

City of Kenmore



City of Kenmore - 18120 68th Avenue NE - Kenmore, WA 98028
Phone: 425-398-8900 - Fax: 425-481-3236 - E-mail: cityhall@kenmorewa.gov

City of Kenmore Planning Commission Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, November 5, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Kenmore City Hall
18120 68th Ave. NE, Kenmore, WA 98028**

If you have any questions or to confirm agenda items prior to the meeting, or if you require special accommodations, please call Bridgit Baker at 425-398-8900. You may also stop by City Hall at 18120 68th Avenue NE, Kenmore. Planning Commission agendas are also available on our website at www.kenmorewa.gov.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. CITIZEN COMMENTS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- 4. AGENDA ITEMS**

[Planning Commission Memo](#)
[Attachment 1 - Draft PROS Plan](#)

- 5. ADJOURNMENT**
- 6. UPCOMING MEETINGS:**
November 19, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
December 3, 2019, 7:00 p.m.



City of Kenmore, Washington

Memorandum

TO: The Planning Commission

FROM: Debbie Bent, Community Development Director *DB*
Ann Stanton, Parks Project Manager
Lauri Anderson, Principal Planner *WAK*

DATE: October 31, 2019

SUBJECT: Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan

At your meeting on November 5, staff will present the consolidated draft PROS Plan (see Attachment 1). Next steps in the Planning Commission's review are to make final recommendations on the main concepts in the Plan. Your recommendations will be presented to the City Council at a joint meeting in January.

Over the past several months, you have reviewed most of the various sections of the plan and they have been revised in response to your questions/concerns.

Following are links to the previous meeting materials:

- Overview of the PROS Plan Update at the April 16th Planning Commission meeting. Meeting information can be found at:
<https://kenmore.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/94224?preview=96900>.
- Results of the Community Survey at the May 13th City Council meeting. The agenda bill and presentation are available here:
<https://kenmore.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/94465?preview=97349>.
- Draft goals and policies at the June 18th Planning Commission meeting. Meeting information can be found at:
<https://kenmore.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/94224?preview=98204>.
- Key findings from the Draft Demand and Need Analysis at the June 25th Planning Commission meeting. Meeting information can be found at:
<https://kenmore.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/94224?preview=98404>.

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- Recommendations and Plan Implementation chapter, including the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) at the September 3rd Planning Commission meeting. Meeting information can be found at:
<https://kenmore.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/94224?preview=99560>.

The most significant new piece is the summary of comments from the September 25 Open House and the compilation of responses from the PROS Plan survey. Major changes from previous versions you have reviewed are in red text.

Inclusion of the appendices and some reorganization of Plan sections may occur following your recommendations on November 5. The final PROS Plan will be presented to you on December 3.

Attachment 1: Draft PROS Plan

CHAPTER 1**INTRODUCTION**

The City of Kenmore's Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan was developed to provide a framework for future development of the parks system and recreation facilities and programs over the next 20 years. The PROS Plan identifies and categorizes existing conditions, evaluates the context of the city and the community it serves, analyzes the demand and need for parks and recreation facilities, and recommends improvements to the parks system to meet the future needs of the community. Both short and long-term improvements are considered, as well as potential funding and implementation of the proposed improvements over time.

Certain portions of this document will be incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Plan. Together, the Comprehensive Plan and PROS Plan serve as a resource for city staff, a vision for the community, and a guide for future decision making around the planning, acquisition, and/or development of parks, recreation, and open space throughout the city.

The PROS Plan also meets the State of Washington's Recreation and Conservation Office's (RCO) planning requirements which will enable the city to apply for parks, recreation and open space grants through various RCO grant programs. This plan is required to be updated every 6 years to maintain grant eligibility and to ensure the recommendations contained within remain consistent with the changing recreation trends, demographic context, and community interests in the city.



Planning Context

Geography

The planning area for the City of Kenmore Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is defined by the city limits and the delivery of park and recreation services is defined by the city's parks and recreation facilities as shown in the Map X. Kenmore is approximately 6.15 square miles in area, with roughly 39,000 lineal feet of shoreline—21,000 lineal feet on Lake Washington and 18,000 lineal feet along the Sammamish River.

Kenmore's development has been strongly influenced by the city's natural environment, including the Sammamish River and Swamp Creek stream corridors, the Lake Washington waterfront, and various wetlands and steep ravines. Commercial activities and multi-family residential development are concentrated along the SR522 corridor and in the Kenmore downtown area. Kenmore is primarily single-family residential development, with several large public and private open space land tracts at Saint Edward State Park, Bastyr University, and the Inglewood Golf and Country Club.

Kenmore's natural resources are an important component of the city's park and recreation system. Many of the city's existing parks are located beside or contain a creek, river, or freshwater shoreline, wetlands or significant forested areas. The City of Kenmore is unique in the abundance of natural systems that weave in and around the city, connecting the different neighborhoods through stream corridors, sensitive areas, and ravines to Swamp Creek, the Sammamish River and Lake Washington. Creating connections and corridors provides essential habitat which contributes to the overall health and viability of both the plant and animal communities in Kenmore. The natural geography of the city provides both opportunities and constraints for meeting park and recreation demands and need.

The city's park system currently consists of 13 parks totaling over 146 acres of park land, including 3.8 miles of multi-purpose trails. Other parks and recreation providers within the city include the State of Washington, Bastyr University, the Northshore School District, and a variety of private operators such as fitness gyms, churches, clubs, and other organizations. When combined with other jurisdictions, there are over 475 acres of park land within the city.

Demographics

The City of Kenmore believes that all residents and all age groups, ethnicities, backgrounds, and interests should have access to parks and recreation opportunities in the city. Planning for future delivery of park and recreation services should acknowledge and anticipate demographic change over time. To do that, existing demographics of the community were identified using 2010 US Census data and the 2017 American Community Survey data.

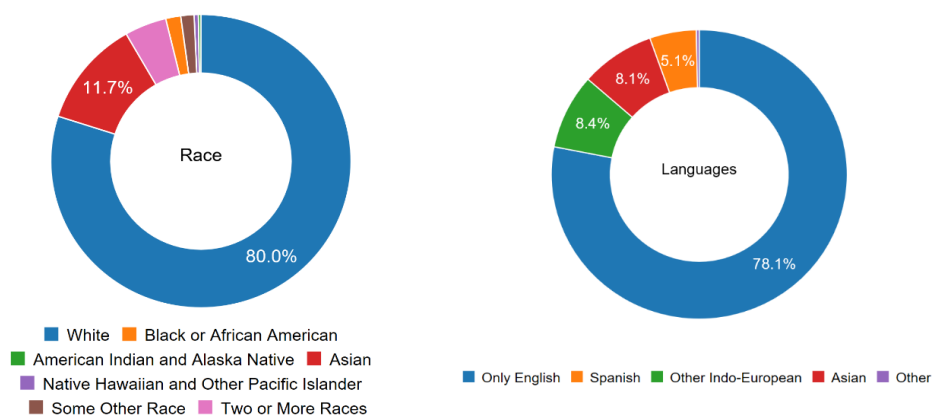
The city's current population is 22,920 with a population growth forecast of 28,473 by the year 2035, as identified in city's Comprehensive Plan. **Projecting growth out to the 2040 planning period for this PROS Plan, assuming the same rate of growth over time, would result in an estimated population of 30,380 by the year 2040.** The current population is:

- Median age of 39.6 with the majority of residents between the ages of 25 and 55
- 35.3% of the population is over the age of 50
- 14% are seniors over the age of 65
- 22.8% are under the age of 18
- 7.7% are under the age of 5
- 9.4% are between the ages of 15 and 25.

The median household income was just over \$96,277, which is 7.4% higher than the overall median household income in King County. Only 7.7% of the city's population currently living below the poverty line.

The majority of the population is White, currently comprising 80% of all residents. Asian and Hispanic/Latino comprise the next largest ethnic groups with 11.7% of residents identifying as Asian and 7.6% Hispanic or Latino. See Figure X for a breakdown of different ethnicities and languages spoken in Kenmore. Only 1.6% of the existing population is Black or African American and all other ethnicities make up less than 1% of the total current population.

Figure X: Diversity of Ethnicity and Languages Spoken in the city.



Source: 2019 World Population Review (www.worldpopulationreview.com)

Bastyr University is the largest single employer in the city with about 500 employees. Kenmore Air Harbor has 250 employees during the peak summer months. Most of the remaining jobs in Kenmore are located in the Kenmore downtown. 68.6% of the city's population commutes to work in a single-occupancy vehicle, 8.2% carpool, and 11.2% take some form of public transportation. 3% take some other form of transportation and 9% generally work from home. An additional 3,079 jobs are also expected in the city by 2035.

Resources & Relevant Planning Documents

An understanding of how the PROS Plan fits into the context of other local, state and national planning efforts is a key component of a successful plan. Some of these reference documents are directly tied to the existing or proposed PROS Plan elements, and in other cases they are a resource used to support and guide the planning process. The different relevant planning documents used in the development of this PROS Plan are each described below.

State of Washington Growth Management Act (GMA)

The PROS Plan is designed to meet the requirements of the State of Washington Growth Management Act (GMA), which is codified as Chapter 36.70A Revised Code of Washington. GMA requires local government. GMA requires cities to:

- Designate the general location and extent of land uses including recreation and open space lands
- Identify lands useful for recreation, including wildlife habitat, trails and connection of critical areas
- Estimate park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period
- Develop a capital facilities plan (CFP) identifying funds necessary to implement the plan for at least a six-year period

The GMA also specifies that adopted plans should ensure that strategies for maintaining adopted levels of service are put in place to accommodate planned future development. This plan satisfies these requirements by identifying existing parks, open space and trail lands, estimating the demand and need for parks and recreation facilities, and including both a 6-year short term Capital Improvement Plan and a 20-year Capital Facilities Plan as part of plan implementation.

City of Kenmore Comprehensive Plan

Some elements of this PROS Plan will also be adopted into the City of Kenmore's Comprehensive Plan as its own planning Element. The Comprehensive Plan is a policy document that articulates the community's vision of future land use and growth for the city and its neighborhoods in a manner that is internally and regionally consistent, achievable, and affordable.

The City of Kenmore's first Comprehensive Plan was adopted by the City Council in March of 2001. A major rewrite of the Plan was completed in 2014/2015 and planning for another update is currently in progress, anticipated for completion in 2020. The city intends to update this plan every 6 years in order to maintain eligibility for grant programs through the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). The city works with representatives of special agencies and districts in Kenmore, including A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH) and service and utility providers, as well as adjacent jurisdictions as the city develops the Comprehensive Plan. These organizations' representatives provide input and perspectives about their responsibilities and their relationship to Kenmore, and they serve as contact points to obtain information. Specific references from ARCH were used in this PROS Plan to coordinate the demand and need analysis with housing density and affordable housing opportunities in the city. A draft of the Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element is also provided to the Puget Sound Regional Council, as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO), for certification. Review by the Washington State Department of Commerce and the State agencies occurs with every amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.

Elements of the Comprehensive Plan related to parks, recreation and open space include:

- Transportation Element
- Natural Environment Sub-Element
- Economic Development Sub-Element
- Capital Facilities Element

The demographic information used in the PROS Plan is also drawn from resources outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. These include the *2010 U.S. Census* data and the *2017 American Community Survey* from the U.S. Census Bureau (www.census.gov).

State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)

RCO is a state agency that manages grant programs aiming to create outdoor recreation opportunities, protect wildlife habitat and farmland, and help return salmon from near extinction. Since the agency began in 1964, it has awarded more than \$1.7 billion in grants to nearly 7,500 projects. Since 1990, the agency averages 230 grant awards, for a total of approximately \$60 million, every fiscal year. RCO requires government agencies to plan for their parks and open space needs, and adopt their plan, in order to apply for grants in the following grant programs areas:

- Boating Facilities Program (BFP)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Non-Highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)
- Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)

Once adopted, a community's PROS plan is required to be updated every 6 years to maintain eligibility for those grant programs. RCO looks for a minimum of six elements in a plan, whether the plan supports a grant application for a capital project (facility development and land acquisition) or a noncapital project (architectural, engineering, planning, etc.). The six elements are:

1. Goals and Objectives
2. Existing System Inventory
3. Public Involvement
4. Demand and Need Analysis
5. Capital Facility Program
6. Plan Adoption (by the governing entity)

The Kenmore PROS Plan, once adopted, brings the city into compliance with all of these requirements.

RCO also plans for and tracks parks and open space needs on a state-wide level, and provides this information to the public. The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022 (www.rco.wa.gov) is one of the main resources used by cities to understand recreation trends and community priorities on a regional and state-wide level.

Existing Park Plans

Site specific master plans or concept plans have been developed for most of Kenmore's existing parks. These plans each included an extensive public process to identify what the community would like to see improved or added within the park, along with an analysis of each site to determine what types of facilities or improvements are suitable given the surrounding context. A Master Plan is a formal plan for a given park site that has been adopted by the Kenmore City Council. A concept plan has generally gone through the same process and review by the City Council, but has not been formally adopted.

The purpose of a master plan or concept plan is to express a long-term vision for the park, trail or open space that will guide future improvements. Features shown in the plan illustrate how different park elements could be implemented, and their relationship to other surrounding features. The ideas and improvements shown in a master plan or concept plan are implemented over time, and additional detailed design work is still needed before any construction could begin.

A copy of the existing park Master Plans or Concept Plans is included in the Appendix.

The Trust for Public Land

The Trust for Public Land is a national nonprofit organization with a mission to "create parks and protect land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come." The

organization is a resource for recreation data analysis and mapping techniques to understand parks and open space needs across the country and help plan for those needs. They also help secure funding for parks and conservation and protecting the lands needed to connect communities to the outdoor environment. Data available on their website (www.tpl.org) was used as a resource in developing the city's PROS Plan. Specifically, their #10MinWalk mapping tools and *ParkScore*® index were used to generate the walkability analysis for Kenmore. Information on their website was also used to help understand national trends in parks and recreation.

National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA)

NRPA is one of the leading nonprofit agencies in the country for parks and recreation planning, education, and resources (www.nrpa.org). Their mission is “to advance parks, recreation and environmental conservation efforts that enhance the quality of life for all people.” The NRPA's three “Pillars” of Health & Wellness, Conservation, and Social Equity form the basis of their strategies to improve parks and recreation for all individuals across the country and ties directly to the national trends discussed in the PROS Plan.

The *2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review* was also used to evaluate and compare performance benchmarks. NRPA benchmarks measure parks, recreation and open space land and facilities against a given population size to form a basis of comparison across jurisdictions and agencies of a similar size.

Planning Process

Overview

The planning process, shown in Figure X, began in 2015 with a public involvement process that included a number of events throughout the plan development. The Kenmore Planning Commission also reviewed and provided feedback on the plan throughout the process.

Once initial feedback was gathered from the early community outreach, an analysis of existing conditions and inventory of parks, recreation and open space facilities and programs was completed. The overall vision and goals for parks and recreation were also updated based on the community feedback received and recommendations provided by City of Kenmore Planning Commission.

A demand and need analysis was conducted to include several different methods for determining parks and recreation needs for the community, along with strategies for how to best meet those needs. Specific recommendations for recreation facility and program improvements were proposed and reviewed with the community and the Planning Commission as part of a draft PROS Plan.

The final Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan will be adopted by the Kenmore City Council by Resolution with additional review and community outreach included through the adoption process.

The Planning Commission and City Council will also review specific components of this plan for future adoption into the City's Comprehensive Plan as an update to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element. This may occur at a later date to coincide with the City's Comprehensive Plan update process.

Figure X: Outline of the planning process.

Public Involvement

Community engagement plays a critical role in the planning process for parks, recreation and open space in Kenmore. It informs the plan and ensures that the recommendations proposed reflect the interests, needs, and priorities of the community they serve. Results of the various community engagement activities conducted through this planning process are provided in the Appendix.

