Warrenton Parks Master Plan

FINAL DRAFT PLAN
September 2010

Community Planning Workshop

CMcG&S

City of Warrenton

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Warrenton appreciates the contributions and input of individuals involved in this project including: City Staff, the Warrenton Parks Advisory Board, the Warrenton Trails Association, the Warrenton City Commission, and residents who participated in the community workshops.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is Warrenton's first Parks Master Plan and it is designed to guide development of the City parks system over the next 20 years (from 2010 until 2030). A parks master plan is a long-term vision and plan of action for a community's parks system. This plan identifies strategies and techniques for operation and development of parks, land acquisition, and funding. Through this plan, the City of Warrenton will continue improving the service and quality of its parks to meet the needs of current and future residents.

The Parks Master Plan specifically delivers five planning elements:

» Provides an inventory of existing parks and an analysis of appropriate park classifications and standards;

» Identifies current and future park needs using input from the community as well as technical data;

» Includes a capital improvement plan (CIP) that enables the City to achieve its goals;

» Creates a strategy for short and long-term land acquisition; and

» Identifies potential funding techniques and sources to implement the CIP.

The Executive Summary highlights existing facilities, key community needs, goals and actions, park improvements and acquisitions, and the funding strategy described in the Warrenton Parks Master Plan.

Park Inventory & Assessment

Effective parks system planning requires identifying and assessing existing park facilities and amenities through an inventory process. The inventory process exposes system-wide strengths and weaknesses and reveals underserved areas and services. Determining the activities that occur in each park, and the condition of facilities and amenities, helps guide recommendations and capital improvement programming efforts. The inventory process includes consideration and assignment of park classifications. Careful review of current and future park system needs by park classification type ensures a balanced parks system capable of efficient service to the community.

Chapter 3, The Parks System, provides a description of each park facility and an overview of the condition of the parks system as a whole. This information is included in its entirety as Appendix A, which includes descriptions of park facilities, opportunities, and constraints. Following is a summary table of City parks and recreation facilities and their respective classifications.

Table ES-1. Warrenton Parks

Existing Parks	Acres
Community Parks	**33.7**
Quincy & Bessie Robinson Park	9.8
Seafarer's Park (at Hammond Marina)	5.6
Eben H. Carruthers Park	5.5
Warrenton (LCYSA) Soccer Fields	12.8
Neighborhood Parks	**3.7**
Fort Stevens Parade Grounds	2.3
Skipanon River Park	1.4
Mini Parks	**0.7**
Library Park	0.7
Special Use Parks	**1.7**
City Community Garden	0.2
Post Office (Flag) Park	0.3
Tansy Point Park	1.0
Triangle Park	0.2
Linear Parks	**1.0**
Pacific Drive Park	1.0
Total	**40.8**

Source: CMGS/CPW, 2010.

Community Needs Analysis

The Warrenton Parks Master Plan includes an analysis and assessment of community needs based on local demographic, economic and recreation trends, as well as stakeholder interviews and community workshops. Parks and recreation facilities are important to communities and to the residents of Warrenton in particular. Therefore, it is not surprising that many residents see opportunities for improvement in the parks system. After reviewing recreation trends, interview results, and input from the community, several key park facility needs emerged. These include the need for:

» Diversity of park types and locations;

» Updated park equipment and amenities;

» Additional active and passive recreation opportunities;

» Improved or additional measures to increase safety; and

» Connectivity between parks.

Community Vision and Goals

The Parks Master Plan includes a long-term vision for the Warrenton Parks System, nine goals that define system priorities and specific objectives that guide implementation. Following is the vision for the Warrenton parks system:

"We envision a parks system that enhances the livability of Warrenton while building our community's health, wellness, and quality of life. Our parks system will promote social, cultural, and historical activities while providing a natural environment for the enjoyment of all residents and visitors. The City of Warrenton recognizes the boost in human and social capital parks improvement and maintenance projects will provide its residents."

Goal 1: Park Awareness and Outreach

Develop and implement park awareness and outreach strategies to inform residents and visitors about the parks system.

Goal 2: Safety and Access

Operate park facilities that are safe and accessible for the entire community.

Goal 3: Funding and Partnerships

Evaluate and establish new mechanisms for funding existing and future park and recreation facilities while strengthening relationships between the City of Warrenton and other partners.

Goal 4: Park Maintenance and Operations

Manage and operate all sites to maintain a safe and efficient parks system.

Goal 5: Parkland Acquisition

Acquire additional parkland to ensure that all areas of the city are adequately served by park facilities.

Goal 6: Parks Planning

Establish a coordinated process for parks planning, park acquisition, and development that involves residents and community groups as well as the Parks Advisory Board and the City staff.

Goal 7: Amenities and Design

Design and manage City parks to provide an attractive, pleasing, and enjoyable environment for residents.

Goal 8: Community Events

Develop community event areas within Quincy and Bessie Robinson Community Park and Seafarer's Park to provide opportunities for community cultural and recreational events that attract large gatherings.

Goal 9: Recreation

Enhance the types of recreation opportunities to include people of differing age groups and backgrounds.

System Improvements

The Warrenton Parks Master Plan identifies system improvements as well as capital improvements for specific parks. The system improvements include new parkland acquisition and parkland development. Park specific improvements include:

- Replace outdated play equipment to reduce maintenance, increase user access, and promote user safety;
- Construct park perimeter trails in appropriate parks to improve safety and provide active recreation;
- Install dog-waste disposal stations in appropriate parks to promote sanitation and improve dog-friendliness in the parks;
- Install community gardens in appropriate parks to increase local accessibility;
- Increase trail connectivity to parks to promote accessibility and use;
- Install directional and identification signage to improve way-finding and promote park awareness; and
- Improve ADA accessibility at all parks including the installation of ADA accessible surface material at existing playgrounds.

The Parks Master Plan is implemented, in part, through the Parks Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP identifies park improvements and estimates costs for the ten-year period of 2010 to 2020. Park improvements included in the CIP focus on improving access, safety, landscaping, play and restroom structures, and providing additional park amenities. The CIP is dynamic and is therefore included as a separate document that should be reviewed on an annual basis by City staff and the Parks Advisory Board as part of the City of Warrenton's 10-year Capital Improvement Plan.

Funding

This Plan proposes three elements that constitute the majority of the City's park expenditures over the next 20 years: the acquisition and development of new parkland, system improvements, and operation and maintenance. Based on the costs to implement the proposed improvements, the City will need to spend approximately $6,847,090 on its parks system. Table ES-2 outlines parks system expenditures through 2030.

Table 7-11. Total Cost of Capital Projects

CAPITAL PROJECT	TOTAL COST
Park Improvements	
Community Park Projects	$ 2,238,920
Neighborhood Park Projects	$ 827,900
Mini Park Projects	$ 9,000
Special Use Park Projects	$ 227,030
Linear Park Projects	$ 44,240
Land Acquisition	$ 2,000,000
Parkland Development	$ 1,500,000
TOTAL	**$ 6,847,090**

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

Parkland development as well as community and neighborhood park improvement projects comprise the majority of the total costs. Park improvement projects total $3,347,090. Land Acquisition and parkland development total $3,500,000. The actual costs associated with the acquisition and development of new parks can be reduced through a diversified funding strategy that includes user fees, bonds and levies, partnerships, land donations, trusts, and easements.

The City should pursue a funding strategy that includes a variety of sources including grants, donations, and partnerships, as well as bonds, levies, and SDC revenues. The Plan specifically recommends the City do the following:

» Adopt and implement a Parks SDC;

» Consider a Parks and Recreation Special District;

» Pursue grant opportunities for capital improvement projects, trails, and land acquisition;

» Develop partnerships;

» Develop relationships with landowners;

» Evaluate the feasibility of bond measures; and

» Explore measures to reduce acquisition, development, and operational costs.

Conclusion

Completion of this plan is an important step toward the fulfillment of the City's parks system Vision and Goals. With careful attention, Warrenton's parks system will continue to improve quality of life for local residents while adequately planning for the future park needs as the community grows.

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Parks system assets - parks, open space, natural areas, and trails - are significant contributors to a community's quality of life. "Quality of life" is a term that has grown in popularity during the last few decades; it refers to an individual's satisfaction with their social and physical surroundings. The term has been associated with a number of community amenities, which include trails, natural areas, open space, and parks. These amenities are assets that build strong communities by providing recreation opportunities, gathering spaces, connectivity, natural resource protection, cultural resource preservation, and aesthetic beauty. Their functions shape the character of communities, provide anchors for neighborhood activities, and promote healthy behaviors and lifestyles.

Creating and maintaining park and recreation facilities is a challenge for service providers. Limited resources and competition for resources, both staffing and budgetary, restricts many communities' ability to develop and maintain parks systems. Identifying system priorities and matching them with available resources requires thoughtful planning. Communities typically develop and adopt *Parks System Master Plans* to guide development of parks systems.

1.2 Purpose of the Plan

The *Parks Master Plan* (Master Plan, Plan) establishes a vision for Warrenton's parks system, and presents recommendations for the continued provision of quality park facilities over the next 20 years. The Plan is intended to help Warrenton build upon its unique park assets, identify new opportunities for development, and meet the needs of current and future residents.

Specifically, this Plan includes:

» An inventory of existing park and recreation facilities in Warrenton, including an analysis of park classifications and standards;

» A parks and recreation needs analysis based on technical and demographic data, as well as extensive citizen involvement - including community workshops and stakeholder interviews;

» A twenty-year capital improvement plan (2010-2030) that identifies specific improvements for each of Warrenton's parks with estimated project costs and target completion dates;

» A parkland acquisition strategy that identifies the amount of land needed, by park type, for the next 20 years and describes strategies for acquiring lands that are appropriate for inclusion in the parks system;

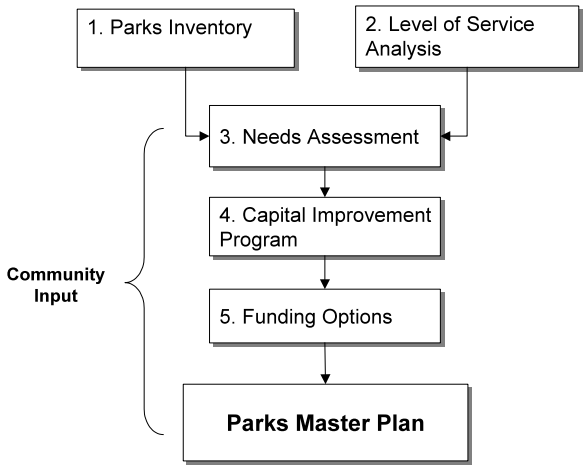
» Funding options and a funding strategy, including an overview of potential revenue sources such as Systems Development Charges (SDCs) and a Parks Utility Fee.

The Plan outlines Warrenton's vision for the parks system and provides the specific tools and components necessary to achieve that vision. For this plan to best reflect Warrenton's current and future needs, updates are recommended every ten years. Regular updates ensure that the plan continues to be a relevant planning tool.

1.3 Planning Process

This Plan utilizes a "systems" approach for the planning process, as recommended by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). The systems approach places local values and needs first and provides a framework for creating a parks system that physically meets those values and needs. The planning process is outlined in four phases, as described below and detailed in Figure 1-1.

Figure 1-1. The Parks Planning Process



» **Phase 1 – Inventory & Analysis:** Inventory existing parks. Identify existing park facilities, assess general park conditions and existing improvements, and identify needed maintenance or additions.

» **Phase 2 – Needs Assessment:** Conduct a needs assessment. Identify key needs in the community, drawing from demographic and recreation trends and community input. Population growth, demographic characteristics and activity participation trends help identify the types of facilities needed by current and future residents. Determine level of service, usually expressed as acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents.

» **Phase 3 – Vision and Recommendations:** Create a capital improvement Plan (CIP) and land acquisition plan. Using Steps 1-3, the CIP identifies capital

improvement projects for 20010-2030 and prioritizes projects for the first five years of the plan. The CIP, provided as a separate document from the Parks Master Plan, is based upon current needs. The land acquisition plan looks at the longer 20-year planning term to determine needed parkland to serve a growing population.

» **Phase 4 – Implementation and Funding Strategies:** Identify potential sources and methods of acquiring funds for new parkland development, maintenance, operations, and improvements to existing parks.

» **Phase 5 – Plan Refinement and Adoption:** Incorporate comments and suggestions based on City staff, Parks Advisory Board, and City Commission review of Draft Plan. Prepare Final Plan for adoption by Warrenton City Commission based on recommendation by the Parks Advisory Board.

1.4 Community Involvement

Community and stakeholder involvement are critical elements of the planning process. Community involvement provides tangible benefits to the process by: (1) providing insight into residents' values and preferences; (2) developing and nurturing an environment of goodwill and trust; (3) building consensus support for the Plan; and (4) establishing meaningful dialogue between the public and the planners.[1]

The parks planning process places emphasis on the input and suggestions of residents and other stakeholders. The primary parties involved in the development of the Plan include: Warrenton residents; the Warrenton City Commission; Warrenton City Planning and Public Works Staff; the Warrenton Parks Advisory Board, and the Warrenton Trails Association. Three primary methods for gathering community input are utilized in the development of the Plan, summarized below:

» **Stakeholder Interviews**: Stakeholder interviews conducted with community group leaders and organizational representatives. Interviewees identified the strengths and weaknesses of Warrenton's parks system, and identified key means to improve upon the system.

» **Community Workshops**: Two workshops conducted with community members. These workshops (held at the Warrenton High School) collected information about the community's desires and priorities for the parks system.

» **Parks Advisory Board Meetings**: Six meetings held with the Parks Advisory Board. These meetings provided a format for the Board to participate in the planning process, and, more specifically, to assist in the development of the park classification system and Level of Service (LOS) standard, parks system goals, and system wide improvements, including park specific improvements.

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[1] Cogan, Elaine. 2003. Public Participation. Published in *The Planner's Use of Information*. Planners Press, American Planning Association (APA).

The planning process was further aided by input and direction from Public Works Department staff. This Plan combines community input with technical analysis to provide a framework for achieving both short and long-term goals and objectives that implement the community parks system vision. The Plan can also be integrated into other planning decisions that relate to areas of parks planning, such as open space acquisition, natural resource protection, cultural resource protection, and trail development.

1.5 Relationship to City of Warrenton Plans

The Parks Master Plan is one of several documents that comprise Warrenton's long-range planning and policy framework. The following plans have bearing on the parks planning process and have been considered during the creation of this Plan:

WARRENTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Warrenton Comprehensive Plan was originally adopted on July 14, 1983 and is a guide for future community development in Warrenton. The plan complies with Oregon's Statewide Planning Goals, was developed after careful review of the goals, and through extensive data collection.

The Warrenton Comprehensive Plan recognizes the asset that Fort Stevens State Park is for resident's recreation as well as Camp Kiwanilong, both of which are located within the Warrenton urban growth boundary (UGB). The Comp Plan recognizes the trail system as a multimodal transportation system for residents, connecting parks, natural areas and business activities throughout the City. The Comp Plan outlines many of the goals listed in the Warrenton Trails Master Plan, including multi-user trails for bicyclists, pedestrians, wheelchairs, baby strollers, and equestrians. There are design standards listed in the plan for all future trail construction, as well as recommendations for trail features and amenities.

WARRENTON TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN

Written and adopted by the City of Warrenton in 2004, the Transportation System Plan (TSP) establishes a plan for transportation systems through the year 2022. The TSP addresses ways to improve the transportation system in a way that will emphasize the local street network and protect the function of US 101 as a statewide highway. This plan also addresses all modes of transportation, including pedestrian and bicycle.

Several TSP Goals relate directly to parks and recreation facilities. Goal 1 addresses mobility, including the development of safe means for pedestrians and bicyclists to move about the city. Goal 5 expands upon Warrenton's plan for connectivity, including the desire to *"Improve public access to the waterfront and trails along the waterfront," "Establish an interconnected trail system that connects neighborhoods, the downtown area, and the waterfront, using old railway right-of-ways where appropriate and signage to indicate trail access points,"* and to *"Adopt and maintain development standards that support pedestrian and bicycle access to commercial and industrial developments, including (but not limited to) direct pathway connections, bicycle parking facilities, and signage where appropriate."*

Goal 7 addresses the physical environment. This goal encourages the use of alternatives modes of transportation, the balance of transportation needs with preserving significant natural features, and the minimization of impacts on wetlands and wildlife habitat. Safety is addressed in Goal 11, which identifies the need to improve the safe connections for bicycle and pedestrian routes in the City. The Transportation System Plan recommends off-street trail connections for several areas of Warrenton, and facilities for these connections.

WARRENTON TRAILS MASTER PLAN

Adopted by the City of Warrenton on July 7, 2008, the Warrenton Trails Master Plan was developed to assist in the creation of a network of trails that links destinations, natural features, historic landmarks, community facilities, other transportation facilities, neighborhoods, businesses, regional trails, adjacent communities, and state and federal parks. The overall goals of the Warrenton Trails Master Plan are to provide connections for residents to recreate, increase access to the trail system, and encourage trail use by schools for science education and athletic training.

In addition to planning the improvement of the current trails, the Trails Master Plan also outlines the addition of several additional trail connections. These include Beaver Trail, which will run along Iredale Street and former logging roads between the Hammond Post Office and 11th Street, bringing trail access to the Warrenton Soccer Fields. Creekside Trail is planned to have two different sections. A northern section of the trail will bridge King and Harbor Drive to 14th, and an eastern section, connecting the Eastern Skipanon River Trail Spur at Highway 104 along Ensign Lane and across Highway 101.

WARRENTON URBAN RENEWAL DISTRICT PLAN

Adopted by the City of Warrenton on June 28, 2007, the Warrenton Urban Renewal District Plan was prepared to guide the provision of infrastructure necessary for the improvement and redevelopment of Warrenton. The main goal was to improve economic health, condition and appearance of the area, by providing for more attractive shopping, dining, living, working, and recreating.

Specific to parks planning, the Plan outlines goals for developing the downtown area with bike and pedestrian trails with portals and trailheads, focusing on connectivity. The plan outlines that during the second phase of the Warrenton Urban Renewal District Plan, $25,000 are to be used for tourist and bicycle directional signage. For the third phase, it provides $200,000 for restrooms, and $50,000 for additional trailheads and directional/interpretive signage.

WARRENTON DOWNTOWN-MARINA MASTER PLAN

The Warrenton Downtown-Marina Master Plan is a visionary document with the goals of encouraging high quality redevelopment, improving the area for living and working, and building a vision and theme for the city. The plan focuses on five key ideas for improving the downtown area; focusing on Natural Setting, Connect to Waterfront, Improve Pedestrian and Bike Circulation, Green Downtown, and City Leading by Example.

These five key ideas, and the goals of the Downtown-Marina Master Plan, have parks and open spaces incorporated into their design and character. Directly the Green Downtown idea is incorporating more natural elements into the downtown area. There are plans to incorporate a public plaza, which could serve as a gateway to Skipanon Park, building on the connections needed for an effective park system. This plan has also outlined goals for improvements to Skipanon Park.

1.6 Relationship to Other Plans

HAMMOND MARINA MASTER PLAN

The Hammond Marina Master Plan Update was completed in September 2005 for the City of Warrenton. The purpose of the Plan update was to provide a current plan for improvement of the marina based on the most current information available. The plan includes a summary of the current problems with parking, access, and the fueling dock, and has development plans for several activities related directly to the Marina's main activities. In addition, the Plan outlines suggested enhancements for the Marina and the vicinity.

If the recommended full development of the Hammond Marina Master Plan is completed, Lake Drive to Seafarers Park would have a 241 stall parking located on the east side of the road, and a 30,000 square foot multi-purpose building on the west side of the road with a smaller 105 stall parking lot located on the south western area off of Lake Drive.

FORT STEVENS STATE PARK MASTER PLAN

The Fort Stevens State Park Master Plan of 2001 updated the 1976 Master Plan for Fort Stevens State Park. This Plan was developed to identify and plan for the most appropriate recreation-related uses for the park based on resource opportunities and constraints, development opportunities and constraints, public recreational needs and the Oregon Parks and Recreational Department (OPRD) role in the area of the park in providing needed recreation. The Plan also identifies desired lands for acquisition and the identification of any Endowment parcels. The Plan provides a basis for land use compliance requests, partnership agreements, budget and management priorities, and detailed development and management guidelines.

The Fort Stevens State Park Master Plan outlines seven goals, many of which are related to Warrenton, and also the Parks Master Plan. Goal III of the Plan is to Enhance Park Visitation & Partnerships. This outlines a vision for more day-use visitors to the Park, as well as having programs for people who might not otherwise utilize the facility. Goal IV is Provide for Future Recreational Needs. This goal draws to maintain and improve the trail system within the park, as well as connecting to adjacent area trail systems. Goal V is to Improve State Park Access and Orientation, and could be complimentary to the connection of Fort Stevens trails with Warrenton trails. Goal VII is for Outside The Park, and calls for the participation of Fort Stevens State Park in the local land use process. This includes a potential vision for an OPRD owned and staffed Bed and Breakfast on the Fort Stevens Parade Grounds. However, no development concepts are included in the Fort Stevens Master Plan.

The Fort Stevens State Park Master Plan recommends expansion in the parks services and amenities to encourage visitors and provide for the changing demands and needs of the public. Specifically through goals 3, 4, 5, and 7, their plan outlines a desire for the trail system in the park to connect with adjacent areas. OPRD hopes this will enhance park visitation and partnerships, provide for future recreational needs, as well as improving access to the State Park.

The Plan also has facility development concepts for implementation, following the OPRD model. This includes avoiding conflicts with existing park uses and facilities, providing access for non-motorized travel within the park, as well as others.

CLATSOP COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Clatsop County's Comprehensive Plan is consistent with Oregon's Statewide Planning Goals. Goal 8, which was first adopted in 1983 and most recently updated in August 2006, focuses attention on facilities that meet recreational needs.

Goal 8 set several goals and objectives for recreational lands. These goals include maintaining and improving the county's park and recreational resources. Ensuring a sustainable, high quality and cost-effective park operation. Promoting the community health and regional economic benefit of the park system. Promoting volunteerism and a greater sense of land stewardship among county residents of all ages. Establishing a more integrated and connected system of parks and recreational resources within the county park system and between the county and other public and private recreation providers.

CLATSOP COUNTY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DOCUMENT

The Clatsop County Development Standards Document of 1980 contains standards applicable to development and should be used in conjunction with the Clatsop County Land and Water Development Use Ordinance. However, the standards established by this document can be revised and extended as specified by the Development Ordinance and other ordinances of Clatsop County.

In the development of a Parks Master Plan, and the development of Parks, Trails and Open Spaces, the Development Standards Document addresses several items. Several potentially relevant design standards include;

- Bicycle parking requirements (S2.211)
- Sign Requirements (S2.300)
- Erosion Control Development Standards (S2.500)
- Oceanfront Setback (S3.015)
- Maintenance of Common Open Space and Facilities (S3.180)
- Historic Site Protection (S3.194)
- Recreational Vehicle Parks (S3.550)
- Amusement Establishment (S3.640)

» Columbia River Estuary Shoreland and Aquatic Use and Activity Standards (S4.200)

» Pedestrian and Bicycle Access and Circulation (S5.040)

CLATSOP COUNTY LAND AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND USE ORDINANCE

The Clatsop County Land and Water Development and Use Ordinance of 1980 was adopted by the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners on September 30, 1980, and was codified as of August 23, 2007. This Ordinance is used to coordinate County regulations governing the development of land and water, and to implement the objectives, goals and policies set forth in the Clatsop County Comprehensive Plan. This Plan is also used in conjunction with the Clatsop County Standards Development Document.

CLATSOP COUNTY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN

The Clatsop County Transportation System Plan was adopted on November 22, 2003, this plan outlines planned transportation facilities and services needed to support planned land uses as identified in the Clatsop County Comprehensive Plan for the next 20 years. This plan guides the management and development of transportation systems.

The Plan identifies trail system deficiencies in Clatsop County in the connections between different trails and trail systems, as well as a lack of adequate trail signage. The plan charges to provide a connected network of pedestrian facilities in the County. Specifically to currently developed parks, the transportation plan calls for a trail connection between Hammond boat basin and Fort Stevens State Park. The plan also calls for the development of a crosswalk near the Soccer Fields. Multi-use paths have been proposed through state-funded bicycle and pedestrian program, which distributes approximately 3 million per year through the state.

CLATSOP COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATIONAL LANDS MASTER PLAN

The Clatsop County Parks and Recreational Lands Master Plan was updated in 2006 from the original Recreational Lands Master Plan, which was adopted December 23, 1992. The update represents the future of recreational lands in Clatsop county and provides the broad vision needed for park and trail systems. This Plan outlines five goals for county owned parks, include several within the City of Warrenton, as well as adjacent to the city. The goals are: Parks Management, Funding and Operation, Community Health and Social and Economic Benefits, Environmental Stewardship, Regional Recreational Connections.

For the Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Fields, LCYSA signed a 10-year lease with the county on October 1, 2004. This lease requires an annual report regarding the use of the property from the previous year. Camp Kiwanilong has several opportunities outlined in the county plan for the development of a master or management plan for the camp. The County Plan has also established that there are trail connection possibilities with DeLaura Beach and Fort Stevens State Park. DeLaura Beach is

currently underdeveloped though it has an extensive trail system with possible future connections. Carnahan Park has many opportunities for the development of ADA accessible fishing facilities and other accessible activities.

THE 2008-2012 OREGON STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN (SCORP)

The 2008-2010 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is titled *Outdoor Recreation in Oregon: The Changing Face of the Future.* This 5-year Plan focuses on the changing demographics and recreation needs for the state of Oregon. This provides recommendations for operations, administration, planning, development and recreational programs to the State of Oregon Park System.

The Plan has several key findings, which can directly impact Warrenton. Recommendations for an aging population are found in chapter two, youth in chapter three, increasingly diverse populations in chapter four, and recommendations for physical activity in chapter five. The Oregon SCORP recommendations include developing additional accessible recreational trails, funding innovative park designs that connect youth with nature, access for under-represented populations to sports fields, as well as identifying funding for recreation maintenance and facility development on school grounds.

1.7 Plan Organization

This Plan is organized into seven chapters, five appendices, and a community involvement report, described below.

» **Chapter 1: Introduction** – Provides an overview of the project purpose, planning process, and methods of data collection, as well as this Plan's relationship to other plans.

» **Chapter 2: Existing Conditions** – Provides information on Warrenton's planning area, and growth and demographic trends.

» **Chapter 3: The Parks System**- Provides information on Warrenton's park service areas, level of service, and park classifications. Includes classification and service area maps.

» **Chapter 4: Park and Recreation Needs** – Provides a summary of national and statewide park use and recreation trends, and key trends in Warrenton based on interview and workshop findings. Warrenton residents' input can be found in *Appendix B: Stakeholder Involvement* and the *Community Involvement Report* (bound separately).

» **Chapter 5: Planning Framework** – Presents a summary of the community's needs, which were identified in previous chapters, and the vision, goals, and objectives to meet these needs.

» **Chapter 6: Recommendations** – Includes recommendations for park specific projects (included in the Capital Improvement Plan), land acquisition, trail

development, and maintenance and operations. In addition, this section provides conceptual designs for Robinson Community Park.

» **Chapter 7: Implementation and Funding** – Includes implementation strategies, the current budget, funding needs, and funding recommendations.

» **Appendix A: Parks Inventory** – Includes an inventory of each park currently in Warrenton's parks system.

