed in the final plan. Someone in city government or parks staff came up with the idea to include LBA Woods in that study for ball fields, not the people. Inclusion of LBA Woods in that study was inappropriate and quite frustrating.

P. 89 **Future Land Acquisition**

"In order to protect the City's negotiating position, it is not always possible or desirable to identify specific parcels to acquire for future parks in a parks plan. Each parcel requires a willing seller and considerable negotiation in order to secure a purchase and sale agreement. In recognition of this, the plan includes a Land Acquisition fund in 2017. This fund is to be utilized for open space and/or community park acquisition opportunities that would further the goals and policies of the plan and help achieve the plan's Level of Service Standards. The City would utilize the following criteria to evaluate potential purchases with this fund (listed in no particular order):

- Willing seller
- Good value
- Good location
- Limited environmental concerns
- Good recreation and/or habitat value
- Property would help achieve park Level of Service Standards or is an important trail corridor
- Property is in an underserved part of the community
- Reasonable development costs

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- Reasonable maintenance costs (both while undeveloped and once fully-developed)

Proposed Action: This plan includes a Land Acquisition fund in 2017. Some of these funds could go towards the acquisition of athletic-field oriented community park property.”

You do not mention Bentrige specifically here as you should. As I said above, people in neighborhood meetings who asked for LBA Woods to be acquired asked for the whole woods to be acquired, not half of it. To exclude Bentrige in the parks plan is wrong and does not follow people’s expressed wishes. Above you say one of the criteria for choosing a parcel for purchase is a “willing seller.” My understanding is that Bentrige is a willing seller. If you are not already negotiating with Bentrige, you should be.

P. 90 Community Gardens

“Biting into that first juicy tomato grown in the backyard is one of the joys of summertime. With increasing urban density, fewer residents have backyards large enough for a garden or may not have backyards at all. Olympians share the growing nationwide interest in integrating community gardens into their parks systems. Community gardens bring that experience to more people and benefit the community at large. In 2007, OPARD opened its first community garden at Sunrise Park followed by a second community garden at Yauger Park in 2011.

Interest continues to grow for more community gardening opportunities.

Proposed Action: This plan budgets \$1,000,000 for a Phase 1 Athletic Field complex project in 2021. One of the complimentary amenities of that project could be a community garden.”

As I said above, I specifically mentioned in my original Oly Speaks comments several parks where I felt that fruit/nut trees and berry bushes could be planted: Sunrise Park (as an addition to the community garden there), Friendly Grove Park (the land used to be berry fields so it would fit with the history and theme of the park), and Bigelow Springs Park in conjunction with the heritage orchard that the Bigelow Neighborhood Association and the Bigelow House Museum are establishing using City of Olympia neighborhood matching grant funds, with my help.

The parks plan should be more general, leaving open the options for parks beyond the athletic complex you mention. I remember that people in a number of neighborhoods mentioned community gardens in parks.

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	<p>P. 93 <i>LBA Woods</i> “LBA Woods” refers to two undeveloped, wooded 74-acre and 80-acre (on page 88 you say 74-acre and 72-acre) parcels adjacent to LBA Park in Southeast Olympia.”</p> <p>You mention both parcels here but you don’t include Bentrige in the plan anywhere. That must be changed because as I said above, when people asked for LBA Woods to be acquired, they asked for the whole woods, not half of it.</p> <p>P. 109 6 Year Capital Facilities Plan (2016-2021) Again, the graph does not show a purchase plan for Bentrige in LBA Woods - it should be spelled out clearly in the plan. People asked for the whole LBA Woods to be acquired, not half of it. And since LBA Woods received the most comments, Bentrige must be included.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Thanks for such a thorough reading of the plan. With regards to LBA Woods comments, see response to LBA Woods section (#1). With regards to other topics, proposed changes/clarifications:</p> <p>Security guards: It is by no means our intent to provide security guards at all of our parks. There are, however, some parks in which people feel unsafe and having a security guard patrol those parks may be something that we would consider.</p> <p><i>Pesticide Free Parks (P. 32): <u>The Department will explore the feasibility of making more parks “Pesticide Free.”</u></i></p> <p>LBA Woods p. 92: “LBA Woods” refers to two undeveloped, wooded 74-acre and 8072-acre parcels adjacent to LBA Park in Southeast Olympia.</p>
<p>Ryan Garrison e-mail 11/23/15</p>	<p>My comments are more for the recreation side of things.</p> <p>Olympia is lacking for indoor court space. Basketball, volleyball, etc. The parks and rec department tries to make due with using middle schools for leagues, but the leagues are expensive and the facilities are inadequate.</p> <p>The basketball court located at the community center downtown is horrible. If you don't believe me, run on it for 5 minutes. It bounces.</p> <p>A multiuse indoor sports complex is my suggestion, rather than more soccer fields.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Proposed addition to the plan:</p>

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	<p><u>Recreation/Aquatics Center</u> <u>In the random sample survey conducted for this plan, when asked what the most needed recreational amenity not currently offered was, “swimming facilities” was the number one response. As The Olympia Center approaches 30 years of operation, planning efforts should begin for major renovations or replacement of The Olympia Center. This could include a swimming pool, ice rink, indoor athletic facilities and/or additional recreation amenities.</u></p> <p><u><i>Proposed Action:</i> The plan budgets \$300,000 in the “Long Range Options 2022-2035” section for this planning effort.</u></p>
<p>Jim Rainwood email 12/1/15</p>	<p>After I spoke in favor of the Camarrano donation on 12/1, Steve Hall talked with Jack Horton and me. The conversation was about the need for a decision-making process for land donations. A process that would provide guidance to the Council on what to consider and why. The attached proposal came up in that conversation (as an example of the "if it borders a park, buy it" category). I'm resending it to you to make sure you are aware of what I've sent to Steve, and also because I did not see specific mention of these parcels in the draft Parks Plan. I'll be out of town Wed. and won't make the meeting on it.</p> <p>Plus I'm so happy about OWT phase 3 that I don't want to ask for anything else!</p> <p>Thanks again for all you do, (3 attachments)</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Thank you for this analysis of parcels. This will be helpful as we continue acquiring property .</p>
<p>Paul Brewster email 12/1/15</p>	<p>I’m starting to look through the Parks Plan for consistency with Sustainable Thurston and the regional trails plan. First off, you’ve produced a great piece of work and it is evident you put a great amount of effort into it. Congratulations to you and your colleagues on a job well done.</p> <p>A few items caught my attention that I’m sharing with you. First, a minor typo in Paul Simmon’s welcome letter; in the first paragraph and the last sentence. It should be “...complemented by multiple opportunities” rather than “...complimented”. Very minor I realize, but the two words have different meanings.</p> <p>I did notice an error on the table on page 19 titled “Grants and Donations Received Since 2010 Plan Adopted.” In 2012, Thurston Regional Planning Council funded the Olympia Woodland Trail Phase IV Feasibility Study, not WSDOT. I believe it was either an STP or Enhancements grant. Also on page 20, TRPC funded the Woodland Trail Hub Junction project. While the source of funds for both of these projects are federal grants, the grant program is set up in such a way that TRPC has discretion to select projects</p>

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	<p>for funding. The Regional Council (policy makers, that is) should receive credit where it is due.</p> <p>The plan clearly states on page 22 that “Public Demand for New Parks Exceeds Resources.” This is our universal challenge for all public facilities and services. As such we need creative solutions. I think the plan can do more to point out that some parks projects such as trails function as regional facilities and may require more collaborative solutions. I think the Woodland Trail is such a facility and the Chehalis Western Trail Bridging the Gap is a case study for how such projects can be implemented. The Woodland Trail is a high profile project at TRPC and the Mayor of Tumwater is also strongly supportive of it progressing forward in some manner (not to forget the WTGA). After all, this is a critical connection to tie Tumwater into the regional trails network. It would enhance the parks plan greatly, to account for such projects and identify strategies for partnering with neighboring communities and regional, state, and federal partners to make them happen. Thurston Regional Planning Council is a convener of such efforts and I encourage the City to continue leveraging this partnership. These opportunities can benefit project timelines and perhaps free up funding for other city projects in the long run.</p> <p>In terms of performance measures, may I suggest you consider the number of visitors or users to parks facilities. This can be accomplished through direct observation or through tube counters at park entrance driveways or using infrared trail counters. WSDOT just installed a trail counter at the junction of the CWT and woodland trail. We need more counters like this. It would be nice to see some language supporting this effort. John Lindsey from Olympia public works regularly performs traffic counts around the City. Perhaps Olympia Parks could partner with Public Works to explore options for counting users, not just on trails, but at other park facilities. Level of service is more than number of acres of open space per 1,000 people. It can also be measured in terms of demand and timing of use for facilities – very useful for planning.</p> <p>Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I will forward other comments/observations on as appropriate.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Proposed changes:</p> <p>Corrected typo in welcome letter.</p> <p>Added TRPC to grant table for OWT Phase IV Feasibility Study and Hub Junction projects</p>

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	<p>Added language regarding partnering at end of Olympia Woodland Trail paragraph on p. 84: <u>The first two phases of the trail were built utilizing strong partnerships with the Woodland Trail Greenway Association, Washington Department of Transportation, and Thurston Regional Planning Council. The City will seek to continue and expand these partnerships moving forward with Phases 3 and 4.</u></p>
<p><i>Wildwood Neighborhood Association Board:</i> David Goularte, Adams Street Janae Huber, Chair, Buker Street Bonnie Knudsen, Galloway Street Mary Beth Lang, Vice-Chair, Galloway Street Christine Masters, Secretary, Buker Street Martha Shinnars, O'Farrell Avenue Steve Worcester, Treasurer, Otis Street Letter 11/30/15</p>	<p>I am writing on behalf of the more than 200 households that comprise the Wildwood Neighborhood Association (WNA) with comments intended for the Parks Plan process. I hope that I have not missed your deadline for accepting comments and that these can be considered as part of the record.</p> <p>PARKING – WATERSHED PARK AND OLYMPIA WOODLAND TRAIL WNA strongly encourages the City to purchase Lot 4 of the Henderson Park property. Lot 4 is currently for sale and offers optimal parking for two key Parks assets: Watershed Park and the future Olympia Woodland Trail. Three additional lots on the same parcel are currently under proposal for development, increasing the likely visibility and use of this area by locals and visitors alike.</p> <p>OLYMPIA WOODLAND TRAIL WNA also strongly encourages the City to prioritize efforts to fund the development of Phases 3 and 4 of the Olympia Woodland Trail. This regional trail system provides opportunities to connect Olympia and the surrounding region for bikes and pedestrians, providing critical enhancements to our nonmotorized transportation and recreational infrastructures.</p> <p>WILDWOOD GLEN We request that the Wildwood Glen parcel, an undeveloped pocket park, remain a priority for interim use funding. We look forward to future opportunities to be a part of the Parks Plan planning process!</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Olympia Woodland Trail and Watershed Parking: See response from Wildwood Neighborhood OlySpeaks comment above. Wildwood Glen: Wildwood Glen is classified as an “Open Space” as opposed to a “neighborhood park” so we would likely not make substantial improvements to that park, particularly considering the steep slopes.</p>
<p>Joey Zarate email 12/9/15</p>	<p>I was emailing in the hope that would consider funding the completion of the Ward Lake public swim area. I have been a resident of Olympia since 2009 and am quite proud of recreational opportunities afforded by our city. The one glaring omission in my opinion is a public swim area. My family and I frequent Long Lake in Lacey but I would hope that when my</p>

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	<p>young children are old enough they would be able to swim somewhere closer to home.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention,</p>
OPARD	The plan budgets approximately \$9 million for a community park project in 2022-2035. Ward Lake swim beach could be that project as could other community park projects. Since that is over 6-years away, there will be another Park plan in place before that time so community priorities would be assessed at during that planning process.
Lisa Riemer email 12/1/15	<p>I am not pleased that the City of Olympia's parks plan specifies that about 1/2 of the LBA Woods will be acquired in the near future. There are many other parcels that should be considered. There are many other ways to spend that money, like sidewalks for the neighborhoods.</p> <p>Thanks to the passage of Proposition 1, the City has a definite funding source. I do not support to purchase of the "Trillium" half of the LBA woods -- about 75 acres. I do support the city of Olympia paying for sidewalks. The Elliot St. NW sidewalk has been promised to the neighbors for decades. It is a dangerous area. We need a sidewalk on Elliot St. Thank YOU</p>
OPARD	The acquisition of LBA Woods was the most requested project during our public planning process so we included it in the plan. As to your sidewalk request I forwarded it to Public Works Transportation planning staff who oversee that program.
Email 12/3/15	We should have more and ONE WEEK's notice for meeting invites! Thank you.
OPARD	Sorry you didn't get sufficient notice for the meeting. The park planning process has been ongoing since November, 2014, and at every opportunity we have publicized the dates for public involvement. Two weeks before the meeting we sent a media release out with information on the meeting, sent that information to all recognized neighborhood associations, and posted it on our website. If you missed the meeting but want to comment on the plan, you are welcome to e-mail me your comments.
Linda Kunze email 12/8/15	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan. I am very pleased that the Metropolitan Parks Initiative passed and that we will now have a better and more consistent funding source for our parks. I hope this plan when completed will provide a comprehensive framework for moving forward with management and expansion of our park system.

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My comments focus on natural parks (open space). In general, I would like the plan to better address assessment, planning and management of native ecosystems/habitats both within existing parks and in planning for expansion of the park system. I think natural parks are a critical part of the urban environment: providing balance to the built environment; maintaining habitat for native species of plants and animals; providing opportunities for residents to experience the natural world; and helping to support a more sustainable landscape. For me it is a key part of quality of life and is one of the critical characteristics that makes Olympia such a wonderful place to live.