The public involvement process occurred from 2015 to 2019 and included the following:

- Imagine Kenmore Initiative (2015 / 2016)
- Walkways and Waterways Bond Survey (2016)
- Parks and Recreation Survey (2019)
- PROS Plan Survey and Open House (2019)

Imagine Kenmore Initiative (2015/2016)

The Imagine Kenmore Initiative was a research and community engagement process with outreach conducted between September 1 and October 6, 2015. The purpose of the initiative was to actively listen to the community's interests and long-term vision for the city, specifically around transportation and park improvements. Methods of communications and outreach included a dedicated project website and email address, email notifications, city newsletter releases, Facebook ads and event pages, notifications through schools, ads in local newspaper, poster flyers, two banners at City Hall and on Bothell Way, park signs, and dedicated computer station at Kenmore Branch Library.

As part of this initiative, the City of Kenmore hosted a community workshop on September 22, 2015. Information presented at the workshop included a 'Big Ideas' comment wall about park, pedestrian and bike improvement ideas, as well as interactive map stations. Participants were encouraged to comment or vote on proposed projects and suggest new ideas. In total, 63 attendees wrote 149 comments.

An online interactive map provided an opportunity for virtual public engagement: participants could place a geographic marker pin on the map to suggest, comment on, and 'like' or 'dislike' projects. The interactive map tool was open from September 1 through October 6, 2015, and was promoted through multiple marketing channels. In total, there were 94 unique commenters. A total of 249 comments were made, including 152 original comments, 84 reply comments, 13 replies disliking a particular comment, 923 likes and 12 dislikes.

To confirm the overall sentiment of the public, a statistically valid telephone survey was conducted in December 2015 to help finalize the results of the community outreach process and lead into the "Walkways and Waterways" ballot measure. 300 people responded to the survey. 66% of respondents felt that the city was doing a good or excellent job and 87% felt that the quality of life in the city was good or excellent. Building more recreational facilities was the number one thing respondents felt the city could do to improve parks and recreation facilities. Of the parks and

recreation facility options provided, improving waterfront access and protecting the natural environment were the top ranked priorities.

An outreach tabling event was held at the King County Public Library System's Kenmore branch library on September 17, 2015. The event lasted for two hours to coincide with library programming. Approximately 40 flyers were handed out, and ten comments were captured.

Finally, an online survey was conducted in 2016 with 328 individuals commenting about pedestrian, bike, and park improvements.

Walkways and Waterways Bond Survey (2016)

In April 2016, a statistically valid telephone survey was conducted to validate the results of the 2015 "Imagine Kenmore" outreach and ensure that the city was continuing to implement recreation facilities and programs that the community supported. The survey included 300 respondents and included a number of questions about how well the city represents community interests and priorities around parks, recreation and trail improvements within the city.

Kenmore Parks and Recreation Survey (2019)

In early 2019, the city conducted a statistically valid survey to update community preferences, needs, and priorities for parks and recreation facilities and programs in advance of starting the PROS Plan update. The survey was completed in March 2019 with 578 respondents. Questions asked about participants current use of the park system, how well the city maintains that system, and how well the existing system meets their needs. The survey also asked about recreation programming needs and priorities, as well as implementation strategies. This survey, as the most recent one conducted, was used heavily in determining the current demand and needs for parks and recreation services in the city.

PROS Plan Survey and Open House (2019)

An informal web-based survey was conducted as part of this PROS Plan update process in order to help determine priorities for recreation program and facility improvements with 532 respondents. Participants were asked what types of *facilities* they needed in their park system. Waterfront/beach access and an indoor swimming pool were the highest ranked needs, followed closely by nature trails, natural areas/reserves, and paved walking/biking trails. Lower ranked priorities included more skateboarding areas, non-motorized boat launch areas, and outdoor tennis or pickleball courts.

The highest ranked *recreation programs* needed included community events and outdoor water-related programming. Other programs needed included adult fitness and wellness, nature/environmental education, and community garden programs. Programs that had less interest

or need by participants included martial arts, tennis lessons and leagues, and programs that targeted only a specific age or ability.

A public open house was held in September, 2019 to allow the public an opportunity to review the recommendations proposed as part of the PROS Plan and offer feedback. Approximately 50 people attended the event. Residents engaged with city staff about their ideas for the future of Kenmore's park system and reviewed draft PROS Plan materials. Many community comments focused on protecting the natural environment, providing more places for kids to play, and improving walking trails or routes. Other comments ranged from turning Lakepointe into a park, providing more waterfront access, keeping athletic fields natural (i.e., no artificial turf and particularly at St. Edward State Park), not allowing additional construction projects in St. Edward State Park, and providing more athletic fields, and providing more amenities in general in parks.

CHAPTER 2

EXISTING INVENTORY

Park Facilities

The City of Kenmore has 13 parks, recreation and open space facilities totaling over 146 acres of park land. **Over 80% of this park land is forested, wetlands, or natural systems.** Other parks and recreation providers within the city that have facilities open to the public include the State of Washington, King County, and Bastyr University. These facilities listed in Figure X, along with the improvements available in each park. The parks and open space areas are all located on Map X. When combined with other jurisdictions, there are over 475 acres of park land within the city, not including recent acquisitions within the Swamp Creek wetlands system that are still in process. Parks and open space in adjacent cities, but in close proximity to Kenmore are also shown on Map X for reference, but not included in the inventory or other planning resources.

The Northshore School District and a variety of private operators such as fitness gyms, churches, clubs, and other organizations also have recreation facilities, but are not currently open to the public, though the school facilities are available for community use when reserved through the school district and outside of school hours. The school district facilities and private facilities not open to the public without a fee are not included in this inventory.

Figure X: Kenmore's Park and Recreation System Inventory.

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Facilities	Boat Launch / Dry Moorage	Hand Powered Boat Launching	Water Access / Fishing	Playground	Skate Park	Playfield	Restroom (*Portable / ~Indoor)	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Tables	Paths	Hiking Trails	Paved Trails	Parking
Linwood Park				X						X			
Moorlands Park				X		X	X	X	X	X			X
Northshore Summit Park				X						X			
Squire's Landing Park		X	X				*X		X	X	X		X
Wallace Swamp Creek Park			X						X	X	X		X

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Facilities	Boat Launch / Dry Moorage	Hand Powered Boat Launching	Water Access / Fishing	Playground	Skate Park	Playfield	Restroom (*Portable /	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Tables	Paths	Hiking Trails	Paved Trails	Parking
Rhododendron Park & Senior Center		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X
Log Boom Park	X	X	X	X			X		X	X			X
Twin Springs Portal Park											X		X
City Hall Park & Jack Crawford Skate Park					X		~X		X	X			X
Town Center & Hangar Building							~X		X	X			X
Swamp Creek Wetland Open Spaces			X										
Inglemoor Wetlands			X										
Tolt-Pipeline Trail (1.3 miles)										X		X	
CITY TOTAL	1	3	7	5	1	2^{>}	6	2^{>}	7^{>}	11^{>}	4^{>}	1^{>}	8
WDFW Boat Launch	X												X
Saint Edward State Park			X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
Bastyr Athletic Fields						X	*X						X
Burke Gilman Trail (2.5 miles)												X	
Harbour Village Marina			X				X		X				X
ALL JURISDICTION TOTAL	2	3	9	6	1	4^{>}	9	2^{>}	9^{>}	11^{>}	5^{>}	3^{>}	12

[>]See the Park Inventory and Valuation in the appendix for more detail on the total number of each type of playfield (soccer, baseball, etc.) and the total number of picnic shelter, picnic tables, paths and trails in the park system.

* Portable restroom

~ Indoor restroom

68th/202nd St. Sidewalk & Bike Lanes*

Linwood Park

Northshore Summit Park

Tolt Pipeline Trail

Town Square Hangar

City Hall Park Skate Court

Burke Gilman Trail (County)

Swamp Creek Wetland Open Spaces**

Wallace Swamp Creek Park

Twin Springs Park*

Doug Allen Sports Field (Bothell)

Log Boom Park*

Harbour Village Marina Fishing Dock (Private / Open to Public)

Inglewood Wetlands

Inglewood Golf Course (Private)

Boat Launch (State)

Rhododendron Park

Squire's Landing Park*

Wayne's Golf Course* (Bothell)

Moorlands Park

Juanita Drive Sidewalk & Bike Lanes*

Bastyr Athletic Fields (Private / Open to Public)

Saint Edward State Park (State)

Kirkland Open Space (Kirkland)

Big Finn Hill Park (Kirkland)

City Limits

Legend:

- * Future Park or Trail Improvements by 2023
- ** Acquisition for part of property in progress

North

Park Classification & Service Area

The city's park system has been divided into four classes of park and recreation facilities used to analyze geographic demand as shown and described in Figure X. These four park classifications were identified based on several key factors including: size, population served, function and type of amenities that are or will be made available in the future. The geographic service area, or the primary extent to which people are expected to walk or drive to access the park, is shown for each park classification type. A list of each park within the city and its associated classification and size is shown in Figure X.

Special use amenities generally serve a specific function, like the skate park, water access, or the senior center and are included in all classifications of parks. These are shown on Map X. Special use amenities in Kenmore are mostly located near the downtown for ease of access and accessibility to a wide range of users, in addition to being more easily accessible by transit and from the Burke Gilman Trail. While there are a number of special use amenities within park and recreation facilities in the city, there should be a focus on connecting these facilities to residential areas, transit and downtown. Connecting waterfront access areas to each other would create a stronger network of waterfront recreation in the city. Special use amenities may be facilities contained within Community or Regional Parks such as the Senior Center in Rhododendron Park or the Seminary and future Environmental Learning Center in Saint Edward State Park. Special use facilities in the city are shown on Map X.

Figure X: Park and Recreation Facility Classification Definitions.

Classification Type	Geographic Service Area	Service Description
Regional	Citywide	Contains unique features or amenities that serve users beyond the city limits
Community	¾ mile radius (approx. 2-minute drive)	Serves a broad range of community needs to meet both active uses such as athletics and passive uses such as nature trails
Neighborhood	10-minute walk (approx. 1/2-mile radius)	Serves local need as a walk-to facility for essential park and recreation amenities - open areas, pathways and playgrounds
Linear	Citywide	Linear facilities that serve as connectors for pedestrian users and/or wildlife habitat

Regional Park

Regional facilities include facilities that have a draw beyond the city boundaries and include special features that may not be found in adjacent communities. As a result, their service area is considered to be citywide. Community and aquatic centers, sports complexes, or highly specialized uses like mountain bike trails are all examples of regional park facilities. Regional facilities should accommodate a large number of users with adequate support facilities to serve the intended use. Often, these facilities include multiple uses due to the larger size of many of these parks. Regional parks in the city are shown on Map X. Saint Edward State Park is a good example of a regional facility with mountain bike trails, extensive forest and walking paths, and other unique recreation opportunities not generally found in neighboring cities. Other regional facilities in the city include Squire's Landing Park, Log Boom Park, and Inglemoor Wetlands.

Community Park

Community parks (Map X) and regional parks (Map X) usually contain unique features, often with both active and passive recreation opportunities, and are larger in size to accommodate a variety of activities and interests. As such, they are considered destination parks. While they can also serve a neighborhood park function for local residents, it is expected that many residents will drive to these facilities. The service area for a community park can vary, from a 10-minute walkshed to citywide depending on the facilities included in the park, but some amount of parking is anticipated. Community parks in the city include Wallace Swamp Creek Park in the north end of the city, and the Town Center & Hangar Building, and the City Hall Park & Skate Park in the downtown area. Rhododendron Park & Senior Center is the only community park in the south end of the city. Community parks in the city are shown on Map X.

Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood Parks are intended to serve a smaller, local need with a service area limited to a 10-minute walk from the park, or about a ½ mile. Most of the amenities within neighborhood parks are centered around family, passive type recreation activities such as walking paths, playgrounds and open lawn areas but ideally with enough open space for informal athletic use. Neighborhood parks in the city are shown on Map X and are mainly located in the northern half of the city with only one neighborhood park, Moorlands Park, located in the southern half of the city. Of these, all have been recently conducted master plans except Linwood Park. Twin Springs park, while master planned, has not yet been improved or opened to the public. Based on the distribution and master plans available, implementing some level of improvements at Twin Springs Park and master planning and renovating Linwood Park should be considered a priority.

Linear Park

Linear park and recreation facilities are unique as they serve as connectors for pedestrian users and/or wildlife habitat. There are four linear park and recreation facilities in Kenmore, shown on the same Map X with regional parks. These parks include: the Burke Gilman Trail, Tolt-Pipeline Trail and other neighborhood connecting trails and the wetland open spaces along the Swamp Creek corridor between 73rd and 80th Avenue NE and NE 192nd Street and NE 181st Street. Parks and recreation facilities are connected east-west across the city through the existing Burke Gilman Trail and will soon be connected north-south through new multi-modal improvements along Juanita Boulevard and NE 68th Street. Additional connectivity should still be developed as opportunity allows, from residential areas to parks, school, downtown, the waterfront, and other major destinations, likely in partnership with the city's Public Works Department and along the Tolt Pipeline corridor. There are additional local trail connectors within neighborhoods, particularly in the north side of the city, that exist but are not well documented and not part of the total acreage or planning process.

Figure X: Kenmore's Park and Recreation System Inventory: Size, Classification & Service Area.

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Facilities	Total Acres	Acres of Critical Areas	Proposed Classification	Proposed Service Area*
Linwood Park	1.4	0	Neighborhood	10-minute walk
Moorlands Park	4.5	1.5	Neighborhood	10-minute walk
Northshore Summit Park	3.6	1	Neighborhood	10-minute walk
Squire's Landing Park	41.01	33.75	Regional	Citywide
Wallace Swamp Creek Park	25.5	25	Community	¼ mile radius
Rhododendron Park & Senior Center	12.5	8.5	Community <i>(future boathouse is anticipated to be a regional special use within the park)</i>	¼ mile radius
Log Boom Park	3.9	1	Regional	Citywide
Twin Springs Portal Park	25	24	Neighborhood	10-minute walk
City Hall Park & Jack Crawford Skate Park	1.7	0	Community	10-minute walk

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Facilities	Total Acres	Acres of Critical Areas	Proposed Classification	Proposed Service Area*
Town Center & Hangar Building	0.5	0	Community	¼ mile radius
Swamp Creek Wetland Open Spaces (not including acquisitions in progress)	17	17	Linear	Citywide
Inglemoor Wetlands	8.5	8.5	Linear	Citywide
Tolt-Pipeline Trail	0.9	0	Linear	Citywide
CITY TOTAL	146+	120+		
WDFW Boat Launch	1.92		Regional	Citywide
Saint Edward State Park	316		Regional	Citywide
Bastyr Athletic Fields	7		Community	¼ mile radius
Burke Gilman Trail (2.5 miles)	4.5		Linear	Citywide
Harbour Village Marina	0.2		Community	¼ mile radius
ALL JURISDICTIONS TOTAL	475+			