» **Appendix B: Stakeholder Involvement** – Includes key findings from the stakeholder interviews.

» **Appendix C: Design Standards** - Provides guidelines for the improvement and development of all parks.

» **Appendix D: Funding Sources** – Provides detailed information on funding and land acquisition strategies, including relevant contacts.

» **Community Involvement Report** – Includes key findings from the public workshops.

CHAPTER 2
EXISTING CONDITIONS

2.1 Overview

A critical step in the parks planning process is to evaluate how the community is being served by its parks system. This section provides an overview of Warrenton's regional context and planning area, and summarizes the local demographic composition. The regional context is important in considering the environmental and political opportunities and constraints related to parks planning. In addition, analyzing trends in demographic composition informs parks-related policy decisions and ensures that parks best fit the diverse needs of varied populations.

2.2 Regional Context & Planning Area

The City of Warrenton is located between the mouth of the Columbia River and the Pacific Ocean. This unique location is known as the "Graveyard of the Pacific" because of the treacherous Columbia River Bar crossing. Warrenton is located 93 miles northwest of Portland and it is the northwesterly most point in the state. Bordered by Astoria to the north, the closest town south of Warrenton is Gearhart (11 miles), followed by Seaside (13.3 miles), all within the North Coast Watershed District. The Warrenton and Astoria area is a nationally significant historic region associated with the western end of the Lewis & Clark Trail.[2]

Warrenton is the northernmost point along Oregon's portion of Highway 101. In Astoria, Highway 101 splits and runs north into Washington and east to US-30, heading toward Portland. Warrenton has retained its downtown core and in 2010 adopted a Downtown–Marina Master Plan.

Warrenton differs from similar sized communities in that the City includes an extensive amount of undeveloped land area. These undeveloped areas, together with the City's location, proximity to public recreation facilities and services (Fort Stevens State Park and Fort Clatsop National Memorial), and the population and economic gains experienced during the late 1980s, are indicative of the potential for new development.

The planning area for the Parks Plan includes all land within Warrenton's Urban Growth Boundary (approximately 10,620 acres/16.6 square miles). The planning area primarily includes urbanizable land zoned for residential, commercial, and industrial

[2] Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce

uses as well as existing parkland, open space, and natural resource areas. Identifying potential parkland within and adjacent to expanding residential areas is critical to future parks system planning.

2.3 Demographic Analysis

Trends in population growth, age, ethnicity, the economy, and housing are all critical factors of understanding a community's composition. Warrenton's demographic trends are influenced primarily by its proximity to the tourism-based cities of Seaside, Gearhart, Cannon Beach, and Astoria. Unlike these cities, Warrenton's housing prices are generally lower and in greater supply. Warrenton provides affordable housing opportunities for residents working in Seaside, Cannon Beach, Astoria, and elsewhere. Warrenton also contains several growing ethnic group populations and a large elderly population.

POPULATION GROWTH

With a population of 4,785 (2009), Warrenton is one of Oregon's smaller incorporated communities.[3] Warrenton's sister city, Astoria, has a population of 10,250, Gearhart has 1,440 residents, and Seaside has 6,480 residents, respectively. All of the populations of these coastal communities triple to quadruple during the summer due to the tourism industry and the influx of tourists.

Based on coordinated county/city population projections, adjusted slightly to account for a very small number of housing units and residents located between the city limits and urban growth boundary, Warrenton's population is expected to increase by 1.8% per year over the next 20 years, generally consistent with growth rates during the last 15 years. Table 2-1 summarizes historical and projected future populations and the future growth rate.

Table 2-1. Historical and Future Population Forecasts

Year	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030
Population	3,292	4,096	4,896	5,852	6,995

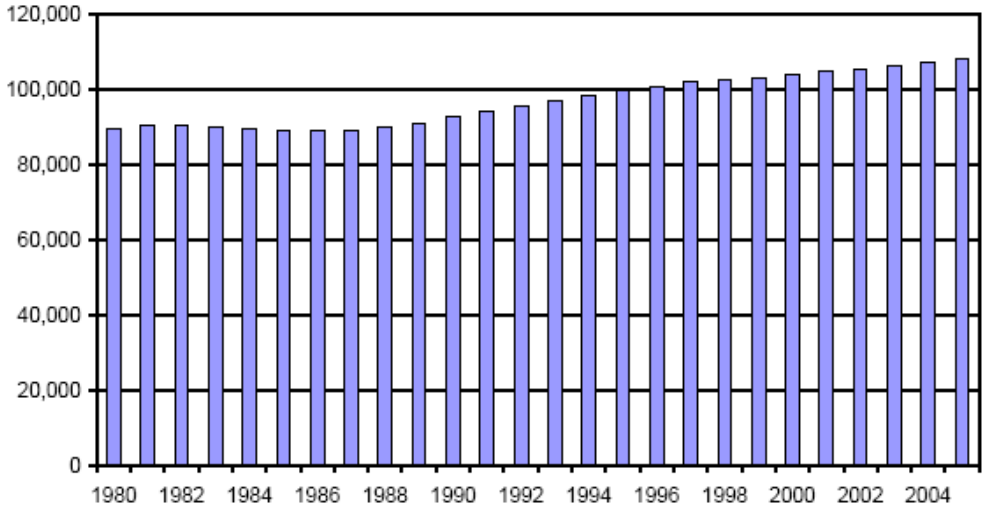
Source: Portland State University (PSU), Population Research Center, 2009.

REGIONAL TRENDS

Warrenton is located in Region 1, as defined by Oregon Employment Department (OED). The population of Region 1 (Clatsop, Tillamook, and Columbia Counties) increased from 94,990 in 1995 to 101,850 in 2005. The average annual growth rate since 2000 has been about 0.7%, slower than the 1.1% rate experienced during the 1990's but faster than the 0.2% rate during the 1980's. Population growth slowed from 1998 through 2004 then picked up again in 2005. Clatsop County grew primarily between 1988 and 1996, when there was a strong migration into many areas in Oregon.

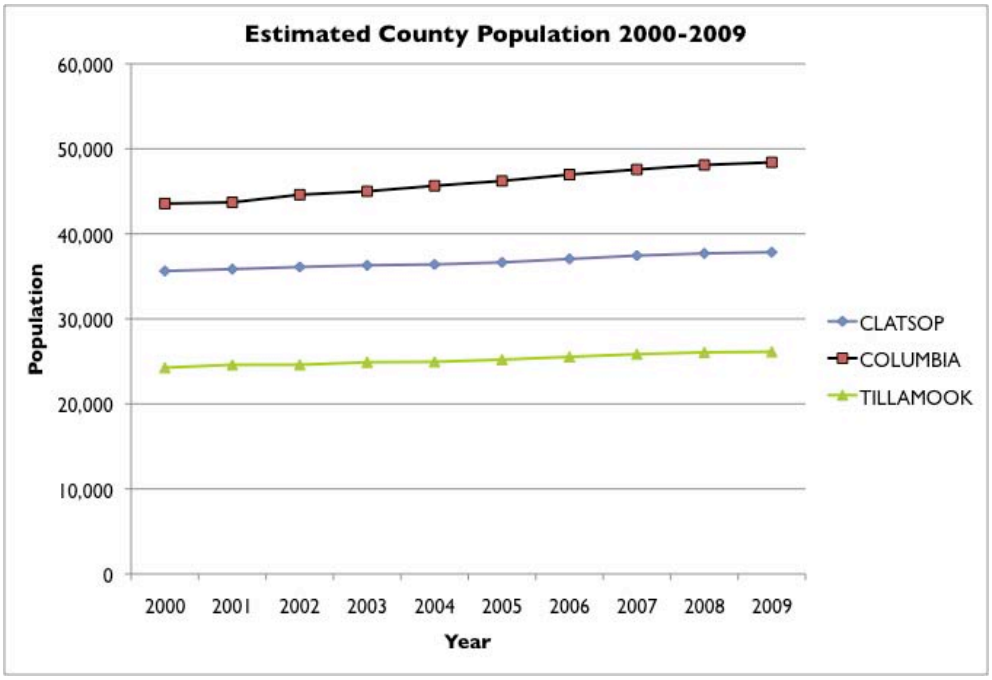
[3] Portland State University Population Research Center, 2010.

Figure 2-1. Total Population, Region 1 (1980–2005)



Source: Knoder, Eric. 2005. Regional Profile Population in Region 1 (Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook Counties).

Figure 2-2. Estimated County Population, Region 1 (1980-2005)



Source: Portland State University (PSU), Population Research Center.

The three counties in Region 1 are growing, as shown in Figures 2-1 and 2-2 above. Clatsop County's major population centers are along the coast and Columbia River.[4] About one-third of the county's population resides in unincorporated areas. Within

[4] Knoder, Erik. 2009. *Region 1 Population – Cities and Counties.*

Clatsop County, the cities experiencing the greatest population growth over the past 25 years are Warrenton and Seaside, which are on the coast and contain large tracts of developable land. Astoria has been limited in the past by a shortage of buildable land; however, recent renovations and expansion projects have helped the city to experience moderate growth.

Table 2-2. Regional Population Trends, 2000-2008

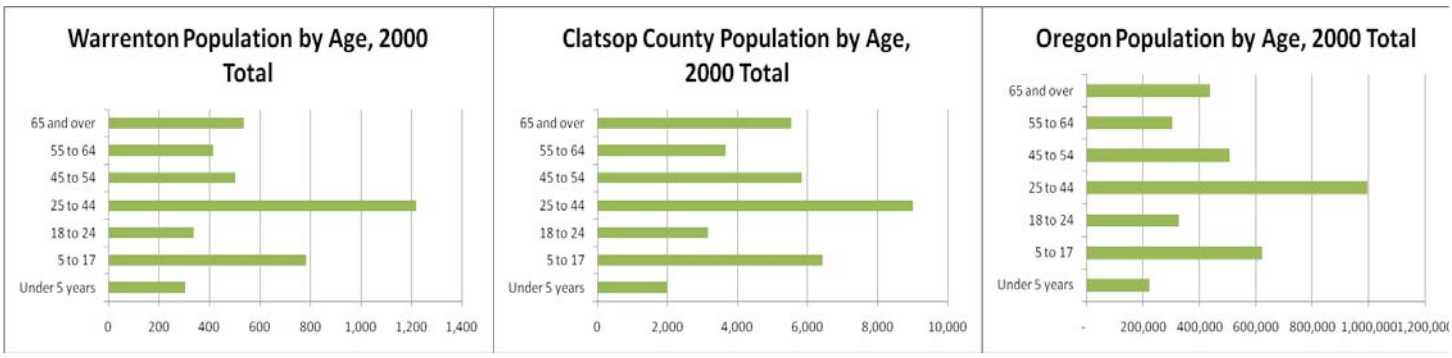
County/City	2008 Population Estimate	2000 Census Population	Change Since 2000	Average Annual Change
Clatsop County	37,695	35,630	2,065	0.7%
Warrenton	**4,650**	**4,096**	**554**	**1.6%**
Astoria	10,080	9,813	267	0.3%
Seaside	6,445	5,900	545	1.1%
Gearhart	1,220	995	225	2.6%
Cannon Beach	1,690	1,588	102	0.8%

Source: Oregon Labor Market Information System (OLMIS), 2009.

AGE

It is important for parks systems to meet the recreation needs of residents of all ages. Analyzing the population by age groups can be used to adjust planning efforts for future age-related trends in recreation.

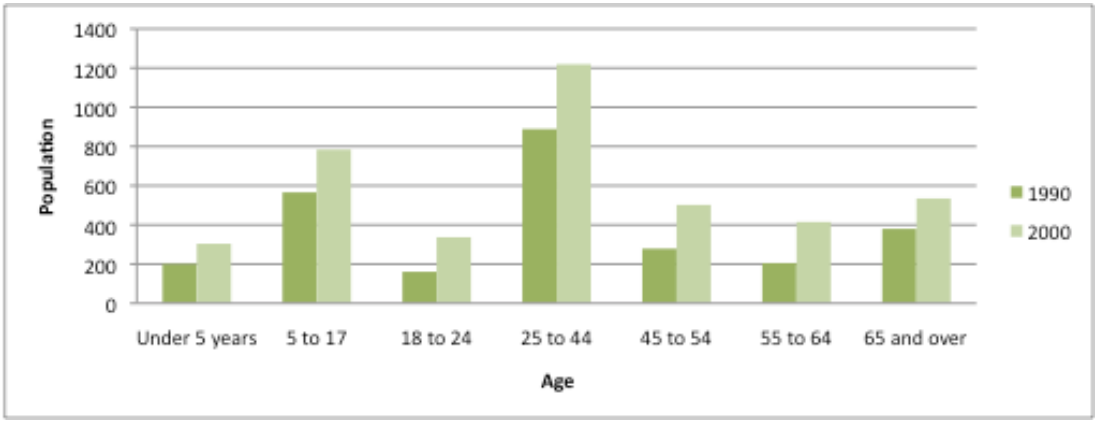
Figure 2-3. Age Distribution of Warrenton, Clatsop County, and Oregon



Source: U.S. Census Summary File 1, 2000.

In 2000, the largest percentage of Warrenton residents (29.8%) was between the ages of 25 and 44. An additional 19.1% are between the ages of 5 to 17, and 13.1% are age 65 or over. This shows a large, diversified population where a variety of park planning activities are needed to serve the entire community. Approximately 26.5% of Warrenton is under the age of 18, indicating a large number of families in the community. Age trends show that since 1990 every age group is growing.

Figure 2-4. Warrenton Population by Age, 1990-2000



Source: U.S. Census Summary File 1, 2000.

ETHNICITY

Warrenton's ethnic composition is changing. In 2000, 2.9% of the population identified as Latino. The percent change from 1990 (42) to 2000 (219) is 183%. This change should be taken into consideration when planning for parks in Warrenton. Based on historical growth patterns, projected Latino populations for 2010 will increase by 154% from 2000 levels. Compared with the overall percent change in Warrenton's total population (52% from 1990 to 2000) this number is significant.

In 2000, African Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, and Asian or Pacific Islanders made up 0.2%, 1.3%, and 1.8% of the population, respectively. It is likely that Warrenton, and the rest of the country, will increasingly diversify over the next 20 years following national, statewide, and regional population trends. Warrenton will need to adapt its park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of residents from diverse backgrounds. This diversification has implications for staffing, maintenance, and marketing of park and recreation facilities. The City will need to understand the unique ways in which different groups use services in order to meet their needs.

HOUSING

Review of household type, housing tenure, and recent housing construction provides critical information for meeting park and recreation needs. This data assists with planning for the development of new parks and identifying potential funding sources, such as System Development Charges (SDCs). In addition, housing trends establish a picture of the type of housing being added to a community, where it is being added, and the type of homes that are being constructed.

In 2000, 26.6% of Warrenton households were family households (individuals related by birth, marriage, or adoption) while 73.4% were non-family households (individuals living alone or with non-relatives). This high percentage of non-family households highlights opportunities for the City to meet the needs of non-family households, which include older residents living alone.

In 2000, Warrenton had 1,799 housing units within its city limits as shown in Table 2-3 below.[5] Roughly 59% of year round residents own their homes, while about 31% are renters. In 2000, Warrenton also had far fewer vacant housing units than Clatsop County.

Table 2-3. Housing Tenure, Warrenton and Clatsop County, 1990 and 2000

	Warrenton				Clatsop County			
	1990		2000		1990		2000	
	Units	%	Units	%	Units	%	Units	%
Owner Occupied	691	61.1%	1,059	58.9%	8,459	48.7%	9,433	47.9%
Renter Occupied	350	30.9%	562	31.2%	4,915	28.3%	5,270	26.8%
Vacant Housing	90	8.0%	178	9.9%	3,993	23.0%	4,982	25.3%
Total Units	1,131	100.0%	1,799	100.0%	17,367	100.0%	19,685	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Summary File 1, 2000.

In 2004, there were an estimated 1,859 households in Warrenton, compared to 1,799 in 2000.[6] There were an estimated 2,049 housing units in Warrenton in 2006, indicating a vacancy rate of approximately 10.2%, compared to a vacancy rate of 9.6% and 7.3% in 2000 and 1990, respectively. Homes classified as vacant fall into two general categories: 1) those that are vacant because they are in the process of being sold or rented and are temporarily unoccupied for relatively short periods of time; and 2) those that are occupied only seasonally (second homes or vacation homes) and considered to be vacant during a majority of the year. Year 2000 Census data indicates that about 3.2% of all housing units were used for seasonal occupancy (i.e. second or vacation homes).

Most homes in Warrenton are classified as single-family detached dwellings (over 65% in 2000), with manufactured homes (in parks) accounting for almost half of the remainder (14.3%), according to the 2000 Census.

Table 2-4. Housing Units by Structure and Occupancy, 2000

Unit Type	Total	Occupied
1 Unit Detached	62.2%	62.1%
1 Unit Attached	3.6%	3.2%
2 Units	1.5%	1.3%
3 or 4 Units	4.3%	4.2%
5-9 Units	4.6%	4.2%
10 - 19 Units	3.4%	3.5%
20 - 49 Units	3.6%	4.0%
50+ Units	3.1%	3.2%
Manufactured Homes	13.8%	14.3%
Other	0.0%	0.0%

Source: U.S. Census Summary File 1, 2000.

[5] Warrenton Comprehensive Plan, 2005.

[6] U.S. Census Summary File 1, 2000.

ECONOMY AND INCOME

A community's support of, desire for, and willingness to pay for park and recreation services are directly related to the strength of its economic base. Understanding Warrenton's economic characteristics is a critical step in determining priorities for park and recreation services. This understanding will also aid the City in preparing grants and applying for alternate funding sources to help pay for park projects. Table 2-5 presents income and poverty information for Warrenton, Clatsop County, and Oregon in 2000.

Table 2-5. Income and Poverty; Warrenton, Clatsop County, and Oregon, 2000

	Warrenton	Clatsop County	Oregon
Median Household Income	$33,472	$36,301	$40,916
Median Family Income	$42,946	$44,575	$48,680
Per Capita Income	$16,874	$19,515	$20,940
Percent of Families below Poverty Level	11.9%	9.1%	7.9%
Percent of Individuals below Poverty Level	3.1%	4.4%	3.7%

Source: U.S. Census Summary File 3, 2000.

In 2000, Warrenton's median household income ($33,472), median family income ($42,946) and per capita income ($16,874) were significantly lower than both Clatsop County and Oregon. Warrenton also has the highest percentage of families living below the poverty level (11.9%). However, in comparison, the percentage of individuals living below the poverty level is greater in Clatsop County (4.4%). Poverty and income are important considerations in the parks planning process, as they influence residents' willingness and ability to pay for higher levels of service and new park facilities.

2.4 Conclusions

This chapter describes Warrenton's physical and social context, which forms the needs assessment for Warrenton's parks system. The needs assessment takes into account Warrenton's environment, demographic, and socioeconomic conditions; the current condition of the parks system; and, the park and recreation desires of the community for the Warrenton parks system. This section outlines a number of key factors to consider in planning for a parks system that meets the current and future needs of Warrenton residents.

» Warrenton's population is expected to increase by 1.8% per year over the next 20 years, reaching 6,995 by 2030. A larger population will increase the demand for new park facilities. In particular, the City should focus efforts on creating parkland in the vicinity of new residential development in the Forest Rim area on the east side of Highway 101, and in Hammond.

» Warrenton has a large population of residents (29.8%) between the ages of 25 to 44 and a large population (19.1%) between 5 and 17. There is also a significant population (13.1%) age 65 and over. This age distribution plays a role in influencing

future park activities and development for Warrenton residents. When referencing state and regional trends, it will be important to represent all age groups in meeting recreational needs.

» Between 1990 and 2000, Latino residents made up the fastest growing ethnic group in Warrenton. This group should be considered in parks planning, as different ethnic groups may use parks differently. The LCYSA Soccer Fields are an especially important gathering place for the Latino community.

» Because of Warrenton's high percentage of single-family dwellings (over 65%), there is an increasing demand for park facilities and open space to serve the large population of families in the area. There is also a need to serve residents who do not have access to private outdoor spaces.

» Warrenton has a high percentage of families living below the poverty level. The City itself also has the lowest median household ($33,472), median family ($42,946), and per capita income ($16,874) when compared with Clatsop County and Astoria. This data suggests that the City should explore ways to target parks and recreation services, and their benefits, toward lower-income residents. In particular, the City can look at ways to program recreational activities for this specific population.

There are a number of physical opportunities and constraints to consider in planning for the development of Warrenton's parks facilities. Warrenton's land area is comprised of large areas of wetlands, which are both an opportunity and a constraint. The Warrenton Waterfront Trail does a spectacular job of providing birding and wildlife viewing opportunities through the marshes of Alder Creek and the Skipanon River. The river access provided by the flood control system constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) is a huge draw for residents and visitors alike. Warrenton is located in a scenic, rural area. Warrenton is surrounded by wetlands, river, beach, and ocean, with views of Washington, Saddle Mountain, and Mount St. Helens, on a clear day. These conditions, when considered in parks planning, are influential factors in the future of Warrenton's parks, as articulated in the following chapters.

CHAPTER 3
THE PARK SYSTEM

3.1 Overview

Effective parks system planning requires identifying and assessing existing park facilities and amenities through an inventory process. The inventory process exposes system-wide strengths and weaknesses and reveals underserved areas and services. Determining the activities that occur in each park, and the condition of facilities and amenities, helps guide recommendations and capital improvement programming efforts. The inventory process includes consideration and assignment of park classifications. Careful review of current and future park system needs by park classification type ensures a balanced parks system capable of efficient service to the community.

National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) classifications are used as a basis for creating a classification system specific to the needs, resources, and facilities in Warrenton. Park classification determination considers individual park benefits, functions, size, service area, and amenities. The park classifications selected for Warrenton considered park function a more important factor than park size. The classifications developed for Warrenton consist of the following categories:

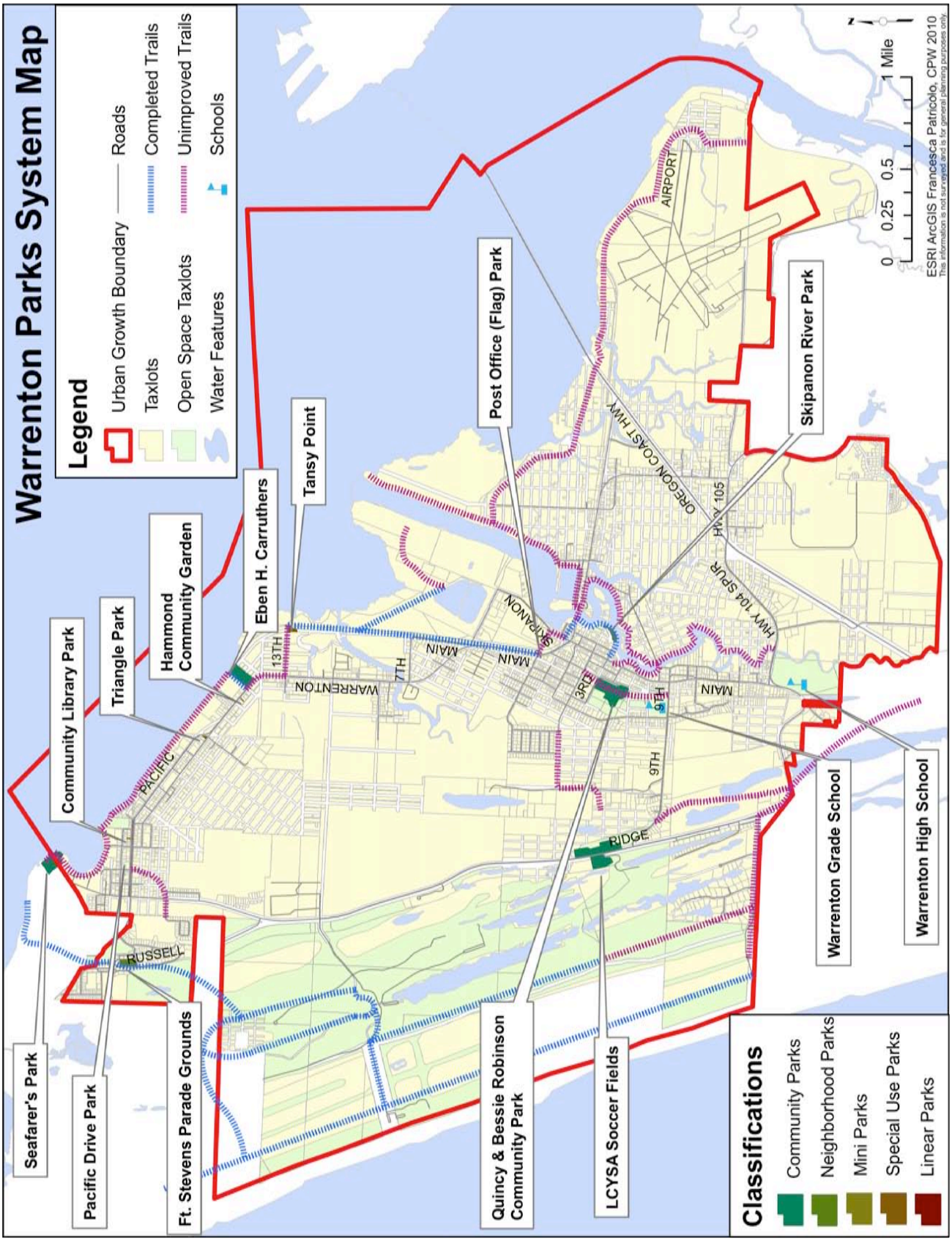
- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Mini Park
- Special Use Park
- Linear Park

The parks inventory includes all parkland owned by the City as well as information about public school district and privately owned recreation facilities that are available to residents. The inventory was completed using information provided by City staff as well as field visits to park facilities.

3.2 Parks System

Warrenton currently owns and maintains twelve park facilities, which comprise 40.8 acres of developed parkland. The existing parks system provides a range of park types and recreation opportunities. Different types of parks serve different functions and needs in the community. Map 3-1 illustrates the Warrenton Park System, open spaces and trails, and the regional context.

Map 3-1. Warrenton Park System



PARKS INVENTORY AND CLASSIFICATION

For the purposes of this Plan, park facilities are assessed based on amenities, size, and service area. Parks are categorized into the following park types: Community Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Mini Parks, Special Use Parks, and Linear Parks. Warrenton operates four community parks, two neighborhood parks, one mini park, four special use parks, and one linear park. Following is a summary of the park classifications and a brief description of each park facility.

Table 3-1. Warrenton Parks Inventory

Existing Parks	Acres
Community Parks	**33.7**
Quincy & Bessie Robinson Park	9.8
Seafarer's Park (at Hammond Marina)	5.6
Eben H. Carruthers Park	5.5
Warrenton (LCYSA) Soccer Fields	12.8
Neighborhood Parks	**3.7**
Fort Stevens Parade Grounds	2.3
Skipanon River Park	1.4
Mini Parks	**0.7**
Library Park	0.7
Special Use Parks	**1.7**
City Community Garden	0.2
Post Office (Flag) Park	0.3
Tansy Point Park	1.0
Triangle Park	0.2
Linear Parks	**1.0**
Pacific Drive Park	1.0
Total	**40.8**

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

COMMUNITY PARKS

Community parks provide a variety of structured, active, passive, and informal recreation opportunities for all age groups. Community parks are generally larger in size and serve a wide base of residents. They typically include facilities that attract people from the entire community, such as sports fields, pavilions and picnic shelters, and water features, and require support facilities, such as parking and restrooms. These parks may also include natural areas, unique landscapes, and trails. Community parks may range in size from 1- to 50-acres.