I would like to see in the plan clear direction to develop and update ecosystem/habitat assessments for all of our natural parks. Assessments could include topography, hydrology, geology, soils, position within the drainage basin, plant associations and communities, plant and animal species inventories, structural analysis, existing and potential habitats, relationship to other undeveloped habitat, and wildlife corridors. Additionally the assessments should include threats to the natural systems including non-native species, edge effects, isolation from other natural systems, viability, sustainability, pollutants, damaging uses, and external impacts.

From these assessments I would like the plan to direct the development and periodic updates of management plans for each park to include long range goals, measurable steps to reach those goals, and monitoring programs.

Additionally I would like to see the plan better address the potential to develop a network of habitats that include other ownerships - state, county and private - to enhance habitat values in the region.

Funding is critical to managing urban natural parks and I am advocating for increased funding for planning and management. In an urban setting native ecosystems can not maintain themselves, they require intervention and management to be sustained, otherwise they will deteriorate. Good manage of our natural parks requires dedicated funding for maintenance. Current volunteer efforts to manage these parks is fabulous but is not sufficient to the need.

Specific Comments:

Page 31, Figure 4.3: It is striking to learn that only 1% of park maintenance hours are spent on natural resource management of parks. Given the

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number of acres of natural parks I would expect a much greater investment of time for management. Are things like invasive species control included in some other category or is this really the percent of maintenance hours allocated to natural ecosystem management?

Page 32: The *Natural Resource Management* section seems to indicate that management of native ecosystems within parks is done exclusively through volunteers and grants. Is that correct? Are there provisions for hiring crews to take on invasive species issues? The natural resource management needs in the parks I am familiar with far exceed what volunteer efforts can address. I think there needs to be dedicated funds for things like assessing ecosystems, developing management plans, controlling non-native invasive species and managing for native system characteristics. Volunteers and grants are important but we need dedicated city funds too.

I think it is important to include more specific plans to eliminate/control non-native invasive species and restore native habitats in the OPARP.

Pages 33-34: The Park Stewardship Program is a wonderful but if it is the sole means for managing native ecosystems within the parks it needs to be expanded to include staff and funding to do ecosystem assessments, develop management plans and staff crews to do invasive species control and other ecosystem restoration and management.

As with the *Downtown Parks* section I would like the plan to identify the natural resource needs in each of the open space/natural parks.

Pages 41-43: The section on *Habitat in Olympia's Parks and Open Space System* seems pretty brief. I think this section should be expanded to provide information on the types of habitats, needed assessments, monitoring programs, and needed habitat restoration for each park with natural habitat values and reference existing plans.

As wonderful as they are, the partial species lists might be better in an appendix.

Is there a plan for developing corridors to link parks that have wildlife habitat? I'm very curious about the "proposed habitat acquisitions" identified on map 4.2. Are these part of the plan?

Page 55 PR3.2: For me, having open space/natural parks that have healthy ecosystems free of invasive species is critical to my experience of the

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park. A park with significant populations of invasive species is extremely stressful for me and I have heard others express similar feelings.

Page 56 PR3.4: I hope the identification process for new or expanded parks includes assessments of habitat and their long term viability and sustainability. As part of that assessment I hope there will be identification of important corridors between areas to provide linkages for wildlife. Page 60, PN2.1 and PN2.2 seem related.

Page 57 PR6.2: My expectation is that with the new Metropolitan Parks District there will be more funding to manage natural parks.

Page 59 PN1.4: I think much more planning and management is needed to “conserve and restore natural systems” in our parks. Invasive species, incompatible uses and external influences are degrading our parks and the current level of investment does not seem adequate to address them.

Page 60 PN2.1: I think it would be valuable to do assessments of critical habitats and connectivity as part of planning for additional park acquisitions.

It is good to see that for the West Bay Woods area there is some analysis of habitat and ecosystem conservation values being used to identify areas with potential for acquisition. If it hasn't been done, it would be useful to do assessments for all of Olympia and the UGB. Evaluating ecosystem values and functions are critical to developing a more sustainable and viable native ecosystem within the urban area.

Page 60 PN2.2 is very important.

Page 60 PN2.3 is critical. I see very little in the plan about funded maintenance of natural ecosystems. It seems that most of the invasive species control is done with volunteers. The invasive species control needs in Olympia Parks appears far greater than a volunteer program alone can tackle. Are there provisions for hiring crews to take on invasive species issues?

Page 60 PN2.4 I hope this point includes restoring ecosystems - species, structure and functions - to the greatest level possible. This will require assessments of current conditions and plans for developing desired conditions and characteristics.

Page 60 PN2.6: Will there be assessments and plans developed? I hope

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this includes connections between City owned lands and lands owned by others that provide habitat.

Page 60 PN2.8: Assessing conditions, setting goals, developing plans and then monitoring outcomes is so critical. Monitoring is so important and is often omitted due to expense.

Page 60 GN3: I'm not sure what is meant by an "urban forest". Is this only about street trees? Does it include un-developable green belts? How about land in other than City ownership?

Pages 84 - 87: The existing *Parks and Open Spaces - Current Conditions and Proposed Projects* section is remarkable in its lack of projects related to habitat/ecosystem assessments and restoration. This work is critical and must be funded - volunteers are not sufficient to address the needs. I see very little in the plan about funded assessments and maintenance of natural ecosystems.

Open space parks that do not already have them need to be assessed for their current and potential ecosystem/habitat values and plans developed to manage the sites. The 1997 plan for Grass Lake could use updating. The 2008 Priest Point Park Maintenance Plan is more of a facilities plan and doesn't really address the natural ecosystem.

In an urban setting native ecosystems can not maintain themselves, they require intervention and management to be sustained, otherwise they will deteriorate. Maintaining healthy ecosystems is a real challenge and requires active management which in turn requires data on the systems and plans to move them towards the desired conditions. It would seem useful to have a habitat specialist on staff to do assessments, write management plans, design projects, develop work plans, and do monitoring. The plan would also benefit from benchmarks for evaluating habitat and restoring native ecosystems within the parks.

It seems that most of the invasive species control is done with volunteers. The invasive species control needs in Olympia Parks appears far greater than a volunteer program alone can tackle. Are there provisions for hiring crews to take on invasive species issues?

Page 93-94 *New Open Space/Trail Land and Development*: It is good to see that for the West Bay Woods area there is some analysis of habitat and ecosystem conservation values being used to identify areas with potential for acquisition. If it hasn't been done, it would be useful to do assessments

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	<p>for all of Olympia and the UGB. Evaluating ecosystem values and functions are critical to developing a more sustainable and viable native ecosystem within the urban area.</p> <p>Page 109-110: The <i>Department Performance Measurement</i> section should include measures for developing management plans and implementing identified habitat/ecosystem projects.</p> <p>I hope these comments are useful. I appreciate all of the time and effort that has gone into producing this draft plan and look forward to the final product.</p>
OPARD	<p>Thank you for your very thoughtful and thorough comments on the natural habitat component of the plan. Yes, you are correct that currently habitat restoration is done primarily via volunteers in our parks. And yes you are correct that volunteers, while making a huge contribution, are not able to single-handedly manage the natural resources of our parks system. By including a habitat component in this plan, this plan makes the City eligible for habitat grants through the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office. We intend to vigorously pursue these types of grants to better manage some of our most critical park habitats. We also have been working closely with Public Work’s Environmental Services who have been providing technical assistance in developing management plans for some of our natural areas as well as spearheading restoration projects in several of our parks. We are hopeful that this plan sets the stage for increasingly effective management of the natural areas in our parks.</p>
Jerry Parker email 12/9/15	<p>Thank you for a concise, well organized presentation to the Planning Commission last evening and for your informed response to questions. I submit this follow-up to your presentation and responses as an individual resident of Olympia and not as a member of the Planning Commission. These comments do not represent the position of the Commission nor of any other members of the Commission.</p> <p>I acknowledge the extensive outreach program the City has conducted in the formulation of the draft Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. However, I am concerned that the procedures and comment period on the actual draft appear less accommodating of public involvement. I appreciate the need to have a final plan in place in order to apply for grants to fund projects in the Plan. Given the limited opportunity for comment on this draft, it would be useful to lay out subsequent opportunities for public comment on further iterations of the Plan.</p> <p>As I indicated last night, my primary concern with the draft Plan is the potential effect of the proposed major land acquisitions on the goals and</p>

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policies in the Comprehensive Plan that argue for a compact city with densities sufficient for increased transit, improved “walkability”, and reduced pressure for urban sprawl into rural areas. I see no inherent conflict between increased parkland within the City and the density objectives articulated in the Comprehensive Plan. I believe that specific policies and actions by the City are required to assure that the residential development previously planned for the lands now proposed for acquisition for parks actually occur in the City. I realize formulation and implementation of such policies and actions is outside of direct jurisdiction of the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Department. I will communicate this concern to the Planning Department but I note it for your information. Given the policies in the Comprehensive Plan for a compact and “walkable” city and the current City work on a downtown strategy, I urge that the draft Plan be revised to provide for parks smaller than what I understand to be the proposed minimal size of five acres. It is extremely important that there be small parks located within a convenient distance from those areas of the City most likely to develop in a denser pattern. These areas obviously include the downtown and the other two high density nodes. It should also include those corridors designed as “high density corridors” and actual or potential neighborhood centers. To facilitate such planning, I strongly suggest that vacant parcels in the City be identified and evaluated for their potential as small neighborhood parks, i.e. “pocket parks.”

As stated above, a major goal in the Comprehensive Plan is to make the City more conducive to walking and to biking. In part, this requires higher densities that can support walking and biking destinations closer to where people live. But in part, it requires improved walking and biking infrastructure. Given the importance of walking and biking to public health and to meeting recreational needs of the public, I suggest the draft Plan acknowledge the role of walking and biking in meeting recreational needs, explain the division of responsibility between the Parks Department and the Public Works Department for pedestrian and bike facilities, and work to assure all current and future parks can be accessed by walking or biking. The intent in the draft Plan to acquire ample park and recreation plan is laudable. The desire to acquire potential park land most “threatened” by alternative development is laudable. However, the draft Plan appears to be attempting to “ride two horses at once” - a difficult feat. This needs to be acknowledged and an acceptable compromise articulated.

Several specific concerns and questions follow.

1. If the land purchase on the “Isthmus” is not devoted exclusively to park use, will some or all of the funds provided by the County be returned? If so,

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	<p>how will this affect the overall budget?</p> <p>2. Spending for Percival Landing construction and for West Bay Park expansion is noted (p. 82; p. 83). Mention of the “Big W” is made later in the Plan (p. 96). However, there does not appear to be provision for the other portions of a potential “Big W” facility. The “Big W” could be a major park asset, as indicated during the Shoreline Master Planning process.</p> <p>3. The Garfield Nature Trail is a park gem (p 85). Has any consideration been given to expansion of the trail to the west to the site of the current pocket park at Madison and Thomas?</p> <p>4. The discussion of the Woodland Trail does not mention possible use of impact fees to fund a portion of the trail. (p. 86) Based on discussion last evening, the proposed motels adjacent to the trail do not pay park impact fees. I believe this is a major mistake. The proposed construction imposes significant costs to the City and, most importantly, to adjacent residents in the form of noise, light, traffic, and loss of natural habitat. Therefore, I believe the Park Department should recommend that the Council give consideration to revising impact fee policies to provide for compensation in the form of park facilities from these and other commercial developments that are adjacent to park facilities.</p> <p>5. The draft Plan proposes an “Arts Center” in 2022 (p. 90). The relation of such a center to a proposed “Art Space” that would provide for both artists residential needs and workshop and display space should be clarified in the draft Plan</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Isthmus question: If the area on the Isthmus purchased with Conservation Future funds is not ultimately utilized for a park, staff would explore the rules of that granting program to determine if those funds would need to be returned.</p> <p>Park Impact Fees: You make a good point that the City should consider the idea of collecting impact fees on commercial development. Once this plan is adopted, the City will conduct a Park Impact Fee Rate Study that could explore the viability of charging park impact fees for commercial development.</p> <p>Arts Center: Proposed change: Proposed additional language added to end of Arts Center section on p. 89: <u>There has also been an ongoing effort to provide workforce artist housing in the community. The Olympia Artspace Alliance was established as a non-profit organization in 2011 to create, foster and preserve affordable live and work space for artists and</u></p>

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	<p><u>arts organizations in Olympia. While art centers and artist housing are different structural entities, in some communities, partnerships have allowed arts centers and workforce artist housing to co-exist in the same location.</u></p>
<p>MaryAnn Vetter email 12/9/15</p>	<p>I would encourage the parks and rec committee to fund facilities for athletics both indoor and outdoor. Facilities like the RAC provide activities and outlets for ALL ages. In addition, we are also losing indoor facilities for volleyball, basketball, etc. to marijuana growers who are leasing all the warehouses. Large sport facilities provide opportunities for youth to be involved in their community, stay active, healthy and out of trouble. Large facilities can also support tournaments and leagues that bring income to the local economy.</p> <p>Finally, I think it is tragic that our community does not have any public pools. Swimming is a LIFE SKILL and the children in our community have very little access to pools to develop this skill. Our children are not going to learn to swim in a fountain. Swimming is great for cardiovascular health for all ages. Pool exercise is also one of the best activities for rehab and senior citizens. In a recent visit to my physician, he even mentioned how pools would benefit the aging baby boomers.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>See responses to sections on Swimming and Soccer Fields (#2 & #4) above.</p>
<p>Chuck Beck email 12/9/15</p>	<p>Ron Marcoe sent us your Plan and asked if we had any comments. The City is being proactive and all the work looks great. I would like to see something in the line of a covered area where several activities could be handled. Most all of the future plans center around outdoor activity and with all the rain we get and all the indoor activity in the area some plans should be developed to accommodate them.</p> <p>Thank you for all your work</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p><u>Recreation/Aquatics Center</u> <u>In the random sample survey conducted for this plan, when asked what the most needed recreational amenity not currently offered was, “swimming facilities” was the number one response. As The Olympia Center approaches 30 years of operation, planning efforts should begin for major renovations or replacement of The Olympia Center. This could include a swimming pool, ice rink, indoor athletic facilities and/or additional recreation amenities.</u></p> <p><i>Proposed Action:</i> <u>The plan budgets \$300,000 in the “Long Range Options 2022-2035” section for this planning effort.</u></p>
<p>Dave Hoffman email 12/9/15</p>	<p>Wanted to just send a few comments regarding the Parks Draft plan. Sending an email is quicker for me than posting on Olyspeaks.</p>