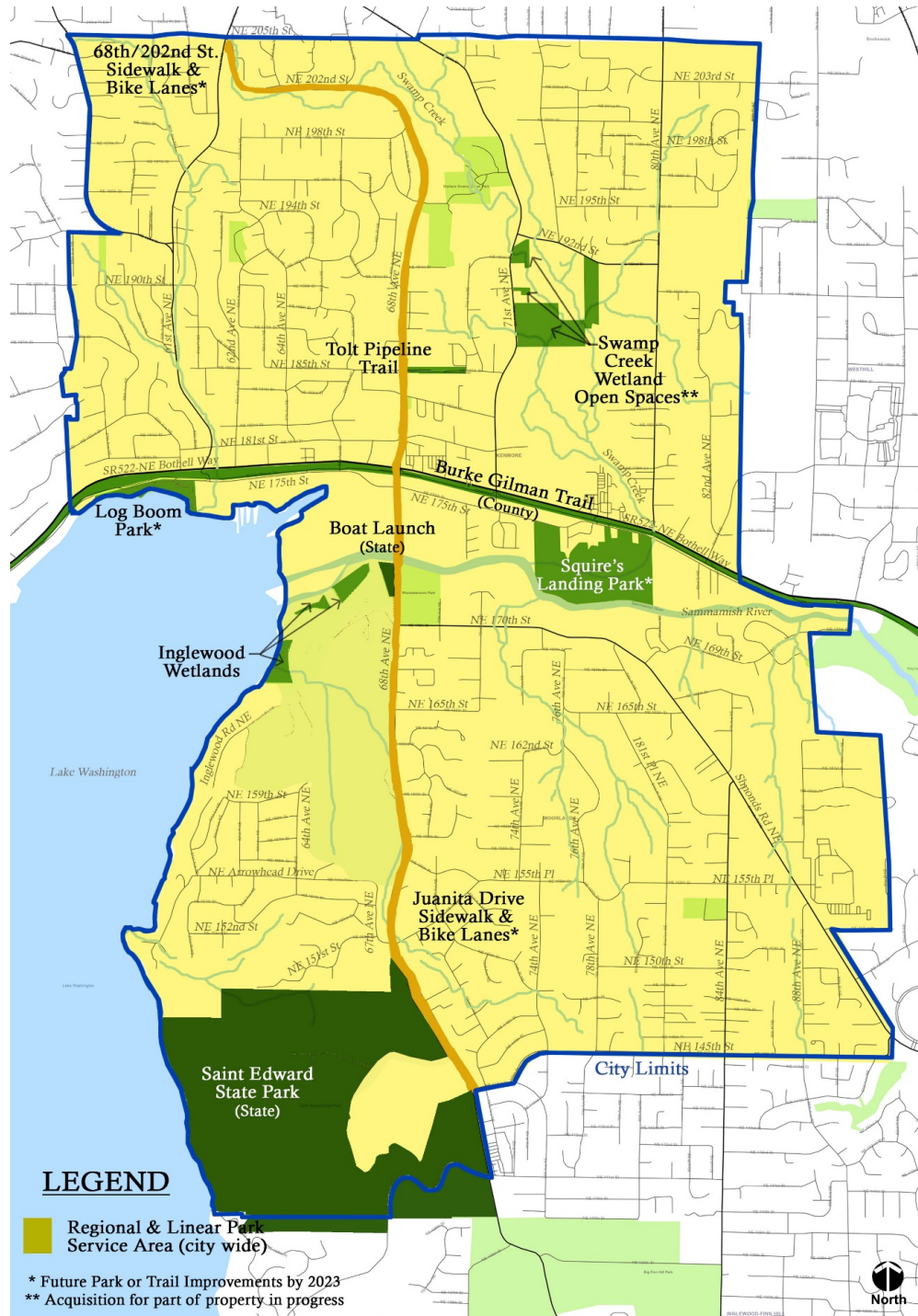
* 10-minute walk is approximately ½ mile.

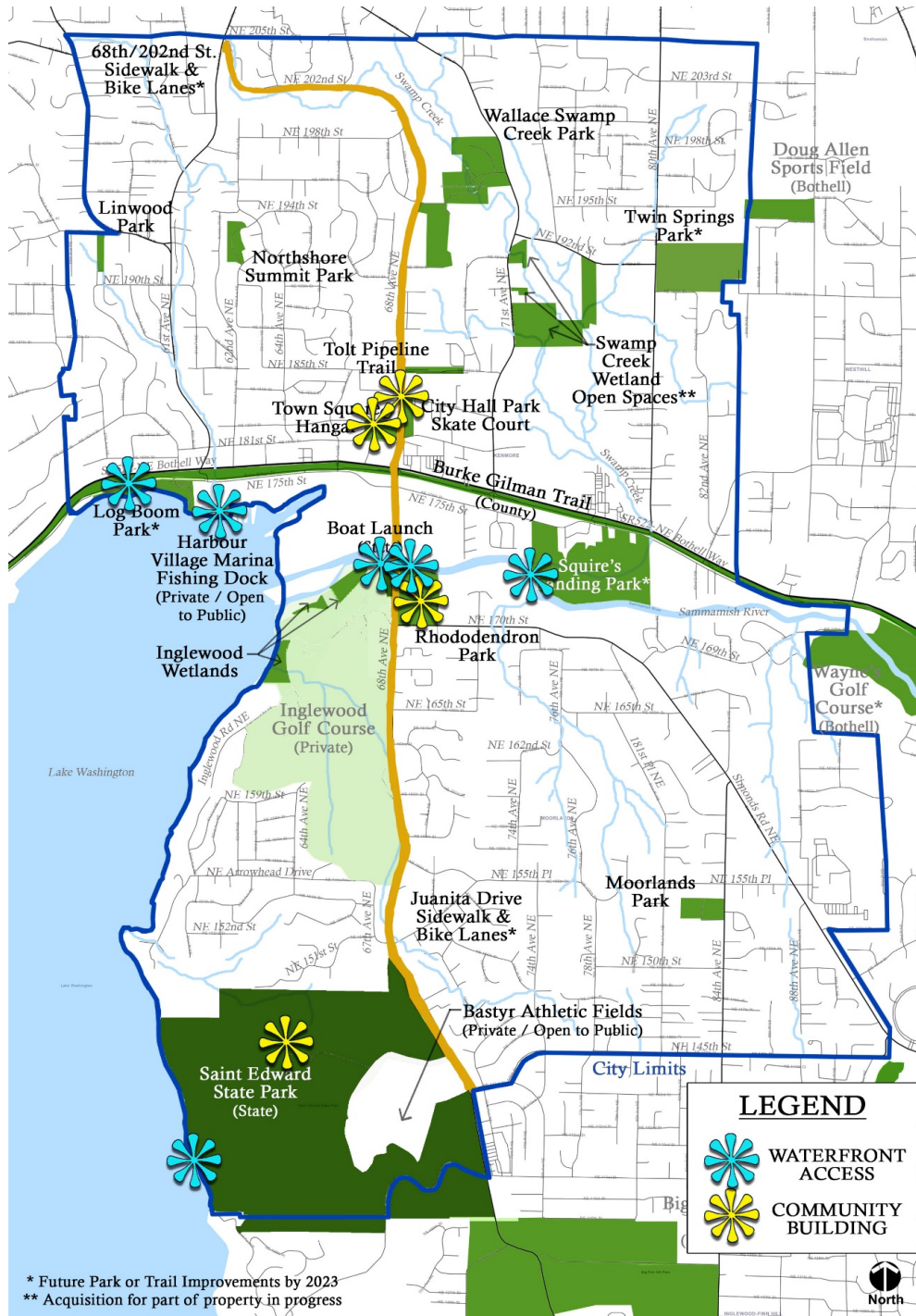
LEGEND

- Neighborhood Park Service Area (approx.)

* Future Park or Trail Improvements by 2023
 ** Acquisition for part of property in progress

North

Map X: Regional and Linear Parks (city-wide service area).

Map X: Special Use Facilities (within all park classifications).



Park & Recreation Programming

The City of Kenmore helps organize a variety of programs and events in the city but partners with other organizations and jurisdictions to provide direct recreation programming. The city's main focus is on community events and park facility rentals, including the Hangar at Town Square. The city relies on the school district and other public, private, and non-profit organizations to provide all youth and adult sports leagues, summer camps, self-help or educational classes, cultural and performing arts events, and indoor fitness classes. **Any future programming will follow this same model, with the city providing support, but other jurisdictions or organizations taking the lead role in any recreation programming.**

The Hangar, opened in August of 2017, is the city's main indoor gathering space for recreation activities and events, providing an open space for the public to use on a drop-in basis during regular hours, or to rent for private events. Since its opening, there have been over 500 requests for reservations annually, up from just over 300 requests for other city-owned facilities the prior year, before the Hangar was built. There are an average of about 20 requests per week to be used mostly as a meeting space for various organizations. It is the central gathering space for a variety of community events, including:

- Movies at the Square (city event)
- #WhyILoveKenmore Summer Party (city event)
- Tree Lighting Festival and Holiday Market (city event)
- Fighting Hunger at the Hanger (non-profit event)
- Boy Scout Blood Drive (non-profit event)

The Hangar is also used for pop-up shops, music recitals, and just general community gathering throughout the year.

Summer camps in the city are mostly staffed and managed by other organizations and groups, but supported by the city through the use of city parks and open space areas. Camps are currently held almost exclusively at Rhododendron Park with the exception of a skateboarding camp, called Skate Like A Girl, held at the Jack Crawford skatepark and Camp Roots, held in St. Edward State Park. The camps are focused on youth athletics for:

- Basketball
- Flag football
- Soccer
- Baseball
- Cheerleading
- Golf
- Skateboarding

Camps for hand-carry watercraft sports have been held in the past, primarily by both the Kenmore Waterfront Activity Center and the Northshore YMCA, which is also interested in possibly adding additional camps and/or improving water access to their existing camps.

In general, the city provides the location for camps and associated support facilities, like additional restrooms if needed, and helps market the programs to city residents. The partner organization provides everything else. **Future expansion of camps and other programming would also be provided by others with minor support from the city.**

Events offered by the city, free of charge and at a variety of locations, include:

- Beautify Kenmore – enhancing park maintenance in all parks and public spaces
- Seasonal Nature Walks – Wallace Swamp Creek Park
- 4th of July Celebration – Log Boom Park
- Kenmore Concert Series – Saint Edward State Park
- National Night Out Against Crime – City Hall
- Jack V. Crawford Day – Log Boom Park
- Kenmore Play Day – Rhododendron Park

Not all events occur every year, or they may occur at different times or season from year to year.

Events offered by partner organizations and communities include:

- Arts of Kenmore Art Show and Seasonal Exhibits
- Cedar Park Northshore Community Market
- Various Kenmore Community Club Events
- Various Kenmore Heritage Society Events
- Family Jewels Ball Crawl
- Hydroplane Cup
- KWAC Waterfront Activities Fair
- Bastyr Herb & Food Fair
- Kenmore Air Fly-in
- Various Neighborhood Block Parties
- Northshore Fire Department Pancake Feed & Safety Fair
- YMCA Summer Free Lunch Program at City Hall
- Camp Roots at Saint Edward State Park



Natural Resources

Kenmore's natural resources serve as a defining element in the overall character of the city. Of the 146 total acres of city-owned park land, 120 acres are natural areas – forests, wetlands, streams, and other natural environments. The abundance of wetlands, urban forests, streams and waterways are integral to the value of recreational amenities in the city. They also serve as critical habitat to urban wildlife, help manage stormwater, and create a visual and physical respite from the otherwise urbanized environment.

Many of the city's existing parks include sensitive areas which contribute significantly to the character of Kenmore's park system. Balancing the natural and built environments, and developing a park system that respects this balance, is one of the major goals of this PROS Plan.

In order to protect, restore, or enhance these systems they must be inventoried and the critical habitat defined, including priority habitats and species. Educating the community, especially Kenmore's youth, about the value of these systems is also important in fostering future stewardship to sustain these systems over time. An inventory of Kenmore's natural resources is provided in the Natural Environment Sub-Element of the city's Comprehensive Plan, along with the goals, objectives and policies the city has adopted to support these resources. This inventory consists of three primary systems in the city:

- Swamp Creek – with headwaters extending to Everett, there are 2.5 miles of shoreline along the creek corridor in Kenmore.
- Sammamish River – begins at the outlet of Lake Sammamish in Redmond and extends 1.8 miles through the city to its confluence at Lake Washington.
- Lake Washington – has a surface area of approximately 35 square miles with 3.5 miles of shoreline extending through Kenmore.

The importance of these systems to the community has also been validated over time. The 2016 survey conducted as part of the *Imagine Kenmore Initiative* ranked acquiring and protecting natural open space areas such as forested, creekside and wetland areas as the second highest priority for funding when compared to meeting other parks, recreation and multi-modal transportation improvements within the city. The more recent 2018-19 Parks and Recreation Survey ranked nature trail and natural areas/reserves as part of the top priorities for investment in the city's park system. Natural/environmental education programs also ranked within the top priorities for investment in programming for the city. The open house and public survey conducted specifically for this PROS Plan process also ranked natural systems as one of the top three priorities in the city and many comments conveyed during the public open house centered around protecting and educating the public about natural systems in Kenmore.

Refer to the Natural Environment Sub-Element included in the Appendix for additional details. Recommendations for the ongoing stewardship of Kenmore's natural resources within existing (or proposed) parks is included in this PROS Plan.

CHAPTER 3

VISION, GOALS & POLICY SUPPORT

Kenmore's Service Vision and Mission along with the Goals, Objectives and Policy Actions described in this chapter set the tone for the PROS Plan and ultimately help guide decisions around parks and recreation for the city.

The **Service Vision** and Mission is city-wide and applicable to all the departments, facilities, and actions by staff at all levels.

Guiding Fundamentals are specific to the parks and recreation system and establish the community-driven values and preferences to support the overall parks system. They provide overarching policy direction, as they affect all aspects of park and recreation services.

Goals are broad aspirations specific to Kenmore's parks and recreation system for how the park system would look in the future. The **Objectives** set the direction and the **Policy Actions** describe the detail for implementing the goal's vision.



Guiding Fundamentals

Four Guiding Fundamentals provide an overarching direction for the Plan, affecting the delivery of improvements to facilities and recreation programming:

- Principal Condition
- Key Values
- Major Issues
- Opportunities

Principal Condition

The city's **natural environment** is the "Principal Condition" of Kenmore's parks, recreation and open spaces. **It is generally the characteristic used most when describing the city's overall park system. The city's natural environment** consists of a system of interconnected wildlife habitat and corridors, ravines, woodlands, wetlands, waterway including Swamp Creek, the Sammamish River and Lake Washington.

Key Values

Key values for parks and open space and recreation programming are the qualities that are intrinsically valuable or desirable to Kenmore residents.

1. **Protect and Steward** – The value of stewardship embodies responsible planning and management of parks, natural open space and recreation assets by providing consistent high-quality maintenance. Conserving natural resources by acquiring land and restoring habitat is critical to preserving the natural character of Kenmore's park system. Environmental stewardship and interpretation educate the public about Kenmore's park system's principal condition, it's natural character.
2. **Partner** - Seeking partners is an efficient and cost-effective method to acquire, develop and maintain park, open space and recreation facilities. Potential partners include neighbors, funders and organizations with shared key values.
3. **Create Balance** – Balance is a diverse park and recreation system with passive and active recreation opportunities for all ages, abilities, and interests. **This also includes a balance between active facilities and natural systems within the park system, and a balance of spaces for organized play, programming or events and informal gathering or fitness.**

4. **Instill Civic Pride** – Civic pride is loving where you live. Civic pride is **reinforced** when public spaces and services are available and well maintained; important cityscape views are preserved, public spaces are created and filled with community gathering spaces with memorable site features such as public plazas, fountains, art, signage, and landscape design.

Obstacles

In 2015 and 2016, a public outreach effort called *Imagine Kenmore* was conducted. An asset inventory and condition assessment were conducted in 2018. A community interest and opinion survey and a demand and need analysis was conducted in 2019 as part of developing this plan. **The broad public participation throughout these efforts revealed a series** obstacle for providing a healthy, viable and balanced park and recreation system that meets the needs for Kenmore residents now and into the future.

Lack of Access to the Waterfront – Since the city’s incorporation in 1998, Kenmore’s residents have lobbied for improved access to the city’s 7+ miles of shoreline and natural resources along Lake Washington, the Sammamish River and Swamp Creek.

Securing Assets for our Future Generations – It will be important to repair and replace physical recreation assets and maintain and restore natural park assets to ensure the park and recreation system is available for future generation to enjoy.