» **Quincy & Bessie Robinson Park** is an approximately 9.8-acre community park located on SW 3rd & Alder Avenue. The park is named for the park's benefactors who created a private trust to fund park projects in the City of Warrenton. Centrally located and highly used, the park offers a range of structured activities, from basketball to baseball, as well as community use facilities such as community gardens and the community center. To the west and south lies

undeveloped forest area, some of which is City-owned open space. The park has access to the Warrenton Grade School Trail.

» **Seafarers Park** is an approximately 5.6-acre community park located at the Hammond Marina. The park is a visitor's destination dedicated to the men of the Mermaid and Triumph who lost their lives in a devastating 1961 storm. The land is owned by the Army Corps of Engineers and leased by the City. The City owns and operates all marina improvements. Currently only partially developed, the park is well used, especially in the summertime when there are weddings at the gazebo and families picnicking on the beach. Residents and visitors alike enjoy the natural beautiful setting and Waterfront Trail access.

» **Eben H. Carruthers Park** is an approximately 5.5-acre community park located off of Warrenton Drive (Fort Stevens Highway 104). The park is bordered by a lumber mill to the east, the Columbia River to the north, and wooded undeveloped area to the west that is designated for residential development. A multi-use path has been newly paved and widened leading to the historical Lewis & Clark informational viewpoint off of the Columbia River. The new dog park receives heavy used by the community.

» **Warrenton (LCYSA) Soccer Fields** are an approximately 12.8-acre community park. There are three soccer fields: two on one side of Ridge Road, and one on the other. On the west side of the road, the north end of Field 2 and all of Field 3 are on County land that is leased by LCYSA. In 2008, LCYSA's lease with Clatsop County was extended to 2023. The park is operated and maintained by the Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association (LCYSA). As a reclaimed former landfill site, the City takes flammable gas readings every month and a geologist takes readings from wells to ensure user safety. Volunteers take very good care of the property, as exemplified by the service of Harold Henry Snow (1908-2008) for whom a memorial is dedicated for Field 2. The park has access to the Shag Lake Trail and includes unimproved parking areas on either side of Ridge Road. The park is generally not accessible by alternative modes and is dependent upon vehicular access. There are no sidewalks on Ridge Road, leading to the park, and it is outside comfortable walking distance from most homes and schools.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks are located within walking and bicycling distance of most users. Neighborhood parks provide access to basic recreation activities for nearby residents of all ages, function as critical open space, and are often defining elements of a neighborhood. These parks are generally 1- to 5-acres in size and serve residents within ¼ to ½-mile radius. Neighborhood parks typically include facilities such as playgrounds, basketball courts, tennis courts, lawn areas, picnic tables, and benches.

» **Fort Stevens Parade Grounds** is an approximately 2.3-acre neighborhood park that holds historical significance as military parade grounds from the Civil War until WWII. The grounds are a large, city-owned open grass space with a few large oak trees, a shelter, and play equipment. The park is surrounded by colonial-style homes and a bed and breakfast.

» **Skipanon River Park** is an approximately 1.4-acre neighborhood park located near downtown along the Skipanon River. A linear park with a paved trail and grassy dike links a paved parking lot at 3rd Street to the 2nd Street Kayak Dock. The paved parking lot area is the trailhead of the Warrenton Waterfront Trail, linking to miles of connecting trails in the city system. The kayak dock has space for a couple of vehicles to park in an unpaved area off of an unimproved access road on 2nd Street. The parking area is connected to the trail and dock by a meandering pedestrian ramp. The park gets heavy use during the months of May through September and is attractive to visitors.

MINI PARKS

Mini parks are typically located on small parcels and provide passive or limited active recreation opportunities. Mini parks provide basic neighborhood recreation amenities, such as playgrounds, sport courts, benches, and lawn areas. These parks are generally smaller than 1-acre and serve residents within a ¼-mile radius.

» **Library Park** is an approximately 0.7-acre mini park located at 681 Pacific Drive, adjacent to the Hammond Library. The park consists of a play structure that is in good condition, storage shed, bench, and two planter pots. The park contains trees, flowers, and shrubs along the perimeter. The park has special use in the regard that it is specifically by families during visits to the library. There are newly paved parking spaces in front of the library. Pacific Drive Park is across the street, separating Library Park from 6th Avenue.

SPECIAL USE PARKS

Special use parks are recreation sites or parkland occupied by a specialized facility designed to serve a specific function. Facilities typically included in this classification are sports field complexes, community centers, community gardens, skate parks, aquatic centers, and amphitheaters.

» **City Community Garden** is an approximately 0.1-acre special use park. It is privately owned by neighboring residential property owners and is leased to the City of Warrenton. The park is in the initial stages of development and includes fencing and raised garden beds.

» **Post Office (Flag) Park** is an approximately 0.3-acre special use park owned by the City of Warrenton and maintained by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Located in the heart of downtown at 99 S. Main Avenue, this small park is intended for viewing and honoring the VFW. The park contains a small area with picnic tables is owned by the City and used primarily by patrons of the adjacent restaurant.

» **Tansy Point** is an approximately 1-acre special use park. The park site was a native village for Clatsop tribes before the days of Lewis & Clark and is known for the historical Anson-Dart Treaties of 1851. Today, the park contains an access road leading to a roundabout where visitors can drive by and glimpse a view of the Columbia River and the shores of Washington. The landscape consists of grass, wetlands, and sparse trees. Visitors can access the Waterfront Trail through the

trailhead at 13th Street. The park experiences the most activity from May through September and the City responds by installing picnic tables for those months.

» **Triangle Park** is an approximately 0.2-acre special use park that is a triangle shaped open lawn wayside containing a statue. The statue was donated to the City of Warrenton in 2003 by Martin Nygaard of Warrenton Fiber and Nygaard Logging. The statue was a gift to Mr. Nygaard by David Lum, his neighbor in Warrenton, who bought it from an artisan in Washington's San Juan area. Carved from wood, stained, and painted, the statue features a tree, eagle, bear, fish, and lumberjack. It represents the timber industry's respect for northwest wildlife.

LINEAR PARKS

Linear Parks are developed landscape areas that follow linear corridors such as streams, power lines, and other linear features. Linear Parks provide a transportation corridor linking neighborhoods to parks, schools, and shopping areas. They provide a variety of passive recreational opportunities all free or relatively free from automobile interference.

» **Pacific Drive Park** is an approximately 1-acre linear park. The park is a long, narrow, grass promenade separating Pacific Drive and 6th Street. The park contains a line of orchard trees along its length. Near either end of the park is an artful tile and concrete planter. In the center is a bell as a historical art piece. The park has no curbs or sidewalks. The park is within ODOT right-of-way but is maintained by the City.

TRAILS

The City of Warrenton adopted a Trails Master Plan in 2008, which describes the City's existing and proposed trail system in detail. The Trails Master Plan identifies five trails outside of the City that Warrenton's proposed trails will connect with. The plan also identifies ten existing trails and seven proposed trails within Warrenton, some of which have been constructed or are in planning stages. The Trails Master Plan is incorporated by reference herein.

OTHER CITY PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

In addition to identifying city-owned and city-maintained properties, the inventory provides information on local school facilities, publicly and privately owned recreation areas, and parks that may be outside the community but are commonly used by Warrenton residents. Acknowledgment of these facilities, and the services they provide to the community, is important to consider in evaluating decisions addressing future facility locations and community needs.

Hammond Marina

The Hammond Marina is connected to Seafarer's Park and is operated by the City of Warrenton. It is owned by the Army Corps of Engineers and started leasing to the City of Hammond in 1967. The City of Warrenton took over the lease when

Hammond and Warrenton merged in 1991.[7] The marina is located just south of the mouth of the Columbia River and Pacific Ocean.

Warrenton Mooring Basin

The Warrenton Mooring Basin is located at 550 NE Harbor Drive and is City-owned and operated. Open year-round, it has 370 slips of which 20 are reserved for transient boats. The facility also provides restrooms, showers, a pump-out, trash pick-up, dock carts, and docking assistance.

Warrenton Community Library

The Warrenton Community Library is located at 225 S. Main Avenue. Library Park is located directly to the west of the Library. The Library is the former site of the Hammond City Hall before Hammond was incorporated and included within Warrenton's city limits. The library holds over 20,000 items including 400 audio books and 300 videos and DVDs. The Friends of the Library foundation puts on a variety of programming for the community.[8]

Warrenton Community Center

The Warrenton Community Center is located at 170 SW 3rd Street. The center holds gatherings and functions from wedding receptions to seminars for up to 135 people. It provides table seating for around 72 people and a full kitchen. It has two small decks off of the back, which are adjacent to Quincy & Bessie Robinson Community Park near the community garden.

WARRENTON-HAMMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT 30

The Warrenton-Hammond School District is comprised of two schools located on separate sites: a high school and grade school. Together they serve 915 students within the district.[9]

Warrenton Grade School

There are 556 students grades K-8 attending Warrenton Grade School located at 820 SW Cedar Street. Facilities include a football field, quarter mile track with high jump and long jump pits, a shot-put sector, a baseball field, three covered basketball half courts, wall-ball and four square courts, a play structure, a climbing wall, a tire swing, fourteen swings, two climbing structures, and a triple ball hoop. Indoor facilities include a full size basketball gym with two sets of bleachers and a multipurpose cafeteria.

Warrenton High School

There are 285 students, grades 9-12 attending Warrenton High School located at 1700 SE Main Street. Facilities include a football field, baseball field, and indoor gymnasium.

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[7] NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center

[8] City of Warrenton

[9] Warrenton-Hammond School District

PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN WARRENTON

There are four private school facilities within the City of Warrenton serving 187 students.[10]

Coryell's Crossing Incorporated School

This non-sectarian private school serves 30 children from pre-kindergarten to kindergarten. It is an early-childhood program and daycare center.

North Coast Christian School

Located at 796 Pacific Drive, the North Coast Christian School is a ministry of the Philadelphia Church of Hammond and a Pentecostal private school teaching 100 students grades K-8.

Warrenton High South Jetty Campus School

This high school teaches 74 alternative students grades 8-12 through the Oregon Youth Authority. It is located at 1250 SE 19th Street.

PRIVATE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Lighthouse Park & Interpretive Center

Lighthouse Park & Interpretive Center is located at the intersection of Main Avenue and Harbor Street. The center serves as a memorial to lives lost in the fishing industry and houses Warrenton and Hammond historical society artifacts. Facilities include a model lighthouse, bench, memorials, displays of fishing relics as public art, and picnic tables. It is staffed and open between Memorial Day and September 15th with admission to the lighthouse and mini-museum by donation.[11]

Skipanon Landing

This privately owned marina is located at 200 NE Skipanon Drive, is open year-round, and has 92 slips of which just two are reserved for transient boats, which require reservations. Other facilities include restrooms, showers, pump out, book exchange, and mail & package holding.

Kamper's West RV Park

The Kamper's West RV Park is located at 1140 NW Warrenton Drive #324 and comes with complete RV club facilities that are open year round. The RV Park has 160 RV sites, 30 AMP hookups, a 100 person club room, a 35 person club room, laundromat, convenience store, LP gas, dump station, and fish cleaning pavilion.[12]

Warrenton KOA Campground

Warrenton's KOA Campground is located at 1100 NW Ridge Road and includes an indoor pool & spa, family recreation room, game room, group facilities, playgrounds,

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[10] Schooltree.org

[11] Warrenton Business Association

[12] kamperswest.com

fire rings, picnic tables, volleyball court, basketball court, horseshoe pits, grocery store, gift shop, and internet café.[13]

SUNSET EMPIRE PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT

Warrenton is not currently part of the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District (SEPRD), however part of Clatsop County is within district boundaries. SEPRD follows school district 10 boundaries (outside of Warrenton), excluding the Cities of Gearhart and part of Cannon Beach. Areas in the Sunset Empire District are part of Cannon Beach, South Clatsop County, Hamlet, Necanicum, Seaside, Stanley Acres, and part of Arch Cape. SEPRD facilities include Sunset Pool, Seaside Youth Center, and Bob Chisholm Community Center. All of these facilities are located in Seaside. Non-district residents can use SEPRD facilities but pay higher user fees and/or have limited access.[14]

Sunset Swimming Pool

Located at 1140 Broadway in Seaside, this pool has a weight & exercise room and three pools:

» A 25 yard long, 6 lane, 82 degree, lap pool featuring a rope swing and a slide

» A 91 degree warm water learner pool 20 feet by 40 feet and 4 feet deep

» A 101 degree spa pool

Seaside Youth Center

The Seaside Youth Center is located next door to Sunset Pool and holds a majority of the Districts' youth programming. It has preschool programs, after school programs, summer camps, day camps, a free after-school drop-in center, middle school extracurricular activities and other programs and activities.

The Bob Chisholm Community Center

The Bob Chisholm Community Center provides a variety of community programs and services from afternoon dances to flu shots but it also hosts events from weddings to hearing tests. It is owned by the City of Seaside and coordinated by SEPRD.

NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS IN AND NEAR WARRENTON

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park & Fort Clatsop National Memorial

The Fort Clatsop National Memorial in Astoria is one of 12 park sites located on a 40-mile stretch of the Pacific coast (from Cannon Beach to Long Beach, WA) that make up Lewis and Clark National Historical Park. The Fort Clatsop site, located at 92343 Fort Clatsop Road, was the winter encampment for the Corps of Discovery from

[13] koa.com

[14] Sunset Empire Parks & Recreation District

December 1805 to March 1806. Facilities include an exhibit hall and gift shop in addition to a fort replica structure.[15]

Fort Stevens State Park

Fort Stevens State Park is located off of Pacific Drive and Ridge Road in Warrenton and was a primary military defense in the three fort Harbor Defense System from the Civil War until the end of World War II. The 3,700-acre park includes campsites, RV facilities, artifacts, swimming, trails, a historic shipwreck, a museum, gun batteries, and other accessory facilities.[16]

CLATSOP COUNTY PARKS NEAR WARRENTON

Cullaby Lake

Cullaby Lake County Park connects to the Skipanon River and is located off U.S. Highway 101 between Astoria and Seaside. It contains 165-acres including public access to a boat launch, docks, restrooms, picnic shelters, barbecue pits, horseshoe pits, play areas, fishing, swimming, nature observation, and the Lindgren Cabin, a Finnish-American heritage site.

Carnahan County Park

The 30-acre Carnahan County Park, at the north end of Cullaby Lake, is located off U.S. Highway 101 between Astoria and Seaside. It provides passive lake sports, day use activities, and leases land to the Boy Scouts of America. There is a user fee charged per vehicle per day from May until September.

John Day County Park

The 54-acre John Day County Park is located on U.S. Highway 30 about 5 miles east of Astoria. It has a public boat launch to the Columbia River and restrooms.[17]

CITY OF ASTORIA PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES

The City of Astoria contains six historic sites, a caretaker home, three community halls, a maritime memorial park, six general use parks, a senior center, five public restroom buildings, three tennis courts, eight playgrounds, ten ball fields, four basketball courts, a boat launch ramp/fishing dock, history museums, and seven miscellaneous locations. Of particular interest to the Warrenton community is the indoor aquatic center and skate park.[18]

Astoria Aquatic Center

The Astoria Aquatic Center, located on1997 Marine Drive, opened in 1998. A state-of-the-art indoor facility, it has a water slide, wading pool with waterfalls, and a "river." There is also a lap pool and separate fitness center.

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[15] U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service

[16] Oregon Parks & Recreation Department

[17] Clatsop County, Oregon

[18] City of Astoria

Tapiola Skatepark

This 11,000 square foot concrete skatepark, established in July 2002, is located in Tapiola Park on 900 West Marine Drive and S. Denver Ave on the south side of town. The park, made up of the skating area and restroom facilities, cost the City of Astoria $171,000 from grants and community donations. The helmet-required facilities are open sunrise to sunset to skateboarders and rollerbladers. Bikes are not allowed; however, the use is under consideration.

3.3 Operations and Maintenance

An assessment of Warrenton's parks operations and maintenance is an essential element of the parks planning process. As typical with most similar sized Oregon communities, Warrenton parks operations and maintenance is a function of the Public Works Department. The Public Works Department partially supports three positions devoted to parks. Specifically, a Public Works Utility Worker is assigned a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) of 0.35, 0.12 FTE is assigned to personnel services, and 0.23 FTE is assigned to part-time maintenance. The total FTE devoted to parks operations and maintenance is 0.70 FTE. The Parks Department's budget includes additional personnel services, materials, and services. The above staff positions supply most of the operations and maintenance labor. In additional, some general park maintenance activities, specifically mowing, are contracted-out to a private company.

3.4 Park Service Areas

To serve the needs of a diverse population, it is important that a parks system contain parks of different sizes and types. It is also important that residents have convenient access to some type of developed public park within their neighborhood (defined as a ¼ mile or less walking distance). In general, people will not walk more than a ¼ mile to a park. "A distance of over a half mile to a park guarantees that most people will skip that trip or they will drive."[19] Once a person decides to drive, the park is no longer considered close enough to make it conveniently accessible.

Map 3-2 illustrates park service areas. Service areas of 1-mile for community parks, ½-mile for neighborhood parks, and ¼-mile for mini parks are used as a measurement to analyze how well Warrenton residents are served by their parks system. Although a number of parks exist throughout Warrenton, the service area analysis indicates that sections of the city are currently underserved or not served at all by developed parks. Three primary areas of the city are underserved by the parks system: (1) the northwest section of Warrenton, south of the Hammond area and east of Ridge Road; (2) the east-central portion of Warrenton, near the Oregon Coast Highway and Highway 105; and (3) the southernmost portion of Warrenton within the UGB. By promoting parks that are within walking distance, and within underserved areas, the City of Warrenton can better serve its residents.

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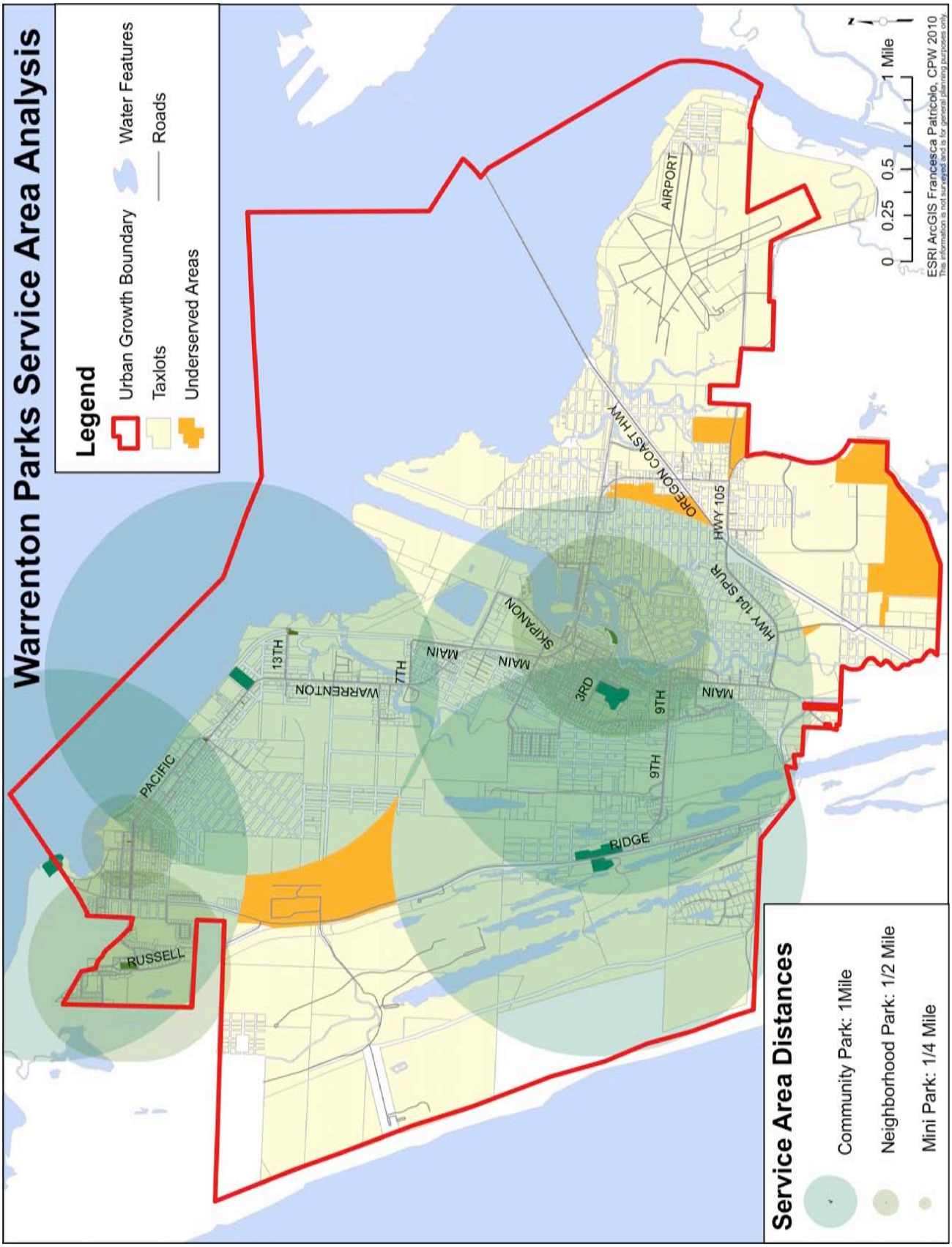
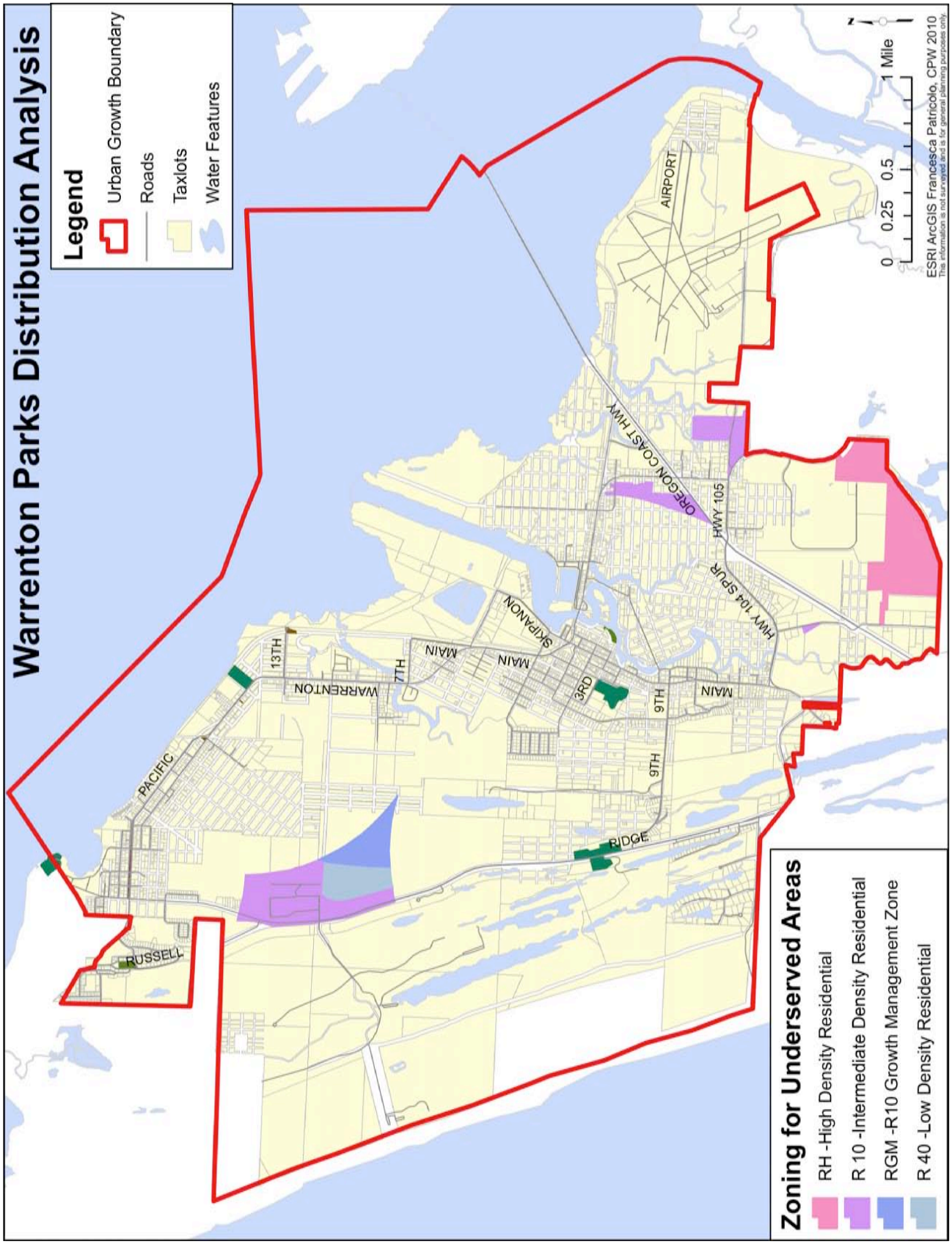
[19] Harnik, P. and Simms, J. 2004. Parks: How Far is Too Far? *Planning*, 70 (11): 8-11.

Map 3-2. Warrenton Park Service Areas



Map 3-3. Warrenton Park Distribution Analysis



3.5 Level of Service Analysis

A system-wide Level of Service (LOS) standard ensures quality and equity in park service and distribution. The National Recreation and Park Association (NPRA) set a standard for system-wide parkland level of service (LOS) for communities. A LOS standard is a measurable target for parkland development that provides the foundation for meeting future community parkland needs and leveraging funding. The LOS is used to project future land acquisition needs and appropriately budget for those needs through the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

The City of Warrenton contains 12 developed park facilities, four of which are classified as special use parks and one as a linear park. Special use parks and linear parks are not included in the LOS calculation due to their unique purposes and conditions. According to NRPA guidelines, community parks are traditionally included in LOS analysis, however Warrenton has one exception - the LCYSA soccer fields. Since the LCYSA soccer fields are not entirely owned by the City and are maintained and operated by the LCYSA organization and its volunteers, the park is not considered to be carried by public dollars or services. Therefore, the park's acreage is excluded from the LOS analysis, which is a measure of the amount of park service the community receives from the City's direct support. Since the City does not actively contribute to supporting the LCYSA soccer fields, they are considered to be an additional benefit of living in Warrenton rather than an expense that goes into the LOS calculation.

The total acreage for the remaining seven developed parks included in the LOS analysis is 25.3 acres. The current LOS provided by the parks system is 5.2 acres per 1,000 persons. This is based on the estimated 2010 population of 4,896 residents.[20]

Table 3-2. Existing Park System LOS

Existing Parks	LOS Acres
Community Parks	**33.7**
Quincy & Bessie Robinson Park	9.8
Seafarer's Park (at Hammond Marina)	5.6
Eben H. Carruthers Park	5.5
*Warrenton (LCYSA) Soccer Fields**	12.8
Neighborhood Parks	**3.7**
Fort Stevens Parade Grounds	2.3
Skipanon River Park	1.4
Mini Parks	**0.7**
Library Park	0.7
Total	**25.3**
** Not calculated in LOS*	

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

[20] Portland State University Population Research Center, 2010.

The basic function of the LOS is to ensure quality of service delivery and equity. The LOS is used to project future land acquisition needs and appropriately budget for those needs through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and System Development Charge (SDC) fees. As it functions primarily as a target, adopting a LOS standard does not obligate a City to provide all necessary funding to implement the standard. It simply provides the basis for leveraging funds.