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	<p>I'll keep it short and to the point.</p> <p>More soccer and athletic fields for youth and adult sports. We are mainly a soccer family so I listed that first. This needs to be a priority. Not in 2022-2035. The RAC in Lacey should be an example of what Olympia should have already have. I know we can do even better.</p> <p>Pool. I can handle a 'sprayground' at home. It's called a hose. Put that million towards a pool.</p>
OPARD	See responses to sections on Swimming and Soccer Fields (#2 & #4) above.
Kim Murillo	<p>I'm hoping to squeeze in a couple comments on the plan before the deadline.</p> <p>Olympia is a wonderfully green place that has amazing natural beauty preserved for all to access and enjoy. I have a 4 year-old daughter, so I've become more familiar with neighborhood parks within 1-2 miles of downtown over the last few years. I'd love to see smaller parks scattered in between the larger neighborhood ones, like less than a 5 minute walk. I'm talking even just a little patch of public space with grass or a garden, maybe a few tree stumps or something to do like a game of some sort. A tiny green/garden space would greatly would provide an opportunity to know neighbors and could greatly facilitate community building within a 2-3 block radius. Sidewalks everywhere would be awesome, but that's probably a Public Works thing.</p> <p>I'd love for there to be more public amenities like an indoor pool or indoor sports activity center. While I'm dreaming, I'll propose the idea of a tropical butterfly exhibit. Ha, go big or go home ;-)</p> <p>Thank you for all your work on putting this plan together. It's exciting to think of all that Olympia is doing!!</p>
OPARD	See responses re: Soccer (#4), Pool (#2) and a Recreation Center above
Forrest Peaker email 12/11/15	<p>My thanks for all the hard work on the Parks Plan. It's nice to see so much community involvement.</p> <p>The form is closed now, even though the day is not actually over, so I am emailing my ideas.</p> <p>Here are some things I think are missing from the plan:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downtown recreation pocket parks are sorely needed. The number of people expected to move downtown will need places exercise besides grass fields. Pocket parks such as basketball courts, tennis, a new downtown skate park and other ball court facilities will be essentially to promoting an "active", healthy and vibrant downtown. These urban downtown parks are also centrally located for Eastside/ Westside residents and beyond allowing people to access parks easily and with a smaller carbon footprint. • A real arts center and city support for all ages music venue. The city stated that \$28 millions dollars was generated in our community in 2014 from the music industry. We need to support our local music scene (yes, that also includes punk music) and dedicate funds to supporting a permanent all ages music space much like The Vera Project in Seattle. • The expedited development of regional trail systems (Olympia Woodland Trail--expedite Phase 3 and add Phase 4 funding--and expedite West Bay Trail development). These trail systems act as both bike and pedestrian recreation <u>and</u> transportation. Our Parks Plan can be a critical link in efforts to move people of all ages and abilities around the region safely and without their cars. These recreation and transportation links are critical to Olympia's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. • The connection of parks and adjacent housing as the best way to promote safety. The location of parks and encouragement of housing immediately adjacent to these parks is the most efficient and healthy way to maintain safety, whether downtown or in other neighborhoods. • Smaller-scale neighborhood parks to ensure access to open space is spread throughout our community and that Olympians are walking distance from a park regardless of where they reside. The 5 acre goal size for neighborhood parks is too large and diminishes overall walkability in neighborhoods. • A public pool. Seriously. I don't think this requires an explanation. <p>Thanks again for the opportunity to comment.</p>
OPARD	Downtown pocket parks – Good idea. The draft plan notes on p. 35 that “At the time of this plan’s writing, the City was in the midst of creating a

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	<p>Downtown Strategy. This project will identify actions our community will take over a 5-6 year period that will have the greatest strategic impact toward implementing our downtown vision. Once the Downtown Strategy is complete, OPARD will develop a plan for downtown parks that will align with the strategy.” We will consider more active recreation opportunities for downtown parks as you suggest when we craft that plan.</p> <p>Olympia Woodland Trail: Proposed additional language for the Olympia Woodland Trail section on P. 84: <u>The first two phases of the trail were built utilizing strong partnerships with the Woodland Trail Greenway Association, Washington Department of Transportation, and Thurston Regional Planning Council. The City will seek to continue and expand these partnerships moving forward with Phases 3 and 4.</u></p> <p>Neighborhood Park size – Our goal is to get neighborhood parks walking distance to 90 percent of all areas of the City. If there is not a 5 acre parcel available we would certainly consider smaller parcels. Proposed additional sentence to section on neighborhood park acquisition on p. 86: <u>In areas where five acres are not available, smaller parcels will be considered.</u></p> <p>Connection of parks to housing - Very good points. We will keep that in mind as we seek locations for new parks.</p> <p>Arts Center and Pool – see related sections above.</p>
<p>Janae Huber email 12/11/15</p>	<p>My thanks for all of your work on the Parks Plan. The public process has been very active and I'm impressed by the level of comment I'm seeing on OlySpeaks. It's nice to see that forum gaining momentum.</p> <p>There are a couple of areas of the draft plan that I don't think received quite as much attention as they deserve. Here are some things I'd love to see the plan support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The expedited development of regional trail systems (Olympia Woodland Trail--expedite Phase 3 and add Phase 4 funding--and expedite West Bay Trail development). These trail systems act as both bike and pedestrian recreation <u>and</u> transportation. Our Parks Plan can be a critical link in efforts to move people of all ages and abilities around the region safely and without their cars. These recreation and transportation links are critical to Olympia's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The connection of parks and adjacent housing as the best way to promote safety. The location of parks and encouragement of housing immediately adjacent to these parks is the most efficient and healthy way to maintain safety, whether downtown or in other neighborhoods. • Smaller-scale neighborhood parks to ensure access to open space is spread throughout our community and that Olympians are walking distance from a park regardless of where they reside. The 5 acre goal size for neighborhood parks is too large and diminishes overall walkability in neighborhoods. <p>Thanks again for the opportunity to comment.</p>
OPARD	See response to previous comment
Philip W. Schulte email 12/11/15	<p>The current Parks Plan proposes to turn the 24 acre parcel on Harrison Ave., which was acquired with the help of the West Olympia Community Visioning Group into primarily open space, with a trail through it. This would be a terrible waste of a perfect site for a community park, in the heart of West Olympia within walking distance of four schools that would serve as gateway to Grass Lake.</p> <p>This parcel is near one the busiest intersections in Olympia, adjacent to a highly commercial area, and yet a stone’s throw from Capital High school and across the road from Yeager Park. It is essentially at the center of West Olympia. Setting aside 75% of this parcel as “open space” is not a smart or an economic use of this valuable property. Further, because of the physical features of the site, particularly wetlands, a considerable portion of the area will necessarily remain undeveloped. The usable portion of this property should be used, and it is the perfect location for a community park that would serve as a gateway into Grass Lake.</p> <p>This community park should feature trails, but it should also have a plaza viewable from Harrison Avenue and a building that would support multiple uses so that the park is enjoyed by a large portion of the community. The shape of the site is also conducive toward creating a transition from the busy commercial center to a wonderful natural area, by diminishing the developed portion as you move away from Harrison Avenue. Grass Lake presents terrific educational opportunities for our community’s children, and right now there is no easy point of entry. This site is virtually crying out for a natural science educational component.</p> <p>The need for additional community parks in West Olympia is further</p>

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	<p>validated by the substantial growth in the number of residents in West Olympia, especially within 1-2 miles of the Harrison Avenue parcel. In addition, Olympia’s School District’s 2016 Park bond includes new classroom buildings at nearby Hansen and McLane Elementary Schools and substantial investments at Capital High School. The Harrison Avenue parcel is the only available parcel of land on a main arterial road near the Westside business core with the size and geography to accommodate multiple uses for the entire community.</p> <p>The West Olympia Community Visioning Group (CVG) is an active community group that has donated substantial time and energy and significant financial resources to acquiring and developing this site as a community park. Dozens of Olympia citizens have devoted substantial resources to this project and many more have voiced support. The West Olympia Rotary has also thrown its support behind this project.</p> <p>The City of Olympia should embrace this kind of public participation and leverage this partnership. It is exactly the kind of relationship the Parks Plan states it endorses (See GR 2 on page 54). The Parks Plan should identify the CVG’s role in acquiring the parcel and tout it as a future partner in development.</p> <p>The Parks Plan needs to be modified to indicate that, with the support of the CVG and the community, the Parks Department intends this site will be developed into a community park that will include walking trails.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Proposed change to Harrison Ave Parcel section on P. 78: In 2009, the West Olympia Community Visioning Group (CVG) and the City of Olympia began exploring a partnership to purchase and develop a public plaza in West Olympia. <u>Under a Memorandum of Understanding and with a \$5,000 donation of earnest money from the CVG, the City purchased the 24-acre Harrison Avenue Parcel in 2011. In 2012, OPARD partnered with CVG to develop a concept plan for the park which included an amphitheater, environmental learning center, a satellite maintenance center, trails, and open space. The park currently remains undeveloped. A site analysis established that significant developable space exists on the parcel along with it contains several acres of wetlands that connect to the larger Grass Lake wetland complex. The CVG remains active and invested in a partnership with the city and the City looks forward to continuing its valuable partnership with CVG as it pursues future park development phases in the future.</u></p>
<p>Cristiana Figueroa email 12/11/15</p>	<p>I would like to take this opportunity to add a few more thoughts to the conversation regarding multiple topics, in addition to comments I already</p>

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provided via Olyspeaks and as a member of the LBA Woods Park Coalition.

Proposed habitat and trail purchases are excellent and motivate volunteers.

The creation of a habitat plan and inclusion of habitat considerations in the parks plan is a really important step for our City. The proposed purchases such as the Kaiser Heights parcel, West Bay Woods and the Trillium parcel of LBA Woods all provide needed habitat. Volunteers have already started the work of upkeep and maintenance in some of these parcels. In LBA Woods, volunteers have maintained the trails and picked up trash for a long time. Likewise, volunteer work in the West Bay Woods to protect habitat for the great blue heron and take out noxious weeds is impressive. In a similar vein, the Woodland Greenway Association trail volunteers have, for years, maintained large sections of trails. Purchases of new trail sections will undoubtedly be in good hands. So, please keep these purchases in the plan, and let's move forward to implementation.

Isthmus Park

After having the opportunity to connect with many Olympia residents this past summer on the topic of parks, it is clear to me that a civic space open to the public in the isthmus is something people have been hoping for in a long time. It is important to create an inclusive process to help determine what exactly would be on that space. The options are many. At the December 2nd OPARD meeting, someone voiced the need to have active forms of recreation downtown, especially as the density there increases. Others voiced the need for an Art Center. Other proposals I have heard that seem a wonderful fit are a Squaxin (or other local native culture) museum, a kayak launch...the possibilities are endless. Currently, one of the wonderful spaces where Olympians congregate in/near the isthmus is Traditions Cafe...it is truly a community space that Dick opens up to the community. Thus, I would hope that Traditions Cafe or a version of it, would still be viable in the future.

It seems natural that park advocates, and there may be other downtown community voices, need a seat at the Community Renewal Area (CRA) table—for the CRA to be viable, the whole community needs to be reflected in it. OPARD will undoubtedly need to work closely with the other City departments to envision and design an isthmus park investment that can meet the physical site constraints of the isthmus, like sea level rise and liquefaction potential.

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	<p><u>Plan Implementation</u></p> <p>This plan is for all Olympia residents to help implement, not just OPARD. With that in mind, it is important that pathways are in place for the various interest groups in our City (skaters, artists, nature walkers, soccer community, runners, birders, dog lovers, swimmers etc.) so that people of similar interests can connect with OPARD and each other to work on implementing the vision that they care about. In that way, volunteer opportunities can be identified, grant applications can be generated, work can be done to move the vision forward – even if it will take a decade to get there. When the community is involved it becomes apparent that though the work is often daunting, funds are finite, and that OPARD cannot possibly Make everything happen, little by little – year by year – our shared goals are accomplished. This would also be an excellent way for OPARD to enhance its volunteer program.</p> <p>We all need to implement the plan, and we can get there if we work together to make it happen.</p>
OPARD	<p>We appreciate your enthusiasm and look forward to working with you and the rest of the community as we move forward to implement the plan.</p>
Kris Tucker email 12/11/15	<p>Thank you for leading the planning process and seeking public input on the draft 2016 Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan. This letter (also attached in pdf format) offers my comments as a community member; I submitted a separate letter on behalf of Olympia Artspace Alliance, for which I serve as board chair.</p> <p>As an active user of the city park system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I do not support making the isthmus one big park, but envision smaller parks within a mix of development on the isthmus, including housing, commercial spaces, and public spaces. • Demolition of the Capitol Center building is mentioned a few places (page 14 and 22) even though this building is not owned by the City and occasional development options arise; the cost considerations of an isthmus park aren't mentioned until page 36. This tricky issue might be more thoroughly and thoughtfully discussed in one place in the plan, even if no conclusion is reached at this time. • I urge the long-term commitment to establishing a shoreline trail connecting East Bay and West Bay. • It's timely to consider how the anticipated (and now evident)

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growth in downtown residents will change park needs downtown.