Lack of safe routes to parks - Kenmore needs safe pedestrian and bicycle routes that link residents from where they live to where they want to recreate.

Unable to Stay and Play - Residents have a desire to stay and play locally – they have a need for facilities, programs and services nearby. **Currently, residents travel beyond the city for a variety of recreation facilities and programs. To stay and play, residents need diverse recreation experiences in Kenmore’s park system, including active facilities and natural environments for more passive recreation.**

Opportunities

The same process used to understand the obstacles to delivering a quality parks and recreation system also revealed several key opportunities.

Walkways and Waterways – Kenmore residents are poised to gain significant waterfront access and safe routes with the passage of Kenmore’s Walkways & Waterways Improvements bond measure in November 2016. Proposition 1 Walkways & Waterways Improvements is the first city bond measure ever on the ballot in the City of Kenmore.

Through an extensive community input process of the known as “Imagine Kenmore,” Kenmore residents confirmed that safe routes for pedestrians and cyclists and connecting residents with the

city's public open space and waterfront are top priorities. The Walkways and Waterways bond measure includes new sidewalks and bicycle lanes on Juanita Drive and 68th Ave NE and public waterfront access and natural area improvements at Log Boom Park, Rhododendron Park, and Squire's Landing Park for water dependent recreation. These five projects included in the \$19.75 million bond measure reflect the results of public input.

Water-Walk Trail –There is an opportunity to connect Log Boom Park on Lake Washington with Squire's Landing Park at the confluence of Swamp Creek and the Sammamish River. This water-walk trail would require acquisition or dedication of privately-owned property in between to make this idea a reality. The city can pursue opportunities for public access when key properties on the central waterfront redevelop.

Downtown Kenmore -The Hangar and the Town Square plaza opened for use in 2017. This new civic facility has become Kenmore's gathering place for community events and for just hanging out. New multi-family housing has been developed nearby. City Hall Park and the Jack Crawford Skate Court create a great central location for active recreation. The City Hall Park Master Plan hasn't been fully completed and there is capacity for creating new park amenities that could serve to meet the needs of the new and existing downtown residents.

Safe Routes Network – The walkways planned along Juanita Drive and 68th Avenue NE provide a central on-street spine for a safe route network. The Burke Gilman Trail and a new Tolt-Pipeline trail create a start for an east-west spine for a network of on-street and off-road pedestrian and bicycle routes to connect the residential community to their park and recreation system. The city has begun to aggregate open space land along Swamp Creek corridor that could create a vital off-road north-south connection.

Partnerships – Kenmore relies on partnerships for providing park and recreation facilities, programs and services. Partners provide facilities, programs and services that provide for, activate and care for our park and recreation system. Creating new partnerships will provide a more sustainable park and recreation system for future generations.

Opportunities to Play – For Kenmore residents to stay and play, recreation program opportunities and sufficient facilities need to exist including community gathering spaces such as off-leash dog parks or community gardens. Adding these facilities to existing parks or new parks within the system will create a more diverse park system and provide greater opportunities for residents to stay and play.



Vision & Goals

The City of Kenmore's service vision and mission is...

{ Propelling Kenmore Upward –
We create a thriving community where people love where they live. }

These seven goals represent the direction that Kenmore strives toward for the park, open space and recreation system:

1. Provide waterfront access
2. Provide safe routes to park, recreation & open space facilities
3. Preserve, maintain and enhance built and natural environment to ensure quality opportunities exist
4. Create a balance of passive and active recreation opportunities in parks
5. Provide equitable opportunities for diverse and affordable recreation programs and community events
6. Engage the community in parks, recreation and open space decisions and activities
7. Create a financially sustainable park and recreation system through partnerships and stewardship

Objectives and Policy Actions

Objectives provide direction and policies provide the action to support the Plan goals. These actions are specifically related to the implementation of a healthy, viable and balanced park and recreation system for Kenmore.

Goal P-1: Provide Waterfront Access

Objective P-1.1 Develop a Kenmore WaterWalk.

- Policy P-1.1.1 Develop a WaterWalk Master Plan for the location for the WaterWalk connecting Log Boom Park to Squire's Landing Park.
- Policy P-1.1.2 Inventory and identify public and private parcels from Log Boom Park to Squire's Landing Park.
- Policy P-1.1.3 Identify specific opportunities for joint development, partnership and other options for implementing a WaterWalk.
- Policy P-1.1.4 Identify and prioritize undeveloped or underdeveloped waterfront properties in the city's central core to consider for acquisition.
- Policy P-1.1.5 Pursue opportunities for public access when key properties on the central waterfront redevelop.
- **Policy P-1.1.6 Develop a plan for extending the trail system at Squire's Landing Park along the Sammamish River and/or Swamp Creek.**

Objective P-1.2 Establish and implement plans, development policies, regulations and incentives for waterfront access to retain views and create water dependent recreational opportunities in conjunction with private and public development.

- Policy P-1.2.1 Develop a Waterfront Master Plan **to provide public access along the waterfront from Log Boom Park to Squire's Landing.**
- Policy P-1.2.2 Adopt development regulations and incentives that are consistent with and further the implementation of a Waterfront Master Plan.
- Policy P-1.2.3 Identify and retain important public access and view corridors to Lake Washington and the Sammamish River.
- Policy P-1.2.4 Implement master plans for waterfront parks that improve public access and **water dependent** recreational experiences.

- Policy P-1.2.5 Seek external funding sources to provide public access and ensure **water dependent** recreational opportunities exist.

Goal P-2: Provide Safe Routes to Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Facilities

Objective P-2.1 Identify and prioritize key connections from neighborhoods to downtown, the waterfront, parks and public facilities.

- **Policy P-2.1.1 Prepare a safe routes plan which maps a network of pedestrian and bicycle connections from neighborhoods to downtown, the waterfront, parks, public facilities.**
- Policy P-2.1.2 Identify and create opportunities to provide connections to **parks, trails and open space** in adjoining cities.
- Policy P-2.1.3 Review development proposals for creating viewpoints, view corridors and easements for pedestrian and bicycle connections **to parks, recreation and open space facilities.**
- Policy P-2.1.4 Plan and develop an off-road north-south trail connection utilizing the Swamp Creek corridor as appropriate.
- Policy P-2.1.5 Acquire easements and develop the Tolt Pipeline Trail linking to adjoining cities.
- Policy P-2.1.6 Establish and implement development regulations and incentives for new development to provide pedestrian/bicycle routes.

Goal P-3: Preserve, Maintain and Enhance Built and Natural **Environment** to Ensure Quality **Recreational** Opportunities Exist

Objective P-3.1 Protect environmentally sensitive critical areas in parks and open spaces and provide opportunities for restoration, enhancement and public access.

- Policy P-3.1.1 Identify opportunities to provide access to, and views and education of environmental critical areas.
- Policy P-3.1.2 Establish and implement development regulations and incentives to provide access and protection to critical areas.
- Policy P-3.1.3 When developing parks, create a balance between habitat restoration, enhancement and public access.
- Policy P-3.1.4 Update Wallace Swamp Creek Master Plan and implement the plan including stream bank and habitat restoration.
- Policy P-3.1.5 Implement the Squire's Landing Park Waterfront and Natural Area Access project and continue habitat and riparian corridor restoration.
- Policy P-3.1.6 Seek funding sources to support efforts for restoration, enhancement and public access.
- Policy P-3.1.7 Develop vegetation management plans for parks with critical areas.
- Policy P-3.1.8 Identify resource management agencies and volunteer partners to steward critical areas in parks and open spaces.
- Policy P-3.1.9 Develop and install interpretive signage to inform and educate about environmental sustainability, the value and function of environmental critical areas and community history.

Objective P-3.2 Provide environmentally sustainable, high quality maintenance and stewardship of Kenmore parks and open spaces that are safe and attractive to use.

- Policy P-3.2.1 Evaluate park and recreation facilities to ensure safety and operational requirements are being met.
- Policy P-3.2.2 Develop an asset replacement schedule for recreation assets.
- Policy P-3.2.3 Replace assets prior to reaching the end of their expected life cycle.
- Policy P-3.2.4 Periodically conduct crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) reviews of park and recreation facilities with the Kenmore Police Department.
- Policy P-3.2.5 Provide procedures, practices and resources to maintain and operate a quality park and recreation system.
- Policy P-3.2.6 Establish and adopt park maintenance standards and practices for the park and recreation system.
- Policy P-3.2.7 Conduct regular safety inspections of park and recreation facilities and correct any safety issues.
- Policy P-3.2.8 Use sustainable equipment, landscaping and design techniques that reduce long-term maintenance costs and increase safety for park users.
- Policy P-3.2.9 Establish appropriate new policies governing operations and use of park and recreation facilities.

- Policy P-3.2.10 Install park rules and regulation signs to inform and educate park users of appropriate use and conduct within Kenmore city parks.
- Policy P-3.2.11 Incorporate sustainable design measures for new or renovation to existing park and recreation facilities.
- Policy P-3.2.12 Incorporate sustainable practices when implementing recreation program offerings.

Goal P-4: Create a balance of Passive and Active Recreation Opportunities in Parks

Objective P-4.1 Preserve, develop, and enhance existing parks and open space to provide a balance between passive and active recreation opportunities, acquire new parks to meet future growth needs.

- Policy P-4.1.1 Identify and prioritize undeveloped or underdeveloped properties for potential acquisition.
- Policy P-4.1.2 Complete master plans and development of park and recreation facilities with as funding allows.
- Policy P-4.1.3 Implement the Log Boom Park Waterfront Access and Viewing project.
- Policy P-4.1.4 Implement the Rhododendron Park Boardwalk, Float and Boathouse projects.
- Policy P-4.1.5 Update Wallace Swamp Creek Park adopted Master Plan and implement improvements.
- Policy P-4.1.6 Implement the Twin Springs Master Plan.
- Policy P-4.1.7 Provide urban park amenities including public art and cultural elements in Kenmore's downtown.
- Policy P-4.1.8 Consider acquiring property to provide community park amenities such as athletic fields or gathering spaces such as a dog park or community garden.
- Policy P-4.1.9 Acquire lands that abut existing city or other publicly-owned park properties that provide the greatest value in augmenting and enhancing existing city parks.
- Policy P-4.1.10 Consider tools such as transfer of development rights, clustering development, development agreements, planned unit developments, easements, and public giving as alternatives to fee simple acquisition of park lands and open space.

Goal P-5: Provide Equitable Opportunities for Diverse and Affordable Arts and Recreation Programs and Community and Cultural Events.

Objective P-5.1 Provide Kenmore residents with information about current recreation programming in Kenmore

- Policy P-5.1.1 Support the efforts of organizations that offer recreation and arts programs and community and cultural events.
- Policy P-5.1.2 Publicize arts and recreation programs and community and cultural event opportunities in the city using the newsletter, web-page, and other marketing materials.
- Policy P-5.1.3 Promote private arts, recreation, and cultural programming and facilities within the city.
- Policy P-5.1.4 Consider providing park amenities to existing parks that support new trends in recreation, arts, and culture to continue to meet community need.
- Policy P-5.1.5 Support recreation, arts, and cultural providers in offering opportunities in Kenmore and define the city's role in providing programs for the community.
- Policy P-5.1.6 Ensure that all future capital improvement projects have an allowance for art and cultural elements.

Goal P-6 Engage the Community in Parks, Recreation and Open Space Decisions and Activities.

Objective P-6.1 Maintain and update the city Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan and conduct other appropriate master planning for Kenmore parks and recreation service delivery.

- Policy P-6.1.1 Conduct and prepare an inventory of public, non-profit, and private lands in Kenmore available for expanding the parks and recreation system.
- Policy P-6.1.2 Conduct a public involvement process to assess community attitudes regarding park and recreation needs and opportunities in Kenmore.
- Policy P-6.1.3 Conduct and prepare a demand-and-needs analysis for public parks and recreation needs in Kenmore.

- Policy P-6.1.4 Prepare level of service guidelines for the parks and recreation system.
- Policy P-6.1.5 Identify potential funding sources and strategies for implementing the plan including goals, objectives and policy actions.
- Policy P-6.1.6 Prepare a six-year Capital Improvement Plan for parks and recreation facilities.
- Policy P-6.1.7 Ensure integration of the Park, Recreation and Open Space plan with other city strategic plans.
- Policy P-6.1.8 Update the PROS plan a minimum of every 6 years.
- Policy P-6.1.9 Revise master plans as necessary as the community demand and need changes.
- Policy P-6.1.10 Review and update the city's park use ordinance.
- Policy P-6.1.11 Maintain a list of funding sources, acquisition, development and renovation projects.
- Policy P-6.1.12 Utilize a public engagement process during the park master planning process to identify programmatic needs and overall vision for each park.
- Policy P-6.1.13 Establish strategies and criteria for acquiring land for park and recreation facilities.

Goal P-7: Create a Financially Sustainable Park and Recreation System through Partnerships and Stewardship.

Objective P-7.1 Ensure sufficient resources are available prior to acquiring new land, developing or renovating park property or implementing new programs and events to sustain the resulting Kenmore park and recreation system.

- Policy P-7.1.1 Budget for long-term maintenance and operational costs in addition to the capital costs of park projects prior to proceeding with plans.
- Policy P-7.1.2 Develop and prepare six-year capital improvement program projects identifying priorities, specific projects, and capital costs.
- Policy P-7.1.3 Identify and secure appropriate levels of funding to operate or support new city-sponsored recreational programs or facilities prior to making commitments to initiate and implement any new programs.
- Policy P-7.1.4 Utilize funding opportunities, emphasizing a regional approach, such as coordinating, and/or partnering with special service districts.
- Policy P-7.1.5. Identify and actively seek potential grant funding assistance from public and private sources for habitat restoration, acquisition, development, and renovation.

- Policy P-7.1.6 Require new development impacting park service delivery to pay its fair share of the costs of providing new park and recreation facilities.
- Policy P-7.1.7 Seek partnerships to enhance opportunities for recreation programming at existing parks and recreation facilities.
- Policy P-7.1.8 Implement a city-wide policy for volunteers to help steward parks.

Objective P-7.2 Encourage multi-purpose and/or joint use of school, special district, government, non-profit and other similar agency facilities for civic, recreational, cultural and beautification activities.

- Policy P-7.2.1 Develop and execute joint use agreements when appropriate with other governmental and community service providers to maximize public use of existing public facilities.
- Policy P-7.2.2 Work cooperatively with local jurisdictions to evaluate the need and the financial ability to construct and operate an indoor recreation and aquatic center facility to meet community need.
- Policy P-7.2.3 Invite other local public agencies to participate in developing park master plans.
- Policy P-7.2.5 Cooperate with the state and other regional park providers to establish and implement park master plans for their facilities to ensure they are consistent with the city's vision and Comprehensive Plan.
- Policy P-7.2.6 Seek partnerships to enhance the visual beauty and character of the city including landscaping and public art in appropriate locations.
- Policy P-7.2.7 Provide sufficient resources to support and manage approved volunteer efforts.
- Policy P-7.2.8 Use neighborhood and other organizational volunteers to supplement park maintenance levels, where appropriate.
- Policy P-7.2.9 Work cooperatively with Bastyr University to extend the lease agreement for use of their campus athletic fields.
- Policy P-7.2.10 Secure additional easement for use of Seattle Public Utility's property for continuing the Tolt-Pipeline Trail.

CHAPTER 4

DEMAND & NEEDS ANALYSIS

The purpose of the Demand & Needs Analysis is to identify future needs for parks, recreation, and open space facilities and programs in Kenmore. The results of this analysis will then lead to a proposed level of service for parks and recreation facilities to support future growth in the city. The demand and needs analysis for Kenmore's park system considers population growth, walkability and ease of access to parks and recreation facilities; regional and national trends for recreation; and ultimately what kinds of improvements the community would like to see in the city's parks and recreation system. Each of the methods identified in Figure X, below, is evaluated individually, though no single method can accurately account for all aspects of the community need. The city's geography, demographics, and park and recreation facility asset inventory and condition assessment were also used as background for this analysis.