Many cities adopt a LOS standard. Table 3-3 provides a breakdown of the parks system LOS in 15 Oregon communities. Compared to cities of a similar population size (+/- 5,000) and other coastal communities, which include Astoria, Seaside, Lincoln City, Newport, Brookings, and Bandon, Warrenton's level of service is slightly above the median average.

Table 3-3. Parks System LOS Comparison

City	Developed Park Acreage	Year 2009 Population	Developed Parkland Per 1,000 Residents
Brownsville	30.5	1,780	17.1
Lincoln City	90.3	7,930	11.4
Brookings	55.5	6,470	8.6
Sweet Home	76.4	9,050	8.4
Bandon	27.3	3,295	8.3
Turner	13.7	1,750	7.8
Warrenton	25.3	4,896	5.2
Troutdale	70.7	15,535	4.6
Lebanon	50.9	15,580	3.3
Talent	17.0	6,680	2.5
Monmouth	23.3	9,630	2.4
Canby	37.0	15,230	2.4
Seaside	14.1	6,480	2.2
Astoria	21.6	10,250	2.1
Newport	20.0	10,600	1.9

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

A LOS standard can be established with the intention of either maintaining the current level of service or as a goal for an increase in future levels of service. In summary, adopting a LOS standard does not obligate a City to provide all necessary funding to implement the standard. It simply provides the basis for leveraging funds.

3.6 Conclusions

To serve the needs of a diverse population, it is important that a parks system contain parks of different sizes and types throughout the city. Currently, there are a number of areas that are underserved by the City's parks system. These primary areas are the northwest section, south of the Hammond area and east of Ridge Road; the east-central portion of Warrenton, near the Oregon Coast Highway and Highway 105; and the southernmost portion within the UGB. The City's current LOS is 5.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Compared to cities of similar size, Warrenton's LOS is slightly above average.

CHAPTER 4
PARK AND RECREATION NEEDS

4.1 Overview

This chapter provides an overview of national and state recreation trends, as well as park and recreation needs of Warrenton residents. Park and recreation trends, along with the population growth and demographic data outlined in Chapter 2 and the analysis of the current parks system outlined in Chapter 3, are folded into the needs assessment highlighted in this chapter.

4.2 National and State Trends

As part of the parks planning process, it is critical to monitor current trends impacting the field of park and recreation in order to plan for services that meet and exceed user expectations. This task involves an analysis of recreation participation and historical, current, and future demands for facilities and services. Data on park and recreation user trends was obtained from three sources: the National Sporting Goods Association 2008 Survey, the 2003 Oregon Outdoor Recreation Survey, and the 2008-2012 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

NATIONAL SPORTS PARTICIPATION

The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) collects data on national sports participation trends. The NSGA collects yearly data using a representative household survey. Table 4-1 presents the top ten recreation activities based on national participation. These national trends are important to Warrenton because increased participation in activities such as exercise walking, exercise with equipment, cycling, and camping may increase demand for facilities that accommodate these activities.

Table 4-1. National Sports Participation Levels, 2008

Sport	Total Participation (in Millions)	Percent Change (From 2007)
Exercise Walking	96.6	7.6%
Swimming	63.5	6.1%
Exercising with Equipment	63.0	9.2%
Bowling	49.5	5.1%
Camping (Vacation/Overnight)	49.4	3.8%
Bicycle riding	44.7	11.4%
Fishing	42.2	2.7%
Workout at club	39.3	6.8%
Hiking	38.0	10.5%
Weight Lifting	37.5	6.6%

Source: National Sporting Goods Association, 2008.

Table 4-2. Selected Sports Ranked by Percent Change, 2007-2008

Sport	Total Participation (in Millions) 2008	Total Participation (in Millions) 2007	Percent Change 2007 to 2008	Percent of US Population 2008
Running/Jogging	35.9	30.4	18.2%	11.8%
Yoga	16.0	10.7	17.1%	5.3%
Snowboarding	5.9	5.1	15.6%	1.9%
Soccer	15.5	13.8	12.5%	5.1%
Bicycle Riding	44.7	37.4	11.4%	14.7%
Hiking	38.0	28.6	10.5%	12.5%
Mountain Biking (off road)	10.2	7.4	9.6%	3.4%
Exercising with Equipment	63.0	52.8	9.2%	20.7%
Baseball	15.2	14.0	8.7%	5.0%
Exercise Walking	96.6	89.8	7.6%	31.7%
Hunting with Bow and Arrow	6.2	5.7	7.5%	2.0%
Billiards/Pool	31.7	29.5	7.4%	10.4%
Workout at Club	39.3	33.8	6.8%	12.9%
Weight Lifting	37.5	33.2	6.6%	12.3%
Hunting with Firearms	18.8	19.5	-3.6%	6.2%
Skateboarding	9.8	10.1	-3.6%	3.2%
Motor/Power Boating	27.8	31.9	-12.7%	9.1%
Target Shooting	5.0	6.6	-25.8%	1.6%

Source: National Sporting Goods Association, 2008.

Table 4-2 presents changes in participation levels for selected sports activities. Between 2007 and 2008, the top fourteen sports listed below all experienced significant increases in participation. Nine additional recreation activities also experienced increases in participation levels. Some activities that experienced a decrease in participation level include: hunting with firearms (-3.6%), skateboarding (-3.6%), motor/power boating (-12.7%), and target shooting (-25.8%). Exercise walking remains the number one sport in national participation, with 96.6-million participants.

These trends also suggest a shift in participation due to changing age demographics and the growing popularity of sports such as yoga and bicycle/mountain biking.

The national level data provides a broad understanding of overall trends; however, state and regional data is more applicable to establishing and understanding the types of outdoor recreation activities that will most directly influence future planning in Warrenton.

STATE AND REGIONAL RECREATION PARTICIPATION

The 2003 Oregon Outdoor Recreation Survey provides data on regional outdoor recreation participation in Oregon. Region 1 encompasses Clatsop, Tillamook, and Lincoln counties, and approximately 1/5 of Lane County (the Coastal portion). While it includes an area larger than Clatsop County, the Region 1 findings provide insight into types of recreation taking place in the north coast region of Oregon. Table 4-3 presents the most significant participation in growth activities for 1987 to 2002.

Table 4-3. Most Significant Participation Growth Activities, Region 1

Rank	Growth Activity	Growth in User Occasions (in Millions)	% Growth in User Occasions 1987 - 2002
1	Beach activities including swimming (fresh and salt)	2.7	83%
2	RV/trailer camping	1.7	87%
3	Golf	0.67	129%
4	Day hiking	0.44	81%
5	Using playground equipment	0.22	95%

Source: Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 1987-2002.

Activities that constitute a large user group and show an increase in activity should help guide parks planning-related decisions. As shown above, the golf and playground user group represent the largest groups regionally. Because several existing golf courses are located in close proximity to Warrenton, the City should focus on other activities that are growing at a rapid rate in the region, such as beach activities, RV and trailer camping, day hiking, and use of playground equipment. Some of these activities, including day activities, camping, and beach activities, can be combined into one activity for residents and visitors to enjoy.

STATE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

The 2008-2012 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is the State's 5-year plan for outdoor recreation. As a planning and information tool, the SCORP provides recommendations to the Oregon State Park System and guidance for the Oregon Park and Recreation Department's (OPRD) administered grant programs. In addition, the plan provides guidance to local governments and the private sector in making policy and planning decisions. The SCORP identifies the following key issues, which should inform parks planning and policy decisions:

» **A Rapidly Aging Population:** Within the next decade, 15% of Oregon's total population will be over the age of 65. By 2030 that number will grow to nearly 20 percent.

» **Fewer Oregon Youth Learning Outdoor Skills:** Although Oregon is a state with abundant natural resources, there is growing evidence that Oregon's youth are gravitating away from outdoor recreation. Analysis of past SCORP survey results indicates that participation in traditional outdoor recreation activities such as camping, fishing, and hunting has dramatically decreased. Research has shown that people who do not participate in outdoor recreation as youth are less likely to participate in those activities as adults.

» **An Increasingly Diverse Population:** By the year 2020, Oregon's combined Hispanic, Asian, and African-American population will make up more than 22% of the state's population. Warrenton is changing at a similar rate. Research has identified that, in general, minorities are less likely than whites to participate in outdoor recreation in the U.S. As a result, these under-represented populations forego benefits of outdoor recreation while park service providers miss a potentially important group of supporters.

» **A Physical Activity Crisis:** According to the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC), rates of physical inactivity and obesity in the U.S. have reached epidemic proportions. Regular, moderate exercise has been proven to reduce the risk of serious health conditions. Public facilities such as trails and parks that are conveniently located have been found to be positively associated with vigorous physical activity in a number of studies, among both adults and children.

4.3 Community Needs

This section addresses the parks and recreation needs that are unique to the community of Warrenton. These needs were developed through community input, which is a critical component of the parks planning process. The primary methods for obtaining input were community workshops, stakeholder interviews, community questionnaires, and meetings with the Parks Advisory Board.

During March and April 2010, twelve interviews were conducted with members of the Parks Advisory Board, City staff, and other community leaders. Two community workshops (held at the Warrenton High School) were conducted in March and April 2010. The process also incorporated a number of questionnaires given to community members identified by City staff.

The purpose of these outreach activities was to identify and prioritize parks system improvements. A detailed description of the stakeholder input and community involvement processes can be found in Appendix B Stakeholder Involvement and the Community Involvement Report (bound separately). Below is a summary of general parks system improvements identified through the outreach process.

SYSTEM WIDE IMPROVEMENTS

- New or improved play structures and equipment
- Improved baseball and softball fields
- Additional fields (baseball, softball, soccer)
- Skate/BMX facility for youth
- Construction/installation of water trails, community garden plots, exercise stations, and bike and running trails
- Additional basketball courts
- Water play area
- Maintenance planning
- New or improved restroom facilities
- Trail connections
- Fishing access
- Park host sites

In addition to system-wide improvements, conceptual designs for Quincy and Bessie Robinson City Park were developed with community input. Following is a summary of the improvements identified.

QUINCY AND BESSIE ROBINSON PARK IMPROVEMENTS

- Improve field drainage
- Add dirt storage area
- Add signage
- Add community garden shed/maintenance facility
- Add bleachers, lighting, skate park, and BMX area
- Replace outdated playground equipment
- Repair dugouts
- Add sand volleyball court
- Resurface tennis/basketball courts

4.4 Conclusions

This chapter provides an overview of broader national and statewide recreation trends. These trends indicate a movement toward non-organized sports, such as running/jogging, yoga, bicycle riding, and exercise walking; however, traditional sports such as soccer and baseball are still in high demand. As evidenced by the national percent changes in 2007-2008, there is a dramatic increase in more individual sporting

opportunities for children and adults. State and regional data maintains that beach activities, day-use hiking, and RV trailer camping continue to be in high demand.

Many of the national and statewide trends correspond with the desires of Warrenton residents. Residents are interested in having access to a diversity of recreation activities for all age groups, such as skateboarding, walking paths, and bike trails. They are also interested in passive recreation such as birding/wildlife viewing. The community would like additional amenities such as picnic shelters, community gardens and improved baseball/softball fields.

In addition, residents would like the parks system to include unique amenities or design schemes. Improvements identified for Quincy and Bessie Robinson Park include improved and redesigned baseball/softball fields. Skipanon River Park is a prime opportunity for residents to access the kayak dock which leads out to Warrenton's spectacular water trails. The community would like to see amenities incorporated into the parks system that enhance user safety, access, and comfort. These amenities include park furnishings such as picnic tables, drinking fountains, and trash receptacles; restroom facilities; and, way-finding signage.

CHAPTER 5
PLANNING FRAMEWORK

5.1 Overview

This report outlines the vision, goals, objectives, and accompanying recommendations established through the parks planning process. The vision for Warrenton's parks system is intended to represent the community's needs and desires. Goals represent the general end toward which an organizational effort is directed. They identify how a community intends to achieve its mission and establish a vision for the future. Objectives are measurable statements, which identify specific steps needed to achieve stated goals. Recommendations, outlined below, are the specific steps needed to achieve the master plan goals.

5.2 Vision

Warrenton residents desire a diverse parks system that provides a variety of services for its users. The following vision statement, developed in 2009 and supplemented through the enhanced input process, articulates the hopes and desires of Warrenton residents for their parks system:

We envision a parks system that enhances the livability of Warrenton while building our community's health, wellness, and quality of life. Our parks system will promote social, cultural, and historical activities while providing a natural environment for the enjoyment of all residents and visitors. The City of Warrenton recognizes the boost in human and social capital parks improvement and maintenance projects will provide its residents.

Nine system goals and objectives were developed to define and support Warrenton's vision, as described below.

5.3 Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives are intended to provide the basis for the development of a high quality, equitable system of parks and recreation facilities and services. Together, goals and objectives provide a framework for the City to work towards effective implementation of the overall Warrenton Parks Master Plan. In order to be successful, specific tasks and individual projects must be implemented. This plan uses the following goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Park Awareness and Outreach

Develop and implement park awareness and outreach strategies to inform residents and visitors about the parks system.

Objective 1.1: Promote community awareness, education, and outreach of the parks system.

Objective 1.2: Create an outreach program that incorporates community groups and the school district to promote education of Warrenton's natural features showcased in parks.

Objective 1.3: Provide opportunities for community involvement in parks operations and maintenance.

Goal 2: Safety and Access

Operate park facilities that are safe and accessible for the entire community.

Objective 2.1: Design all new park facilities with user safety as a top priority.

Objective 2.2: Replace existing amenities that are outdated.

Objective 2.3: Improve park accessibility for all residents (e.g. paths and sidewalks).

Goal 3: Funding and Partnerships

Evaluate and establish new mechanisms for funding existing and future park and recreation facilities while strengthening relationships between the City of Warrenton and other partners.

Objective 3.1: Identify and secure appropriate funding sources for operations, parks maintenance, and parkland acquisition.

Objective 3.2: Review and adjust the Systems Development Charge rate on a regular basis to allow the City to expand and develop its parks system while meeting its park goals and objectives.

Objective 3.3: Develop partnerships with land trusts and private entities that have an interest providing recreation opportunities and/or natural resource protection and preservation.

Goal 4: Park Maintenance and Operations

Manage and operate all sites to maintain a safe and efficient parks system.

Objective 4.1: Upgrade and/or replace facilities or equipment that are in poor condition (i.e. restrooms, playground equipment, ball fields, picnic facilities, etc.)

Objective 4.2: Increase staffing for maintenance and operations.

Objective 4.3: Update and implement the Adopt-A-Park/Trail program.

Goal 5: Parkland Acquisition

Acquire additional parkland to ensure that all areas of the city are adequately served by park facilities.

Objective 5.1: Acquire parkland in areas within the UGB that are currently underserved by parks.

Objective 5.2: Ensure that land acquired through purchase or dedication meets the City's parkland acquisition standards.

Goal 6: Parks Planning

Establish a coordinated process for parks planning, park acquisition, and development that involves residents and community groups as well as the Parks Advisory Board and the City staff.

Objective 6.1: Engage stakeholder groups, community members, and other local regional recreation providers in the parks planning process.

Objective 6.2: Update the Parks Master Plan every five to ten years to ensure that it continues to reflect the needs and desires of the community.

Objective 6.3: Coordinate development of community bike paths and pathways with Transportation System Plan updates.

Objective 6.4: Complete trail connections in coordination with the Warrenton Trails Plan (2008)

Goal 7: Amenities and Design

Design and manage City parks to provide an attractive, pleasing, and enjoyable environment for residents.

Objective 7.1: Implement design standards when planning for parks.

Objective 7.2: Review identified community needs and current recreation trends prior to new park development and future park enhancement projects.

Objective 7.3: Update and replace aging amenities as needed with new amenities that are safe and aesthetically pleasing.

Objective 7.4: Enhance landscaping and natural resources within parks as additional funding for park maintenance is available.

Objective 7.5: Ensure that all parks, existing and future, are accessible to everyone and in compliance with ADA requirements.

Goal 8: Community Events

Develop community event areas within Quincy and Bessie Robinson Community Park and Seafarer's Park to provide opportunities for community cultural and recreational events that attract large gatherings.

Objective 8.1: Incorporate elements in the design of Quincy and Bessie Robinson Community Park that can be used for concerts, gatherings, and festivals, such as the 4th of July.

Objective 8.2: Incorporate elements in the design of Seafarer's Park that can be used for community gatherings and events, such as the Buoy 10 festival.

Objective 8.3: Promote cultural activities and events that attract residents and visitors to the downtown area.

Goal 9: Recreation

Enhance the types of recreation opportunities to include people of differing age groups and backgrounds.

Objective 9.1: Provide appropriate recreation opportunities for specific ages in Warrenton (children, elderly, disabled, etc.)

Objective 9.2: Support the expanding needs of Warrenton's diverse population.

5.5 Conclusions

The nine goals and twenty-eight objectives described above form the planning framework for Warrenton to address population growth, demographic changes, recreation trends, and the overall desires of Warrenton residents. These goals and objectives serve as the link between the park and recreation needs of the community and the recommendations for parks system improvements.

CHAPTER 6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Overview

Recommendations are the result of a thorough analysis of Warrenton's current and future parks, trails, and recreation needs established through the broad community input process. The resulting recommendations provide a path for strengthening the City's park system and are aimed at building community capacity while accommodating future growth and adapting to changing needs.

This chapter targets three planning areas. First, it identifies system improvements to guide future development and maintenance of Warrenton's parks system. Second, this section provides a strategy for identifying and acquiring potential areas for parks, trails, and pathways, as well as natural areas and open space. Third, this chapter identifies park-specific projects for improving Warrenton's existing park facilities.

6.2 System-wide Level of Service

A system-wide Level of Service (LOS) standard ensures quality and equity in park service and distribution. The National Recreation and Park Association (NPRA) established benchmarks for system-wide parkland level of service (LOS) for communities. A LOS standard is a measurable target for parkland development that provides the foundation for meeting future community parkland needs and leveraging funding. The LOS is used to project future land acquisition needs and appropriately budget for those needs through the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

The City of Warrenton contains twelve (12) developed park facilities. According to NRPA standards, special use parks and linear parks are not traditionally included in LOS calculations due to their unique purposes and conditions. Of the City's 12 facilities, four are classified as special use parks and one is classified as a linear park and were therefore not included in Warrenton's LOS calculation.

According to NRPA guidelines, community parks are traditionally included in LOS analysis, however Warrenton has a unique community park that makes it an exception to these guidelines - the LCYSA soccer fields. The LCYSA soccer fields are fully maintained by the LCYSA organization and its volunteers and only partially owned by the City. For these reasons, the park's acreage is excluded from the LOS analysis. The total acreage for the remaining seven developed parks included in LOS analysis is 25.3 acres. The current LOS provided by the parks system is 5.2 acres per 1,000

residents. This calculation is based on the estimated 2010 population of 4,896 residents.[21]

The LOS provides a standard by which the parks system can be assessed to determine if the current system meets current needs and has enough capacity to meet needs in the future. According to population projections and based on an annual growth rate of 1.8% per year, Warrenton's population is estimated to reach 6,995 residents in 2030.

Table 6-1. Existing and Projected LOS

Level of Service Projections		
YEAR	POPULATION ESTIMATE	LOS
2010	4,896	5.2
2020	5,852	4.3
2030	6,995	3.6

Source: CPW/CMGS 2010

Based on the above projections, the City of Warrenton will need to acquire and develop approximately 11 acres of new parkland within the next 20 years to maintain the current LOS. Maintaining this level of service will allow the City to improve the park system in two fundamental areas: by ensuring that an adequate level of maintenance and safety in current parks is accounted for; and, extending park service to underserved areas.

6.3 Parkland Acquisition

1. PARKLAND ACQUISITION RECOMMENDATIONS

A major focus of the Plan is the provision of equitable parkland for all residential areas. Although a number of parks exist throughout Warrenton, portions of the city are currently underserved or not served at all by developed parks. Since these areas lack developed parkland, they should be target areas for identifying and acquiring future parkland.

In order to maintain the current LOS into the future, the Plan recommends the addition of approximately 11 acres of developed parkland over the next 20 years. This acreage should be distributed at several sites to achieve goals for serving underserved areas. Property values in Warrenton are expected to rise during the next 20 years; therefore acquiring and banking future parkland is a priority.

Besides simply acquiring additional parkland, current parkland may be redesigned and subtracted from LOS calculations. Open space and natural areas require less maintenance than traditional parkland and are not included in parkland LOS

[21] Portland State University Population Research Center, 2010.

calculations. A short-term re-designation strategy to reduce LOS, and consequently reduce maintenance efforts, provides maximum park system design flexibility when paired with the strategy of adding new parkland. Converting existing parkland to lower intensity uses provides additional flexibility for acquiring and developing new neighborhood parks in underserved areas and does not stretch City maintenance capacity.

Although Warrenton has four existing parks classified as community parks, the City only has two parks classified as neighborhood parks. Neighborhood parks, being generally smaller than community parks at about five acres in size, are recommended in underserved areas.

Recommendation 1.1: Acquire land for future neighborhood park use in identified underserved areas

Through this strategy the City can maintain the current LOS while providing additional parkland disbursed in underserved areas during the next twenty years.

The community input process, initiated through discussions surrounding Quincy and Bessie Robinson Park and the LCYSA soccer fields, brought to light a variety of multifaceted issues regarding the development of a desired multi-sport complex facility.

Recommendation 1.2: Conduct a feasibility study for a multi-sport complex

A multi-sport complex provides outdoor recreation that accommodates a variety of organized tournaments and gatherings that provide opportunities for revenue generation. Although the community is supportive of having an overall multi-sport complex, its consideration and planning requires a more in-depth study.

Recommendation 1.3: Assess feasibility of acquisition and development of school district-owned parcel in north Warrenton as a neighborhood park

The parcel in question is roughly triangular and bordered by Russell Drive (North), Pacific Drive (West), and Seventh Drive (East). It is currently informal fields and may be further developed into an active recreation area, dog park, or open space parcel. Acquiring this parcel and developing it as a neighborhood park does not directly address a critical need for the community because it is not located an underserved area and is not large enough to accommodate a sports fields complex. The feasibility of obtaining and developing this parcel should, however, be considered. If future development of Fort Stevens Parade Grounds does not include additional active recreation, this site may be of local importance and use to the neighborhood.

6.4 Parkland Development

Parkland development includes the improvement and upgrade of existing park facilities. Recommendations focus on providing necessary park repairs and enhancements as

well as raising maintenance and safety standards. This section is organized by park classification (community, neighborhood, mini, special use, and linear) and specific recommendations are made for each of Warrenton's twelve parks. The recommendations herein are further detailed in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

2. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Many of the existing amenities and equipment within existing parks are outdated or in need of repair. Some amenities and facilities are not ADA compliant. New equipment requires less maintenance, increases user access, and promotes user safety.

Recommendation 2.1: Replace outdated play equipment in all parks

Residents indicated a preference for exercise opportunities while being able to observe other park activities and described a need for perimeter in several parks.

Recommendation 2.2: Construct perimeter trails in appropriate parks

Warrenton allows dog's on-leash in all parks and off-leash in the Carruthers dog park. Residents expressed a need for dog waste disposal stations in many parks to promote sanitation and make parks generally more dog friendly.

Recommendation 2.3: Install dog-waste disposal stations in appropriate parks

Residents are interested in having more community gardens that are locally accessible.

Recommendation 2.4: Install community gardens in appropriate parks

Residents advocate and support trail access and connectivity throughout the park system, as presented in the Warrenton Trails Plan. Connectivity has a direct effect on increased use of park facilities.

Recommendation 2.5: Support trail projects proposed in the Warrenton Trails Plan that increase connectivity to parks

Residents expressed a desire for directional and identification signage for community members and visitors to the park.

Recommendation 2.6: Install directional and identification signage

Outside of general park recommendations, additional recommendations described below will contribute to improving the park system.

Recommendation 2.7: Establish a Parks Commission or Committee to allow for direct decision making on behalf of City parks

A Parks Commission would make recommendations directly to the City Commission and take on the business of handling progress of the recommendations in the Parks Plan, including feasibility studies and concept plans.

Recommendation 2.8: Establish a dedicated parks fund, separate from public works funds, with authority for expenditures granted to the Parks Commission

Recommendation 2.9: Provide dedicated, year-round parks maintenance staff

Recommendation 2.10: Establish seasonal day use fees for highly used recreational facilities that attract summer visitors

Recommendation 2.11: Consider additional revenue-generating facilities such as an RV park (Seafarer's Park may be an appropriate location) to create additional funds to support the parks system

Recommendation 2.12: Consider partnership opportunities with existing park and recreation service providers such as with Sunset Empire Park & Recreation District or the City of Astoria

Recommendation 2.13: Explore the creation of or participation in a regional recreation district

Recommendation 2.14: Consider establishing a parks utility fee for operations and maintenance

Residents expressed a desire for a sand volleyball court contingent upon the concerns about sufficient drainage being addressed.

Recommendation 2.15: Explore feasibility of a sand volleyball court and install a facility if appropriate

Existing playground surfaces do not meet current accessibility standards. Rubber chips are an alternative to wood chips and meet current ADA accessibility standards.

Recommendation 2.16: Improve ADA accessibility at all parks including the installation of ADA accessible surface material at existing playgrounds

3-6. COMMUNITY PARKS RECOMMENDATIONS

Community parks are larger than neighborhood parks (1 to 50-acres) and provide a wider variety of uses and activities. They commonly contain sports fields and offer additional structured recreation activities. As a result, community parks draw users

from a much larger area and require access and parking considerations. A specific set of amenities are required at these parks for them to function properly. Since this type of park is intended to draw users from the entire community, consideration of any negative impacts, such as traffic and parking at adjacent neighborhoods should be taken into account. Warrenton has four community parks: Quincy & Bessie Robinson Community Park, Seafarer's Park, Eben H. Carruthers Park, and LCYSA Soccer Fields. Following are specific recommendations for each facility.

Quincy & Bessie Robinson Park

Quincy & Bessie Robinson Community Park, on SW 3rd & Alder Avenue, is centrally located and highly used. It offers a range of structured activities, from basketball to baseball, as well as community use facilities such as community gardens and the community center. To the west and south lies undeveloped forest area, some of which is City property, wetlands, or both. The park has access to the Warrenton Grade School Trail.

The existing fields have poor drainage and are unplayable during wet weather months. The current fields were placed in filled wetlands and require significant, continuous, and costly routine maintenance to operate.

Recommendation 3.1: Develop a concept plan and accompanying feasibility study for Quincy & Bessie Robinson Park

The concept plan and feasibility study should be coordinated with Parkland Acquisition recommendation 1.2 for conducting a feasibility study for the creation of a multi-sport complex. The concept plan process should include community input; consider the natural state of the land as well as local community amenity needs. If fields are to remain in the park, field drainage should be improved and the weathered/degraded tennis and basketball courts should be resurfaced.

Currently the City Public Works Department uses this park site to store soil it uses in general maintenance and enhancement work. Residents have identified this area as detrimental to the aesthetics of the park.

Recommendation 3.2: Construct soil storage area

The existing pavilion has been damaged by vandalism and age and requires restoration and repair.

Recommendation 3.3: Repair and restore pavilion

Currently, the gardeners who use the existing community garden must bring their own equipment and tools to and from the garden, which limits use. In addition, the park is centrally located and the Public Works Department needs additional space to store park maintenance equipment. A joint use structure could potentially house public restrooms, community garden shed, maintenance equipment, and a concession stand - each with secure entries.