As an arts advocate my comments are more extensive and specific:

Page 3: Please include an arts action in this opening bullet list. Perhaps “Strengthen the city’s commitment to the arts” or “Expand and strengthen arts programming.”

Page 5: The paragraph about how MPD funds can be used seems incomplete. I suggest the following addition: “MPD funds can be used to rebuild....ongoing inspection and maintenance of Percival Landing, as well as help OPARD meet other needs.” (underlined section added)

Page 8: The bullets for recreation activities and services, and for the arts, don’t speak to what the plan lays out, but only say what already is. This plan should initiate planning for an art center and implementation of the Municipal Art Plan.... What else?

Page 21: Although mentioned elsewhere, I suggest that the Comp Plan (approved 2014) be on this list of planning efforts setting the stage; also Sustainable Thurston/TRPC – and a mention of the Downtown Strategy now underway.

Page 43: The City is authorized to set aside one dollar per capita annually. (Underline added). I suggest the following be included (from the Municipal Art Plan, 2015): “\$1 per Capita funds have not been allocated to the Municipal Arts Fund since 2009, due to the economic recession....Restoration of the \$1 per Capita funding is vital to the creative health, vibrancy and economic growth of our City.”

Page 46-47 offer a list of recent projects, not steps to implement the MAP and Comp Plan’s arts goals. Under challenges (page 47) it mentions “shift in emphasis” – what does this mean? What will it take? How can this be accomplished?

I strongly urge OPARD to add one professional staff person (1.0 FTE) for the arts. Current staffing for arts (1.25 FTE, as I recall) is inadequate to support the arts programs of the city. Page 98 makes only a passing reference to the need for additional staffing; expanding staff should be part of the plan.

There are many many possibilities for connecting the arts with parks and recreation programs that will enhance the parks experience, enrich lifelong learning, contribute to the built environment, build community connections. Olympia would benefit from – for example - a broader variety of arts classes and arts instructors, arts programming in neighborhood parks, a music series in the Harbor House, artist-designed signage, arts-based partnerships with community organizations such as SOGO, Boys & Girls Club, Arbutus.

I am, of course, a strong advocate for an art center as well as for studio space and housing for artists (see the letter from the Olympia Artspace

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	<p>Alliance), and urge the City’s strong support, leadership and participation in that effort. As it proceeds, we also should consider eventual improvements to The Olympia Center to optimize opportunities.</p> <p>Page 111-112: Other performance measures you might consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # participants in arts programs at the Olympia Center (I know this is not part of the arts/events responsibility, but it would reinforce the OPARD connections) • Condition assessment of the City’s public art collection. <p>Again, thank you for this opportunity to comment – and for your vision, commitment and leadership for our community. Don’t hesitate to call if I can clarify, explain, research or advise.</p> <p>Best wishes.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Proposed changes:</p> <p>P.3: • <u>A strengthened commitment to the arts and to recreation programming</u></p> <p>P. 5: MPD funds can be used to rebuild parks maintenance service levels, address the \$4 million deferred maintenance backlog, and provide ongoing inspection and maintenance of Percival Landing <u>and help OPARD meet other critical needs.</u></p> <p>P. 8: The arts program in Olympia includes acquisition and maintenance of public art, community wide events, and promotion of other community arts organizations and events. The plan contains goals and policies for new arts programs and facilities and contains a link to the Municipal Arts Plan.</p> <p>P. 22: Comp Plan and Downtown Strategy added to list of planning efforts</p> <p>P. 111-112 (Performance measures):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Artwork Condition - Condition reports on public art pieces that result in a positive rating. The goal is that 80% of the artworks examined yearly receive a good or better rating.</u> • <u>Participants in Art Classes Offered by OPARD – Hours of participation by registrants in OPARD-offered classes in cooking, dance & music, and fine arts & crafts.</u>
<p>Bonnie Jacobs and Friends of the Waterfront</p>	<p>Please accept this submission as the official comment from Friends of the Waterfront, a non-profit corporation registered with the Washington Secretary of State, regarding the 2016 Draft Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan</p>

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Email 12/11/15

dated November 17, 2015.

We are impressed by the quality of this draft plan and the public involvement process that informed it.

Friends of the Waterfront offers the following specific comments on the draft:

1. We appreciate the focus on waterfront and waterfront-area projects. This shows a recognition of the importance of the waterfront to the quality of life in Olympia.

2. We support the draft plan's emphasis on acquiring park land before important projects are lost to development. It is a sobering fact that the park land we now have and will acquire in the near future will be essentially all the park land that will ever exist within the current boundaries of the Olympia UGA, even as our population will continue to grow and become more dense to meet the mandates of the Growth Management Act.

3. We support all of the projects currently advocated by fellow members of the YES Olympia Parks Coalition.

4. We recommend that of the six large projects included in the Elway random sample survey (pp. 14 and 23), the ones that are at risk of being lost to development should be prioritized first. These are:

Acquire and Demolish Capitol Center Building

Acquire Second LBA Woods parcel

Acquire new Athletic Field Community Park land.

The other three projects in this list are on land already owned by the city, and are therefore not as urgent.

5. The "Isthmus Parcels" item on page 36 needs a thorough re-write.

a. In the introduction, the isthmus should be defined as the 4-acre area bounded by Water Street, the Capitol Lake spillway, Fourth Avenue, and Fifth Avenue. Language such as the following should be added: "The remaining derelict structures on the isthmus are the 9-story Capitol Center Building (known locally as the "mistake by the lake") and its one-story Annex. As reported elsewhere in this plan, there is strong local support to remove these buildings, particularly the 9-story building, which is a long-festering eyesore that mars the northward vista that connects the State Capitol Campus with the Olympic Mountains. This is the vista around which the State Capitol Campus was designed."

b. The content of the second bullet under "challenges" should be deleted because it is inaccurate due to age and the fact that it includes development, which is not included in any other current proposal, e.g., ballfields. In its stead, an estimated cost of 8M to 10M for acquisition and demolition of the Capitol Center Building and Annex should be inserted.

6. The "Isthmus Parcels" item on page 81 should be amended as suggested in the previous item, calling for acquisition and demolition of the Capitol

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	<p>Center Building and Annex.</p> <p>Finally, we want to register our concern about the possibility of backtracking on isthmus land that was purchased for park purposes (and mainly with dedicated park funding). We believe that the term "park" should be construed broadly as a <u>great public space</u> that could include not only green space but also possibly features such as a Native American Heritage Museum, carousel, Olympia Historic Museum, fountain, native plant garden, coffee shop, etc. We believe that the choice of how to use the isthmus should be informed by the broadest possible involvement of Olympia citizens. We also believe the isthmus should remain in public ownership and that any structures should be low, no more than the current zoning allows (35'). Any land used for commercial purposes should be leased, not sold. We do not believe that private uses such as housing and significant retail space would be appropriate on the isthmus.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Please see the Isthmus OPARD response above (#3).</p>
<p>Bob Jacobs email 12/11/15</p>	<p>Please accept this submission as my comments regarding the 2016 Draft Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan dated November 17, 2015. This is in addition to a previous email(s) on the same topic.</p> <p>First I want to congratulate OPARD and you in particular for the quality of the public involvement process and the draft. I continue to be impressed by your work.</p> <p>In particular, I believe it was vital to use a professional survey to gauge the public's perceptions and desires, because the random sample nature of the survey provided the kind of reliability that the other public input methods could not deliver.</p> <p>These comments are intended to help you improve this document for the next round of drafting. I strongly recommend that your next draft be a redlined version of this first draft, in order to make review by all interested parties more efficient.</p> <p>As I mentioned, I also hope to share with you soon the editorial suggestions that I noted on my copy as I reviewed it.</p> <p>My comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- I agree with the comments submitted by Friends of the Waterfront. -- On page 12, at the end of the first paragraph, add the sentence, "This random sample survey is by far the most accurate of the ways used to gauge the opinions of Olympia's population." -- On page 19, the nearly-200K RCO grant for the isthmus should be

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included. A great deal of staff effort and a significant private contribution went into securing this grant, and the fact that the city council chose not to accept it should not result in its not being recognized.

-- On page 30, the Port's trail from East Bay Drive to the tip of the peninsula should be added to Figure 4.2.

-- On page 32, last paragraph, the term "Pesticide Free" does not fit the description of the program. A more accurate term should be substituted, perhaps "Chemical Free".

-- On page 35, paragraph 1, last sentence, change "managed" to "owned". Ownership is what matters here.

-- On page 35, last paragraph, the fountain donation was not by a "local family". A better term might be "private family" or "Seattle-area family".

-- On page 36, first "Significance for the Plan", paragraph 2, change "would" to "should" to indicate the uncertainty of any significant effect on the Heritage Park Fountain.

-- On page 36 (and page 81), "Isthmus Parcels" item, change this to focus mainly on acquisition and removal of the Capitol Center Building and creation of a grand public space on the entire 4-block isthmus area, the exact shape of which should be determined after an inclusive public process. See my earlier email submissions and Friends of the Waterfront submission for suggested wording.

-- On page 36 (also page 81) the draft states that "The Community Renewal Area process and Downtown Strategy will inform OPARD's level of involvement in the isthmus area." "Inform appears to be inaccurate; "determine" appears to be the correct word.

-- On page 37, second-last paragraph, the last words are "world class waterfront". This is quite hyperbolic when I compare Lucerne, Zurich, and some waterfronts in China. Perhaps "first class waterfront" to indicate high quality even though our waterfront is small?

-- On page 39, I suggest that the West Bay Park item include mention of the Squaxin Tribe's involvement. This is a very important factor.

-- On page 43, under Watershed Park Birds, add Barred owl and Great Horned owl.

-- On page 49, paragraph 3 suggests that athletic and fitness programs can provide economic benefits to the community because participants might purchase equipment related to their activities or eat lunch together. For this to be true, it seems like one would have to assume that these dollars would not be spent in the absence of these activities. That does not seem like a reasonable assumption.

-- On page 63, last paragraph, the draft indicates that in the case where neighborhood parks are co-located with other types of parks, "two acres of the park are assigned to the 'neighborhood park' classification." Two acres

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seems a bit on the small side. I suggest that the decision to consider just two acres as neighborhood park be reconsidered because it is smaller than most of our existing neighborhood parks.

-- The definition of "neighborhood park" is dealt with on pages 64, 65, and 87.

a. There is no indication of the desired size of stand-alone neighborhood parks, just hints of perhaps 2 acres. Most current stand-alone neighborhood parks are larger than 2 acres, and with zoning changes resulting in greater housing densities it appears questionable to reduce the size of this standard. I think (1) we need a size standard and (2) it should be adequate for future, denser populations.

b. There are at least three definitions of neighborhood parks in the draft. Most often it says that neighborhood parks should be within 1/2 mile of 90% of residences. But on p. 65 it says within 1/2 to 1 mile, and on pp. 87 and 94 it says both a neighborhood park and an open space within walking distance of most residences. I suggest that the standard be a neighborhood park within 1/2 mile of 90% of all residences, and that this be made clear throughout the document (pp. 64, 65, 66, 87, and 94).

-- The community park section, pp 67-72, continues the recent practice of not setting standards for athletic fields. The result is that Olympia could meet its community park standard (p. 71) without a single rectangular field or diamond! This is deplorable. I strongly believe we should have a fields-per-thousand standard or goal for the two types of fields, as we did in years past. I also believe the plan should include a listing of fields that serve our citizens, wherever they are located and whoever owns them. This is needed to provide a clear and accurate picture of the athletic fields that serve our residents and will do so in the future. Finally, I think we need to know whether the number of fields we provide is appropriate considering our share of the area's population.

-- On page 74, last sentence, the draft indicates that this plan targets a larger area of open space acreage than needed to meet the standard, but does not state why. The amount of the excess is not large (about 9 acres), and would serve population growth in future periods, but it seems odd and could raise questions about the plan.

-- On page 84, under Yauger Park Proposed Action, the draft says of the upgrades to existing fields, "a site has not yet been identified for these upgrades". How can this be?

-- On page 85, Grass Lake Nature Park, a pathway is proposed, but no neighborhood park. Why? A neighborhood park at the Kaiser Road trailhead has been planned for years.

-- On page 88, Spraygrounds, these features are said to pose "little risk of drowning". Should that not be "no risk"?

-- On page 89, first paragraph, the draft says "each parcel requires a willing

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seller". This is not true because the city's eminent domain power is and has always been available for acquisition of land for public facilities/purposes. I suggest this be changed to indicate that it is desirable to have willing sellers. The "willing to sell" language also occurs on page 95 at the end of the first paragraph under Potential Trail Corridor Projects.

-- Also on page 89, first paragraph, I suggest the criteria for evaluating potential purposes be re-ordered from most important to least important. I would personally put the last four bullets first and the first bullet last.

-- On page 90, Arts Center item, the definition of arts is broad, but I wonder if it fits this particular facility. My impression is that this facility would host painters, sculptors, etc., but I don't think that musicians and actors are foreseen. It would be useful to clarify this.