Each section is divided into two parts – a description of the analysis itself and a summary of key findings related to that topic. The summary of key findings at the end of this chapter provides an overview of elements that are generally consistent among all the different methods and topics analyzed as part of this process.

The different methods used to evaluate the demand and needs for Kenmore include the following:

Figure X: Background information analyzed.

Type	Description
Recreation Trends	A summary of recent trends in parks and recreation locally, regionally, and nationally.
Community Interests	A summary of public outreach. What is important to the community and what types of parks and recreation facilities or programs they would like to see provided.
Benchmark Comparison	National and state benchmarks are used for providing park and recreation facilities, and a comparison between Kenmore's system and those benchmarks is provided.

Population Growth	Comparison of existing and projected population over the course of the planning period.
Geographic Context	Types of parks and recreation facilities are available in Kenmore's parks and recreation system. Accessibility of parks and recreation facilities and identified gaps in walkability.
Recreation Programming	Evaluate current programs available against current participation, requests for programs not provided, and recreation providers who may be able to fill gaps in current programming.
Participation Rates	The level of participation in various recreation programs and current or anticipated growth trends.



Parks and Recreation Trends

Parks and recreation facilities are a key component contributing to the quality of life in Kenmore. They improve health (mental and physical), improve the economy (increasing property values and attracting new residents or development), and improve the environment (e.g. carbon sequestration, reduced heat island affects, and stormwater control) – among their many other benefits. Parks should be open and accessible to everyone, regardless of race, gender, language, age, sexual orientation, or economic status. As a result, they offer the unique opportunity to meet neighbors, celebrate community, and feel a connection one to another that might not otherwise happen.

National Trends

Nationally, trends in parks and recreation focus on three core areas outlined by the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA). NRPA collects annual service data from its membership jurisdictions, which includes local agencies. This data is compiled by NRPA into an annual publication to help park and recreation service providers understand current trends in parks and recreation facilities, services, and operating resources across the country. NRPA has created a summary of major trends in providing park and recreation services that they refer to as the three pillars:

- Health & Wellness
- Conservation
- Social Equity

Health & Wellness

Access to parks and recreation has a positive effect on community health and wellness, according to documentation and resources found on the NRPA website. Access to parks and recreation result in positive health benefits. This is especially important now as increasingly sedentary lifestyles lead to a host of chronic diseases. Providing a variety of opportunities to be active in the community is one of the biggest trends in parks and recreation across the nation today.

An additional trend is a focus on active recreation for all ages, and in particular NRPA is seeing an increased interest in “life sports”, or sports that can be engaged in during all the different stages of our lives. Examples of life sports include tennis, pickleball, walking/hiking, and swimming. Walking consistently ranks as one of the highest desired and most used activity in park systems. Specialized sports and more social-oriented sports that appeal to specific ages not previously addressed are also a current related trend. These focus mostly on teens and young adults.

Specialized sports include mountain biking, parkour, and climbing; while more social sports include disc golf, flag football, and kickball.

Specific sports that have grown nationally and regionally include beach volleyball and pickleball. Beach volleyball has been driven in popularity by its inclusion in recent years as a collegiate and Olympic sport. Pickleball appeals to a wide variety of ages and abilities and is an easy sport to learn. It's also generally a social sport given the close proximity of players (you can fit four pickleball courts on one tennis court).

Finally, NRPA continues to see a steady increase in athletic leagues, including youth sports, adult and senior sports, as well as sports that cater to people with disabilities. As demand for fields to operate these leagues continues to grow, fields need to be flexible enough to support these diverse sports and durable enough to withstand the intensity of use over time.

Conservation

Preserving our natural environment is not a new concept in parks and recreation. It's one of the founding principles for the earliest parks created across the nation through our National Parks system. Park systems today still play a critical role in preserving natural systems, protecting wildlife habitat, conserving traditional farmland and open spaces, supporting pollinator and migration routes, and supporting natural drainage systems and other green infrastructure systems.

Connecting people to the natural environment through education and trails has been a growing trend across the nation and consistently ranks as a top desire or need by Kenmore residents. Equally important is the need to engage youth in exploring and discovering our natural environment, creating the future stewards of the environment, who understand the role of our parks in preserving it.

There are a number of organizations and agencies that offer a variety of services, programs, and other support for the protection and restoration of, and/or education about, our natural environments. Partnering with other organizations, agencies, and community members to pool resources, talents, and efforts is a major trend we see both locally and across the country.

Social Equity

Social equity focuses on ensuring all people have access to park and recreation facilities and programs in our community. This includes people of all races, gender, age, income level, mobility, and interests. Parks and recreation facilities have the capacity to serve diverse needs and allow people to share and celebrate their diversity – fostering a greater understanding and acceptance of what makes us all unique – by providing space and programming for events, festivals, community gathering spaces, and other similar activities.

Ensuring accessibility in parks has become a major driver in maintaining and improving our parks system. This includes everything from accessible parking stalls and ramps to accessible trails and inclusive playgrounds.

State Trends

State trends are also an important factor to consider in analyzing parks and recreation needs in the community. State trends are researched and documented by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) in Washington State's Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022. Key themes from this plan include:

- Demonstrating how park and recreation facilities and recreation programs are vital public services by highlighting the economic benefits, and effectively communicating those benefits to others. Maintaining an accurate inventory of facilities and providing resources for funding recreation improvements are also important strategies.
- Sustaining the legacy of the entire state's park and recreation facilities by improving existing facilities to make sure they are relevant to today's interests. This includes pursuing regional solutions to parks and recreation and leveraging partnerships with those regional providers. Planning for recreation needs associated with growth and ensuring that residents are satisfied with recreation facilities are also important factors in ensuring parks and recreation facilities are relevant to community interests.
- Providing parks and recreation facilities that meet the need for our state's changing demographics. This includes an increasing diverse and older population. Recreation needs in the future will need to respond to this changing demographic and better reflect their interests.
- Improving equitable distribution of park and recreation facilities and services. This includes locating and building recreation facilities specifically for underserved populations, and creating the tools needed on a statewide level to assess the needs of those populations. It also means connecting more people to popular activities, like walking and experiencing nature, and when facilities are provided, ensuring they are designed to be safe, welcoming places for everyone to enjoy.
- Getting youth outdoors by providing a variety of activities to appeal to all types of individuals, including technology-based games or activities, maintaining and expanding athletic fields and other sports facilities for you to stay active, and supporting programs for youth. Youth engagement in recreation activities leads to a more engaged and active adult.

Local Trends

Locally, there have been a number of recent trends across communities and jurisdictions similar to Kenmore throughout the Puget Sound Region. Some of these have already been highlighted as national and state trends. However, some more specific park facility trends seen locally include:

- Increased demand for dog off-leash areas that provide amenities such as water, weather protection, benches and picnic tables, community reader/post boards, and agility equipment.
- Design of inclusive and universally accessible playgrounds, considering the abilities and interests of all children through sensitive design choices and a variety of play opportunities.
- Design of nature play and integrating natural elements, materials, and imagery into playground design, as well as the inclusion of spray parks in playground areas.
- Protecting and enhancing natural resources – often sharing the costs and resources with other organizations and community groups to maximize efficiency in overall natural resource management.
- Placing a high value on sustainable design and green stormwater infrastructure.
- Designing more flexible and mixed-use spaces to allow for a variety of activities and uses, as well as better adaptability to changing interest in recreation activities or programs over time.
- Support for new and emerging active recreation activities in the parks system – everything from sand volleyball and pickleball to remote control plane or drone flying areas, parkour, gaga ball, interactive ‘playscapes’ outside of playgrounds, and creative placemaking in the design and renovation of parks across the system.
- Including public art, outdoor gathering spaces and public fountains, interpretive educational signage about local history and the natural environment, and providing important civic views and view corridors.
- Accommodating E-bikes, car share drop-off areas, and other newer transportation modes in future parks planning efforts.

Focus on keeping youth active – a new study completed through a partnership between the University of Washington’s Center for Leadership in Athletics, King County Parks, and The Aspen Institute found that less than 19 percent of youth in King County get the amount of physical activity recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.aspeninstitute.org).

Parks and Recreation Trends Key Findings

1. Parks and recreation facilities need to be flexible to serve a diverse audience through broad community appeal. They should be accessible and welcoming to everyone.
2. Parks are becoming a key component in promoting climate resiliency, showcasing sustainable design strategies and implementing green infrastructure practices.
3. Parks are a catalyst for our youth to become the future stewards of our environment, offering a safe place to explore, discover, and understand the intricate balance of our ecology, especially within the urban fabric of our community.
4. Recreation facilities and programs need to support active lifestyles for all ages and abilities.
5. Parks can improve civic pride and create a sense of place by installing public art, outdoor gathering spaces, public fountains, interpretive displays of local history and the natural environment and protecting important views and view corridors.

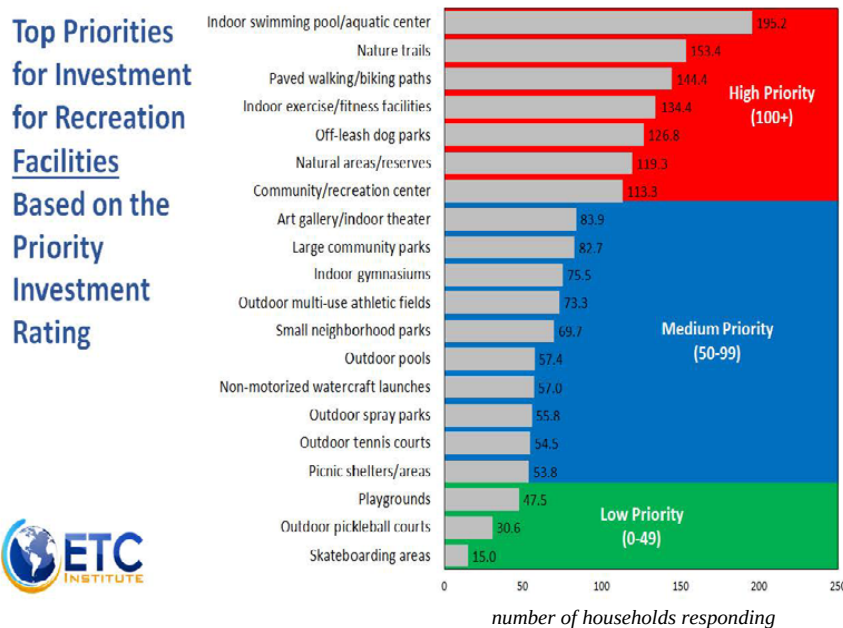
Community Interests

The City of Kenmore has conducted extensive public outreach to find out what facilities, amenities and programs they would like to see in the park system. While the city can analyze the physical improvements in parks and recreation, future growth and associated demographics of the community, and recent trends in parks and recreation, none of these methods can completely inform the city of what the community actually wants to see in its parks system. This feedback is a key component of the demand and needs analysis. Community outreach activities in support of this plan include the following:

- 2015 Imagine Kenmore Research & Engagement Plan
- 2016 Walkways and Waterways Bond Survey
- 2016 Imagine Kenmore Community Outreach Summary
- 2019 Parks and Recreation Survey and Open House

In the 2019 survey, 91% of respondents rated the physical condition of the park and recreation system as either “excellent” or “good”. Over 70% are satisfied with the number of city-owned parks and recreation facilities, and with the progress the city is making to improve those facilities. About 50% were satisfied with the number of recreation opportunities and the quality of recreation programs offered in the city.

Figure X: Top priorities for investment for recreation facilities.



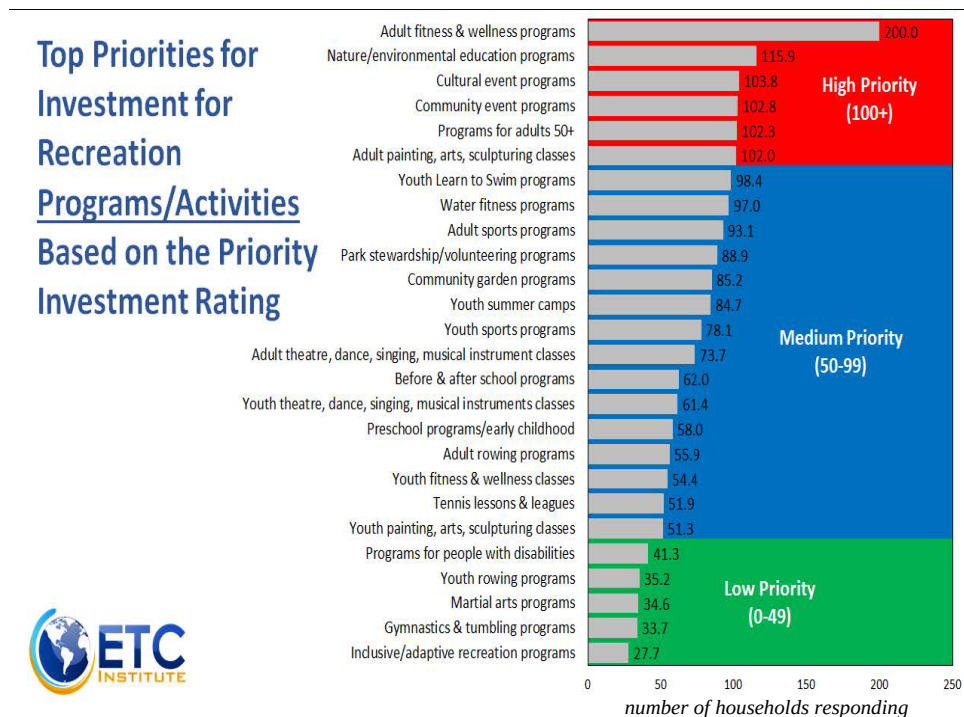
The most used facilities in the system were Log Boom Park, Rhododendron Park, and the Town Square and 63% of residents use the park system at least monthly. Respondents were asked what parks and recreation needs were not being met for facilities and programs. A variety of indoor recreation types, off-leash dog parks, trails, and athletic fields ranked among the top facilities as shown in Figure X.

For programs, adult fitness and wellness, environmental education, and arts and culture programs ranked among the top needs by the community, see Figure X. A complete summary of the community outreach results can be found in the Appendix.

The most recent informal survey conducted as part of this PROS Plan update reinforced these priorities with waterfront facilities and an indoor pool as the most needed facilities in the city, with natural trails, natural areas, and paved walking/biking routes rounding out the top five facility needs. Community events was ranked as the most needed recreation program, followed closely by outdoor water-related programs, adult fitness and wellness, and natural/environmental education programs.

Specific key findings from the collective results of all of the public outreach conducted, with specific references to data and results from the 2019 survey, are outlined below.

Figure X: Top priorities for recreation programs and activities.



Community Interests Key Findings

Key Point 1 – Waterfront Vision

Waterfront activities, access to water, and protection of our natural environment along the waterfront are core guiding principles when it comes to community values for Kenmore residents. . Among residents surveyed in the 2019 Parks and Recreation Survey, 87% of respondents were ‘somewhat supportive’ or ‘very supportive’ of acquiring additional shoreline properties to support water dependent recreation in the city, with the vast majority (70%) identifying as ‘very supportive.’

Key Point 2 – Diversity of Park Facilities

Among residents surveyed in the 2019 Parks and Recreation Survey, 79% of respondents were ‘somewhat supportive’ or ‘very supportive’ of acquiring additional properties for new parks and recreation facilities, with about half (52%) identifying as ‘very supportive.’ Of the different activities suggested for potential parks and recreation improvements, Figure X lists the top ranked.

Figure X: Top ranked Facility and Program Needs.