Recommendation 3.4: Construct a structure to house restrooms, garden tools, and maintenance equipment

Currently, there is no fixed seating for spectators during baseball/softball games. Bleachers contribute to greater use and enjoyment of the park. In addition, the dugouts have become worn and require significant annual maintenance.

Recommendation 3.5: Install bleachers and repair dugouts

The playground equipment is outdated, in that it is frequently in need of repair and generally lacks modern features. New equipment requires less maintenance and provides enhanced access and user safety.

Recommendation 3.6: Replace playground equipment

Residents expressed a desire for additional security lighting to improve safety and park access and use.

Recommendation 3.7: Install security lighting

Community members expressed desire for youth skate park and BMX facilities to provide active, safe, local recreation opportunities.

Recommendation 3.8: Construct a skate park/BMX facility

Seafarer's Park

Seafarers Park at the Hammond Marina is a visitor's destination dedicated to the men of the Mermaid and Triumph who lost their lives in a devastating 1961 storm. The land is owned by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and leased by the City. The City owns and operates all marina improvements. Currently only partially developed, the park is well used, especially in the summertime when there are weddings at the gazebo and families picnicking on the beach. Residents and visitors alike enjoy the natural beautiful setting and Waterfront Trail access. The City is exploring acquisition, or control through a long-term lease agreement, with the ACOE of Seafarer's park. Recommended improvements are contingent upon the land being under City ownership or control.

Recommendation 4.1: Acquire Seafarer's Park from the Army Corps of Engineers or secure a long-term lease before completing any further development

The City Commission has voiced support for an initial concept plan for Seafarers Park that was created by Bryan Belcher in 2009. Further refinement of the plan is needed to investigate feasibility and incorporate additional improvements identified during the community involvement process. The existing parking lot is degraded and needs repaving due to tidal water surges and an insufficient base. Park roads require improvement for durability, access, and related maintenance needs. In addition, tidal waters are wearing away at the entry drive and a retaining wall is needed to protect improvements from damage.

Currently there are no restroom facilities, however the park receives heavy use, especially seasonally. The park hosts weddings and events and would benefit from permanent restroom facilities.

Recommendation 4.2: Develop a concept plan and feasibility study, based upon the initial concept plan, that includes improvements to parking areas, utilities, access, and restrooms

Eben H. Carruthers Park

Eben H. Carruthers Park is located off of Warrenton Drive (Fort Stevens Highway 104). The park is bordered by a lumber mill to the east, the Columbia River to the north, and wooded undeveloped area to the west that is designated for residential development. A path has been newly paved and widened leading to the historical Lewis & Clark informational viewpoint off of the Columbia River. The new dog park gets heavy use by the community.

The existing river viewing area has become weathered and worn and is in need of repair.

Recommendation 5.1: Repair river viewing area

The existing playground equipment is outdated and lacks modern features. New equipment requires less maintenance and provides enhanced access and safety.

Recommendation 5.2: Install new playground equipment

Park users expressed cocern that a neighboring mill visually detracts from the parks otherwise serene setting.

Recommendation 5.3: Plant a visual barrier along the East of the property to separate the park from the sight of the adjacent neighboring mill

Residents expressed a desire for several adult outdoor exercise stations throughout the park to promote community health.

Recommendation 5.4: Install adult outdoor exercise stations

Residents expressed a desire for additional walking paths within the park to community health and active park enjoyment.

Recommendation 5.5: Construct additional walking paths within the interior of the park.

LCYSA Soccer Fields

The City of Warrenton owns the property containing two of the three soccer fields at this park, while Clatsop County owns the land under the other field. Ridge Road divides the City and County properties. The facility is operated and maintained by the Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association (LCYSA). As a reclaimed former landfill site, the City takes gas readings every month and a geologist takes well readings to

ensure continued safety. Volunteers take very good care of the property, as exemplified by the service of Harold Henry Snow (1908-2008) for whom a memorial is dedicated for Field 1. The park has access to the Shag Lake Trail as well as parking.

Recommendation 6.1: Explore partnership opportunities between the City of Warrenton, Clatsop County, and LCYSA to prepare a long-term Master Plan for the development of the facility

The Master Plan should identify a vision for the future of the facility, address land acquisition/ownership issues, and include improvements such as to the roadway crossing, parking areas and parking access, and child & youth play areas. Solutions may include reduced speeds on Ridge Road and crosswalk signing and striping. Two of the three soccer fields are located on one side of a major road while one is located on the other side, presenting a hazard for pedestrians crossing back and forth. The existing parking areas are gravel and unmarked. Residents expressed a desire for additional recreation opportunities at this facility, specifically play areas for children and youth.

7-8. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS RECOMMENDATIONS

Neighborhood parks are small in size (1- to 5-acres) and serve residents within a ¼ to ½-mile radius. They provide non-supervised and non-organized recreation activities for the local neighborhood. These types of parks provide a variety of amenities for passive and active recreation. Often they serve an important function in the community as the focal point that helps to define each neighborhood. It is important for Warrenton to continue to upgrade and maintain the amenities offered in neighborhood parks. Warrenton has two neighborhood parks: Fort Stevens Parade Grounds and Skipanon River Park. Individual recommendations are as follows.

Fort Stevens Parade Grounds

The Fort Stevens Parade Grounds hold historical significance as military parade grounds from the Civil War through WWII. The grounds are a large, city-owned open grass space containing a few large oak trees, a shelter, and play equipment. The park is surrounded by colonial-style homes and a bed and breakfast.

Recommendation 7.1: Develop a concept plan to guide future development of the historic Fort Stevens Parade Grounds

The concept plan should include or address the following elements that resulted from public participation process: parking improvements, updated playground equipment, picnic shelter, benches at appropriate locations, field improvements, movable soccer goals, restrooms, a small community garden area, incorporate design elements representing historical appeal, and educational signage of the Parade Grounds historical significance

Skipanon River Park

Skipanon River Park is located downtown, along the Skipanon River. A linear park with a paved trail and grassy dike links a paved parking lot at 3rd Street to the 2nd Street Kayak Dock. The paved parking lot area is a trailhead for the Warrenton Waterfront

Trail, linking to miles of connecting trails in the trail system. The kayak dock has no improved parking and limited access from 2nd Street. The informal parking area is connected to the trail and dock by a meandering pedestrian ramp. The park gets heavy use during the months of May through September and is attractive to visitors. Improvements to the Skipanon River Park & SE 2nd Street Kayak Dock are included in the 2010 Downtown and Marina Master Plans.

Recommendation 8.1: Implement improvements identified in the 2010 Downtown and Marina Master Plans

In addition to a recommendation for adding restrooms and playground facilities, all other subsequent recommendations are in line with the 2010 Downtown and Marina Master Plans. All of the following recommendations resulted from the planning process.

The riparian area adjacent to the Skipanon River is overgrown with invasive and non-native species. Residents expressed a desire to remove invasive species and restore with native plantings to create an enhanced riparian corridor.

Recommendation 8.2: Restore the riparian corridor along the Skipanon River

Residents expressed a desire for interpretive signage to engage visitors with historical information and enhance the sense of place.

Recommendation 8.3: Install interpretive signage and materials

As noted above access to the existing kayak dock is informal and unimproved. The area requires access, parking, and circulation improvements. In addition, the kayak dock access route from the 2nd Street parking area is not ADA accessible and requires improvement.

Recommendation 8.4: Construct access, parking, and circulation improvements adjacent to existing the kayak dock

Currently there are no restroom facilities at this park although it is highly used.

Recommendation 8.5: Install restrooms for users

The community recognizes this park is located in a family-oriented neighborhood and could increase its age-range attractiveness with the addition of playground facilities.

Recommendation 8.6: Add playground facilities

9. MINI PARKS RECOMMENDATIONS

Mini parks are generally smaller than 1-acre and serve residents within a ¼-mile radius. They are often expensive to maintain, provide limited facilities, and predominantly serve only a small segment of the population located close to the park. Because of an overriding need for neighborhood and community facilities, the City should evaluate

any proposed Mini Park development with a high level of scrutiny. Warrenton has one mini park - Library Park.

10-12. SPECIAL USE PARKS RECOMMENDATIONS

Special use parks are intended to serve the entire community and serve as an attraction for visitors from outside the community. In order to accomplish these goals, special use parks need to offer unique amenities and should serve as a focal point of the community's parks system. They provide space for cultural activities, such as festivals, provide athletic fields, or offer other recreation activities. As a result, they draw users from a much larger area and require better access. Traffic and parking can be a problem around special use parks; therefore, impacts to the surrounding neighborhood should be considered. Warrenton has four special use parks: The City Community Garden, Post Office (Flag) Park, Statue Park, and Tansy Point. Individual recommendations are as follows.

Post Office (Flag) Park

The Post Office (Flag) Park is owned by the City of Warrenton and maintained by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Located in the heart of downtown at 99 S. Main Avenue, this small park honors the VFW. The VFW currently provides excellent maintenance of the facility.

Recommendation 10.1: Formulate a long-term partnership with the VFW for ongoing maintenance

Triangle Park

Triangle Park is a triangle shaped open lawn wayside containing a statue that was donated to the City of Warrenton in 2003 by Martin Nygaard of Warrenton Fiber and Nygaard Logging. The park lacks signage and additional directional and identification signage will help community members and visitors find and access the parks system.

Recommendation 11.1: Install directional and identification signage including acknowledgement of Hammond

Residents expressed a desire for a message board for community and visitors to receive announcements as they pass by.

Recommendation 11.2: Install a variable message board

The park is highly visible and lacks aesthetically pleasing plantings.

Recommendation 11.3: Install aesthetically pleasing landscape plantings

Tansy Point

Tansy Point was a native village for Clatsop tribes before the days of Lewis & Clark and is known for the historical Anson-Dart Treaties of 1851. Today, the park contains an access road leading to a roundabout where visitors can drive by and glimpse a view of the Columbia River and shores of Washington. The landscape consists of grass, wetlands, and a few trees. Visitors can access the Waterfront Trail via the trailhead at

13th Street. The park experiences the most activity from May through September and the City responds by installing picnic tables for those months. Currently there is limited parking at the entrance of the park.

Recommendation 12.1: Construct parking improvements

Residents expressed a desire for interpretive signage to engage visitors with historical significance and enhance a sense of place.

Recommendation 12.2: Install interpretive and directional signage

The center of the existing viewpoint roundabout can be dramatically improved with the addition of a central art piece, statue, or fountain.

Recommendation 12.3: Install a central art piece, statue, or fountain

The community made additional trail system connections a top priority.

Recommendation 12.4: Build a trail connection between Tansy Point and Carruthers Park

13. LINEAR PARKS RECOMMENDATIONS

Linear Parks are developed landscape areas that follow linear corridors such as streams, power lines, and other linear features. Linear Parks provide a transportation corridor linking neighborhoods to parks, schools, and shopping areas. They provide a variety of passive recreational opportunities all free or relatively free from automobile interference. Warrenton has one linear park: Pacific Drive Park. Individual recommendations are as follows.

Pacific Drive Park

Pacific Drive Park is a long, narrow linear park separating Pacific Drive and 6th Avenue. The park contains a line of trees along its length. Near either end of the park is an artful tile and concrete planter. In the center of the park is a bell as a historical art piece. The park has no curbs or sidewalks. The park consists of ODOT right-of-way maintained by the City. Bollards are desired to protect the park and existing trees from impacts associated with automobiles.

Recommendation 13.1: Coordinate with ODOT on the installation of bollards at appropriate locations

Currently untreated stormwater sheet flows from existing paved surfaces into the linear park. The park provides an excellent opportunity for natural stormwater treatment.

Recommendation 13.2: Construct a stormwater bioswale

14. TRAILS ADJOINING PARKS RECOMMENDATIONS

Trails, bike paths, and pathways establish connectivity and enhance quality of life in communities by facilitating movement throughout the city. The following two recommended trails are included from the *Warrenton Trails Master Plan* and will directly affect the connectivity of parks with individual recommendations for trail connections.

With the close proximity to Fort Stevens State Park, the community expressed a desire for connectivity to this historical place.

Recommendation 14.1: Construct a trail connection to Fort Stevens State Park

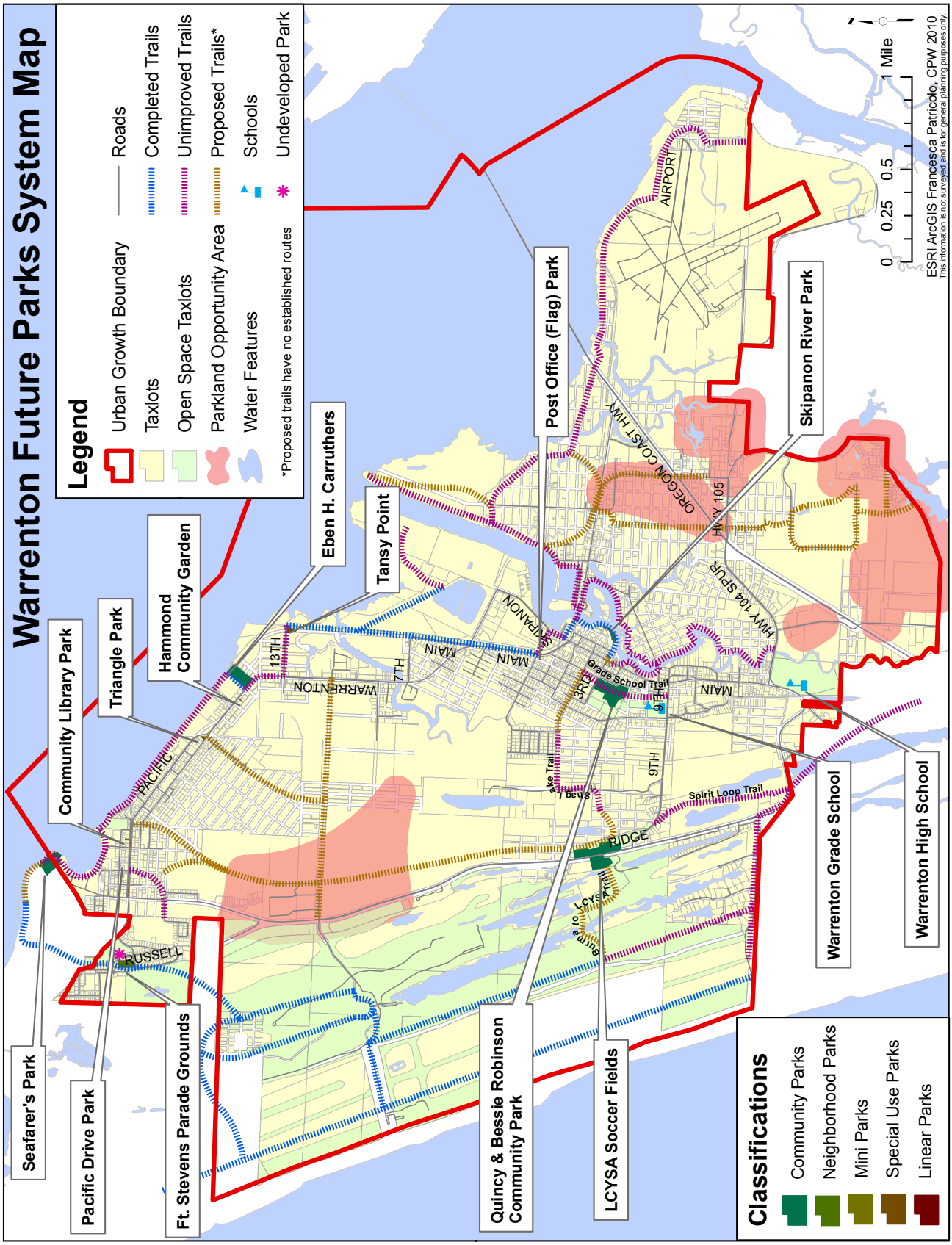
The LCYSA facility would be about a ten-minute walk from schools and downtown if it were served by an access trail.

Recommendation 14.2: Construct a trail connection between the LCYSA soccer fields and downtown

6.5 Conclusions

This report outlines recommendations for how to improve and maintain Warrenton's park system. The recommendations focus on a strategy for improving park service for underserved areas while maintaining the current level of service, maintaining and enhancing existing parks, and increasing connectivity through trails.

Map 6-1. Warrenton Park System



CHAPTER 7
IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING

7.1 Overview

This chapter provides information on the parks and recreation organizational structure, the current parks budget, future funding requirements, and recommendations for funding and implementing the proposed recommendations in Chapter 6. Funding strategies are based on park-specific improvements, parkland acquisition and development, and parkland operations and maintenance as outlined in the *Warrenton Parks Capital Improvements Plan* (CIP).

7.2 Organizational Structure

The Warrenton parks system is managed by the Public Works Department and the Parks Advisory Board. The Public Works Department operates and maintains the parks system. The Parks Advisory Board is a citizen committee that advises the City Commission on park-related matters.

Within the Public Works Department there are three positions responsible for maintenance and operations of parks. The Public Works Director is responsible for overseeing operations and maintenance of the parks system. A Public Works Regular employee and a Seasonal Maintenance Part-time employee provide limited maintenance of city parks. Everyday general maintenance, such as mowing, is done by private contractors. Among City employees, a total of 0.70 FTE (full time equivalent) is assigned to park maintenance and operations as indicated below:

2010-2011 Fiscal Budget	**FTE**
» Regular Staff	0.35
» Part-time Staff	0.23
» Personal Services Staff	0.12
	Total 0.70

Warrenton currently has 40.8 acres of developed parkland. With an FTE of 0.70, there is currently 0.02 FTE devoted to the maintenance and operations for each acre of developed parkland. Some relatively comparable communities have more FTE dedication, such as Talent, and some have about the same or just a little more, such as Monmouth and Lebanon.

7.3 Current Operating Budget

This section presents the current operating budget for the Warrenton Parks System. The operating budget consists of park operation and maintenance expenses and revenue

generated from the City's General Fund. The parks operating budget is also supported by the Quincy Robinson Trust Fund, which includes improvement expenses and revenue generated from interest, grants, and donations. The City Manager and Public Works Department Staff establish the parks budget each year as part of the full City Budget, which is approved by the City Commission for the July to June fiscal year.

EXPENDITURES

The parks budget is divided into three primary expenditures: personnel services, materials and services, and capital expenditures. The City has approved a budget of $129,212 for fiscal year 2010-11 (FY 10/11) for operations, maintenance, and capital improvements. Table 7-1 presents recent and current (FY 10/11) park fund budget allocations. During the period between 2007-2008 and 2010-2011 the Parks Fund Budget increased by 15 percent annually, although the 2008-2009 budget was significantly higher than any other year.

Table 7-1. Parks Fund Budget, FY 10/11

Fiscal Year	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Personnel Services	$ 19,212	$ 28,936	$ 43,128	$ 50,495
Materials and Services	$ 49,444	$ 53,283	$ 65,721	$ 70,054
Capital Expenditures	-	$ 118,437	$ 2,160	$ 8,663
Total Parks Department Budget	$ 68,656	$ 200,656	$ 111,009	$ 129,212
Annual Percent Change	*0%*	*192%*	*-45%*	*16%*

Source: FY 10/11 Parks Fund Budget, City of Warrenton. 2010.

The Quincy Robinson Trust Fund budget is divided into three primary expenditures: materials and services, capital outlay, and debt service. The budget also includes a contingency fund. During FY 07/08 and FY 08/09 an ending fund balance was carried over. The City has approved a budget of $197,782 for fiscal year 2010-11. Table 7-2 presents recent and current (FY 10/11) Robinson fund budget allocations. During the period between 2007-2008 and 2010-2011 the Robinson fund budget increased by 4 percent annually.

Table 7-2. Quincy Robinson Trust Fund Budget, FY 10/11

Fiscal Year	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Materials and Services	-	$ 4,654	$ 10,000	$ 24,500
Capital Outlay	$ 10,000	$ 3,001	$ 101,983	$ 109,908
Debt Service	$ 42,535	$ 40,733	$ 39,517	$ 38,300
Contingency	-	-	-	$ 25,074
Ending Fund Balance	$ 113,420	$ 126,571	-	-
Total Robinson Fund Budget	$ 165,955	$ 174,959	$ 151,500	$ 197,782
Annual Percent Change	*0%*	*5%*	*-13%*	*31%*

Source: FY 10/11 Quincy Robinson Trust Fund Budget, City of Warrenton. 2010.

In addition to the operation and maintenance of parks, the City is responsible for capital improvements to parks. The City utilizes general revenue, grants, donations, and

expenditures from the Robinson Trust Fund to fund capital improvements, as detailed below.

REVENUE

The Warrenton parks budget is funded through General Fund revenue. The Quincy Robinson Trust Fund budget is funded through interest earnings, donations, and grants. The current fund balance includes a beginning fund balance carried over from the prior fiscal year (FY 09/10). Prior budgets included proceeds from sale of assets.

General Revenue

This category of revenue consists of an allocation from the City's General Fund. This revenue source is used primarily for operation and maintenance of the parks system. As Table 7-2 shows, the revenue allocated from the City's General Fund is derived from undedicated funds that vary from year to year. This variation is due to both the changes in the City's General Fund and the percentage allocated to the Parks Department each year.

Interest Earnings

This category of revenue consists of interest earning from trust fund balances. In FY 07/08 the Robinson fund generated $4,132 in interest earnings and in FY 08/09 the amount generated was $2,993. The current fund budget anticipates $600 in interest earnings during FY 10/11.

Donations

The City of Warrenton receives revenue from donations to the Robinson fund. During the past three fiscal periods, the fund has accepted the following amounts annually in donations: $65,655 (FY 07/08), $58,546 (FY 08/09), and $42,500 (FY 09/10). In FY 10/11, the budgetary amount for donations is $49,158.

Grants

The City of Warrenton has historically been the recipient of grants, both state and federal, for parks and trails related capital improvements. In 2010, the City received a grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (ORPD) in the amount of $44,366 for construction of the Waterfront Trail, a project indentified in the *Warrenton Trails Master Plan*. Revenue from grants is included in the Robinson fund budget.

Additional Revenue Sources

The City of Warrenton does not currently utilize typical revenue sources for parks: user fees and Systems Development Charges (SDCs). As more amenities are added to the parks system, the system will be able to accommodate a larger number of people and there is increased potential to generate revenue from user fees. SDCs are one-time fees imposed on new development to help fund infrastructure improvements. Legally, SDCs can only be utilized for land acquisition and capital improvements to transportation, water, sewer, storm water, and park facilities; operation and maintenance expenses do not qualify. Warrenton does not currently have an adopted Parks SDC.

Table 7-3 below presents total revenue for the Warrenton parks system, based on accounting from the Parks Fund and the Robinson Trust Fund.

Table 7-3. Parks Total Revenue, FY 07/08-FY 10/11

Fiscal Year	FY 07/08 (Actual)	FY 08/09 (Actual)	FY 09/10 (Adopted)	FY 10/11 (Adopted)
General Fund Revenue	$ 68,656	$ 200,656	$ 111,009	$ 129,212
Beginning Fund Balance (Robinson)	$ 36,168	$ 113,420	$ 107,000	$ 103,658
Interest Earnings	$ 4,132	$ 2,993	$ -	$ 600
Donations	$ 65,655	$ 58,546	$ 42,500	$ 49,158
Grants	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 44,366
Miscellaneous*	$ 60,000	$ -	$ 2,000	$ -
Total Revenue	**$ 174,611**	**$ 375,615**	**$ 260,509**	**$ 326,994**
** Miscellaneous include proceeds from sale of assets and WTA Contributions*				

Source: CPW/CMGS, City of Warrenton, 2010.

7.4 Funding Requirements

This section describes the funding requirements to implement the recommendations contained in the Parks Master Plan and achieve the vision and goals for the Warrenton Parks System. This information is intended to provide an understanding of the financial realities affecting the future of the Warrenton Parks System. These funding needs include improvement actions and forecasted operations and maintenance costs. The information is organized into four sections:

» **Estimating Costs:** Outlines the parameters used for estimating probable costs of improvement actions

» **Capital Projects:** Provides costs for projects based on a detailed 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), included as a separate document. Prioritizes projects into three categories: 0-5 years, 6-10 years, and as funds become available.

» **Operations and Maintenance:** Estimates costs for operation and maintenance of additional parkland as it is added to the system.

» **Improvement Actions:** Consist of capital projects categorized as park improvements, land acquisition, new park development, and trail development.

ESTIMATING COSTS

Improvement costs vary widely based on local conditions, economic factors, and environmental constraints. The following parameters were used for estimating costs in Warrenton, based on past experience and additional local information.

» **Land Acquisition:** The cost of land varies widely within Warrenton. For estimating probable construction costs, the Plan uses land prices that were estimated at $200,000 per acre within the UGB.

» **New Park Development:** New park development was estimated at $150,000 per acre for community and neighborhood parks.

» **Park Improvements:** Detailed cost estimates were developed for each improvement within the specific park. Additional detail is provided in the *Warrenton Parks CIP 2010-2020*.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The costs for capital projects are summarized below. The cost estimates are for individual and system-wide park improvements that meet the City's design standards and residents' needs. However, costs for these types of projects can vary greatly and depend upon the final design of the facilities. For a detailed description of park improvements refer to the separate *Warrenton Parks CIP 2010-2020*.

The total ten year cost for all of the improvements identified is estimated at $2,994,590. This amount includes Priority I and Priority II projects forecasted to occur within the next 10 years. This amount does not include Priority III projects (totaling $3,852,500) which may occur outside the 10-year planning horizon, or as funding allows. The total 20-year cost for implementing recommendations in this plan is estimated at $6,847,090. Following is a summary of proposed projects and estimated costs organized in tables by improvement type.

Park Improvements

This section identifies improvements to existing parks within the Warrenton Parks System, based on input from residents and stakeholders as expressed through the community involvement process, and needs identified through the needs assessment process.