-- On page 93, the heading New Open Space/Trail Land and Development does not fit the content of this section. An accurate heading should be substituted.

-- On page 98, Existing and Proposed Parks and Trail Corridors Map section, and also Map 7-1, are inconsistent, sometimes referring to trails and trail corridors and sometimes referring to open spaces. The content of the map appears to be open spaces rather than trails, so I suggest that the wording be changed to match. Or that a different map and corresponding text be substituted.

On page 103, the last sentence of the Planning and Design paragraph appears to belong to the previous paragraph.

On page 103, paragraph 4, I suggest that the assets considered in the FCI do not include land value. (also page 110, top -- only the built portion of the park system should be considered.

On page 104, one of the most important functions of the MMP methodology is not mentioned. I suggest adding a sentence/paragraph at the bottom of p. 104 such as "the MMP methodology will also be used to analyze service levels and maintenance methods to find more cost-effective ways to maintain parks."

On page 106, under Effective Organization, in line 3 after the words "be on" I suggest the addition of "(1) delivery of high quality programs and (2)".

On page 106, the 8% and 5% figures for marketing expenses seem quite high.

On page 107, under Public Art, line 3, after "value", insert "that meet established criteria" or more specific wording to indicate that the 500K criterion does not apply to sewer projects and the like.

On page 109, paragraph 1 states that this section contains "performance measures, outlined below by division". That statement is corrected on page 112, where it is stated that they are "work load measures" (which is true). I think the introduction should state that OPARD is in the early stages of a long range objective to develop performance measures for all divisions,

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	<p>and that the workload measures listed here represent some early thinking on this topic. Workload measures, of course, do not measure performance. Because this section represents a very preliminary effort, I will not comment on the specific measures, but am available to do so.</p> <p>I look forward to reviewing the next draft.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Proposed changes:</p> <p>P. 13: <u>This random sample survey was conducted by a well-respected professional survey consultant and conducted in a scientific manner; it is perhaps the most accurate way to gauge the opinions of Olympia’s population.</u></p> <p>P. 35: Heritage Park and Sylvester Park, while important downtown parks, are managed-owned by the State and are therefore not included in this <u>section of the plan.</u>)</p> <p>P. 35: The fountain was made possible by a local family donation.</p> <p>P. 36: The plan proposes two “sprayground” water play features in other parks which would <u>should</u> reduce the stress placed on the fountain.</p> <p>P. 37: ...replacing the rest of the boardwalk would create an opportunity for Percival Landing to be an integral part of a world <u>first</u> class waterfront.</p> <p>P. 43: Great horned owl and Barred owl added to bird list</p> <p>P. 86: In order for there to be a neighborhood park and an open space within walking distance to nearly all Olympia residents...</p> <p>P. 87: [Spraygrounds] provide a fun, outdoor water activity at a fraction of the cost of a pool and without the need for lifeguards as there is little <u>no</u> risk of drowning.</p> <p>P. 97 References to map changed to “open space” from “trail”</p> <p>P. 102: The FCI is a formula where the total cost of repairs (the maintenance backlog) is divided by the current estimated <u>replacement</u> value of the park assets <u>(not including land).</u></p> <p>P. 103: <u>The MMP methodology will also be used to analyze service levels and maintenance methods to find the most cost-effective ways to maintain</u></p>

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	<p><u>parks.</u></p> <p>P. 105: The primary focus of the City’s Recreation Program staff should be on <u>(1) delivery of high quality programs and (2) program development and growth of new programs.</u></p> <p>P. 106: 1% for Art set-aside for City construction projects over \$500,000 in value <u>that are visible and usable by the public.</u></p> <p>P. 109: This measure is derived by dividing the backlog cost of maintenance <u>by the current estimated replacement value of the park assets (not including land).the overall value of the park system.</u></p>
<p>Nancy Partlow email 12/11/15</p>	<p>Here are my comments on the 2016 Olympia Parks Plan Draft:</p> <p>Preserve Habitat</p> <p>The City of Olympia’s Park Plan should focus more on acquiring and protecting wildlife habitat. I write for a Thurston County-based nature blog with my sister Janet and her husband Glen. We have been studying local amphibians. Current wetland buffers are not nearly large enough to protect our native amphibians which spend most of their lives in forests rather than wetlands. This article points out the problem:</p> <p>http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/sprawl-flattens-frogs-other-amphibians-struggling-to-survive/</p> <p><i>"...King County has adopted some of the most generous habitat protections anywhere, which in combination restrict clearing of forests, protect wetlands, and require connections between wetlands and associated forests to protect migration routes. But even the largest buffer zones, reaching 300 feet from sensitive areas in some circumstances in King County, are not always enough for amphibians on the move.</i></p> <p><i>And in developments built under old rules, and in jurisdictions with less stringent regulations, amphibians often face total barriers to movement — just one more challenge for animals already battling disease and competition from exotic predators, such as bullfrogs.</i></p> <p><i>The result is that common backyard animals every Puget Sound kid grew up with, such as Western toads, red-legged frogs and northwestern salamanders, are disappearing or in decline, some population surveys show.</i></p>

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In seven of 18 King County wetlands surveyed between 1993 and 1997, Klaus O. Richter, a senior ecologist for King County, found native species declined and some even disappeared.

“It’s not just the wetland alone that is really important,” Richter said. “They only use the wetlands for two weeks to a month, a very limited time, when they go to the wetlands to breed. But then they go to the forest to live their lives, and what we have found is that the forests are disappearing, and getting smaller, and the access to them is declining because of our sprawl.”

He remembers going to Beaver Lake Park in the Sammamish Plateau in early summer and finding the grassy areas near the lake alive with toads. “The ground would be moving, just crawling with baby toads,” Richter said.

The toads used to migrate between the lake and forest nearby. But today the forest is home to Beaver Lake Estates, and roads, including busy 228th Avenue, slice through the toads’ former migratory routes.

“I’ve been going back and looking, and I haven’t seen a toad,” Richter said. He sees a diminishing, not only of the food chain and biological diversity of the area, but of the human pleasure in living in a place so alive. “It’s sad,” he said, “they are just gone. People don’t even know what used to be here. It’s the extinction of experience.”

These are the amphibian species native to the Olympia area:

Pacific Chorus Frog
Western toads
Red-legged frogs
Oregon spotted frogs
Northwestern salamanders
Long-toed salamanders
Red-backed salamanders
Rough-skinned newts
Ensatinas.

Destruction of Olympia’s urban forests for growth and development are extirpating these and countless other unseen creatures, creating a highly impoverished world.

Two currently undeveloped Olympia parks properties are especially important for the protection of terrestrial amphibian habitat. They are the

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Chambers Lake parcel, and the Harrison Avenue property that abuts Grass Lake Refuge. These sites should be left largely in their natural state.

Report a Critter

I enjoyed reading the species list for some of Olympia’s larger open space nature parks, although the lists are not comprehensive. For example, river otters aren't shown as occurring in Priest Point Park, even though we know they are there. I was surprised and pleased to note that Red-legged frogs and Rough-skinned newts have been seen at Priest Point. I didn't know that. This is a perfect example of why buying and preserving large forest parks is so important.

May I suggest that the city create some sort of online function where people could report animal species they’ve seen in Olympia Parks? This could improve knowledge of the larger life community that surrounds us and increase citizen interest in the protection and maintenance of these parks.

Acquire the property to daylight Moxlie Creek

I ask that the city acquire the Port of Olympia property on State Street to create a daylighted Moxlie Creek park. This could be an expansion of the city’s already existing East Bay Waterfront Park. Moxlie Creek doesn’t have a functional estuary right now. If it was a healthy ecosystem there would be so much more life in this area. As things stand now, I wouldn’t even walk on that beach because of legacy pollution in the soils.

By applying for grants to create a daylighted and restored Moxlie Creek, Olympia would finally join the ranks of other progressive Puget Sound communities that have already applied for, and received, large grants to restore previously destroyed and damaged estuaries on their waterfronts.

Purchase West Bay and isthmus properties for contiguous waterfront park

Finally, I would like to ask the city to work with other groups to purchase the West Bay waterfront and downtown isthmus properties that are currently for sale, with a view to creating one large contiguous park along Olympia’s waterfront. It would be a profoundly wise and never-forgotten gift to Olympia’s citizens and future generations.

OPARD

Thank you for your thoughtful comments about the importance of habitat

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	<p>protection. By including a habitat component in this plan, this plan makes the City eligible for habitat grants through the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office. We intend to vigorously pursue these types of grants to better manage some of our most critical park habitats and be able to leverage our funds for acquiring natural open space areas. We are hopeful that this plan sets the stage for increasingly effective management of the natural areas in our parks.</p> <p>Proposed change: Added “River otter” to the list of wildlife observed in Priest Point Park.</p>
<p>Jeffrey J. Jaksich email 12/11/15</p>	<p>The Preliminary Olympia Parks Plan is an enigma as written with regard to local coherent park planning priorities that fail to meet current and future (20 year) neighborhood and regional Olympia resident parks and recreation service level needs, standards for now and over the next 20 years. The Preliminary Olympia Parks Plan is inadequate in a number of sections.</p> <p><i>1. The Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan is not well written compared with some parts of the <u>2010 Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan</u> and looking feckless in the anemic Olympia Parks Business Plan. This anemic Olympia Parks Business Plan is lacking the needed linkage from the proposed Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan strategic goals and related supporting policies. These goals and supporting policies either need linked and/or related Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan performance standards. This has already been mandated by the Olympia City Council for the last five years. The Olympia Parks planning requires a more integrated and linked Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation business plan. This anemic Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation business plan is an example of incomplete Olympia staff work that hurts the Park Department capabilities to defend the Olympia Parks funding in a sustainable manner relative to other glutinous City of Olympia departments. This anemic Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation business plan needs better operational definition of parks terms and adequate measurable parks and recreation performance measures/standards. These measurable parks and recreation performance measures/standards so essential to effective Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation business plan. Further, this plan needs cost/effective business case analyses of Olympia Parks, Arts and/or Recreation projects/programs. These analyses are essential to Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation operational and capital budgets in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, etc. and provide a factual basis to defend park revenues and funding in a sustainable manner. The Olympia Parks, Arts</i></p>

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and Recreation business plan and related budgets are critical for accountability and needed continued public support. Business cases (project/program policy decision packages)) are critical to accountability. The smart use of neighborhood and/or regional Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation business plan service levels, performance standards, etc. enhance park in competition with other City of Olympia services.

2. The Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan outlines a 20-year vision for parks, arts and recreation is not holistic enough for my taste. Greater linkage is critical to the proposed park plan, park business plan, park project/program business cases (decision packages) and related project/program operational and/or capital budgets details, including strategic goal related performance measures. The parks plan and its supportive business plan do not adequately identify and justify the general location of future parks and open space based on equitable levels of park and recreation services per capita using the Olympia GIS technical capabilities and publically accessible Park Planning web sites. These sites require facts based decision processes that would benefit from relational based analysis using GIS Geo-coded information and tailored geo-coded data and applications applied in a manner supportive of Olympia Parks capital investment strategy, etc. These decisions can be greatly enhanced by incorporating the most recent park surveys and studies. These efforts should improve public input and involvement in current and on-going planning and management efforts, and/or resulting strategic parks goals, performance standards, levels of service, etc. The more holistic use of facts (geo-coded data) reflected in the parks plan, business plan and documented park project/program business case (decision packages), etc. will greatly enhance public involvement and support for future Olympia parks projects and/or programs.

3. As a Olympia resident and taxpayer, I feel that that the staff work outcomes needed to greatly improved using GIS technology and critical geo-coded data essential to parks planning and minimize incomplete staff work. The preliminary parks investment strategy is ill-conceived in terms of optimizing park and recreation levels of service per capita by neighborhood and the City, as a whole. Olympia residents want prudent Olympia Parks planning, public park management best practices, and cost/beneficial parks and recreation services per capita by neighborhoods based on fair levels of parks and recreational services, especially with regard to children. While some of these concerns were raised in the local public involvement meetings. Few of these concerns were reflected adequately in the most recent survey. Other things, like the Isthmus Park were more highly rated

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in the most recent survey relative to LBA Woods and Kaiser Heights projects. The Isthmus Park was inadequately discussed in the Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan, '... when compared with the The current plan" that "... was adopted in 2010. This discussion in the plan is important in order to remain eligible to receive grants from the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office. This is an updated plan that will need to be adopted by March 1, 2016. Some re-write is required, which assures compliance with State and/or federal cost accounting and grant regulations, such as State and local park expenditure regulations, including federal circulars A-95, A-102, etc. and State guidelines issued by the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office.

4. While Olympia Parks have done better job than the staff working for the Olympia Planning in a number of public management areas, projects, programs, etc.

5. The Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan is way too scattered. The MPD vote was positive, but the public is expecting full accountability. We can no longer afford the lack of adequate actual public involvement. We need the plan to reflect a broader perspective on public park plan input with regard to reasonable park services. The park plan can be greatly improved by improving the parks plan, business cases, facts based public involvement and input, such as web based GIS park planning application, etc.