FACILITIES	PROGRAMS / ACTIVITIES
• Nature trails	• Adult fitness and wellness programs
• Indoor exercise / fitness facilities	• Nature / environmental education
• Natural areas / reserves	• Cultural events
• Indoor swimming pool / aquatic center	• Community events
• Paved walking / biking paths	• Senior programs (50+)
• Off-leash dog parks	• Adult painting, arts, sculpting classes
• Community recreation center	

The greatest needs not currently being met include a pool/aquatic center and pickleball courts. These are followed closely by off-leash areas, indoor fitness/gyms, and outdoor tennis courts. The community had the least interest or need for additional skateparks or a spray park.

The most important facilities for residents closely mirror the needs and include, in order of priority:

1. Nature trails
2. Indoor swimming/aquatic center

3. Paved walking/biking paths
4. Off-leash area
5. Indoor fitness/gyms

The majority of residents also responded that the current recreation programs and activities do not meet their needs for all types of activities except community events, early childhood & before/after school care, youth sports and camps, and stewardship and education programs. Adult fitness and wellness programs were ranked as the most important programs needed.

Key Point 3 – Preserve and Protect the Natural Environment

Among residents surveyed in the 2019 Parks and Recreation Survey, 84% of respondents were somewhat supportive or very supportive of acquiring additional properties to preserve natural open space and wildlife habitat, with a majority (61%) indicating they were very supportive. The top three facilities needed by residents when asked for their preferences were nature trails, paved trails, and natural areas or reserves.

As noted above, nature trails are the number one facility desired and one of the highest needs not currently being met. This has been the case in nearly every survey conducted since 2013, and also mirrors the trends we see at the state and national level. Walking on trails is an activity that appeals to all ages and can accommodate all abilities, especially with some portions of those trails paved or meeting ADA accessibility requirements. Trails through natural areas further enhance the user experience and, when combined with interpretive signage and other features, help educate the community on the value of natural systems and how they fit into the larger urban context of cities today.

Key Point 4 – Improve Connectivity

Time and again trails and walking routes are at the top of the list for desired recreation activities and they are also some of the most-used facilities. Walking paths was the most important feature to the community that could be added or improved in Kenmore's park and recreation park system based on the results of the 2019 Parks and Recreation Survey. In the Imagine Kenmore public outreach effort, connecting people from where they live to where they recreate was also identified as important. Safer routes to schools and public facilities and parks increase access to recreation for residents.

Creating walking paths and nature trails in parks and connecting residents to parks, natural areas, and the waterfront has consistently been one of the most important needs expressed by the community. This means more trails within parks, as well as more sidewalks and safe walking routes between neighborhoods and parks – either as part of the roadway system or as separated trails and multi-purpose paths.

Key Point 5 – Recreation Activities

The most important recreation activities that the community would like to see in its park system include the following, though other facilities should still be improved as opportunities and funding allows:

- Trails, especially in natural areas
- Indoor swimming/aquatic center
- Dog park
- Additional new parks
- Indoor fitness and exercise

Benchmark Comparison

According to the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA), in 2019 the typical park and recreation agency across the country offers one park for every 2,181 residents, or about 10 acres for every 1,000 residents. The NRPA also updated in 2019 its database of benchmarks from across the country to compare industry trends and ratios of different types of parks and recreation facilities compared to the population. As stated above, this is generally expressed as a quantity of something per 1,000 residents and is a good way to gauge the quantity of parks and recreation facilities provided when compared to other jurisdictions nationally and regionally. Note that this comparison does not consider the quality of the facilities or the level of maintenance and access to those facilities.

The typical agency participating in the 2019 NRPA Agency Performance and Park Metric survey has a population on average of 39,183 people, which represents the median benchmark in the figures below and is about 58% larger than the total population of Kenmore (22,920 current population), though what each jurisdiction provides for parks and recreation facilities is as varied as the communities themselves. Figure X shows how Kenmore compares to other similar jurisdictions across the country in relation to total park land (acres) per population.

Figure X: Comparison of the number of people for every park and park acres in the city.

	Number of People / Park	Acres / 1000 Population
National Median (all jurisdictions)	2,181	10.1
National Median for Similar Size Jurisdictions (20,000 – 40,000)	1,881	9.6
Pacific Northwest Median	1,746	4.1
City of Kenmore Parks Only (146 acres)	1,763	6.4
All Park and Recreation Facilities in Kenmore (475 acres)	1,528	20.7

Benchmark Comparison Key Findings

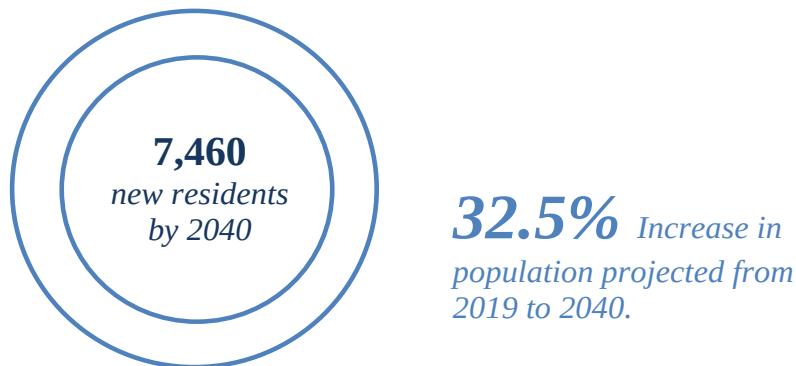
1. The City of Kenmore contains less than the national average of parks acreage in the system, but is on target with other jurisdictions in the Pacific Northwest region for city-owned facilities. When considering all publicly accessible parks and recreation facilities open to the public, the city exceeds the national and regional average.
2. The City of Kenmore is on par with other jurisdictions for some outdoor facilities, like playgrounds, tot lots, skateparks and courts, but is below average for other outdoor recreation amenities, specifically, community gardens, dog parks, spray parks, and multi-purpose courts. As playgrounds are upgraded, enhancing and expanding play value for children with special needs and providing enhanced accessibility in all playgrounds should be considered. Opportunities for natural play should also be considered such as the one proposed in the Twin Springs Master Plan.
3. The City of Kenmore is below average for the number of indoor recreation facilities , except for senior centers. This includes a need for additional aquatic facilities and gyms. Some of this need can be met through outdoor improvements, like fitness stations and athletic courts and expanding the beach at Log Boom Park. This would not entirely replace the need for indoor facilities.
4. Parks in the city all generally contain the same types of facilities. Variation of types of facilities, overall character of park features, and including special interest facilities, especially at the larger parks, will help diversify the system. This will also allow greater flexibility to cater to diverse populations and changing trends in parks and recreation over time. Varying the character and types of activities in parks also helps foster a greater sense of ownership with the surrounding community and can help create a sense of identity or reinforce the neighborhood context of each park site. Some of these new uses to consider include pickleball, futsal, disc golf, parkour, and rock climbing.

Population Growth

Population Growth

The city's current population is 22,920 with a population forecast of 28,473 by the year 2035 as identified in city's Comprehensive Plan. Projecting growth out to the 2040 planning period for this PROS Plan, assuming the same rate of growth over time, would result in an estimated population of 30,380 by the year 2040, or a 32.5% increase over the planning period (see Figure X). For the city's park system to keep up with demand based on this projected growth, the city would need to expand its park system or increase capacity at its existing parks to accommodate this projected growth. If you were to look only at this population increase, the demand for future parks by 2040 would increase at the same rate as population at 32.5%, creating a **need for 47.5 additional acres of new park land** (146 existing acres x 32.5%), or improved capacity in existing parks within the system to meet the needs generated by the increased growth. Of course, this doesn't help define what people actually want to do in their parks. It also doesn't account for availability of existing land to develop new parks, or the feasibility of expanding capacity and other improvements at existing parks.

Figure X: Population projection.

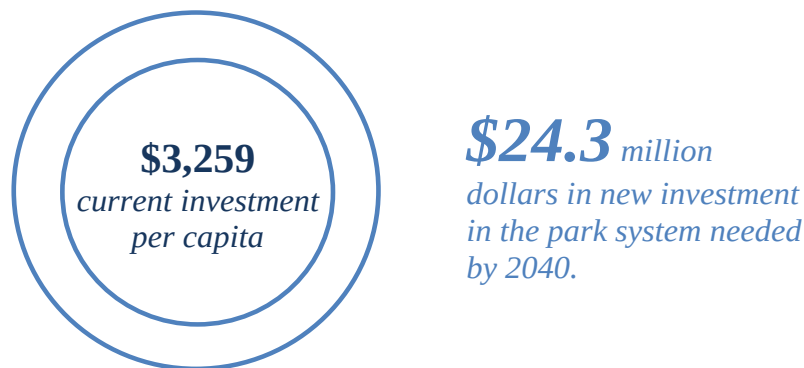


Parks Investment Per Capita

By considering the overall value of the existing park system, we can begin to see a more complete picture of both the park land itself and the improvements created on that land to meet the recreation demands and needs of the community. The value of the existing park system (replacement value in 2019 dollars) is \$74.7 million, or \$3,259 per person per the 2019 Park Impact Fee Rate Study.

This represents the current investment for parks and recreation facilities in the city. If the city were to invest the same amount in parks and recreation as they have existing today for every new resident projected into the future, the city would need to invest an additional \$24.3 million in the park system – that’s \$3,259 times the projected 7,460 new residents by the year 2040 (see Figure X). This still assumes that all residents and visitors to the city have access to all parks in the system; and doesn’t help to determine what facilities are actually needed within those park lands.

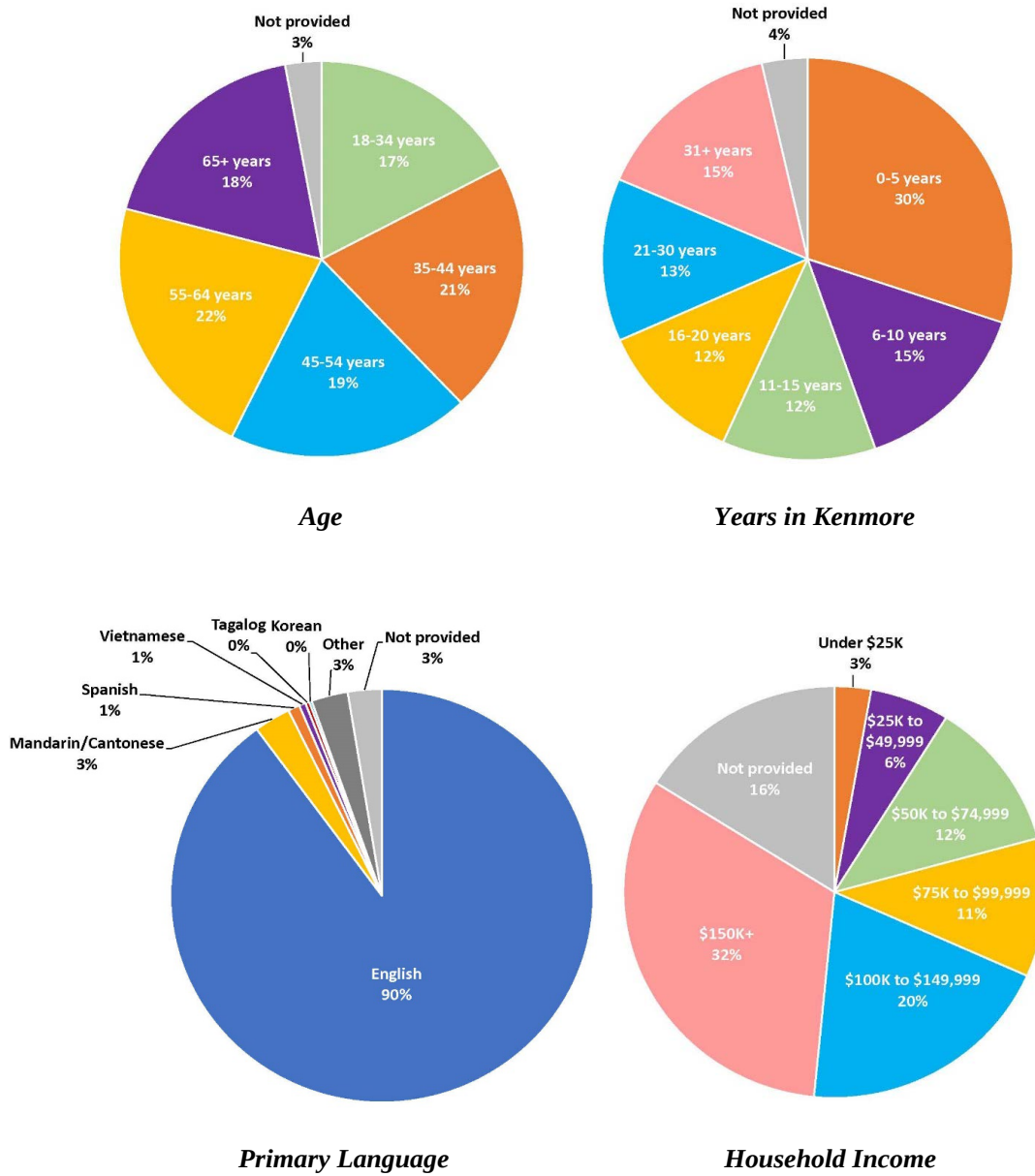
Figure X: Investment needed by 2035.



Demographics

Understanding the demographics of the existing population, described in previous sections, helps create a more complete picture of future needs in the city. It is also helpful to note that the respondents who participated in the 2019 Parks and Recreation Survey discussed previously generally mirror the overall city demographics in many ways. 40% were over the age of 65 and 45% had only lived in the City of Kenmore for 10 years or less. While the majority were Caucasian and spoke mostly English, four other languages were also represented with Asian languages taking up the largest percentage of those.

When considering the demographics of the community, there is a large diversity of ages represented, with a need for recreation activities that appeal to older youth and active adults. There is also an expectation that the percent of seniors over the age of 65 will increase as the current population ages. According to the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office, ethnic diversity is increasing across the state, and state residents as a whole are aging with seniors outnumbering youth by the year 2040.

Figure X: Demographics of 2019 Parks & Recreation Survey Respondents.

With these changing demographics, residents will likely be seeking different types of recreation activities than they may find today. New recreation activities that appeal to different ethnicities and a more diverse community should also be considered.

Population Growth Key Findings

1. Kenmore is a growing community with a variety of residential typologies throughout the city. With the majority of residents commuting to work in a single-occupancy vehicle, park and recreation facility improvements that support and encourage multi-modal transportation choices should be considered a high priority.
2. Higher density residential housing occurs mostly in downtown Kenmore, where the majority of assisted housing and senior housing is also located. Activities in this area should support healthy living, encourage active recreation, and focus on ease of access to recreation opportunities.
3. The population is mostly middle-aged and of a white ethnic background. However, other more diverse ethnicities are growing and are expected to continue to grow in the future. Recreation activities that appeal to older youth and active adults should be considered, along with a greater variety and flexibility in those activities to better respond to changing demographics and increasing diversity over time.

Geographic Distribution

The City of Kenmore has 13 parks, recreation and open space facilities totaling 146 acres with a variety of amenities including waterfront access, sports fields and courts, playgrounds, picnic areas, and open lawn areas. There are also a number of special use facilities such as the senior center and skate park. Over 80% of the park system is urban forest, wetlands, and other protected natural systems creating a strong natural backdrop to neighborhoods and communities throughout the city. There are also 7.5 miles of trails within the city's parks system, consisting of paved, crushed rock, or informal mulch surfaces and offering a variety of trail experiences. This doesn't include the 4 miles of new trail, consisting of a grade-separated sidewalk and a striped bicycle lane, along 68th Avenue NE and Juanita Boulevard from the north end of the city through to the south city limit to be completed by 2023.