Table 7-4. Community Park Projects

COMMUNITY PARK PROJECTS			
PARK	**PROJECT**	**TOTAL COST**	**SCHEDULE**
Quincy & Bessie Robinson Park	Soil Storage Area	$ 1,500	Priority I
	Repair Pavilion	$ 2,000	Priority I
	Signage	$ 1,000	Priority I
	Maintenance/Community Garden Shed	$ 5,000	Priority I
	Park Host Site	$ 5,000	Priority I
	Dog Waste Disposal Stations	$ 1,560	Priority I
	Park Concept Plan	$ 20,000	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 36,060**	
	Park Development	$ 1,000,000	Priority II
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ 1,000,000**	
	TOTAL	**$ 1,036,060**	
Seafarer's Park	Viewpoints	$ 3,000	Priority I
	Interpretive Elements	$ 1,500	Priority I
	Trail Connection to Fort Stevens	$ 158,400	Priority I
	Picnic Tables	$ 2,800	Priority I
	Dog Waste Disposal Stations	$ 1,560	Priority I
	Park Concept Plan	$ 20,000	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 187,260**	
	Park Development	$ 750,000	Priority II
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ 750,000**	
	TOTAL	**$ 937,260**	
Eben H. Carruthers Park	Repair River Viewing Area	$ 4,000	Priority I
	Signage	$ 1,000	Priority I
	Park Host Site	$ 5,000	Priority I
	Raised Beds (8x4)	$ 2,000	Priority I
	Community Garden	$ 2,000	Priority I
	Interior Walking Paths	$ 36,000	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 50,000**	
	Playground Equipment	$ 25,000	Priority II
	Adult Exercise Stations	$ 7,200	Priority II
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ 32,200**	
	TOTAL	**$ 82,200**	
Warrenton (LCYSA) Soccer Fields	Trail Connections/Access	$ 158,400	Priority I
	Park Master Plan	$ 25,000	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 183,400**	
	(Reserved for future Park Development)	$ -	Priority II
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ -**	
	TOTAL	**$ 183,400**	
TOTAL COMMUNITY PARK PROJECTS		**$ 2,238,920**	

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

Table 7-5. Neighborhood Park Projects

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PROJECTS			
PARK	**PROJECT**	**TOTAL COST**	**SCHEDULE**
Fort Stevens Parade Grounds	Park Concept Plan	$ 15,000	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 15,000**	
	Park Development	$ 250,000	Priority II
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ 250,000**	
	TOTAL	**$ 265,000**	
Skipanon River Park	Youth/Child Play Area	$ 60,000	Priority I
	Trash Receptacles	$ 1,800	Priority I
	Interpretive Signage	$ 2,000	Priority I
	Improve Kayak Dock ADA Accessibility Route	$ 5,000	Priority I
	Trail Connection (east Harbor Bridge)	$ 39,600	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 108,400**	
	Parking Improvements	$ 64,500	Priority II
	Restrooms	$ 75,000	Priority II
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ 139,500**	
	Landscape Restoration	$ 315,000	Priority III
	PRIORITY III TOTAL	**$ 315,000**	
	TOTAL	**$ 562,900**	
TOTAL NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PROJECTS		**$ 827,900**	

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

Table 7-6. Mini Park Projects

MINI PARK PROJECTS			
PARK	**PROJECT**	**TOTAL COST**	**SCHEDULE**
Library Park	ADA Accessibility Improvements (Rubber Chips)	$ 9,000	Priority II
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ 9,000**	
	TOTAL	**$ 9,000**	
TOTAL MINI PARK PROJECTS		**$ 9,000**	

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

Table 7-7. Special Use Park Projects

SPECIAL USE PARK PROJECTS			
PARK	**PROJECT**	**TOTAL COST**	**SCHEDULE**
City Community Garden	Install Raised Beds (8x4)	$ 4,000	Priority I
	Add Storage Shed	$ 5,000	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 9,000**	
	TOTAL	**$ 18,000**	
Triangle Park	Signage	$ 1,000	Priority I
	Raised Beds (8x4)	$ 2,000	Priority I
	Variable Message Board	$ 1,500	Priority I
	Benches	$ 1,300	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 5,800**	
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ -**	
	Landscape Enhancements	$ 37,500	Priority III
	PRIORITY III TOTAL	**$ 37,500**	
	TOTAL	**$ 42,800**	
Tansy Point	Interpretive Signage	$ 2,000	Priority I
	Earthwork to Remove Berm	$ 1,480	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 3,480**	
	Parking Improvements	$ 41,250	Priority II
	Art/Statue/Fountain	$ 20,000	Priority II
	Restrooms	$ 110,000	Priority II
	PRIORITY II TOTAL	**$ 171,250**	
	TOTAL	**$ 174,730**	
TOTAL SPECIAL USE PARK PROJECTS		**$ 235,530**	

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

Table 7-8. Linear Park Projects

LINEAR PARK PROJECTS			
PARK	**PROJECT**	**TOTAL COST**	**SCHEDULE**
Pacific Drive Park	Bollards	$ 1,640	Priority I
	Add Stormwater Bioswale	$ 3,000	Priority I
	Trail Connections/Access	$ 39,600	Priority I
	PRIORITY I TOTAL	**$ 44,240**	
	TOTAL	**$ 44,240**	
TOTAL LINEAR PARK PROJECTS		**$ 44,240**	

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

Land Acquisition

In order to provide enough parkland to maintain the recommended LOS standard, the City will need to acquire and develop additional parkland within the next 20 years. Currently, Warrenton does not own any undeveloped property that can be developed as parkland. To preserve the ability to develop parkland in the future, Warrenton will need to spend approximately $2,000,000 in actual costs, or dedication value, over the life of the plan to acquire land, as presented in Table 7-9.

Table 7-9. Land Acquisition

LAND ACQUISITION			
PARK	PROJECT	TOTAL COST	SCHEDULE
Neighborhood Park	Land Acquisition	$ 1,000,000	Priority III
Neighborhood Park	Land Acquisition	$ 1,000,000	Priority III
	PRIORITY III TOTAL	$ 2,000,000	
TOTAL LAND ACQUISITION COSTS		$ 2,000,000	

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

Due to demand pressures and inflation rates, acquisition costs between $100,000 and $200,000 per acre are likely over the twenty-year period of this plan. Acquisition costs are based on a conservative estimate of $200,000 per acre for undeveloped land within the UGB.

Parkland Development

Development costs for new parkland were estimated at $150,000 per acre, based on average costs for park development in Oregon. New parkland development costs are not included in the 10-year Parks CIP due to funding limitations, an emphasis in the Plan on specific improvements to existing parks and a focus on parkland acquisition. All new parkland development is included as Priority III projects, or as funding allows.

However, the City should implement strategies for acquiring parkland in the immediate future and be prepared to capitalize on any opportunities for acquisition. The longer the City waits to acquire new parkland, both land costs and development pressures will increase, which will make acquisition of large parcels (approximately 5-acres, suitable for a neighborhood park) challenging. Targeted acquisition areas consist of land in underserved areas within the UGB, as identified on Map 3-2. Table 7-10 presents a summary of new parkland development costs. During the next 20-years, new parkland development is estimated to cost $1,500,000.

Table 7-10. New Parkland Development

PARKLAND DEVELOPMENT			
PARK	PROJECT	TOTAL COST	SCHEDULE
New Neighborhood Park	Parkland Development	$ 750,000	Priority III
New Neighborhood Park	Parkland Development	$ 750,000	Priority III
	PRIORITY III TOTAL	$ 1,500,000	
TOTAL PARKALND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS		$ 1,500,000	

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

The Warrenton Parks System will increase in acreage over the next 20 years. Operations and maintenance will continue to be a concern. If the City of Warrenton maintains the current LOS of 5.2-acres per 1,000 persons, as is recommended by this Plan, Warrenton will have approximately 36-acres of development parkland in the year 2030. The current per acre cost for operations and maintenance is $5,128 per developed park acre. Using these numbers as a standard maintenance cost per acre, the City can expect to spend approximately $185,634 in the year 2030 for operation and maintenance of the system. The Parks revenue transferred from the City's General Fund is the primary dedicated funding source for O&M.

IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS

Total costs for park improvements, land acquisition, and parkland development are estimated to be approximately $6,847,090. Land acquisition and parkland development comprise approximately half the total costs. Specific park improvement costs total $3,347,090.

Table 7-11. Total Cost of Capital Projects

CAPITAL PROJECT	TOTAL COST
Park Improvements	
Community Park Projects	$ 2,238,920
Neighborhood Park Projects	$ 827,900
Mini Park Projects	$ 9,000
Special Use Park Projects	$ 227,030
Linear Park Projects	$ 44,240
Land Acquisition	$ 2,000,000
Parkland Development	$ 1,500,000
TOTAL	**$ 6,847,090**

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

Table 7-12 identifies estimated costs by Priority assignment. Priority I and Priority II project total expenditures of $2,994,590 are included in the 10-year Parks CIP.

Table 7-12. Total Costs by Priority Assignment

PRIORITY LEVEL	TOTAL COST
Priority I Projects	$ 642,640
Priority II Projects	$ 2,351,950
Priority III Projects	$ 3,852,500
TOTAL	**$ 6,847,090**

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

7.5 Funding Strategy

Parks system improvement actions have been historically funded out of the Warrenton Parks Fund Budget and the Quincy Robinson Trust Fund Budget, as described earlier in this chapter. These funds consist of revenue from the general fund, interest earnings, grants, and donations. In addition, the City can utilize SDCs and user fees to fund improvement actions if implemented. The development and dedication process can also be used as a means to leverage parkland acquisition.

ANTICIPATED FUNDING SOURCES

The following information details anticipated funding sources for Warrenton Parks System improvement actions.

General Fund Revenue

In fiscal year 2010-11 the Warrenton Parks Department is projected to receive $129,212 in funding allocations from the General Fund. For planning purposes, allocations from the general fund are anticipated to remain consistent and not decrease during the next 10 years. It is assumed that the Warrenton Parks Department will receive $1,292,120 in funds from the General Fund over the course of 10-years.

Quincy Robinson Trust Fund Balance

The Robinson fund currently has a balance of $103,658, all of which is available to fund park improvements.

Grants

The City of Warrenton has historically been the recipient of grants, both state and federal, for parks and trails related capital improvements. In 2010, the City received a grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (ORPD) in the amount of $44,366 for construction of the Waterfront Trail, a project indentified in the *Warrenton Trails Master Plan*. A comprehensive list of grant funding sources is included as *Appendix E*. If the City aggressively pursues grant funding, the Warrenton Parks Department should be able to receive about $500,000 in total grant funding over the next 10-years.

Donations

The City of Warrenton receives revenue from donations to the Robinson fund. During the past three fiscal periods, the fund has accepted the following amounts annually in donations: $65,655 (FY 07/08), $58,546 (FY 08/09), and $42,500 (FY 09/10). In FY 10/11, the budgetary amount for donations is $49,158. Based on past history of donations, about $50,000 per year should be accrued over the next 10-years. In addition, Warrenton should develop a plan to actively pursue and accept donations of cash or in-kind services for park improvements.

Interest Earnings

In FY 07/08 the Robinson fund generated $4,132 in interest earnings and in FY 08/09 the amount generated was $2,993. The current fund budget anticipates $600 in interest earnings during FY 10/11. Interest earnings are not estimated as a future revenue source.

System Development Charges

Warrenton does not currently have an adopted Parks SDC. The *Parks CIP* provides a foundation for SDC rates intended to fund park improvements, system-wide improvements, and land acquisition and development associated with implementing the goals and objectives of this plan. The Plan recommends the adoption of a Parks SDC and, for funding purposes, anticipates that a Parks SDC will be in place by 2015 to fund future projects. If an when a Parks SDC is implemented, the Plan recommends updating the SDC rate methodology periodically and tying future rate increases to an inflation index. Table 7-13 projects SDC rates and uses singly-family dwelling units (SF-DU) at a density of 2.9 people/unit for calculations. Based on the assumption that single-family homes will continue to dominate residential construction, the City can expect to receive approximately $47,000 to $72,000 in SDC revenues annually from 2015 through 2030.

Table 7-13. Forecasted SDC Revenues, 2015-2030

Year	Population[1]	Population Change	Increase in Dwelling Units Annually[2]	Increase in Dwelling Units 5-Year Period2	SDC Rate per Dwelling Unit[3]	SDC Revenue Generated Annually	SDC Revenue Generated 5-Year Period
2010	4,896	-	-	-	$ -	$ -	-
2015	5,353	457	32	158	$ 1,500	$ 47,254	-
2020	5,852	499	34	172	$ 1,575	$ 54,224	$ 271,122
2025	6,398	546	38	188	$ 1,654	$ 62,271	$ 311,353
2030	6,995	597	41	206	$ 1,736	$ 71,495	$ 357,476

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

During the 10-year period between 2010 and 2020, it is estimated that Warrenton will receive approximately $271,122 in SDC revenues from residential development, assuming and SDC rate is in place by 2015. During the 10-year period between 2020 and 2030, it is assumed that Warrenton will receive approximately $668,828 in revenues.

FUNDING SUMMARY

Table 7-14 presents a summary of anticipating funding for improvement actions over the next 10-years. The City can expect to receive $2,667,500 in funds from General Fund revenue, grants, donations, and SDCs (based on implementation in 2015) over the next 10-years.

Table 7-14. Funding Sources (10-years)

Funding Source	Amount
Parks Fund	
General Fund Revenues	$ 1,292,120
Robinson Fund	
Fund Balance	$ 103,658
Interest Earnings	$ 600
Donations	$ 500,000
Grants	$ 500,000
SDCs	$ 271,122
Total Revenue	**$ 2,667,500**

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

As noted above, Priority I and Priority II projects are included in the 10-year Parks CIP. These projects total $2,994,590 in estimated costs. Based upon projected costs for improvement actions, the anticipated funding sources described above will not adequately fund Priority I and Priority II projects in the future. This analysis identifies a funding gap of $1,878,726. The funding gap is created by the costs of needed parkland acquisition and development, operations and maintenance, and CIP improvements, minus the existing park fund, Robinson fund, and projected SDC and General Fund revenues.

Priority I projects total $642,640. Warrenton has adequate funding to complete Priority I projects within the next 10-years. Priority II projects total $2,351,950, of which $2,000,000 is allocated to the future improvement of Robinson Park, Seafarer's Park, and the Fort Stevens Parade Grounds. Priority III projects total $3,852,500, or which $3,500,000 is allocated to the acquisition and development of two new neighborhood parks. Based upon anticipated revenue sources, Warrenton will have $2,890,836 in revenue to fund Priority I and Priority II projects. This is significantly less than the $4,768,962 needed for those improvements.

Warrenton should evaluate and identify additional funding sources for park system improvements and explore additional funding sources for operations and maintenance. In the past few years several Oregon communities have enacted Park Utility Fees to fund park system operations and maintenance. If General Fund revenue were available to fund improvement actions over the next 10-years, Warrenton would have sufficient funding to complete all Priority I and Priority II projects.

This analysis only includes parkland acquisition and development costs for Priority I and Priority II projects through 2020. As presented in Table 6-1, the City will need to develop additional parkland by 2030. The estimated cost for the development of additional parkland is $3,500,000. The City will need to account for these costs through subsequent CIPs or other funding strategies.

Table 7-15 presents a summary of anticipated revenue and funding requirements to implement recommendations in this Plan for 5-year periods from 2010-2020. Anticipated revenue sources will only fund 58% of the improvement actions and capital projects recommended in this Plan. The City will need to consider additional funding

sources for parks system improvements such as: a parks utility fee, bonds, levies, and grants.

Table 7-15. Parks Revenue and Funding Summary, 2008-2028

	5-YEAR PERIOD				
Funding Sources	**2010**	**2011-2015**	**2016-2020**	**2021-2025**	**2026-2030**
Robinson Fund Balance	$ 103,658	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
General Fund	$ 129,212	$ 646,060	$ 646,060	$ 646,060	$ 646,060
Grants	$ 44,366	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000
Donations	$ 49,158	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000
Interest Earnings	$ 600	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
System Development Charges	$ -	$ -	$ 271,122	$ 311,353	$ 357,476
Total	**$ 326,994**	**$ 1,146,060**	**$ 1,417,182**	**$ 1,457,413**	**$ 1,503,536**
Cumulative Total	**$ 326,994**	**$ 1,473,054**	**$ 2,890,236**	**$ 4,347,649**	**$ 5,851,184**
Funding Requirements					
Improvement Actions					
Priority I Projects	$ -	$ 642,640	$ -	$ -	$ -
Priority II Projects	$ -	$ 1,175,975	$ 1,175,975	$ -	$ -
Priority III Projects	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,926,250	$ 1,926,250
Operations and Maintenance Costs	$ 129,212	$ 688,434	$ 758,944	$ 829,454	$ 899,964
Total	**$ 129,212**	**$ 2,507,049**	**$ 1,934,919**	**$ 2,755,704**	**$ 2,826,214**
Surplus / (Deficit)	**$ -**	**$ (1,360,989)**	**$ (517,737)**	**$ (1,298,291)**	**$ (1,322,678)**
Cumulative Surplus / (Deficit)	**$ -**	**$ (1,360,989)**	**$ (1,878,726)**	**$ (3,177,017)**	**$ (4,499,696)**

Source: CPW/CMGS, 2010.

7.6 Additional Funding Resources

As the City of Warrenton expands its parks system, additional funding is necessary for parkland acquisition, development, and maintenance. The City should work to obtain critical funding from diverse sources in order to operate and expand its parks system. Although Warrenton currently utilizes a variety of funding strategies, a funding gap exists. This section provides recommendations for the City of Warrenton in two sectors, Operations and Capital Improvements. Additional information on funding strategies is located in Appendix D.

OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

Ideally, the parks system should receive a dedicated source of funds. It is the desire of the City to decrease reliance on the general fund for parks maintenance and operations; therefore, the City will need to explore alternate funding sources. The following funding sources can be utilized for operations and maintenance as well as capital projects.

» **Local Option Levy:** A local option levy for capital improvements provides for a separate property tax levy outside the City's permanent rate limit. This levy may be used to fund a capital project or a group of projects over a specified period of time, up to ten years. Revenues from these levies may be used to secure bonds for projects, or to complete one or more projects on a "pay as you go" basis.

» **Public/Government Grant Programs:** This includes the federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) administered by Oregon Parks and Recreation

Department (OPRD). The City should pursue RTP funds for developing the proposed trails plan outlined in this Plan.

- **Public/Private Donations**: Donations of labor, land, or cash by service agencies, private groups or individuals are a popular way to raise small amounts of money for specific projects. Two key motives for donation are philanthropy and tax incentives. The typical strategy for land donations is to identify target parcels and then work directly with landowners. There are a number of drawbacks associated with this funding option:
  - Soliciting donations requires time and effort on the part of City staff;
  - It is also important to establish a nonprofit foundation, which requires additional resources, to accept and manage donations; and
  - Donations are an unstable funding source and should not be relied upon to fund the majority parks system improvements.
- **Public/Private Partnerships:** Partnerships play an important role in the acquisition of new park and recreation facilities and in providing one-time or on-going maintenance support. Public, private and non-profit organizations may be willing to fund outright or work with the City to acquire additional parks and recreation facilities and services. Partnerships, like donations, require time and effort on the part of City staff.
- **Fees and Charges:** As the number and quality of park amenities increase the amount of user fees should increase. The user fees, however, represent a relatively small amount of the total revenue.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The following funding sources are for capital projects only.

- **System Development Charges (SDC):** Warrenton does not currently have an adopted Parks SDC. SDCs are one-time fees imposed on new development to help fund infrastructure improvements. Legally, SDCs can only be utilized for land acquisition and capital improvements to transportation, water, sewer, storm water, and park facilities; operation and maintenance expenses do not qualify.
- **Local Improvement District (LID):** Under Oregon Law, communities can create LIDs to partially subsidize capital projects. The creation of a special district is most appropriate for an area that directly benefits from a new development such as a neighborhood park.
- **General Obligation Bond:** This type of bond is a tax assessment on real and personal property. The City of Warrenton can levy this type of bond only with a double majority voter approval unless the vote takes place during a general election held on an even year, in which case a simple majority is required. This fund can supplement SDC revenues and is more equitable.
- **Public/Government Grant Programs:** These include Community Development and Block Grants (CDBG), Land and Water Conservation Grants,

Federal Transportation Grants, State of Oregon Local Government Grants, Urban Forestry Grants, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Grants.

» **Other Options:** These include land trusts, exchange of property, conservation easements, lifetime estates, and the National Tree Trust programs.

7.7 Conclusions

To create a healthy, well-funded parks system, the City of Warrenton must pursue a funding strategy that includes a variety of sources. Grants, donations, partnerships, as well as bonds, levies, and fee/permit revenues all play a part in a diverse funding strategy.

The City should consider the following actions in refining a funding strategy:

» *Adopt and implement a Parks SDC.* The absence of SDC fund revenues will restrict the City's ability to expand and develop its parks system while meeting its park goals and objectives. If and SDC is implemented, the methodology should take into account inflation, and acquisition or development costs. The City should evaluate the affect of SDC rate increases on the Parks Budget and development efforts.

» *Consider a Parks and Recreation Special District:* Special districts, such as park and recreation districts, are financed through property taxes and/or fees for services. Special districts operate through dedicated funding sources, have bonding capacity, and provide additional tools for leveraging funding. There are numerous examples of successful Park and Recreation Districts across Oregon. Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District (SEPRD) operates locally and provides recreation services and facilities. Additionally, based on the proximity of Warrenton to Astoria, which operates a Parks department, and other coastal communities, there is potential for the formation of a regional Park and Recreation District.

» *Pursue grant opportunities for capital improvement projects, trails, and land acquisition.* State, regional, and federal grants can provide funding for a variety of park, open space, and trail projects. The City should balance the potential application's competitiveness with required outlays of staff time when applying for grant funds.

» *Develop partnerships.* The City should work to develop partnerships with local recreation service providers to improve operational efficiencies and leveraging of funds. Land trusts also provide an opportunity for collaborative efforts to contribute to the open space and natural areas of the parks system.

» *Develop relationships with landowners.* The City should cultivate relationships with landowners who may be interested in donating land to the City or allowing purchase at a reduced cost. Private landowners have contributed to the Warrenton Parks System in the past, and may continue to do so in the future.

» *Evaluate the feasibility of bond measures.* The City should revisit submitting a bond measure for public vote with a defined development plan as outlined in this Plan.

» *Explore measures to reduce acquisition, development, and operational costs.* The City should explore ways to reduce operational costs, potentially through cost-efficient design and facilities; development costs, through the use of volunteers and

donations; and land acquisition costs, by exploring alternative means of acquiring lands and including lands outside the UGB when assessing potential parkland.

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APPENDIX A
PARKS INVENTORY

Eben H. Carruthers Park

Type
Community Park

Size
Approximately 5.5 acres

Status
Partially Developed

Existing Facilities
- Signage
- Parking
- Irrigation
- Waterfront Trail access
- Swing set
- Viewing deck
- Shelter
- Restrooms
- Memorial & other benches
- Dog park
- Lighting (2 for dog park)
- Picnic tables (3)

Description
Eben H. Carruthers Park is located off of Warrenton Drive (Fort Stevens Highway 104). The park is bordered by a lumber mill to the east, the Columbia River to the north, and wooded undeveloped area to the west that is slated for residential development. A path has been newly paved and widened leading to the historical Lewis & Clark informational viewpoint off of the Columbia River. The new dog park gets heavily used by the community who walks or drive to get there.

Opportunities and Constraints
- Attraction of the dog park facilities
- Future neighborhood residential development
- May need to expand or add a second dog park elsewhere
- Improve western access for the Waterfront Trail that runs through the park
- Place plants in middle area on deck overlooking the river
- Improve restrooms, repair outside walls, doors, roof, replace Plexiglas on north side sign
- Pave north of parking lot for park host site
- Repair river viewing platform
- Replace swing on playground
- Install new park sign on highway

Quincy & Bessie Robinson Park

Type
Community Park

Size
Approximately 9.8 acres

Status
Partially Developed

Existing Facilities
- Signage
- Parking
- Irrigation system
- Basketball courts (2 full)
- Baseball/ Softball fields (3.5)
- Tennis court
- Play structure (2)
- Swing set
- Tire swing
- Community center
- Shelter
- Restrooms
- Community gardens
- Batting cage
- Picnic tables (4)

Description
Quincy & Bessie Robinson Community Park, on SW 3rd & Alder Avenue, is named for the park's benefactors who created a private trust to fund park projects in the City of Warrenton. Centrally located, and highly used, the park offers a range of structured activities, from basketball to baseball, as well as community use facilities such as community gardens and the community center. To the west and south lies undeveloped forest area, some of which is City property, wetlands, or both. The park has access to the Warrenton Grade School Trail.

Opportunities and Constraints
- Baseball field 1 has drainage problems
- A tile line is needed to drain baseball fields 3 and 4
- City could find another less public site to store mounded dirt to fill in potholes
- Baseball fields need to be raised
- Basketball courts create ponds and need drainage
- Tennis courts on the north side need drainage
- Restrooms have been vandalized (burned out) and are no longer operational
- Vandalism occurs in the shelter

- Great proximity to schools and downtown
- Flagpole area has nice diversity of plants
- Community gardens could use some storage space like a shed
- A flag should be raised on the flagpole
- Signs should be installed at all entrances
- Field 4 could use a new set of bleachers
- Baseball fields could be reorganized to fit four full fields rather than having one under regulation size
- Picnic tables could be anchored down (like at Eben H. Carruthers Park) to minimize vandalism
- Potential sand volleyball court location (if drainage were fixed)
- Shipping containers should be moved or hidden
- Basketball and tennis courts could be improved with new lighting, resurfacing, and fencing as well as replacing nets and fixtures
- Raise the drain, level the drain high areas, and improve the grade
- Clean up graffiti and moss
- Repair/ replace swings & worn or broken playground equipment
- Add benches
- Replace surface material at playground for ADA accessibility
- Increase visibility inside dugouts from street
- Repair benches, paint dugouts, implement yearly maintenance
- Weed and recover flagpole area
- Add a new maintenance facility near park

Seafarer's Park (at Hammond Marina)

Type
Community Park

Size
Approximately 5.6 acres

Status
Partially Developed

Existing Facilities
» Parking
» Gazebo
» Marina
» Benches (2)
» Memorial
» Waterfront Trail access

Description
Seafarers Park at the Hammond Marina is a visitor's destination dedicated to the men of the Mermaid and Triumph who lost their lives in a devastating 1961 storm. The land is owned by the Army Corps of Engineers and leased by the City. The City owns and operates all marina improvements. Currently only partially developed, the park is well used, especially in the summertime when there are weddings at the gazebo and families picnic and splash on the beach. Residents and visitors alike enjoy the natural beautiful setting and Waterfront Trail access.

Opportunities and Constraints
» Boat and trailer storage during fishing season
» Some camping allowed
» Needs toilet facilities
» Needs lighting
» Road at south side needs grading or paving
» North access road experiences tidal surges that erode the beach and road (need for a retaining wall to help prevent the road from further destruction.
» Parking lot is eroding and asphalt is wavy/ has improper base.
» Vandalism in gazebo

Warrenton (LCYSA) Soccer Fields

Type
Community Park

Size
Approximately 12.8 acres

Status
Developed

Existing Facilities
- Signage
- Parking lots (3)
- Soccer fields (3)
- Play structure
- Concession stand
- Scoreboard
- Moveable goals (8)
- Dugouts (6)
- Memorial
- Lighting (4 lights on Field 2)
- Maintenance sheds (2)
- Trail connection
- Irrigation
- Mowers (2)
- Tractor
- Maintenance equipment

Description
The City of Warrenton owns the property occupying two of the three soccer fields of this park, while Clatsop County owns one. The City and County owned properties are divided by Ridge Road though it operates as one park and is maintained by the Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association (LCYSA). As a reformed former land fill site, the City makes flammable gas readings every month and a geologist takes readings from the wells to ensure proper safety. Volunteers take very good care of the property, as exemplified by the service of Harold Henry Snow (1908-2008) for whom a memorial is dedicated for Field 1. The park has access to the Shag Lake Trail as well as parking. This is not a park that the community generally accesses without a vehicle as there are no sidewalks and it is beyond average walking distance for most homes and schools.

Opportunities and Constraints
- Volunteerism
- Former landfill site
- Trail access
- Large property
- Active use
- Good drainage
- Interest to build indoor sports complex to the North
- Need for more lighting & seating (stadium)
- Potential all-weather field

Fort Stevens Parade Grounds

Type
Neighborhood Park

Size
Approximately 2.3 acres

Status
Neighborhood Park

Existing Facilities
» Signage
» Merry-go-round
» Swing set
» Slide
» Shelter

Description
The Fort Stevens Parade Grounds hold historical significance as military parade grounds from the Civil War until WWII. The grounds are a large, city-owned open grass space with just a few large oak trees, a shelter, and some play equipment. It is surrounded by colonial-style homes and a bed and breakfast.