6. There was inadequate involvement and input because Olympia Parks staff did not share recent facts from ball field and other related studies with regard to LBA Woods. This property provides open space, trail, and storm water value (measurable storm water utility) for adjacent neighbors and the broader community. The costs and benefits of potential projects need a comprehensive business case analysis so that costs and benefits can be fully examined. The LBA Wood business case need to compare and contrast the comprehensive costs and benefits on all the affected parties, especially the adjacent neighbors and even those impacted along the ditch and Chambers Lake. City of Olympia Development staff mistakes, etc. have made the indirect impacts worse. The many failures of City and County development staff have left cumulative impacts that needs to analyzed to fairly assign costs to mitigate storm water and other costs equitably among the neighbors, affected neighbors, and all City residents and look to using City of Olympia's Geographic Information System geo-data and analyses to allocate cost fairly. Business case analyses needs to realistically compare and contrast potential Olympia Parks projects. These Business Cases allow a variety of alternative funding options to be examined, such as the a

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potential local LID funded by adjacent neighbors and/or other impacted neighbors. If neighbors want more than the current public open space or green belt, they ought to help pay for these amenities. Other Olympia neighbors have often paid for these amenities through the market price of their home, like the residents in the Goldcrest Neighborhood, etc.

7. I am pretty sure that State and Federal regulations and guidelines could be used against the City of Olympia to claw back parks revenues misspent by misclassifying as parks costs, where storm water benefits could be documented in business case analyses, like those for the Kaiser Heights and LBA Woods projects. These and other proposed Parks projects need to be compared and contrasted with each other.

8. Competent business case analyses would result in more competent policy making by the City Council and better staff recommendations and/or priorities made by Olympia Parks staff.

9. The Olympia Parks business plan was skimpy and inadequate for optimizing the decision packages reflected in park project business cases. These business case analyses would best support the Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan projects and investment strategy as well as prevent unfair cost shifting or substitution of Olympia Parks revenues. These cost shifts were aided and abetted by Olympia City Councils decisions for 1994, 1997, etc. The voted Utility tax increase of 2004 was partially misspent and/or misclassified as we only acquired 64 of the 500 promised acres. Some of these acquired parks land, like Ward Lake, were overpriced and inadequate and costly to develop, such as the \$12 million estimated to comply with the ADA with regard to the development of the Ward Lake property.

10. The common Olympia staff and management withholding of critical information is less likely with the use of an Olympia Parks business plan in the Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan and supportive park project business cases. We have numerous Olympia management and planning failures, such as the 500 promised park acres to be acquired by the City of Olympia from the promised Part portion of the 2004 Utility Tax increase

11. The City of Olympia delayed Olympia Parks maintenance of about \$4 million claimed by Olympia Parks staff reflects real management and budgeting problems going back to the 2009 operating and capital budgets. These problems were not adequately debated and discussed in the recent campaign in a manner that informed the voting public. The public trust in

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Olympia staff and management sorely strained by withholding information and the failure of Olympia staff to do business case analyses. Many of the voters in the recent election (about 40%) have real trust issues with regard to Olympia Park revenues being diverted and/or negatively impacted by misclassification of some expenditures for public works benefits as park expenditures. There are real concerns of the part of some voters having parks revenues generated from the 2004 Utility Tax increases, Olympia Metropolitan Park District (Olympia MPD) taxes, and dedicated Olympia General Fund for Olympia Parks being maintained in a sustainable manner to meet park promised in the Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan, such as the proposed Kaiser Heights, etc. projects. LBA Woods and Kaiser Heights projects are great examples of project with non-park benefits, such as neighborhood storm water benefits that might be best paid for from a local LID.

The Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan lacks the comprehensive levels of parks and recreation services per capita and relative to the nearby users of park and other City service benefits.

Here is some more recommendations:

While supporting needed acquisition of land for future park development to serve our growing population, most citizens want the City of Olympia to maintain the existing parks so that current residents, especially of children can enjoy these facilities to day.

Please review the Isthmus section of the Parks Plan, pages 36 and 81 and more accurately reflect the input from the recent survey, 2010 plan, etc. This language is weak and feckless for plan and park development purposes.

According to Bob Jacobs, Friends of the Waterfront, and many other park and environmental groups in Olympia, several of the Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan inconsistency require a major rewrite in order to improve the Preliminary 2015 Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan. Some examples of things that are wrong with the plan include " ... inconsistent description of the area included, use of outdated cost estimates that are unsupportable and are also inconsistent with the treatment of other projects, failure to specifically include the Capitol Center Building even after the public strongly supported its removal, and etc"

It's hard to make sense of this plan without a complete re-write of sections

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	<p>of the plan, especially the Olympia Parks business plan and the lack of critical and accurate business case analyses.</p> <p>Here are some consensus revisions that many of us want the Olympia Parks staff revise.:</p> <p>"a. Define the isthmus as the whole area west of Water Street, between 4th and 5th Avenues, excluding the Image Source (KFC) Building. This area is included in the acreage cited in this draft, but treatment of the area is inconsistent. This is also the area included in the current Parks Plan."</p> <p>"b. Specifically include acquisition and removal of the Capitol Center Building. This has strong public support as indicated by the recent professional poll and MPD election."</p> <p>"c. List the cost estimate for the Capitol Center Building acquisition and removal as 8-10M, which is the most recent staff estimate. Don't use the obsolete number from the original feasibility because it is out of date and because it included development costs. Don't include development costs because (1) those costs cannot be known due to the fact that we do not know how the space will be used, and (2) development costs are not included for other acquisition projects in the Draft Plan."</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. We are sorry you are so disappointed in the plan and the work of City of Olympia staff in general. We are proud that this is the first Parks plan that utilizes a GIS analysis to determine which areas of the City are underserved, the first plan that includes a business plan with measurable performance measures, and the first Parks Plan that will make the City eligible for habitat grants from the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office. These are new components of the plan that will be evaluated and will evolve as we implement the plan.</p>
<p>Adam Cole email 12/10/15</p>	<p>Please accept this email as official public comment on the plan.</p> <p>1) it is critical to purchase as much of the undeveloped property around LBA as possible. The development pressure in that area of the city and county is too much for the current park inventory in this area to serve. Open space is badly needed. The added acres should be mostly retained as open space with trails and should be maintained as an urban forest. Some athletic and other community amenities could be accommodated on the space depending on how much can be purchased.</p> <p>2) Develop Ward Lake Park. Fresh Water waterfront serving as a public park is scares in this area of the city. This park should be developed to</p>

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	<p>include a swim beach, non-motorized boating (WDFW supplies motorized access) and community amenities such as playgrounds, sport courts, shelters and trails.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>LBA Woods – see LBA woods response above (#1).</p> <p>Ward Lake - The plan budgets approximately \$9 million for a community park project in 2022-2035. Ward Lake swim beach could be that project as could other community park projects. Since that is over 6-years away, there will be another Park plan in place before that time so community priorities would be assessed at during that planning process.</p>
<p>Jim Nieland email 12/10/15</p>	<p>Attached is my personal list of comments concerning the Parks Plan. These are in addition to the comments I previously sent.</p> <p>78 Lions Park: The proposed action wording needs to be rewritten. Read the two sentences and you will see the problem.</p> <p>81 Isthmus Parcels: I believe OPARD should take a stand against the development of the Isthmus for housing. The area is mapped as a high hazard area due to its potential for liquefaction during an earthquake. The 4th Avenue Bridge and a ½ mile section of the Capitol Parkway were destroyed in the 2001 Nisqually Earthquake due to liquefaction. The 2001 earthquake was considered only "moderate". State seismic geologists have mapped the isthmus for potential earthquake damage and have given it the highest hazard rating.</p> <p>The Isthmus is “artificial land” composed of loosely consolidated dredge spoils (fill) placed atop muddy sediments of the former estuary. During a severe earthquake these sediments are expected to liquefy and move as was experienced in 2001 along Capitol Parkway. A severe earthquake will likely take down or cause the subsidence of any structure on the isthmus.</p> <p>The isthmus will become increasing susceptible to soil saturation as sea level continues to rise over the next 50 years. Any structure placed here will be in jeopardy of severe damage regardless of seismic engineering techniques used to resist shaking or subsidence. One seismic expert states: “when nature wants it, it will take it”.</p> <p>The location is much better suited to remain as park open space.</p> <p>81 Madison Scenic Park: I would not characterize this park as being in “good condition”. If characterized at all, it is in poor, or in undeveloped condition.</p> <p>82 Percival Landing: Any new development along the water shore needs to take into consideration the impact of liquefaction during a severe</p>

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earthquake. The design of any retaining walls, piers or bulkheads need to take into account the effect of lateral spreading of soils.

82 Stevens Field: I know that the City has an agreement with the school district permitting use of Stevens Field by the general public use, when it is not needed by the school. The agreement is partly in exchange for field maintenance. The proposed action implies that a lot of money would be spent on property not owned by the City, and which is available only part of the time. This disparity has the potential to be questioned by persons following the funding scheme.

The suggested upgrade is well beyond “maintenance”. This funding idea appears lop-sided and probably needs to be thought through carefully. Before agreeing to this level of expenditure PRAC would need to weigh in on both the cost and any assurances made in the agreement to continue making it available for public use. Funding of improvements shared by the School District and City might better be covered through a cost share agreement with both parties contributing to the expense.

Identifying the site as having potential for improvement might be a better course of action at this time. I suggest leaving out the funding details.

83 Ward Lake Parcel: Under the proposed actions, the action item should include the recommendation endorsed by PRAC to develop the upper area into park property. This was discussed at length and several options presented to PRAC as a method of amending the original agreement with the State concerning the development of the park. The proposed action should not exclude development of swimming in the future, but should make a positive statement that the upper area will be developed. We should avoid any suggestion that purchase of this property, if not developed for swimming, has no value. This is a very valuable and important park property.

87 Watershed Park: The Olympia Woodland Trail is proposed to skirt the west edge of the park and connect through to the Tumwater Heritage park area to the south. A portion of this trail exists to the south of the Henderson Street roundabout across the street from the area of new hotel development. As a new action, the plan should call for a connector trail leading from the roundabout into the western portion of the Watershed Park trail system. The hotel guests would greatly benefit from this connection as well as the hotels. There may be an opportunity here for a partnership with the hotels in establishing the trail link.

88 New Community Park Land and Development: Under this heading Kaiser Woods has been left out. Since LBA Woods Acquisition is shown, Kaiser Woods, which is under the same status for acquisition needs to be added.

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91 Dog Parks, Proposed Action: Please expand the statement about dog parks. The current wording could be misconstrued to mean that athletic fields may be used as dog parks. I think you are trying to say that when identifying open areas suitable for athletic fields, separate open space for dog parks may also be found. It might be a good idea to leave the words “athletic fields” out of the statement completely.

92 Off-Road Bike Park: Need to tone down the suggestion of using “Kaiser Heights” as a suitable area for an off-road bike park. This sort of a suggestion should only come out of a management plan with public involvement. (The private property immediately west of the Kaiser Woods parcel has already been developed as an extreme off-road bike area, with ramps, jumps and all sort of special features. This is development is outside the City limits and the urban growth area. I am already hearing residents express concern that similar activity would be extended into the new park land. We need to be careful on this issue and make sure that development follows required procedure.)

93 ADA Transition Plan: In the third line, change the word “constructing” to constructed.

93-94 Kaiser Woods: Same suggestion as for page 92 above. This may or may not be an “excellent” site for mountain bike trails. If anything, trails will need to be shared, hiker-mountain bike; mixed use.

94 West Bay Woods: The concern is that “park land” would be purchased as “wildlife habitat”, excluding public use. It is a great idea to acquire park land that is also important as wildlife habitat, but the rub comes if the public is excluded from using the property. If this were to occur, then the property cannot reasonably be classified as “park land” and should be purchased and maintained using funding other than park acquisition funds. If the public is permitted viewing access of wildlife, then making it a “park” is fitting. Watchable wildlife areas are very popular.

95 Potential Trail Projects: In this section there needs to be a discussion of the various types of trails, types of use (hiker, bicycle, mountain bike, ADA, etc.) along with standards for construction, grades and difficulty levels. It would be nice to see an introduction which provides a comprehensive vision of what the City trail system will look like and how it should function. The Thurston Regional Trails Plan is referenced, but if used for any decision in this plan, it should be attached as an appendix to the Parks plan.