**OVER 73% OF KENMORE RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A 10 MINUTE WALK OF A PARK,
TRAIL, OR OPEN SPACE.**

Beyond the city's facilities, there are an additional 329 acres of park and recreation facilities which include: King County's Burke Gilman Trail, Saint Edward State Park, athletic fields within the Bastyr University campus, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's motorized boat launch, and the Harbour Village Marina public boardwalk, pier and breakwater. The Bastyr University athletic fields are made available to the public through a lease agreement between the city and the University, which expires in 2025. These fields will need to be replaced or lease renewed in order to continue to meet the current demand for athletic fields in the city.

A number of elementary, middle and high schools are also generally open to the public during non-school hours, though on an informal basis and only as the Northshore School District policies and facilities management allows. Private parks and recreation facilities are generally limited to marinas, gyms, the Inglewood Golf Club, and the Aqua Club pool. The School District and private facilities are documented in the table below for reference. However, these facilities are not completely open to the public. The private facilities require fees for use that may be limiting to some Kenmore residents. As previously mentioned, limited access, particularly for sports fields, is available at the School District. As a result, these facilities are not considered further in assessing the demands and needs for recreation facilities in the city.

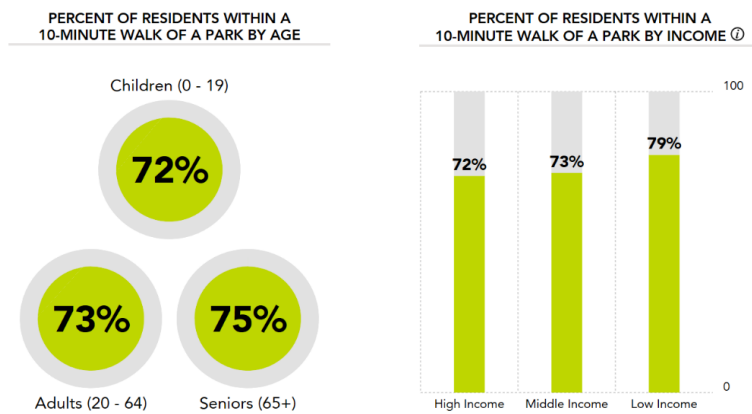
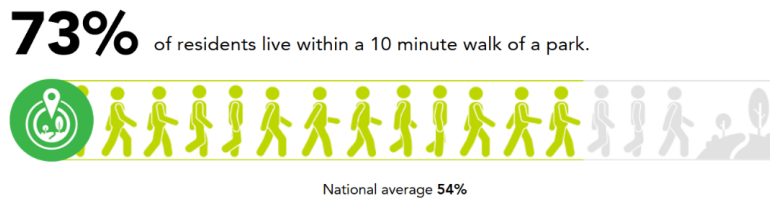
Walkshed Analysis

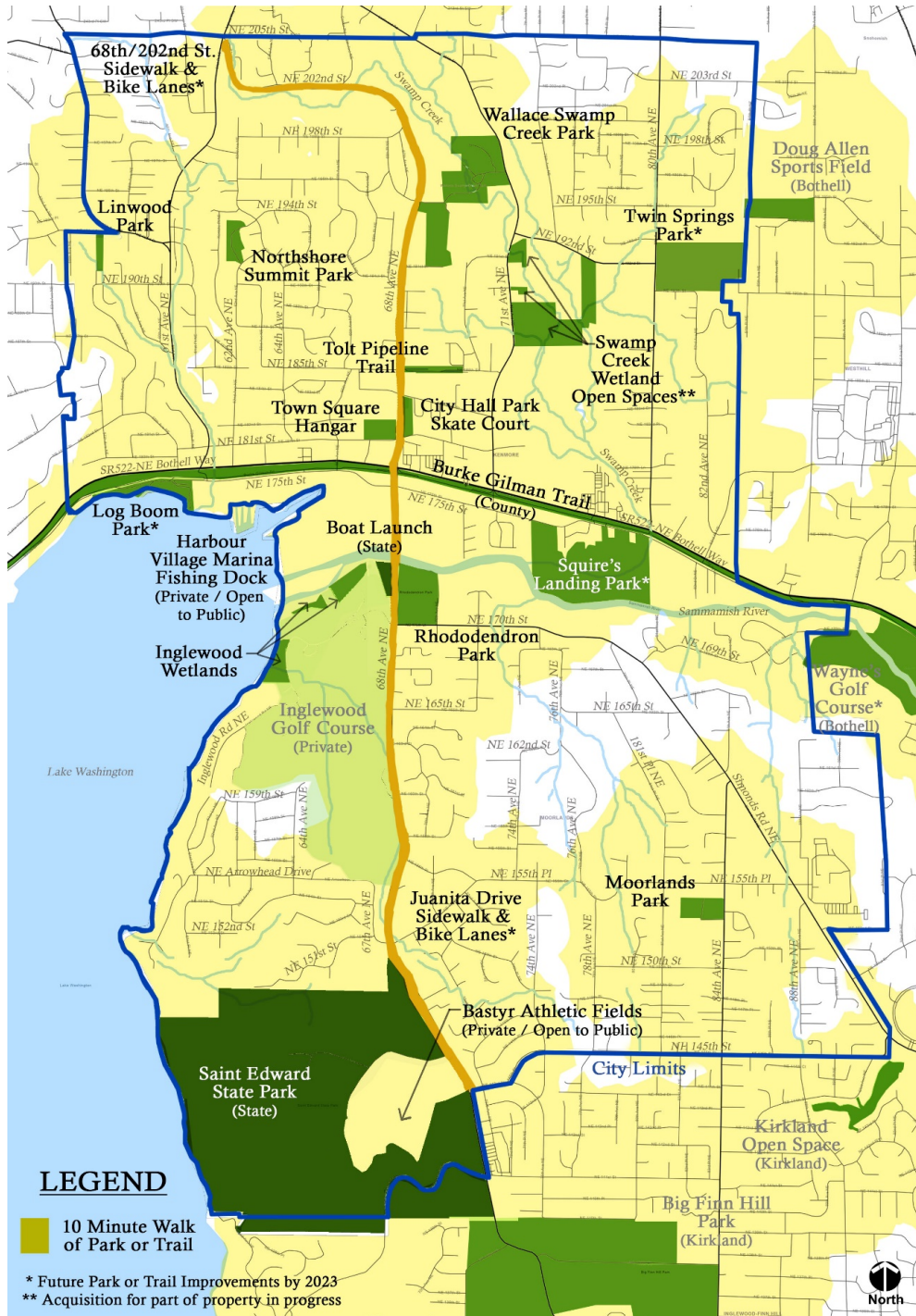
Recreation opportunities are generally accessible to the community with 73% of Kenmore residents living within a 10-minute walk (about a ½-mile) of a park, trail, or open space, often

referred to as a *walkshed* and shown in Map X. This creates a fairly even distribution of parks throughout the city. However, this doesn't necessarily mean that there is a sidewalk or other safe walking space, or an accessible route, between residential neighborhoods and the park system. For example, there are a number of local trail connections in the northwest portion of the city that are informal, often located on unimproved right-of-way or along utility easements. While these improve Kenmore's walkability, they are not always accessible and may not be perceived as publicly available routes. As such, these are not currently included in this planning process. Partnering with the city's Public Works department to develop safe walking routes to parks and recreation facilities should be a priority.

With safe walking routes developed, 72% of kids under the age of 19 and 79% of all low-income residents would be able to walk from their home to an *existing* park or open space in the city (see Figure X). This goes a long way to meeting the needs of some of the most vulnerable populations with the greatest need for publicly accessible parks and recreation facilities.

Figure X: Percent of Kenmore residents within walking distance of a park based on Trust for Public Land ParkScore® data. (Trust for Public Land; June 2019; www.tpl.org)



Map X: Areas within a 10-minute walk (approximately ½ mile) of a park/recreation facility

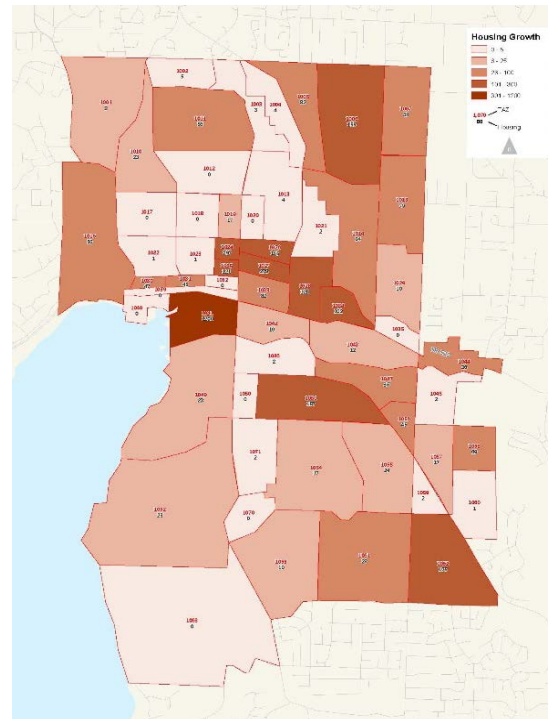
Housing Growth

Based on the demographics and projected population growth, we can expect the majority of new growth to occur in the Kenmore downtown where the highest housing density currently exists, and in the northeast and southeast corners of the city where new residential growth is expected as shown in Map X. Localized growth will still occur in other areas of the city as well, creating a higher demand for parks and recreation facilities across the whole park system.

High density housing growth is generally focused in the urban core where access to parks and recreation facilities is traditionally limited. In Kenmore, however, there are three public parks and recreation facilities centrally located in the Kenmore downtown. These include the Hangar building, the Town Square outdoor plaza and fountain, and City Hall Park and Jack Crawford skate park. Combined, these facilities provide a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities, places for community events, and places to just gather. Active recreation is currently limited to the skate park, which mostly caters to youth though it does include beginner and more advanced areas.

Additional active recreation opportunities should be considered to appeal to a wider range of ages, ethnicities, and genders. These could include outdoor fitness stations, table tennis, bocce ball, basketball hoops, parkour features, and other activities that can easily fit into and reinforce the context of a vibrant urban center. Community gardens, demonstration gardens, and pollinator gardens can also be used to support passive recreation in an urban core with the added benefit of healthy living and enhancing the natural ecosystem where opportunities are generally the most limited. Just outside of the urban center, Wallace Swamp Creek Park, the Burke Gilman Trail and Tolt-Pipeline Trail are within a ¼ mile of downtown Kenmore. The Burke Gilman Trail provides paved multi-modal access to an extensive network of parks and recreation opportunities throughout the region.

Map X: Map of housing growth areas in Kenmore.
The darker the red the more housing growth is expected in a given geographic area. (Kenmore Comprehensive Plan)



Low Income and Affordable Housing

The lowest income and most affordable housing areas of the city generally are located in the Kenmore downtown area as shown in Map X. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov), low income populations are generally more susceptible to obesity and the associated health risks related to obesity. They are also least likely to be able to pay for gym memberships, athletic leagues, and other paid recreational opportunities, in addition to having a more limited access to transportation. Community gardens and outdoor fitness stations are good options to help offset these limitations.

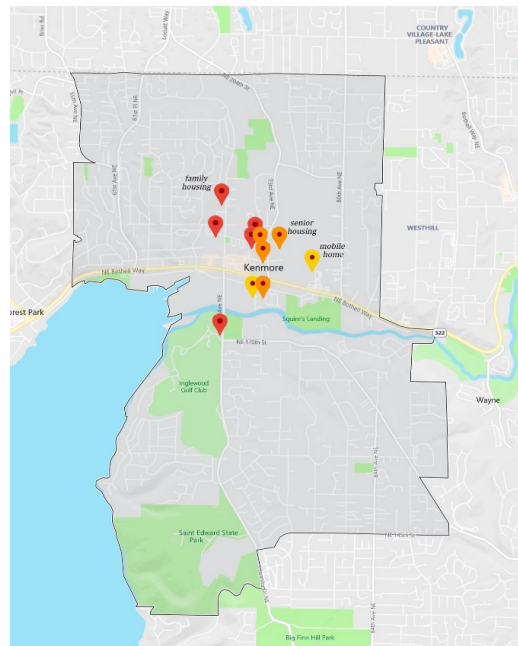
Park Distribution by Classification

Neighborhood parks are predominantly located in the northern portion of the city with only one, Moorlands Park, located south of the Sammamish River, creating a need for more neighborhood parks and associated facilities in the southern half of the city, though topography and natural systems in this area make acquisition for new parks challenging.

Community and regional parks are evenly distributed in the northern and southern areas of Kenmore. However, not all community and regional facilities have been developed to the same level. Wallace Swamp Creek Park remains largely unimproved, though a master plan has been developed. Log Boom Park and Squire's Landing Park also have current master plans completed and some improvements, but not a lot of recent investment in the existing facilities.

Implementing proposed Walkways and Waterways waterfront access improvements at these existing parks and upgrading facilities such as the pier at Log Boom Park will be important to help the city accommodate future growth and reduce long-term maintenance inherent as parks facilities near the end of their useful life. Accessibility improvements and improvements that expand capacity or increase flexibility and diversity of uses at existing parks should be a priority.

Map X: Affordable housing in Kenmore.
(ARCH – A regional coalition for housing; June 2019; www.archhousing.org)



Available Lands and Potential Acquisition Areas

To have a fully walkable park system where every single household is within a 10-minute walk of a park or open space would require six additional parks based solely on the distribution and the watershed analysis. The approximate locations of the areas where parks are needed to provide walkable access to parks for all residents in Kenmore are shown on Map X. Additional analysis is needed to determine if the areas shown are feasible for new park development even if land becomes available, and what kind of improvements could be provided given the type of land in the area (i.e., environmental restrictions, acres available, or topography). These, and other considerations, would need to be evaluated prior to any type of new acquisition as opportunity and funding may allow.