Opportunities and Constraints
» No parking
» Dangerous, outdated play equipment with ADA accessibility issues
» Lack of development within the park
» Neighbors keep an eye on park
» Shelter needs to be inspected for dry rot and potentially replaced
» Put benches under trees
» Create neighbor engagement
» Good location for a volleyball court
» Potential improvements may increase neighboring property values

Skipanon River Park

Type
Neighborhood Park

Size
Approximately 1.4 acres

Status
Partially Developed

Existing Facilities
- Some signage
- Some paved parking
- Kayak dock
- Waterfront Trail head
- Pedestrian ramp
- Bench
- Picnic tables (2)
- Paved trail

Description
The Skipanon River Park & SE 2nd Street Kayak Dock is located near downtown along the Skipanon River. A linear park with a paved trail and grassy dyke links a paved parking lot at 3rd Street to the 2nd Street Kayak Dock. The paved parking lot area is the head of the Warrenton Waterfront Trail, linking to miles of connecting trails in the city system. The kayak dock has room for just a couple of additional vehicles to park in an unpaved area off of an unimproved access road on 2nd Street. The parking area is connected to the trail and dock by a meandering pedestrian ramp. The park gets heavy use during the months of May through September and is attractive to tourism visitors.

Opportunities and Constraints
- Should be landscaped with native plants
- Encourage citizen groups to take over maintenance
- Place garbage cans on trail away from parking lot
- Add interpretive signage with ecological/ historical information
- Reconfiguring park ingress & egress
- Permanently remove sticker bushes along the river up to the path
- Fill in low areas between path and river, grade smooth
- Plant and maintain grass between path and river
- Weed and trim hedges at main parking lot
- Keep growth down to maintain the river view
- Clear west side of path
- Improve access road to SE 2nd Street Kayak Dock
- Make kayak dock entrance and pedestrian ramp ADA accessible
- Widen and raise 2nd Street parking to help with parking and drainage
- Add restrooms at least for temporary use May-September at trail head

Library Park

Type
Mini Park

Size
Approximately 0.7 acres

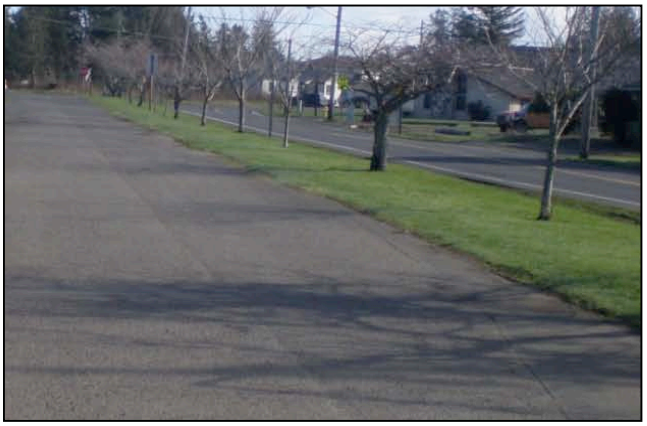
Status
Developed

Existing Facilities
» Library
» Parking
» Play structure
» Shed
» Bench
» Planter pots (2)
» Nearby Waterfront Trail access

Description
The Community Library Park at 681 Pacific Drive, consists of a play structure that is in good condition, storage shed, bench, and two planter pots. It has a few trees, flowers, and shrubs on the perimeter. Although the library is a community facility, the park is so small that the best classification for it (using National Recreation & Parks Association criteria) is a mini park. It may also be said that it has special use in the regard that it is likely used specifically by families during their visit to the library. There are newly paved parking spaces in front of the library. Pacific Drive Park is across the street, separating the Library Park from 6th Avenue.

Opportunities and Constraints
» City mows
» Friends of library foundation provides some funding for activities
» The maintenance/ upkeep is good
» An alternative to woodchips will improve ADA accessibility

Pacific Drive Park



Type
Linear Park

Size
Approximately 1 acre

Status
Partially Developed

Existing Facilities
» Planters (2)
» Bell

Description
Pacific Drive Park is a long, narrow grassway separating Pacific Drive and 6th Street. It contains a line of trees through its length. Near either end of the park is an artful tile and concrete planter. In the center is a bell as a historical art piece. The park has no curbs or sidewalks. The park is considered ODOT right-of-way maintained by the City.

Opportunities and Constraints
» City mows grass.
» Could be designed to handle drainage as a bioswale
» Bollards or other tasteful barrier could prevent trees being knocked out with automobiles

Hammond Community Garden

Type
Special Use Park

Size
Approximately 0.1 acres

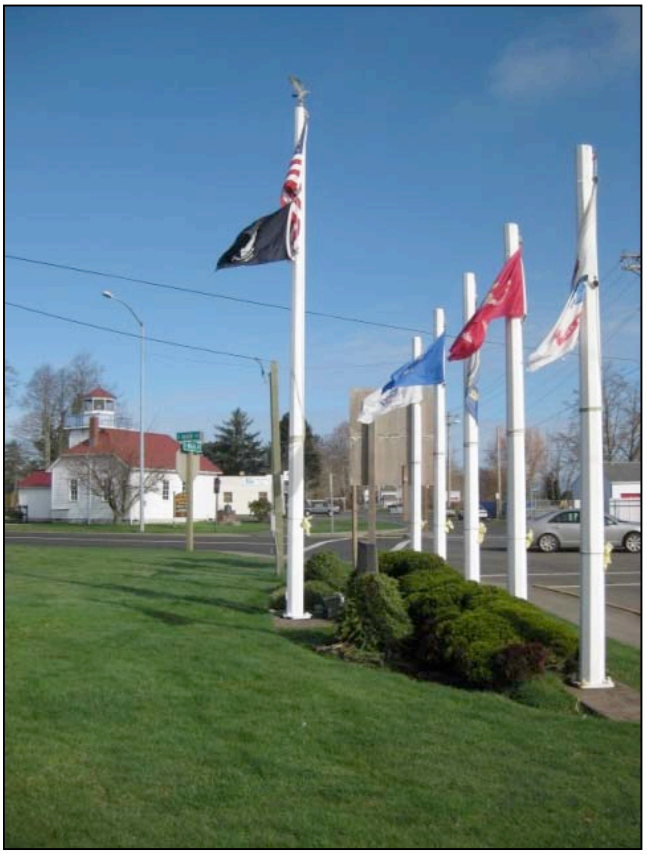
Status
Undeveloped

Existing Facilities
Under development

Description
The City Community Garden is privately owned by the neighboring residential property and leased to the City of Warrenton to maintain.

Opportunities and Constraints
» On the other side of town from community garden facilities at Quincy & Bessie Robinson Community Park
» Privately owned, City leased and maintained

Post Office (Flag) Park



Type
Special Use Park

Size
Approximately 0.3 acres

Status
Developed

Existing Facilities
» Flags (6)
» Parking
» Memorials (2)
» Picnic tables (3)

Description
The Post Office (Flag) Park is owned by the City of Warrenton and maintained by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). In the heart of downtown at 99 S. Main Avenue, this small developed park is meant for viewing and honoring the VFW. A small area with picnic tables is owned by the City and used mainly by folks eating at the Dairy Maid.

Opportunities and Constraints
» City mows and provides electricity
» The Warrenton Business Association places their annual Christmas tree on site
» Connects to the 1st to 13th Street trail head

Triangle Park

Type
Special Use Park

Size
Approximately 0.2 acres

Status
Undeveloped

Existing Facilities
» Statue

Description
Statue Park is a triangle shaped open lawn wayside with a statue in it. The statue was donated to the City of Warrenton in 2003 by Martin Nygaard of Warrenton Fiber and Nygaard Logging. It was a gift to Mr. Nygaard by David Lum, his neighbor in Warrenton, who bought it from an artisan in Washington's San Juan area. Carved from wood, stained, and painted, the statue features a tree, eagle, bear, fish, and lumberjack. It represents the timber industry's respect for northwest wildlife.

Opportunities and Constraints
» Potential site for gateway signage "Welcome to Hammond District"
» Maybe a site for a community garden
» Could have a message board or mileage info
» Could be originally named
» May be useful to have benches
» May need better property boundary definition

Tansy Point

Type
Special Use Park

Size
Approximately 1 acre

Status
Special Use Park

Existing Facilities
» Bench
» Round-about
» Access to Waterfront Trail

Description
Tansy Point was a native village for Clatsop tribes before the days of Lewis & Clark and is known for the historical Anson-Dart Treaties of 1851. Today, it has an access road leading to a round-about where visitors can drive-by and glimpse a view of the Columbia River and shores of Washington. The landscape is made up of grass, wetlands, and sparse trees. Visitors can access the Waterfront Trail through the trail head at 13th Street. The park sees the most activity from May through September and the City responds by placing out picnic tables for those months.

Opportunities and Constraints
» Expand and improve parking
» Add and interpretive signage
» Add a statue, fountain, or art piece to the round-about
» Raise level of dirt to be flush with newly installed water pipes
» Remove berm to improve view
» Needs trail connection between Carruthers

APPENDIX B
STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

Overview

This report summarizes the results of phone interviews conducted with members of the Parks Advisory Board (PAB), City Staff, and identified community leaders. A total of twelve interviews were completed during the months of April/May, 2010. Interviews were conducted with the entire PAB, the city manager, the planning director, and the public works foreman. Additional interviews, listed at the end of this report, were conducted with representatives from the Warrenton Trails Association, national and state parks services, and various local conservation groups. The purpose of the seven-question interview was to identify strengths and weaknesses of the park system, to determine the community's short- and long-term needs, and to formulate a vision for the park system. Key findings, organized by discussion topic, are provided below.

Key Findings

PARK SYSTEM STRENGTHS

» Existing and potential trail system connections (i.e. connecting Warrenton's parks with Fort Stevens, Fort Clatsop, and other historical sites; Lighthouse Museum, the Warrenton-Astoria Airport, and downtown Warrenton)

» Eben H. Carruther's Dog Park (based on amount of use and existing facilities)

» Viewpoint at Hammond Marina

» Practice of contracting for parks maintenance

» Quincy and Bessie Robinson Community Park (convenient location, fun and inviting play structures)

» Community Center (great gathering space for groups and good facilities)

» Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association (LCYSA) Recreation and Classic Program (700-800 youth served)

» The community's desire for a well-defined parks system

» Accessibility to the general public

» There is a tremendous amount of potential for the parks system and several excellent advocacy groups

» The City is engaged with community stakeholders on particular projects (i.e. trails)

» Proposed new concession stand and restroom facility at Quincy Robinson Park (to be built by the National Guard IRT group)

» Quincy and Bessie Robinson private trust for park capital improvement projects

PARK SYSTEM WEAKNESSES

» Connecting residents with the parks through the trails system

- City outreach (e.g. lack of community pride/volunteer events, parks need more public relations)
- Lack of outreach specifically to the Hispanic community
- Trash and vandalism in all parks and response to vandalism
- Field drainage at Quincy and Bessie Robinson Community Park
- Gaps in the trails system (potential linkages to lead people in and out of historical sites and neighborhoods)
- Poor maintenance
- Main road that bisects the LYCSA soccer fields (dangerous for those that have to cross)
- Play equipment for children ages 3-5 at Robinson Park (no stairs to the main tube slide and some of the equipment is broken)
- Partnerships between the City and LCYSA
- Identification of park boundaries
- Lack of park signage (directional)
- No dedicated parks department
- No existing parks east of Highway 101
- The parks system is spread out over 18 square miles
- The parks fund is supported solely by the general fund
- Lack of year-round parks maintenance employees

PARK SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

- Create city maps showing park and trail connections around Warrenton
- Additional interpretive and directional signage
- Quincy and Bessie Robinson Park additions and improvements (concession stand, updated restroom facilities, better drainage, bleachers for baseball and softball fields, repaving of tennis and basketball courts, barbeque and picnic areas)
- Building restoration and ecological areas (e.g. wetlands, native species)
- Maintenance for all parks
- Small parks added to areas around Warrenton that are underserved
- Additional trail connections and linkages
- Add bark chips and/or rubber chips to the ground for safety under play structures
- More advertisement of the parks system
- Expansion of LCYSA soccer fields with the support of the City to include baseball/softball fields and a trailhead in the parking area

- City should fully endorse the Parks Advisory Board and list out all improvements to be made to parks
- Reinstate the Adopt-A-Park/Trail program and get volunteers to help maintain parks
- Create a new park in Hammond
- Obtain ownership of the Hammond Marina
- Re-hire a full time parks maintenance foreman

SHORT-TERM PRIORITIES (5 YEARS)

- Community outreach and building awareness of parks system
- Community celebrations
- Signage
- Security (e.g. cameras, park host site, volunteer advocacy groups)
- Promote stewardship of parks
- Completion of Parks Master Plan
- Small trail connections to parks
- More play equipment for younger children as well as more protected spots for younger children
- Staffing for parks maintenance
- Strengthen code for development and ensure that new parks are built in conjunction with development
- Obtain park property in Hammond on the east side of Highway 101
- Reconfigure Robinson Community Park

LONG-TERM PRIORITIES (20 YEARS)

- Finish trail connections between parks
- Improve existing parks (rather than building new parks)
- Creating alternative transportation system for bicyclists
- Establish additional water trails with better access points for recreational boaters
- Obtain grant funding for large projects
- Install a splash play area
- Install a BMX bike park and/or skate park at Quincy Robinson Park
- Additional fishing piers to parks with water access (Skipanon River Park and the Hammond Marina)
- Spread parks out over Warrenton so the population is being adequately served (especially as new development occurs)

- Implement a parks department and establish dedicated funding sources for parks maintenance
- Create an ongoing program to increase citizen participation in parks

MAJOR TARGETS FOR FUTURE PLANNING

- The City should take advantage of restoration opportunities
- Plan for unique recreational opportunities (e.g. disc golf, skateboarding)
- Parks should be fun and inviting
- Establish stable funding for parks through a day-use fee for special facilities (i.e. boat ramp access and fishing piers)
- Create a permanent, sustainable environment and infrastructure
- Fully endorse the Parks Advisory Board to create empowerment

PARK SYSTEM FUNDING

- Parks are under funded - building partnerships between state and national parks may help with building efficiencies between resources
- Little staff and resources are given to Warrenton's park system

OTHER COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

- The soccer fields are a cultural resource - improving upon this space would greatly benefit the residents of Warrenton
- Wetlands may be traded for developable land for parks – this would help to reduce the fragmentation of wildlands and build more parks where they are needed
- The City should create a position for a parks foreman and take the responsibility off of Public Works
- The City should cut back on the number of projects and focus on a few specific projects they can develop and maintain

INTERVIEW PARTICIPANTS

David Szymanski, Lewis and Clark National Park Director
Keith Pinkstaff, Hammond Marina Harbor Master
Micah Russell, Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST)
Mike Stein, Fort Stevens State Park Director
Ruby Leo, Head Start Director
Norma Hernandez, Lower Columbia Hispanic Council
Tim Fastabend, Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association (LCYSA)
Steve Meshke, Clatsop County Parks Director
Carol Parker, City of Warrenton Planning Director
Craig Walter, City of Warrenton Public Works Foreman
Jim Scheller, Warrenton Trails Association Chair
Bob Maxfield, City of Warrenton City Manager

APPENDIX C
FUNDING SOURCES

Local Tax Options

BONDS

To issue long-term debt instruments, a municipality obtains legal authorization from either the voters or its legislative body to borrow money from a qualified lender. Usually, the lender is an established financial institution, such as a bank; an investment service that may purchase bonds as part of its mutual fund portfolio; or, sometimes, an insurance company. Issuing debt is justified based on several factors:

- Borrowing distributes costs and payments for a project or improvement to those who will benefit from it over its useful life, rather than requiring today's taxpayers or rate payers to pay for future use;
- During times of inflation, debt allows future repayment of borrowed money in cheaper dollars;
- Borrowing may improve a municipality's liquidity to purchase needed equipment or for project construction and improvements. Debt issuance also does not exhaust current cash-on-hand, allowing such general fund revenues to be used for operating expenses; and
- Interest rates rise as the maturity term of a bond increases, as borrowers have to compensate investors for locking up their resources for a longer period of time.

Oregon Law requires that all Unlimited-Tax General Obligation (ULTGO) bonds be authorized by a vote of the people. The *Oregon Bond Manual – 4th Edition*, recommends municipalities hire a bond counsel prior to the bond election to ensure that all requirements are met. The Bond Manual also notes that approval of an ULTGO bond requires considerable effort. Some examples of methods for gaining public support include: attitude polls, forming a bond issue citizens' committee, holding public meetings, leaflets, and door-to-door canvassing. Note that under Oregon law, no public resources may be used to advocate a pro or con position regarding a ballot measure. Accordingly, any printed materials must be purely explanatory in nature.

A fundamental rule associated with issuing long-term debt instruments is not to issue them for a maturity period longer than the project's useful life. People should not be paying for a major park or recreational facility after it is no longer in use. Further, Warrenton should be very clear about the specific acquisitions and other actions to be carried out with the bond revenue, as the City will be asking residents to pay for park and recreation acquisitions. Working with the community is a key aspect of a successful bond measure.

The key benefit of bonds for park acquisition and development is that they City can generate a substantial amount of capital. This capital can then be used to purchase parkland or for major capital improvements that will serve the community far into the future.

LEVIES

A local option levy for capital improvements provides for a separate property tax levy outside the City's permanent rate limit. This levy may be used to fund a capital project or a group of projects over a specified period of time, up to ten years. Revenues from these levies may be used to secure bonds for projects, or to complete one or more projects on a "pay as you go" basis.

The advantages of levies include reduced interest, increased flexibility, enhanced debt capacity, improved borrowing terms, and increased fiscal responsibility. The major disadvantages of the approach are insufficient funding, intergenerational inequity (if, for example, long term facilities are paid for disproportionately by current users), inconsistency of funding requirements, and use of accumulated reserves. There are also legal requirements for Warrenton, including property tax limitations imposed by Ballot Measure 50 (approved by Oregon voters at the statewide special election ballot on May 20, 1997).

Prior to Measure 50, Oregon's property tax system was a levy-based system. With its adoption, the system was converted to a combination rate and levy-based system, eliminating the taxing district's 'tax base' for operational purposes, which automatically increased by six percent annually. Instead, each taxing district has a frozen tax rate for operation expenses, but local jurisdictions may obtain revenue through bonds and local option levies. Revenues from local option levies are also subject to limitations under Measure 5.

Local option levies require voter approval and are subject to the double majority requirement of Measure 50 and are not considered to be a good alternative to the use of general obligation bonds for large projects or groups of projects. Property tax levies can be used for land acquisition and capital improvements; however, they are also frequently used for facility operations and maintenance.

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES

Warrenton is currently in the process of adopting a System Development charge (SDC) to assist in funding for streets, water, waste water, parks and storm drain development. A SDC is a one-time fee charged on new development and certain types of redevelopment to help pay for existing and planned infrastructure to serve the development. Cities, counties and special districts in Oregon may impose SDCs for capital improvements, which include parks and recreation facilities. SDCs cannot be used for operation and maintenance costs or replacement costs for existing infrastructure capacity.

A SDC may be an improvement fee, reimbursement fee, or a combination of the two. SDCs utilized for parks and recreation facilities are generally improvement fee SDCs. Improvement fee SDCs may be charged for new capital improvements that will increase capacity and includes debt service payments. The improvement fee must be calculated such that it funds the portion of the cost of capital improvements that meets the projected need for increased capacity for future users. Revenues generated

by improvement fee SDCs may be expended only for capital improvements identified in a required Capital Improvement Plan.

Partnerships

Partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, and not-for-profit groups play an important role in the acquisition and development of park and recreation facilities. Partnerships can also provide one-time or ongoing maintenance support.

FEDERAL

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Assistance available through the USFWS include the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program. Since 1987, the program promotes conservation and habitat protection by offering technical and financial assistance to private (non-federal) landowners to voluntarily restore wetlands and other fish and wildlife habitats on their land.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Oregon
911 North East 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-4181
Phone: 503-231-6156
Fax: 503-231-2050
Website: www.partners.fws.gov

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

The BLM manages a wide variety of public land uses in Oregon. Public land uses include land for wildlife, recreation, timber harvest, livestock grazing, mineral resource extraction and other public uses. The BLM offers grants for land acquisition requiring that it be used for public and recreation purposes. Local government can also obtain parklands at very low or at no cost if there is a developed park plan.

Salem District Office
Bureau of Land Management
1717 Fabry Rd. SE
Salem, Oregon 97306
Phone: (503) 375-5646
Website: www.or.blm.gov

U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

The Pacific Northwest Region of the USFS offers urban and community forestry funds and assists with economic diversification projects.

Group Leader, Grants and Agreements
USDA Forest Service – Pacific Northwest Region
333 SW First Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97208
P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208-3623
Phone: (503) 808-2202
Website: www.fs.fed.us/r6

STATE

Department of State Lands (DSL), Wetland Grant Program

The Wetland Grant Program provides technical and planning assistance for wetland preservation efforts. Elements of the program include wetland inventory, identification, delineation, and function assessments as well as wetland mitigation, public information and education.

Wetland Mitigation Specialist
Division of State Lands
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301-1279
Phone: (503) 986-5299
Website: http://oregonstatelands.us/DSL/PERMITS/pil.shtml

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)

OPRD provides and protects outstanding natural, scenic, cultural, historical and recreational sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations. OPRD administers grants and provides technical assistance to communities involved in parks planning.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301-1279
Phone: (503) 986-0707
Website: www.prd.state.or.us

Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC)

OYCC provides communities with needed services, while unemployed youth are placed in gainful activities. OYCC funding is distributed in equal amounts to each county in Oregon every summer. The program funds individual projects ranging from $5,000 to $10,000. The OYCC program consists of grants of labor and capital financing. Grants support conservation or environment-related projects proposed by non-profit organizations.

Oregon Youth Conservation Corps
255 Capital Street NE, Third Floor
Salem, Oregon 97310
Phone: (503) 378-3441
Fax: (503) 373-2353
Website: www.oregon.gov/CCWD/OYCC/

LOCAL

There are a variety of public, private, and non-profit organizations available to provide the City of Warrenton with additional parks and recreation facilities and services. Local partnerships create cooperation among public and private partners in the area. Local businesses may also be willing to partner with the city to provide partner services. The Chamber of Commerce is a good way to begin to form such partnerships. A list of potential partners besides police and fire departments, utility providers, and the school district include:

- Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District
- Warrenton Business Association
- Religious organizations
- Community associations
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts
- Lions Club
- Historical societies & museums
- Boosters
- Kiwanis
- Lower Columbia River Estuary
- Lower Columbia Hispanic Council
- Coast Guard
- Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association

North Coast Land Conservancy

The North Coast Land Conservancy serves as a resource for Northwest Oregon coastal communities and landowners to conserve and protect land in perpetuity for its ecological, passive recreational and cultural values.

North Coast Land Conservancy
P.O. Box 67
Seaside, OR 97138
Phone: (503) 738-9126
E-mail: nclctrust@theoregonshore.com
Website: www.nclctrust.org

Not-for-Profit Organizations

The Nature Conservancy

This is a national environmental organization focused on the preservation of plants, animals and natural communities. They have worked in direct land acquisition and in obtaining conservation easements for protection of wilderness and agricultural lands. Their grants program is usually focused on acquisition of land, but they are willing to work with communities who want to purchase land if it is to be set aside for environmental preservation.

The Nature Conservancy of Oregon
821 S.E. 14th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97214
Phone: (503) 230-1221
Fax: (503) 230-9639
Website: www.nature.org/Oregon

Oregon Recreation and Park Association (ORPA)

The Oregon Recreation and Park Association, a non-profit organization founded in 1954, serves as a network offering information and contacts directly related to the parks and recreation systems. ORPA's mission is to provide a network of support through professional development and resources in order to enhance the quality of recreation and parks services.

Oregon Recreation and Park Association (ORPA)
309 Lexington Ave.
Astoria, OR 97103
Phone: (503) 325-6772
Website: www.orpa.org

Land Trusts

The Trust for Public Land

The Trust for Public Land helps public agencies and communities create city parks. This was one of the founding goals of the Trust for Public Land and remains the only large national conservation organization focused on creating parks for people. TPL works with community leaders to identify opportunities for park creation, secure park funding, and acquire parklands. TPL's participatory design process ensures that parks meet community needs. TPL also assists in efforts for land and water conservation, heritage lands, and natural lands.

Specific to the Pacific Northwest, TPL's program, "Parks for People – Northwest" works to ensure that everyone-- in particular, every child--enjoys access to a park, playground, or open space. A community's parks, natural areas, and open spaces are often among its most important assets—identifying its character and essence. Beyond their symbolic value, these parks contribute to quality of life and offer havens where citizens seek renewal. TPL is helping established urban cities and growing communities across the Northwest plan proactively for parks and open spaces.

The Trust for Public Land
National Office
116 New Montgomery Street
4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: (415) 495-4014
E-mail: info@tpl.org
Website: www.tpl.org

The Wetlands Conservancy

The Wetlands Conservancy (TWC) is a non-profit land trust. It is dedicated to preserving, protecting, and promoting the wildlife, water quality and open space values of wetlands in Oregon.

The Wetlands Conservancy
Esther Lev
Executive Director

P.O. Box 1195
Tualatin, Oregon 97062
Phone: (503) 691-1394
E-mail: estherlev@wetlandsconservancy.org
Website: www.wetlandsconservancy.org/

Land Trust Alliance

The Land Trust Alliance assists nonprofit land trusts and organizations that protect land through donation and purchase. This is done by working with landowners interested in donating or selling conservation easements, or by acquiring land outright to maintain as open space. Membership of the alliance is one of the qualifications for assistance from this organization.

Land Trust Alliance
Wendy Ninteman
Western Director
P.O. Box 8596
Missoula, MT 59807
Phone: (406) 549-2750
Website: www.landtrustalliance.org

Private Donations

Donations of labor, land, or cash by service agencies, private groups or individuals are a popular way to raise small amounts of money for specific projects. Two key motives for donation are philanthropy and tax incentives. These benefits should be emphasized when collaborating with landowners. Most organizations implement capital campaigns focused on specific projects for cash donations. The typical strategy for land donations is to identify target parcels (such as identified in the land acquisition section of the Plan) and then work directly with landowners.

Soliciting donations, like partnering, takes time and effort on the part of City staff, but can be mutually rewarding. The City of Warrenton should consider establishing a nonprofit parks foundation to implement a capital campaign and to accept and manage donations. The city should begin working on setting up such a group or recruit volunteers to provide the services. Generally, donations are not stable sources of land or finances and should not be relied upon as a major portion of funding.

Pursuing donations through partnerships can provide advantages to all parties involved. For example, working a land transaction through a non-profit organization may provide tax benefits for the donor, provide flexibility to the City, and reap financial benefits for the non-profit.

Grants

The securing of grants is a good strategy to supplement park acquisition and development funds. Many grant organizations throughout the country fund park acquisition and improvements, although few provide funds for ongoing maintenance activities. Most grant organizations have lengthy processes that require staff time and

effort, and grants usually have very specific guidelines and only fund projects that address the granting organization's overall goals. Moreover, grants should not be considered a long-term, stable funding source. This appendix provides contacts for state, regional, and federal granting organizations and outlines these organizations' goals.

The grant process is highly competitive. When identifying possible grant funding, allocate staff time appropriately for applicable grants and pursue partnerships for volunteer grant writing. As grant agencies often look favorably upon collaborative projects, developing partnerships between agencies, organizations, and the City will improve the City's competitiveness in the grant application process.