98 Existing and Proposed Parks and Trail Corridors Map (Map 7-1): The trails component of this map is almost impossible to understand. Trails are not specifically identified in the legend and those shown, cannot be differentiated from roads. Suggest using a different color for trails (red dashed line) and that the specific trails be marked on the map by name

98-99 New Arts Programs: Far too little attention has been paid to

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	<p>incorporating art into the parks program. This section of the plan could be expanded to recognize how art will be incorporated into development of new and existing parks. Consider spending a certain percentage of development cost (5-10%) for inclusion of art. The definition of art could be broad, encompassing almost any form or art, such as sculpture, architectural design, space for reflection, interpretive messages, fountains, murals, space for performance art, etc.</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Proposed changes:</p> <p>Madison Scenic Park on p. 79: This 2.2 acre partially-developed park is in good <u>fair</u> condition but does not have many amenities. The hillside trail was improved in 2012 and is in good shape.</p> <p>Ward Lake Park on p. 81: Add the following sentence to end of paragraph: <u>In 2014, the Olympia Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommended that OPARD move forward with developing the upland area of the site as a community park.</u></p> <p>Dog Parks P. 90: This plan budgets \$1,000,000 for a Phase 1 Athletic Field complex project in 2021. One of the complimentary amenities of that project could be an off-leash dog area (<u>separate from the athletic fields</u>) if the site is suitable.</p> <p>Off-Road Bike Park p. 91: Existing funds are allocated to conduct a feasibility study for a larger off-road bike facility at another site. <u>The study would include an assessment of potential impacts to adjacent neighbors and ways to minimize those potential impacts.</u></p> <p>ADA Transition Plan p. 92: typo corrected</p> <p>Kaiser Woods p. 93: “Kaiser Woods” would likely be an excellent <u>could be a good</u> site for off-road bike trails, <u>pending an analysis of the potential impacts on adjacent neighbors; providing this area could provide</u> Olympia residents an opportunity for mountain biking within Olympia City Limits.</p> <p>West Bay Woods p. 93: In addition to habitat preservation, acquisition of some of the parcels in this area could provide <u>good opportunities for people to experience nature in their neighborhood</u> and for important trail connections from the neighborhood down to West Bay Drive and West Bay Park.</p> <p>Trail Standards: OPARD utilizes the City’s Engineering and Design Development standards for trail construction. For trail maintenance,</p>

18. MISCELLANEOUS AND MULTIPLE TOPIC COMMENTS

	<p>OPARD is developing trail maintenance standards as part of its Park Maintenance Services Levels currently being crafted.</p> <p>Map 7-1: Map was not intended to show trail corridors so good point that its confusing to call it a parks and “trail corridor” map. It’s a park and “open space” map and references to “trail corridor” have been removed.</p> <p>Arts: Description of Arts Program on page 45 – first full sentence: Works are acquired through a variety of methods including commissioned works, <u>incorporating art into infrastructure through</u> design teams, temporary works and direct purchases.</p>
<p>Barbara Benson Letter 12/15/15</p>	<p>Some comments regarding the 2016 Draft Park, Arts and Recreation Plan. First there is a correction: page 5, 5th paragraph, 1st sentence, next to last word should be "of" not "off".</p> <p>I would like to suggest that the Random Sample Survey of Olympia Citizens should be given additional weight in decision making by the Department and City Council. Especially the balanced spending plan idea as outlined on page 13 of the draft plan. Interestingly, the random survey revealed a desire for purchasing more small open areas over one or two mega parcels.</p> <p>There are several mentions within the Draft plan regarding the use of grants and private donations for park and facility acquisition, development, operation, programming and events. It is my understanding that Grant writing is a specialized skill. Has the City ever employed a professional grant writer (with a relevant history of success) to assist in the writing of grants that may prove ever more critical to Parks, Arts and Recreation? If not, it warrants consideration.</p> <p>According to GR 2 on page 55 of the draft plan, the City will seek non-profit and citizen partnerships,... and private donations for park facility acquisition, development, operation, programming and events. How has this been done? Or is this still to be determined? Unless a structure is already in place, perhaps a small group within the city could be tasked to actively seek donations of lands, materials or services that would enhance the City's Parks, Arts and Recreation Programs.</p>

18. MISCELLANEOUS AND MULTIPLE TOPIC COMMENTS

	<p>In order to facilitate the building of the needed rectangular athletic fields, should we look at existing park lands that may lend themselves to such activity? For example, if LBA Woods were to be purchased, could the existing LBA Park in its entirety be converted to rectangular ball fields moving the neighborhood park portion to the more forested parcel, both saving trees and developing the rectangular fields faster and cheaper? I loath the term but perhaps we need to employ more "outside the box" thinking when it comes to our current Parks spaces, if possible.</p> <p>Clearing the Isthmus parcels has certainly allowed for better visualization of its potential. It makes the remaining adjacent buildings stand out like "sore thumbs". Advocates for the City Parks, Arts and Recreation activities must have an active voice during the Community Renewal Area and Downtown Strategy processes. Parks, Arts and Recreation has to be front and center of any development plans for the Isthmus.</p> <p>Affordable housing, comprehensive mental health services and increased family support are some of the ancillary services that could positively impact all of Olympia's Parks but in particular The Artesian Commons.</p> <p>It's a good Planica, just need enough moneyca!</p>
<p>OPARD</p>	<p>Balanced spending plan: Staff believes the proposed plan is balanced with substantial funds planned for addressing the maintenance backlog/improving existing parks as well as substantial investments in both land acquisition and new park development.</p> <p>LBA Woods – Thanks for the “outside the box” idea. If we purchase either or both of the LBA Woods parcels we would consider your idea as we move towards park development.</p> <p>Isthmus – see Isthmus response (#3) above.</p>

Feedback from the Open House

12/2/15

- What does the plan say about encampments? How do we increase rate of enforcement?
- Description of ballfields – how are we meeting the standard?
- Olympia Soccer Association – need more rectangles for play. Get kids outdoors! Area needs more soccer fields
- Plan doesn't accurately describe deficit for soccer fields.
- Are school fields well utilized?
- Thurston County Youth Football – develop multi-use open space greenfields, i.e. Lacey – for practice – giant open field for multi-use
- Develop “dog runs” vs. full scale dog park that could fit into neighborhood park model
- See J. Reilly's letter for specific comments. (cost estimate for Isthmus needs to be updated in the plan)
- Strengthen plan that deals with arts – capture the growth – staffing, programming
- Create a place for arts – create a vision to start with dance, music, procession, collaborate with various groups
- Is the Isthmus area subservient to Planning Department and other agendas, other than parks. Will this create a precedent?
- Coordinate agendas
- Need places for people to swim in clean water, i.e. Ward Lake
- City put pressure on the State to figure out a way to make Capitol Lake available
- Separate Downtown Plan from CRA to increase park emphasis
- Support projects proposed by coalition
- Isthmus area definition is unclear
- Capital Center Building needs to be acquired
- Cost estimate for Capital Center needs to be revised – acquisition only; not development
- Support Procession of Species
- Need activity parks in downtown – recreation features for play
- Strong arts program – needs more support
- Neighborhood park is out of scale for higher density area – per Comp Plan – for 3 dense nodes – need a new standard for these area
- Does the Plan meet the LOS? Not including State and schools inflates the need for more parks. South Capital neighborhood doesn't have a neighborhood park.
- Community needs to help implement the plan – swimming – i.e. YMCA
- Create interest groups to implement elements of the plan
- Good parts of the plan, habitat, waterfront
- Like open space in plan – West Bay Woods
- Leverage funds – work together on grants and other sources

- Park plan not as realistic as it needs to be – more a reflection of special interest
- Needs to focus on needs today
- Focus on services and business choices that need to be made
- Will require another tax increase to fund improvement to the plan
- Need to look at other resources to pay for the plan
- Not good relationship between the plan, services and business case to fund the plan
- Keep woodland trail – woodland. Do some acquisition/private and public along trail
- No spot goes unseen – good trail design to reduce behavior/crime
- Focus on Capital to Capitol trail
- Do cheap trail first i.e. gravel trails
- Mortgage future – buy now
- Utilize people’s energy to steward the land and work together
- Act now – no more planning – keep up enthusiasm and implement the plan
- As city revenues are short, additional taxes will be difficult for citizens. There remains concern the City will divert funds
- Budget does not provide enough funds to maintain parks adequately.

OPARD: Most of the issues here have been addressed above. For those that haven’t:

Encampments: The plan dedicates substantial additional resources for proactive park enforcement and encampment clean-up.

Are school fields well utilized? Yes, they are programed for community use so extensively that a problem is that the turf does not have adequate time to recover from heavy use. This causes a far from ideal playing surface at times.

Gravel trails – we have experimented with installing crushed rock trails in our interim use parks. The challenge is that while they meet ADA requirements when they are initially installed, it is difficult to maintain the proper surfacing and trail width long-term.

Feedback from the Olympia Planning Commission, 12/7/15

- Concern about using the term “funds set aside” as in “the Plan has funds set aside for...” Makes it sound like the City already has those funds when in fact they are just projected at this point.
- What is the rush in the adoption process? Seems like there should be more time for public review and comment.
- Consider parks smaller than 5 acres. Consider a standard for ¼ acre “pocket parks” in the plan.
- Concerns about projected revenues based on a bond not yet secured.
- Important to consider density. Need to ensure that people in high density areas are served. Land in high-density areas will likely be more expensive than in other areas. This may make the goals of having a park walking distance to all residents and acquiring 500 acres mutually exclusive.
- With the purchase of LBA Woods, high density development for that parcel will not occur which could erode the efforts to make the City more compact.
- Concern that \$9 million planned for Percival Landing will not be sufficient.
- Need to make it clear than even with the new funding source, everyone won't get what they want immediately. People will be paying taxes but there won't be a whole lot of park development for several years.

OPARD:

“Funds set aside”: Perhaps a better term would be “planned for”

Why “rushed” process? – The public comment period for the draft plan was three weeks long which staff felt was an adequate amount of time to read the plan and provide comment. The plan needs to be adopted by City Council by March 1, 2016 in order for OPARD to be eligible for the next Washington Recreation and Conservation Office granting cycle.

Parks smaller than 5-acres: Proposed additional sentence to section on neighborhood park acquisition on p. 86: In areas where five acres are not available, smaller parcels will be considered.

Bond revenue – The Capital Investment Strategy is just that, a “strategy” not a budget. The intent is to show that based on revenue projections, a bond as large as \$18 million could be secured for land acquisition. Depending on which parcels end up being purchased and when will determine how large of a bond would be utilized.

Density – You are correct that density should be considered when we get to the point where we are doing further analysis of where to locate future neighborhood parks.

Density re: LBA Woods - To ensure that the 417 acres of land acquisition proposed in the plan did not have an adverse impact on available land for future housing, OPARD asked the Thurston Regional Planning Council to prepare an analysis of this issue. Their conclusion was that even with the acquisition of the 417 acres proposed in the plan, Olympia would continue to have enough residential land supply to accommodate future demand through 2035.

\$9 million for Percival not sufficient – You are correct that \$9 million is not sufficient to complete the restoration of Percival Landing. If utilized to leverage other funding sources it would be sufficient for another substantial phase.

Everyone won't get what they want immediately – You are absolutely correct.

**Feedback from the Arts Commission
12/10/15**

- When implementing park development, incorporate artistic elements early on in the design process. For example, when installing benches, instead of buying benches from a catalog, have an artist design them. Incorporate artists on the design team.
- Seems like with the current focus on improving our downtown with the Downtown Strategy, Community Renewal Area, etc, having the Arts Center project in the latter years is too late. Should move the Arts Center into the first 6 years of the plan.
- Need another full-time FTE for the arts program.
- The Arts section of the plan needs to be a bit more forward-looking. It does a good job of articulating what we do now but not as good at looking forward. Need to link the Municipal Art Plan to the arts section of the Plan.
- In Arts Program performance measures, include number of artists participating in Arts Walk, not just businesses.

OPARD:

Incorporate art early in park design: Change to Arts section on p. 44: Works are acquired through a variety of methods including commissioned works, incorporating art into infrastructure through design teams, temporary works and direct purchases.

Arts Center Project should be earlier in plan: Proposed change to Arts Center section on p. 89: Proposed Action: The Plan's Capital Investment Strategy identifies \$5 million in MPD funds in 2017-2021 to support a high priority project. An Arts Center is one of four projects identified as a high priority project to utilize these funds.

More forward looking: Change on p. 45: Future projects are identified by the Arts Commission through their annual Municipal Art Plan (added hyperlink to Municipal Art Plan)

Link to Municipal Art Plan: "More Information" section on page 115 –

- The [Municipal Art Plan](#) lays out a 5 year horizon for public art.

Arts Program Performance Measures on P. 111-112:

Businesses and Artists Participating in Spring Arts Walk

Businesses and Artists Participating in Fall Arts Walk

Feedback from PRAC

12/17/15

Written comments from Jim Nieland (see p. 74 & p. 140 above) and Barbara Benson (see p. 144 above) were shared with the group and discussed. In addition, PRAC members had the following feedback:

- Add trail standards
- “Big W” trail is important and would create seamless experience around waterfront (example: Burt Gilman Trail)
- Fit facilities to the setting/park type
- Need connector trail from new hotel by Henderson roundabout to Watershed trail
- PAR Plan does not address Isthmus. Parks needs to be more active/take the lead on
- Address the Isthmus (Councilmember Roe)
- Put action statement at Madison to show funds already allocated
- Appreciate partnership with the school district. Look at continuing partnerships.
- LOS goal is not clear whether it is industry standard or if it is acceptable/good.
- Need process for soliciting donations.
- Look at Department of Fish and Wildlife sponsored boat ramps.

OPARD

Trail Standards: Trail Standards: OPARD utilizes the City’s Engineering and Design Development standards for trail construction. For trail maintenance, OPARD is developing trail maintenance standards as part of its Park Maintenance Services Levels currently being crafted.

Big “W” Trail - Staff agrees that this is an important trail. The plan includes funding for West Bay Park and Trail which is an important leg of this trail.

Fit facilities to the setting - Yes, agreed.

Need connector trail to Watershed - This would be accomplished via the Phase 3 Olympia Woodland Trail project.

Isthmus - See isthmus response (#3) above.

Madison Scenic Park - Section on Madison Scenic Park on p. 79 reads: *There are prior funds allocated for a minor park improvement project, the details of which will be determined through a public planning process.*

School District Partnership - Staff agrees that this is a very important partnership and intends to continue and strengthen this partnership.

LOS Goal - The National Recreation and Park Association no longer advocates national Level of Service Standards, but rather standards tailored for the community based on public input. That is what we have attempted to do with this plan.

Donations - A process for soliciting donations is a good idea and something PRAC has discussed before.

WDFW boat ramps - Thank you for the suggestion. We will look into that.

Appendix

(PDF Attachments submitted with e-mail comments)

Proposal to Olympia Park Department to Purchase Parcels in the Indian Creek Ravine area.

General Description

The Indian Creek Ravine area consists of a series of ridges and ravines on the north and south side of the Olympia Woodland Trail (OWT). The area starts at Eastside Street and continues to the Boulevard Road bridge. This proposal looks at the section from Eastside St. to Frederick St.