Private Grant-Making Organizations

NATIONAL GRANTS

Bikes Belong Grants

Bikes Belong is sponsored by the U.S. bicycle industry with the goal of putting more people on bicycles more often. From helping create safe places to ride to promoting bicycling, Bikes Belong carefully selects projects and partnerships that have the capacity to make a difference. Their initial goal was to ensure funding for new bicycle facilities that would increase bike riding, boost public health and happiness, and strengthen the bike business. All proposals must encourage ridership growth, support bicycle advocacy, promote bicycling, and leverage funding with other grants. These funds cannot be used for general operating costs.

Grants that have been funding in the past include mountain bike trails, a BMX track, a 10-mile portion of the Lake Wobegon Trail in Minnesota as well as greenways for bicycle commuting and recreation.

Bikes Belong Coalition
P.O. Box 2359
Boulder, CO 80306
Phone: (303) 449-4893
Website: www.bikesbelong.org

STATE GRANTS

Oregon Community Foundation Grants

The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) prioritizes funding based on a set of principles and four funding objectives.

- To nurture children, strengthen families and foster the self-sufficiency of Oregonians;
- To enhance the educational experience of Oregonians;
- To increase cultural opportunities for Oregonians;
- To preserve and improve Oregon's livability through citizen involvement.

OCF awards about 200 grants annually. Most Community Foundation Grants are between $5,000 and $35,000 but multi-year grants may range up to $150,000 for projects with particular community impact. Around 5 percent of Community Grants are above $50,000 and tend to be created only for projects that are an exceptionally good fit with OCF priorities, have a broad scope of impact, and address an area to which OCF's board has decided to give special attention.

Oregon Community Foundation
1221 SW Yamhill, #100
Portland, Oregon 97205
Phone: (503) 227-6846
Fax: (503) 274-7771
Website: www.oregoncf.org/receive/grants

The Collins Foundation

The purpose of the Collins Foundation is to improve, enrich, and give a greater expression to the religious, educational, cultural, and scientific endeavors in the State of Oregon and to assist in improving the quality of life in the state. The trustees of the Collins Foundation work through existing agencies and have supported proposals submitted by colleges and universities, organized religious groups, arts, cultural and civic organizations, and agencies devoted to health, welfare, and youth.

Director of Progress
The Collins Foundation
1618 SW First Avenue, Suite 505
Portland, Oregon 97201
Phone: (503) 227-7171
Website: www.collinsfoundation.org

The Oregon Historic Trails Fund

The purpose of the fund is to develop interpretive, educational, and economic projects to preserve and protect the cultural and natural resources of Oregon's historic trails. Grants are made each fall from the Oregon Historic Trails Fund to support projects that interpret, preserve, or maintain trail-related resources. Grants may be awarded also for marketing, education, advocacy, and research related to historic trails. An advisory committee made up of people who are knowledgeable about Oregon's historic trails and cultural resources review grant applications and makes recommendations to The Oregon Community Foundation board of directors.

Historic Trails Fund
c/o The Oregon Community Foundation
1221 SW Yamhill Suite 100
Portland OR 97205
503-227-6846
Website: www.oregonhistorictrailsfund.org/trails/index.php

Public Grant-making Organizations

FEDERAL

National Park Service – National Heritage Areas Program

The United States Congress designates a national heritage area as a place where "natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography". (National Park Service, www.cr.nps.gov) Through Strategic public and private partnerships, federal grant money is available to leverage funding opportunities for nationally designated heritage sites.

To determine if the City of Warrenton qualifies as a National Heritage Area, the community must complete a suitability/feasibility study, using the ten guidelines developed by the National Park Service. All ten guidelines can be found at the National Park Service website.

The designation enhances local pride and includes limited technical planning and financial assistance from the National Park Service. Federal designation depends on Congressional support and the degree to which a community is engaged in a support of the designation. The four critical steps that need to be followed prior designation are:

1. Completion of a suitability/feasibility study;
2. Public involvement in the sustainability/feasibility study;
3. Demonstration of widespread public support among heritage area residents for the proposed designation;
4. Commitment to the proposal from key constituents, which may include governments, industry, and private, non-profit organizations, in addition to area residents.

National Heritage Areas Program
1201 Eye Street, NW
8th Floor
Washington D.C., 20005
Phone: (202) 354-2222
Fax: (202) 371-6468
Website: www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/

Land and Water Conservation Fund

This fund provides federal dollars from the National Park Service that are passed down to states for acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of park and recreation areas, and facilities. To be eligible for Land and Water Conservation Fund grants, the proposed project must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives contained in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and elements of a jurisdiction's local comprehensive land use and parks master plans. Emphasis should be placed on the grants available to the State of Oregon rather than federal funds.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: (503) 378-4168 Ext. 241
Fax: (503) 378-6447
Website: egov.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/lwcf.shtml

U.S. Department of Transportation

Through the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), the U.S. Department of Transportation authorizes federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit. TEA-21 provides funding for parks and connections that include:

- Bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways;
- Recreational trails program;
- National Scenic Byways Program;
- Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilots.

U.S. Department of Transportation
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington D.C., 20590
Phone: (202) 366-4000
Website: www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/index.htm

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) was established in 2002 to protect coastal and estuarine lands considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical or aesthetic values. The program provides state and local governments with matching funds to purchase significant coastal and estuarine lands, or conservation easements on such lands, from willing sellers. To date, the program has protected more than 45,000 acres of land through projects funded between 2002 and 2008.

Elaine Vaudreuil
Department of Land Conservation and Development
635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150
Salem, Oregon 97301-2540
Phone: (301) 713-3155 x103
Website: coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/welcome.html

US Fish and Wildlife Service National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program

The grants will be used to acquire, restore or enhance coastal wetlands and adjacent uplands to provide long-term conservation benefits to fish, wildlife and their habitat. The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program was established by Title III of P.L. 101-646, Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act of 1990. Under the Program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides matching grants to States for acquisition, restoration, management or enhancement of coastal wetlands.

Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation
4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 840
Arlington, Virginia 22203
Phone: (703) 358-2161
Website: www.fws.gov/coastal/CoastalGrants/index.html

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Program

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (Act, or NAWCA) of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife. The Standard Grants Program supports projects that involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats. The Small Grants Program supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the U.S. Standard Grants Program. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars.

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Bird Habitat Conservation
4401 North Fairfax Drive
Mailstop MBSP 4075
Arlington, Virginia 22203
Phone: (703) 358-1784
E-mail: dbhc@fws.gov.
Website: www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm

STATE

State Highway Funds

At least 1% of the State Highway Funds that the City receives must be spent for bicycle/pedestrian improvements and maintenance within existing street rights-of-way. Oregon Revised Statute 366.514 required the Oregon Department of Transportation and cities and counties within Oregon to "expand reasonable amounts of the highway fund to provide bikeways and walkways" and it requires "the inclusion of bikeways and walkways whenever highways, roads, streets are constructed or relocated."

ODOT also administers the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facility Improvement Grant Program, which provides grants of up to $200,000 for sidewalk completion, ADA upgrades, crossing improvements, and minor widening for bike lanes or shoulders. Competitive projects involve no right-of-way or environmental impacts; have significant local matching funds available; consider the needs of school children, the elderly, disables, or transit users; and have support of local elected officials. Grant money may not be used for the completion of trails and/or bikeways within parks but can be used to help fund larger pedestrian and bicycle improvements occurring within street rights-of-way.

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

State Pedestrian and Bicycle Grants

ODOT provides grants to cities and counties for pedestrian or bicycle improvements on state highways or local streets. Grants amount requires at least 5% local match. Projects must be administered by the applicant, be situated in roads, streets or highway right-of-ways. Project types include sidewalk infill, ADA upgrades, street crossings, intersection improvements, and minor widening for bike lanes. Grants are offered every two years.

For 2010-2011, several of the awarded grants were for pedestrian crossings, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and streetscaping. These grants ranged from $90,000 up to almost $700,000 for projects.

Oregon Department of Transportation
Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
355 Capital Street N.E., Fifth Floor
Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: (503) 986-3555
Fax: (503) 986-4063
Website: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/BIKEPED/grants1.shtml

Transportation Enhancement Program

These funds are available from ODOT projects that enhance the cultural, aesthetic and environmental value of the state's transportation system. Some of the eligible activities include bicycle/pedestrian projects, historic preservation, landscaping and scenic beautification, mitigation of pollution due to highway runoff, and preservation of abandoned railway corridors. The application cycle is every two years. Funding is decided by technical merit and local support

Recently, these grants were used to help build a multi-use path in Corvallis, a bicycle/pedestrian path and landscaping in Coos Bay and a bike bridge in Eugene.

Transportation Enhancement Program Manager
Pat Rogers Fisher
Transportation Enhancement Program
Oregon Department of Transportation
Phone: (503) 986-3528
E-mail: patricia.r.fisher@odot.state.or.us
Website: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/LGS/enhancement.shtml

Transportation Safety Safe Routes to School Grants

The goals of the program are to increase the ability and opportunity for children to walk and bicycle to school; promote walking and bicycling to school and encourage a healthy and active lifestyle at an early age; and facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution within two miles of the school. The National Center for Safe Routes to School is offering 35 $1,000 mini-grants for Safe Routes programs

Safe Routes to School Program Manager
Julie Yip
ODOT Transportation Safety Division
235 Union St N.E.

Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: (503) 986-4196
E-mail: julie.a.yip@odot.state.or.us
Website: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/saferoutes.shtml

Transportation Growth Management (TGM)

Oregon's Transportation and Growth Management Program supports community efforts to expand transportation choices for people. By linking land use and transportation planning, TGM works in partnership with local governments to create vibrant, livable places in which people can walk, bike, take transit or drive where they want to go.

During the last grant award cycle, these grants were used to update pedestrian and bicycle master plans, a waterfront linkage project, and other plan and project updates. These grants generally require 12% of matching funding in the form of direct expenditures for eligible cost projects. Key requirements for this grant are local support, clear transportation relationships, meeting state mandates, and that the grants are for planning work.

Cindy Lesmeister
Oregon Transportation & Growth Management Grants
Phone: (503) 986-4349
E-mail: Cindy.L.Lesmeister@odot.state.or.us
Website: www.oblpct.state.or.us/Gov/ERT/about_us.shtml

Oregon Tourism Commission

Travel Oregon

Travel Oregon focuses on tourism related projects, and offers matching grants of up to $10,000 for tourism projects. These can include marketing materials, market analysis, signage, and visitor center development planning. This grant requires a match of funds or materials relevant to the project, and the money does not include funding for construction.

Last year, a total of $63,000 was awarded for local tourism development. Money from this has gone to Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce for a marketing and advertising campaign to promote "The Goonies" 25th Anniversary Celebration, website creation and technology for self guided audio tours among others.

Travel Oregon Grant Program
Carole Astley
Industry Relations Manager
Phone: (503) 378-8850
E-mail: grants@traveloregon.com
Website: industry.traveloregon.com/Departments/Tourism-Development/Matching-Grants-Program.aspx

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Water Quality Non-point Source Grants

The DEQ offers grants for non-point source water quality and watershed enhancement projects that address the priorities in the Oregon Water Quality Non-

point Source Management Plan. Grants require a minimum of 40 percent match of non-federal funds and a partnership with other entities. About $1.5 million of federal grants dollars will be available under the Clean Water Act.

Ivan Camacho
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
811 Sixth Ave.
Portland, OR 97204-1390
Phone: (503) 229-5088
Website: www.deq.state.or.us/wq/nonpoint/grants.htm

Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL)

Easements

DSL grants easements for the use of state-owned land managed by the agency. Easements allow the user to have he right to use state-owned land for a specific purpose and length of time. Uses of state owned land subject to an easement include, but are not limited to, gas, electric and communication lines (including fiber optic cables); water supply pipelines and ditches, canals and flumes; innerducts and conduits for cables; sewer, storm and cooling water lines; bridges, skylines and logging lines; roads and trails; and railroad and light track.

Oregon Department of State Lands
Land Management, Waterway Leasing and Ownership
775 Summer St. NE Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: (503) 986-5200
Website: www.oregon.gov/DSL/LW/easements.shtml

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department administers several grant programs including the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, Local Government, and Recreation Trails grants.

Local Government Grants

These grants provide for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of park and recreation areas and facilities. OPRD gives more than $4 million annually to Oregon communities for outdoor recreation projects, and has awarded nearly $40 million in grants across the state since 1999.

In recent years, Warrenton has acquired money through this grant for the Warrenton Waterfront Trail. Other small and large grant projects have also been awarded to trails, parks, playground renovation, equipment, and restroom facilities.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Michele Scalise
Grant Program Coordinator
Phone: (503) 986-0711
Grants Coordinator
Phone: (503) 986-0708
Fax: (503) 986-0794
E-mail: Michele.scalise@state.or.us

Website: www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/local.shtml

Recreation Trail Grants

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department accepts applications for Recreation Trial Program (RTP) grants every year for recreational trail-related projects, such as hiking, running, bicycling, off-road motorcycling, and all-terrain vehicle riding. Grant recipients are required to provide a minimum of 20 percent in matching funds. Funding is divided into 30% motorized trail use, 30% non-motorized trail use and 40% diverse trail use. Project sponsors provide at least 20% of the projects total costs.

Recently, projects, which have received funding, include trail projects, OHV Parks & trails, and trailhead development. In 2009 alone, over $1.3 million in funding was awarded.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Marilyn Almero Lippincott
Senior Grants Project Coordinator
Recreation Trails Program Grants
725 Summer St. NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: (503) 986-0711
Fax: (503) 986-0793
E-mail: marilyn.lippincott@state.or.us
Website: www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/trails.shtml

ATV Grant Program

The ATV Grant Program provides funding statewide for off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation. For Warrenton, ATV grants help pay for operation and maintenance, law enforcement, emergency services, land acquisition, leases, planning, development and safety education in Oregon's OHV recreation areas. Projects require a minimum 20% match.

In 2009 these grants were awarded mostly to the BLM, USFS and sheriff's offices across the state. However, a small number of individual cities did receive money. Almost 90 grants were award from $6,000 to $654,137.

ATV Grant Program
Ron Price
725 Summer St NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: (503) 986-0706
E-mail: ron.price@state.or.us
Website: www.oweb.state.or.us

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) administers a grant program that awards more than $20 million annually to support voluntary efforts by Oregonians seeking to create and maintain healthy watersheds. Small grants are available for opportunities for learning about watershed concepts (education/outreach). Watershed education could be incorporated into a parks or trail systems.

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
Small Grant Team Contact Officer
David Ambrose
Clatsop SWCD
750 Commercial St., Rm. 207
Astoria, OR 97103
(503) 325-4571
E-mail; clatsopswcd@iinet.com
Website: www.oweb.state.or.us

Park and Recreation Districts

Special districts, such as park and recreation districts, are financed through property taxes and/or fees for services. Information regarding special districts is found through the Special District Association of Oregon (SDAO). SDAO was established to pursue the common interests and concerns of special districts.

Executive Director
Special Districts Association of Oregon
727 Center Street NE, Suite 208
P.O. Box 12613
Salem, Oregon 97309-0613
Phone: (503) 371-8667; Toll-free: 1-800-285-5461
Fax: (503) 371-4781
Website: www.sdao.com

APPENDIX D
DESIGN STANDARDS

The following standards are applicable to the design of parks, natural areas, open space, and trails in Warrenton. These standards are intended to guide the future development of park system assets to ensure that safe, easily maintained facilities that contribute to the livability of the community are created. The standards provide direction to the Parks Advisory Board, Public Works Department, and developers in the design of park and recreation facilities.

The standards address the following general areas:

» Safety

» Plantings

» Mowing and Turf Maintenance

» Parking

» Restrooms

» Play Areas

» Site Furnishings

Specific standards address the design and development of the following park types:

» Mini Parks

» Neighborhood Parks

» Community Parks

» Open Space/Greenways

General Standards

SAFETY

It is important to create landscapes that do not have the potential to attract illegal or threatening activities, as well as illegal or threatening use. The following features will help create transparency in public spaces:

» Apply Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles to all park design.

» Vegetation that is directly adjacent to pedestrian areas should allow for visibility through the site. To provide visual access to users and authorities, trees should be limed up to a height of 7 feet and shrubs should not exceed 2 feet in height.

» Built structures should be situated for easy observation from areas of frequent use and convenient access by law enforcement.

» Vehicle access to the park and amenities will allow authorities to patrol parks with some ease and proficiency. This access can also provide emergency services and maintenance.

» Sidewalks and paths intended for vehicle use should be at least 8 feet wide. Those that are concrete should be at least 7 inches thick.

PLANTINGS

The use of native vegetation can play an integral part in park design to enhance a regional feel as well as support the ecological systems that are unique to the area. The following vegetation and irrigation guidelines assist in creating efficient, distinctive, and lush spaces.

» Vegetation along trail systems, waterways (creeks, rivers, bioswales and storm water) and within linear parks should consist of native plants and flora.

» Non-irrigated areas and irrigation reserved for areas such as sports fields should be designated. The use of native vegetation will reduce the need for irrigation. To establish plants, consider using a temporary irrigation system or hand watering. Design the irrigation system so that irrigation heads spray underneath plants or into them, not above them.

» Trees planted in groups increase the efficiency of mowing and maintenance. When designing tree groups, it is important to provide a flush border around groups to ease irrigation and mowing.

» Planting areas in parking lots should be designed to provide continuous coverage within 3 years. The plants should be hardy, with a track record of survival in the harsh environment of a parking lot.

» Trees should not be planted next to restrooms because they may provide unwanted access to the roof as well as create hiding places near the structure (shrubs should be less than 4 feet in height and should be limbed up to allow visual access under them). Plantings should allow maintenance access to the roof.

MOWING AND TURF MAINTENANCE

Turf areas allow different experiences in parks. Groomed areas provide field sports, picnicking and free play, while rough mowed areas provide an aesthetic to the park while buffering natural and riparian areas. To create these effects design intent and maintenance should be followed.

» Rough mown areas are mowed once or twice a year. There should be 15 feet between vertical obstacles in these areas. Maximum mowing slopes for rough turf or natural areas should be less than 5:1.

» Groomed turf slopes should be less than 4:1, with less being preferable.

» Irrigation systems should take into account solar aspect, wind and topography to minimize the overuse of water. The minimum distance between vertical objects is 7 feet for mower access. Design for continuous mowing, taking care to avoid the creation of dead ends, tight corners or areas where a mower cannot easily reach. Provide a concrete mowing strip around vertical objects such as fence posts, signs, drinking fountains, light poles and other site furniture with a 12" minimum offset between the object's vertical edge and turf. Also, plant trees in groups (see Planting).

» Vehicular access is important to ensure ease to the maintenance crew. Providing curb cuts in logical areas such as turnaround areas where possible and generous radius corners to protect adjacent planting or lawn.

» Herbicide use should be limited in favor of more sustainable pest management products and practices.

PARKING

Parking lots should be representative of the experience the user will have at the park and designed to minimize disturbance of park functions. The following guidelines will help to carefully situate parking in the landscape to provide both accessibility and views.

» A minimum of 3 to 5 spaces per acre of usable active park area should be provided if less than 300 linear feet of street frontage occurs.

» Park design should encourage access by foot or bicycle, and provide bicycle racks at each primary access point and restroom.

» The size of planting areas within the parking lot should be as large as possible with adequate room for maintenance to be performed safely.

» Stormwater runoff should be diverted into a bioswale before entering the storm water system to reduce the impact of pollution on stream and creek systems. To achieve this purpose of water purification and cooling, the bioswales should be planted with native vegetation (see Planting).

» Outdoor light fixtures should are encouraged in larger parking lots to enhance safety during darkness.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms should be safe, low maintenance facilities that reflect Warrenton's regional feel. The components and the placement of these structures are important in addressing the following goals.

» Interior surfaces of restrooms should be glazed tile and the exterior surfaces should be non-porous for easy cleaning (i.e., glazed block, glazed tile, painted block or painted concrete). The use of heavy concrete partitions between stalls is recommended. Specify only stainless steel restroom fixtures.

» The drain inside the structure should always operate correctly. If the facility is near an athletic field such as volleyball courts or a spray park, there should be an area outside the restroom with a faucet/ shower and drain for users to rinse off sand and chlorine.

» Including separate storage areas adjacent to the restroom structure can serve the city. Storage areas may house recreation equipment for fair weather activities and maintenance supplies for park crew convenience.

» Sky lights can maximize the use of natural light. Minimizing light fixtures helps prevent tampering, destruction and keep costs down. Facilities that are open in the evening should have lighting that is designed with vandalism in mind. Lighting

fixtures in all parks should be provided by the same manufacturer to save on expenses as well as space for replacements parts.

» A 5 to 6 foot apron around the structure should be constructed to protect the building from debris and water. Trees should be avoided next to the restroom (see Plantings).

PLAY AREAS

Playgrounds in Warrenton should meet the needs of children of different ages and abilities. The following guidelines will help create facilities that ensure accessibility and safety for children of all ages.

» Parks that have playground equipment, sports fields and splash fountains should be accessible to children under sixteen. Sidewalks, bike lanes and cross walks are necessary for connectivity and safety.

» Play areas should be level to reduce the surface substance from slumping to low points. Further, play surfaces should also take into consideration the physical requirements of special needs users. Consider using beach sand as a cost-effective, low-maintenance playground surface. Do not use engineered wood chip surfaces because decomposition will result in regular and expensive replacement.

» Play structures and equipment come in many different materials. Avoid specifying wood because: wood footings will rot, they are prone to termite infestation, the shrink/ swell defect of moisture loosens bolts and creates a safety hazard, pressure treated wood contains chromate copper arsenate (CCA), a carcinogen.

» Wooden play structures that exist presently should be sealed every two years to prevent arsenic leaching.

» Natural play areas created from boulders, logs and land forms and playground equipment made from 100% recycled plastic or other non-metal material are recommended. Metal playground equipment can be detrimental to special needs children.

» Planting trees or other structures to shade the play area is recommended.

SITE FURNISHINGS

Site furnishings should be chosen or matched based on the current standard for Warrenton. Water fountains, benches, light fixtures and posts, signage and bike racks can be used not only in the parks but in the City as well. This furniture should offer comfort, aesthetic beauty and be of formidable stature to prevent vandalism.

» Seating should be made from a material that is comfortable both in winter and the heat of summer while being able to withstand the elements and vandalism. Benches should be provided to offer places of rest, opportunities to experience views and congregate.

» Drinking fountains should be available at a ratio of one per 5 acres (with the exception of mini parks) which should have one. Drinking fountains should have the same design elements as the other furniture.

» Signage should be located in every park in areas that will be visible to all users. For example, place a sign at the entrance of the park that is visible to vehicular traffic, also place signs along the greenways and trails to inform pedestrians and bicyclists. Signage should be easy to read and informative. Interpretive signs fall into this category as well. They can be useful in natural and historic areas. When used in natural areas these signs should not be used in more sensitive places and should be used where it is universally accessible. Finally, signage should ensure graphic continuity throughout the park system.

Specific Park Guidelines

MINI PARKS

Mini parks can be expensive to construct and maintain on a per unit basis but can be very valuable in neighborhoods that do not have parks or open space in close proximity. Following are design guidelines that will help to create spaces that have appropriate visual access and provide areas for community gathering.

» Mini Parks should be connected to a sidewalk and preferably a bike path. Housing should have direct access to the park through a path that is at a minimum of six feet wide.

» Fencing should offer privacy to residents abutting the park property line while still providing transparency. A four foot fence lined with trees that are limbed up 4 feet and shrubs that are generally 2 to 3 feet high will create a barrier for the park neighbors while still allowing the neighbors to enjoy the view of the park from their yard. Adjacent neighbors of the park should have a lockable gate to allow them direct access to the park from their yards. New development surrounding the park should be required to include gates.

» Facilities that are appropriate in mini-parks include children's playground, open grass play area and picnic tables.

» Furniture should include one drinking fountain, a street light, seating that allows for rest while walking down the street and a sign that is recognizable to passers by.

» Restrooms are not required in these parks unless community events are a part of event schedules (i.e. a parade route).

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

A neighborhood park should accommodate the needs of a wide variety of user groups. These spaces are designed primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. The guidelines will help ensure these parks are desirable to the surrounding neighborhood and offer activities that function as a daily pastime for neighborhood children.

» Connectivity to the surrounding neighborhood is vital to these parks. Sidewalks, bike paths, crosswalks and connections to larger trail systems should be established. The pedestrian is more important than the car in this situation and should be thought of foremost in the overall plan.

- Fencing should maintain privacy for residents but also provide some transparency to increase resident visibility into the park. Fencing should not be greater than 6 feet in height. Vegetation can be used as a screen to allow neighbors privacy while preserving views into the park.
- Housing developments should create an entrance at some point to the park to create connectivity and ease accessibility for young people.
- Appropriate facilities in a neighborhood park include: children's play equipment, outdoor basketball courts, tennis courts, sand volleyball courts, unprogrammed play space and accessible pathways.
- Furnishing include but are not limited to drinking fountains, picnic tables and benches, trash receptacles, signage at entrances and at all major trail intersections and utilities.
- Restroom buildings should be discouraged unless community wide activities (i.e. festivals, parade routes) are located in the park. Another consideration is providing portable toilets when needed to support programs or special events. Provide locations for seating and screening portable toilets.

COMMUNITY PARKS

The size of these parks provides opportunities to offer active and structured recreation activities for young people and adults. There is also an opportunity to provide indoor facilities because the service area is much broader and therefore can meet a wider range of interests. These guidelines will help to create spaces that will be useful to people of all ages and create facilities that will be valuable to Warrenton's growth.

- Community Parks should be a minimum of 10-acres in size, allowing two-thirds of the site to be available for active recreation use such as: ball fields, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts, open grass areas for free play, children's playgrounds and space for outdoor events.
- Paved pathways should direct users to the different areas within the park as well as trails, greenways, streets and sidewalks.
- Facilities that are appropriate in community parks can include: children's play equipment, outdoor basketball court, sports fields, unprogrammed play space, off-leash dog areas, utilities and accessible pathways. It is recommended that one community park in the Warrenton Park System provide a community center or natural learning center to hold community events.
- Housing developments need to create access to parks if they lie on the boundary of a park. To promote further connectivity these developments should connect to other neighborhoods as well, especially if those other neighborhoods are connected to a park.
- Furniture include but should not be limited to drinking fountains, picnic tables and benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, and signage at entrances and at all major trail intersections and utilities. Drinking fountains should be provided at

intersections of larger trail systems. Drinking fountains should be designed for human and canine users.

NATURAL AREAS, OPEN SPACE, AND TRAILS

These spaces are generally left in their natural condition, with structured recreation discouraged and limited to trail, interpretive and educational activities. To achieve these goals the following guidelines should be implemented:

- Trails should meander or offer views through different ecological areas in order to fully experience the place/region. However, consideration must be made to more sensitive areas of these places
- Wetland and riparian areas should be protected by a 50 foot native vegetation buffer allowing access occasionally for interpretive and educational viewing areas that are accompanied by a sign.
- Improvements should be limited to restorative actions and minimal construction of human made elements with the exception of thoughtfully placed paths. Paths should be natural if possible (i.e. bark mulch or stone).
- The construction and design of the paths needs to be carefully planned. Take into account the amount of users, the width of the path, the type of path, the placement in regards to the topography, soils and drainage conditions. All trails do not need to be paved but the system should offer diverse experiences to those who may be more challenged than others. Pathways that are paved with asphalt or concrete should be constructed correctly to achieve the longest lifetime possible.