On both sides of the OWT, most of the ridges slope steeply up from the OWT and steeply down into ravines. On the south side of the OWT, the ravines separating the ridges are seasonally wet but do not support wetland plants such as skunk cabbage. On the north side, most of the ridges are separated by wetlands that include skunk cabbage.

On the south side, the ridges border developed areas on the south and the extreme east and west. On the north side, only the west end is developed for housing. The east end contains Olympia's Water Retention Park.

On the north side, noise from Interstate 5 is loud enough to be aversive to recreational activities. On the south side the noise is at an acceptable level.

Parcels on the north side are unlikely to be developed in the near future, except for the western-most area. There is no easy access to water on the north side and no power; the wetlands prevent most ridges from being united. Many former landowners of the northern parcels have allowed their land to be returned to Thurston County, now the majority landowner of the north side.

Parcels on the south side all have various levels of development possibility. Developers have been accumulating parcels into sizeable holdings. Access to power and water varies in the different areas, though all have access to sewer along the OWT.

Currently, multi-block areas on both sides of the trail are for sale.

Benefits of acquisition:

1. Preserve green space for future generations.
2. Unify City and County holdings to enable effective enforcement of trespass and debris issues.
3. Provide the option for future park development.
4. Increase the safety of the Olympia Woodland Trail and surrounding area by reducing unregulated activities.

Drawbacks of acquisition:

1. Purchase cost
2. Maintenance and preservation costs include regular patrolling and removal of camps and debris.
 - a. Patrolling: Two or more hours per week required to walk the side trails and evict any campers.
 - b. Removal of camps and debris: Cost will decline over time as area is regularly patrolled and existing sites are cleaned.
 - c. Cutting and pulling ivy.

Mitigation for the drawbacks:

1. Purchase cost can be divided across funding cycles by purchasing one section at a time.
2. Maintenance costs are not easily mitigated as few volunteers are interested in cleaning debris sites.
3. Preservation costs can include volunteer activities such as ivy removal, trail building and trail surfacing.

Detailed Descriptions--see attached map**North Side****1. Claude Nickerson area**

From the OWT, includes side trail L1, a small flat ridge, and two frequently-used camp sites. From Wheeler, several camp sites exist on the broad flat ridge. The two sections are separated by a seasonally wet area. They are bordered on the east and west by ravines and housing.

2. Thurston County and Various Private Owners

From the OWT, includes two ridges and trails L2 and L3, with a total of seven frequently used camp and debris sites, as well as a broad, central wetland. From Wheeler, a shallow gully separates the east ridge from Wheeler. The central wetland separates the western section from Central Street. The western section hugs a moderate slope with developed housing above it.

3. Mostly Thurston County and the Private Parcel Between Two City Parcels

From the OWT, includes two ridges with side trails L4 and L7 with five regular campsites, separated by a broad, shallow basin crossed by Indian Creek. From Wheeler, the ridge on the west end slopes up steeply; the ridge on the east end is gradual.

South Side

4. Mostly Herbrand

From the OWT, includes a broad, upward-sloping ridge with side trail R2 and five regular campsites; as well as portions of the ravines on either side. To the west, separated from the houses on Boundary St. by a shallow, well-drained ravine. To the east, slopes steeply into a ravine. To the south, backs onto the houses on Ravenna Court.

5. Mostly David Cammarano

From the OWT, includes a steep, narrow, upward sloping ridge with side trail R3 and one seldom-used camping site. Slopes steeply to the east and west. To the south, slopes up to the houses on 20th Ave. SE, at the end of Lybarger St. For many years, side trail R3 has been regularly used by these residents to access the OWT and downtown Olympia.

6. Mostly Ray Berchauer

From the OWT, includes two ridges with side trails R3.5, R4 and R5, five regularly used campsites and a central ravine. The western ridge, with side trail 3.5, slopes steeply up from the OWT, then gently downward until it ends below a very steep slope up to the houses at the end of 18th Ave SE. The eastern ridge, with side trails R4 and R5, slopes up moderately from the OWT and is broad and flat, sloping mildly upward towards 18th and 17th Avenues SE.

7. Various

From the OWT, this section, with owners ranging from Thurston County to several area residents, contains a slope with side trail R6 and no regular campsites. It slopes into a ravine on the west and moderately up to meet a large City of Olympia parcel and Fairview St. SE on the east. Fairview Ave. currently has no houses on this slope.

Suggested Priorities for Acquisition

1. Consolidate the property on the north side.

This action would give the City a substantial greenbelt on the north side of the Woodland Trail.

Arrange a title transfer of all properties in the Mostly Thurston County section (#3) to the City of Olympia. Acquire the single parcel held by Hartwise Properties LLC, of Olympia, which sits between two City-owned parcels.

2. Purchase the Mostly Ray Berschauer section (#6) on the south side.

This action would give the City a substantial flat area for future use, either as a natural area or a more developed park.

3. Purchase Mostly Herbrand section (#4) on the south side.

This action would provide a natural area for the City. The ridge is too small and too close to Harry Fain Park to merit development as an additional park.

4. Purchase the Mostly David Cammarano section (#5) on the south side.

This action would consolidate ownership of the south side of the trail and provide an uninterrupted natural area for future residents.

5. Purchase the Various section(#7) on the south side

This action would unite the natural areas on the south side with the current City-owned parcel at the end of Fairview and Edison St SE. A connection to the OWT, through the Pathways program, is currently being built on the north edge of this section.

6. Purchase the southern half of the Mostly Claude Nickerson section (#1).

This action would complete the OWT greenbelt between Eastside and Frederick.

Private, between 2 City parcels

Legend

- Sewer
- Water
- Property Owner

1. Mostly Claude Nickerson, currently for sale

City of Olympia

2. Thurston County and various private owners

3. Mostly Thurston County

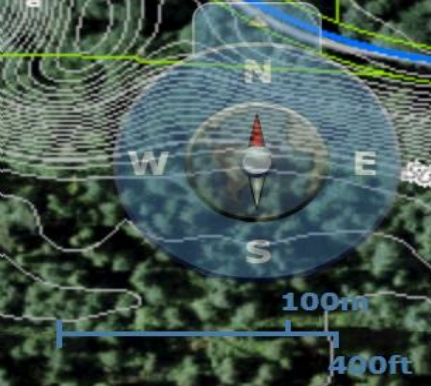
7. Various

City of Olympia

6. Mostly Ray Berschauer

4. Mostly Herbrand Co. currently for sale, \$200,000

5. Mostly David Cammarano



The City of Olympia and its personnel cannot assure the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of this information for any particular purpose. The parcels, right-of-ways, utilities and structures depicted hereon are based on record information and aerial photos only. It is recommended the recipient and/or user field verify all information prior to use. The use of this data for purposes other than those for which they were created may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The recipient may not assert any proprietary rights to this information. The City of Olympia and its personnel neither accept or assume liability or responsibility, whatsoever, for any activity involving this information with respect to lost profits, lost savings or any other consequential damages.

Indian Creek Ravine Area Property Owners

#	Name	Address	Parcels
1	HERBRAND COMPANY	315 39TH AVE SW #6 PUYALLUP WA 98373	13
2	CAMMARANO DAVID A	120 STATE AVE NE PMB 1491 OLYMPIA WA 98501	10
3	City of Olympia	PO BOX 1967 Olympia 98507	1
4	BENDER STEPHANIE D	1413 20TH AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	2
5	STECK STACY A	2105 LYBARGER ST SE Olympia 98501	3
6	BATES BETTY JO	2618 E OLIVE ST Seattle, WA 98122	1
7	SNOW COREY MASON & ROBIN M	2015 LYBARGER ST SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
8	MILLER ROBERT G MUNROE HOLLY	PO BOX 2534 Olympia, WA 98507	1
9	CURRY OKHI	1608 22ND AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
10	ERICKSON NELSENE R	1615 22ND AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
11	A PACIFIC COAST INVESTMENT PROP LLC	10 MARINE VIEW DR CAMARILLO, CA 93010	1
12	TALLENT JR LUTHER NIXON	PO BOX 35 Clinton, WA 98236-0035	1
13	SCHNEIDER JAMES C PETIT MELISSA C	1715 18TH AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	2
14	HUMANS ON MOTHER EARTH LLC	2710 ASPINWALL RD NW Olympia, WA 98502	1
15	BERSCHAUER RAYMOND	2670 SAPP RD SW Tumwater, WA 98502	3
16	MORGAN OWEN P	PO BOX 1092 Olympia, WA 98507	1
17	SLATE PAUL D	1702 21ST AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	2
18	LARSEN ERIC M	1718 21ST AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	2
19	STOCKER JOHN W	2015 FIR ST SE Olympia, WA 98501	1

#	Name	Address	Parcels
20	FEIST TIMOTHY & LAURIE	PO BOX 443 Olympia, WA 98507	1
21	HAYES NED D & JILL P	1814 21ST AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	2
22	LEWIS DONALD G & ANN G	1926 22ND AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
23	BETTY S MOORHEAD LVNG TRST #2 12-8-2006 CHARLES R S LVNG TRST #1 DATED 12-8-2006	2215 CAPITOL WAY S Olympia, WA 98501	1
24	JENG CHING-HWAN TSOU TIEN-SHUI	1925 19TH LN SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
25	JOHNSON MARK R & ANNETTE K	6703 OAKBROOK CT SE Olympia, WA 98513	1
26	RICHARDS LONNIE SHAWN & JOANNA BETH	1864 21ST AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
27	MAAS HELEN	1858 21ST AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
28	HABERMAN KEITH S & MELISSA A	1850 21ST AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
29	LEDGETT JULIUS L ETAL	PO BOX 400 KALAMA, WA 98625	1
30	SNYDER WILLIAM L	1805 18TH AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
31	CHRISTIANSON NELS M	1725 18TH AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	7
32	COLCLASURE MELVIN V	1725 FAIRVIEW ST SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
33	MCCONKEY RODNEY	900 FAIRVIEW ST SE APT D13 Olympia, WA 98501	1
34	NEDROW PATSY C	1819 18TH AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
35	GARCIA ROBYN J	1802 18TH AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
36	ANDERSON HANNAH GEROUX DAVID	1910 18TH AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	
37	POTTER BENNETT F & DAWN M	620 93RD AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	

#	Name	Address	Parcels
38	THOMSEN JOHN S	10800 THOMSEN RD SE Olympia, WA 98513	2
39	SWENSON DAVID M ETAL	5218 BRENTWOOD DR SE Lacey, WA 98503	1
40	ANDREWS DOTTIE M	1519 WILSON ST SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
41	ANGIONO INES	551 ELM WAY EDMONDS, WA 98020	1
42	HOLBROOK BURNA JEAN D & ARTHUR M JR	2717 COUNTRY CLUB RD NW Olympia, WA 98502	1
43	THURSTON COUNTY	2000 LAKERIDGE DR SW Olympia, WA 98502	1
44	KLOTZ MICHAEL M	1413 FREDERICK ST SE Olympia, WA 98501	1
45	HARTWISE PROPERTIES LLC	417 101ST AVE SW Olympia, WA 98512	1
46	BIRRELL JOSEPHINE E	1317 E LAKE SAMMAMISH SHORE LN SE SAMMAMISH, WA 98075	1
47	NICKERSON CLAUDE L	3301 171ST PL SW LYNNWOOD, WA 98037	1
48	KUIPERS WILLIAM & LYNNETTE	221 N QUINCE ST Olympia, WA 98506	1
49	WALDSCHMIDT DAVID ALAN, WALDSCHMIDT PAUL E, CURNUTT CAROLYN C	2817 18TH AVE SE Olympia, WA 98501	



Demographics Report

Thurston County Washington

Subject Parcel

Site Address: Olympia WA 98501
Parcel ID: 11830330000

Report Details

Query Distance From Parcel: 1 miles
Census Blocks In Query: 102

Population

	Total
Population	10640

Gender

	%	Total
Male	47.9	5096
Female	52.1	5544

Age Distribution

	M	F	Total	%
Median Age	37.1	39.3	38.6	
0-5	306	276	582	5.5
5-9	412	365	777	7.3
10-14	487	481	968	9.1
15-17	312	292	604	5.7
18-19	125	127	252	2.4
20-24	148	200	348	3.3
25-29	227	249	476	4.5
30-34	244	268	512	4.8
35-39	332	403	735	6.9
40-44	377	443	820	7.7
45-49	402	507	909	8.5
50-54	412	470	882	8.3
55-59	409	439	848	8.0
60-64	346	375	721	6.8
65-69	196	211	407	3.8
70-74	123	134	257	2.4
75-79	86	115	201	1.9
80-84	60	86	146	1.4
85+	61	90	151	1.4

Households

	Total
Total Households	3007
1-person household - male	125
1-person household - female	421
Family households, married-couple family, w/ own children under 18 yrs	1177
Family households, married-couple family, no own children under 18 yrs	2461
Family households, other family, male householder, no wife present, w/ own children under 18 yrs	80
Family households, other family, female householder, no husband present, w/ own children under 18 yrs	278

Race Distribution

	Total	%
White	8740	82.1
Black	119	1.1
American Indian	12	.1
Asian	915	8.6
Pacific Islander	19	.2
Multirace	354	3.3
Hispanic	420	3.9
Other	13	.1

Housing

	%	Total
Total housing units		4161
Housing units - urban	.0	0
Housing units - rural	.0	0
Housing units - vacant	3.6	151
Owner occupied	96.4	4010
Renter occupied	1.3	56



Demographics Report

Thurston County

Subject Parcel

Report Details

Site Address: Olympia WA 98501

Query Distance From Parcel: 1 miles

Parcel ID: 11830330000

Census Blocks In Query: 102