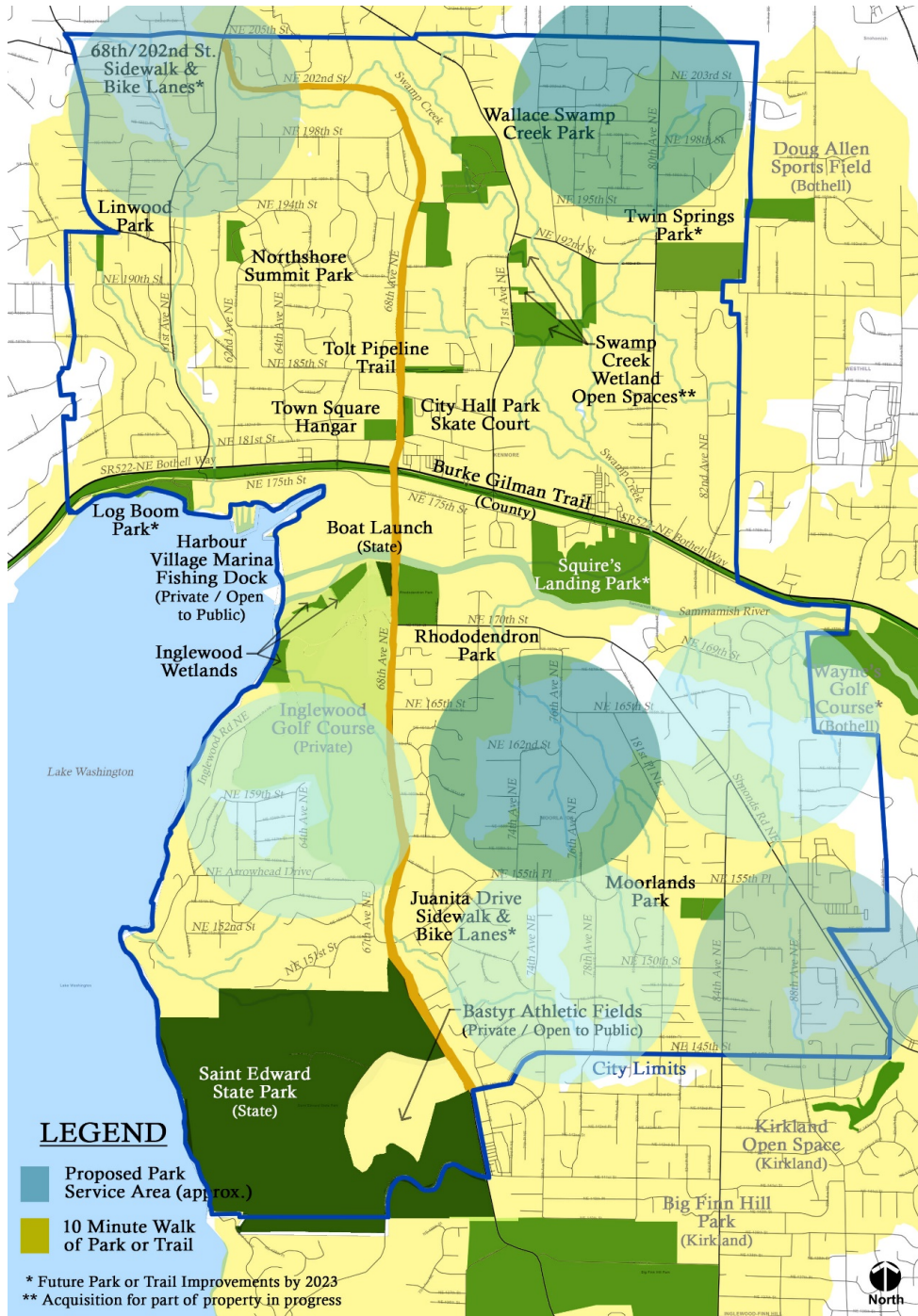
The highest priority should be given to areas near high density housing, low income populations and where new residential growth (of all types) is expected to occur. Areas that don't have access to other open space or recreation areas, like school facilities or protected open space areas, should also be considered as a priority for any new acquisition.

With vacant land almost non-existent in the city, much of the land available is limited by wetlands and other types of sensitive areas or is already developed. As a result, developing new parks will be extremely difficult and may require significant property consolidation efforts. Potential acquisition areas are shown with a service area equal to approximately a 10-minute walk, or a ½ mile circle.

Improving connections between parks, or looking at the development of linear parks within right-of-way or as part of natural systems could be another way to meet this need. Open space and access to recreation facilities at schools or at facilities owned by other organizations or jurisdictions can also be used to meet this need, provided access to these facilities remains available to the public. Easements or other forms of agreements between a property owner and the city for parks and recreational use, such as trails or as with the use of fields at Bastyr University, could also be used in lieu of full acquisition.

With the addition of new parks in the areas shown, assuming at least one of these would be classified as a neighborhood park, there would be a more even distribution of parks across the city.

Map X: Target park acquisition areas within walkability gaps; the darker the circle the higher the priority area for acquisition.



Geographic Distribution Key Findings

1. Kenmore has a great overall distribution of parks with few gaps remaining in the overall system. It also has the potential to be a highly walkable city with the majority of residents living within a 10-minute walk to an existing park or trail. Making those routes safe for walking allows everyone access to the park system without relying on single-occupancy vehicles. This effort should be a priority of the plan's implementation and could be done in partnership with the City of Kenmore Public Works Department.
2. Acquire new park land in areas where residential development (of all types) is expected to occur.
3. Acquire park land or easements along Kenmore's waterways to create a system of waterfront access and connect these public spaces with a pedestrian/bicycle route along the water.
4. Acquire and develop at least two new parks – one in the Moorlands neighborhood generally north of NE 155th Street, and one in the northeast corner of the city generally around NE 203rd Street. Additional new parks in other gap areas should still be acquired and developed as opportunity allows.
5. Develop a master plan and implement renovations for Linwood Park, one of the only parks remaining in the city that hasn't been considered for any significant improvement since the city's incorporation.
6. Prepare Twin Springs Park to open to the community for neighborhood level park use.
7. The quality of the parks system is high, and Kenmore has done a lot in recent years to upgrade, expand, and improve its parks. Implement existing master plans for city parks and trails as opportunity and funding allows.
8. Kenmore has an extensive network of natural systems, from waterways to wetlands and urban forests. However, there is very little public access to these areas and limited educational features that highlight these areas within the community. Providing controlled access in a way that maintains the quality of the environment and includes educational and wayfinding features should be considered to the extent feasible.

Recreation Programming

The city's main focus on community events and park facility rentals occurs in three locations:

- The Hangar at Town Square / City Hall
- Rhododendron Park
- Log Boom Park

The city relies on partnerships with the school district and other public, private and non-profit organizations for all other recreation programming, though city-owned facilities are often used to host those programs. **This partnership approach is expected to continue into the future, and all proposed recreation programming would be implemented in partnership with other jurisdictions, agencies, or organizations.**

The Hangar, with its grand opening in August of 2017, is the city's main indoor gathering space for recreation activities and events, providing an open space for the public to use on a drop-in basis during regular hours, or to rent for a private event. Since its opening, there have been over 500 requests for reservations annually, up from just over 300 requests for other city-owned facilities the prior year before the Hangar was built. There is an average of about 20 requests per week for use mostly as a meeting space for various organizations. It is also used for pop-up shops, music recitals, and just general community gathering throughout the year.

Youth summer camps are held exclusively at Rhododendron Park with the exception of a skateboarding camp, called Skate Like A Girl, held at the Jack Crawford skatepark. Camps for hand-carry watercraft sports have been held in the past by the Kenmore Waterfront Activity Center and the Northshore YMCA. In general, the city provides the location for camps and associated support facilities, like additional restrooms if needed, and helps market the programs to city residents. The organization provides everything else.

Log Boom Park is host to some city-sponsored events and programs. These are intended to be city-wide events, like the 4th of July celebration, that draw a much larger audience. Saint Edward State Park is used for larger events, like concerts in the park that serve as a regional draw with the potential of 800 or more participants. Saint Edward State Park is the only facility large enough and with adequate supporting infrastructure to handle this capacity. Parking can be a problem at nearly all city venues for events, but it is especially difficult at Log Boom Park.

Recreation Programming Key Findings

1. Continue to partner with other organizations and agencies to provide recreation programming in the city while the city focuses on community events.
2. Actively seek out recreation programming providers to expand offerings to Kenmore residents, especially for adult programs and athletic leagues.

3. Develop a method of tracking participation in various programs to support future planning efforts.
4. Take an active role in advertising programs and events and specifically advertising and supporting participation by residents from more diverse backgrounds and low income needs. This could include translating marketing material into multiple languages, finding “ambassadors” in the various ethnic communities or communities representing special needs populations, and offering and advertising scholarships provided by the city for participation in third party programs.
5. Ensure program venues are accessible and have appropriate support facilities.
6. Provide better access and parking, along with other supporting infrastructure to facilitate and expand community events in Kenmore.



Participation Rates

The last approach considered to assess community demand for parks and recreation facilities is to determine who is currently using those facilities by evaluating the participation rates of residents in various recreation programs offered to the community. Participation rate is the number of people participating in an existing recreation program. Participation rates in Kenmore are available primarily for youth soccer and baseball, rowing and hand-carry watercraft sports, and aquatics.

Athletic Sports

Service areas for Northshore Little League (NLLL) for youth baseball and the Northshore Youth Soccer Association (NYSA) for youth soccer include all of Kenmore and extend into Bothell to the north and east of Kenmore's city limits. Many other outdoor recreation sports, like lacrosse, softball, and flag football, utilize the same or similar field size as these organizations.

In 2019, North Lake Little League had 279 players with a City of Kenmore address. Based on the number of Kenmore residents in the league and the number of games and practices played by an average team, Kenmore would need 4 baseball fields to serve the city's existing share of fields for the NLLL, if those fields were fully utilized. **Under their current practices, the NLLL does not host games on Sundays which reduces the overall efficiency of programming any fields. If they continue to exclude Sundays for games, then Kenmore would need a total of 5 baseball fields to serve the same capacity of participants. Figure X shows the data supporting field use by NLLL. This data is based on the following:**

- A practice is one and a half hours
- A game is three hours
- Average of one and a half practices per week per team for both the 2018 and 2019 seasons
- Average of two games per week for both the 2018 and 2019 seasons
- A weekend day has four available three-hour time slots
- A weeknight has one available three-hour time slot
- an 11-person average team size for both 2018 and 2019 seasons

The remainder of this study assumes full utilization of the fields and a total demand for 4 fields in the city. Between the city's current fields and other fields in the local area (school and adjacent jurisdictions), NLLL has been able to meet the current needs of Kenmore residents. Rather than turn kids away, North Lake Little League has coped by having teams share fields for practices and shortening scheduled time for practices to accommodate this growth on the existing fields. While the league is able to use these techniques to continue its operation, 1 additional baseball field would

be needed within the City of Kenmore to accommodate its share of fields to fully support the league without resorting to these additional measures.

Figure X: North Lake Little League Field Need.

	2016	2018	2019
Players with Kenmore address	274	265	279
Players per game	20	20	20
Practices per week	37	36	38
Games per week	25	24	25
Number of 3-hour blocks of time needed per week (games and practices)	43.6	42.2	44.4
Number of fields needed excluding Sundays	5	5	5
Number of fields needed based on 2018 access to fields during preferred times only	6	6	6
Number of fields needed not excluding Sundays	4	4	4

Northshore Youth Soccer Association serves a larger area than NLLL. In 2019, 639 of NYSA players had Kenmore addresses. The NYSA has differential access to soccer fields according to seasonal natural lighting patterns. Kenmore's soccer fields are non-lighted, so soccer practices cannot be continued into the evening hours. The month of October is the last month in which practices are possible at non-lighted fields. The number of lighted fields that Kenmore would have to provide to fully satisfy field need for all months of youth soccer activity is also calculated. Figure X shows the data supporting field use for the NYSA. This data is based on the following:

- Average game length is one hour and 43 minutes
- Average practice length is one hour and 12 minutes
- Average team size is 11
- Three-hours available on lighted fields for practice per weekday
- Hours available on non-lighted fields for practice:
 - August – three-hours.
 - September – two-hours
 - October – one-hour

- Each team plays one game per week
- Each team has two practices per week

Based on the number of Kenmore residents in the league and the number of games and practices played by an average team, Kenmore would need 6 soccer fields to serve the city's existing share of fields for the NYSA. Between the city's current fields and other fields in the local area (school and adjacent jurisdictions), NYSA has been able to meet the current needs of Kenmore residents. NYSA has managed its growth by doubling up teams on fields, relying more on school fields, and going even further outside the city in order to meet their needs. While the league is able to use these techniques to continue its operation, 2 additional soccer fields would be needed within the City of Kenmore to accommodate its share of fields to fully support the league without resorting to these additional measures. **In addition, to fully utilize any soccer fields provided, they would need to be fully lit fields due to the season and times of play, especially for practices that generally occur on weekdays which limits play time to late afternoon and evening hours.**

Figure X: Northshore Youth Soccer Association Field Need.

	2016	2018	2019
Players with Kenmore address	703	679	639
Players per game	20	20	20
Practices per week	-	124	116
Games per week		31	29
Number of 2-hour blocks of time needed per week (games and practices)	-	101	95
Number of fields needed per week if not lighted	-	10	9
Number of lighted fields needed per week	-	7	6

Most of the fields used by both organizations are located at existing school sites or outside of Kenmore. Only 1 baseball field and 1 soccer field (overlay) is available for use within the city's current park system at Moorlands Park. There are an additional 2 baseball fields and 3 soccer fields available to the city through a lease agreement with Bastyr University. School District fields are prioritized for school use and so are not always available to support community need. Fields

outside of Kenmore are also generally prioritized for their resident / organization use. Both organizations have had to accommodate increased growth in the community, and subsequently the demand for their programs, within the existing field capacity resulting in a reduced service, quality, or time available on the fields.

By extrapolating this data based on the projected 25% growth in overall population, an estimated 2 additional soccer fields and 1 additional baseball field are needed by the year 2035, see Figure X. **This is done by multiplying current number of fields needed by 25% (4 preferred baseball fields x 25% = 1 additional baseball field needed to accommodate future growth).** This gross estimate assumes participation rates and the resulting field use continue at the same rate (per capita) as currently exists and that all of the fields currently available for use will continue to be available for use.

Figure X: Youth sports field needs.



As growth continues in adjacent jurisdictions and demand for school field use also increases, the need for additional fields in Kenmore will only continue to grow. However, there is limited capacity for new fields within any of the existing city-owned parks. Focusing efforts on joint-use agreements with Bastyr University, Saint Edward State Park, and potentially the Northshore School District to support field expansion and conversion to synthetic surfacing would likely meet the future need. These agreements, along with new acquisition, should be pursued as opportunity and funding allows.

Rowing and Water Sports

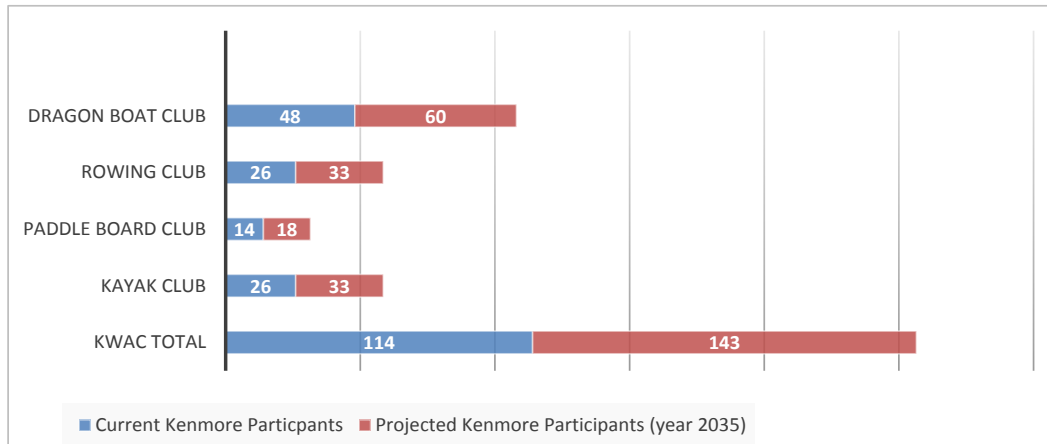
The Kenmore Waterfront Activities Center (KWAC) is a local club focused on providing access and programming for water sports activities in Kenmore. Membership includes the Flying Dragon Boat Club, the Canoe and Kayak Club, the Rowing Club, the Standup Paddle Club, Hui Wa'a O

Puget Sound (and outrigger club), and 10 other organizations. They operate on a long-term lease out of Squire's Landing Park with occasional use of waterfront access at Rhododendron Park. Squire's Landing Park includes public boat storage and public access to the Sammamish River and Lake Washington. Rhododendron Park includes more informal access along the shoreline near the adjacent motorized boat launch. There were a total of 114 Kenmore residents included within the various KWAC member organizations in 2018. Based on a projected 25% increase in population, we can expect approximately 143 residents to participate in KWAC water sports programs by the year 2035, and the Kenmore Rowing Club specifically expects to increase its membership to 100 participants. That could result in a total participation rate of about 200 participants. See Figure X for participation rates through KWAC.

The Northshore School District also has a rowing program, based mostly out of Inglemoor High School but open to all four high schools. They had 91 students participating in 2018 and anticipate growing the program to include all Middle Schools with an estimated participation rate of about 400 students within the next 5 years.

Of course, this only accounts for the number of residents participating in organized clubs and programs and does not reflect the recreational users that also need water access for both motorized and non-motorized boating, swimming, fishing, and other water-related recreational uses. The city currently places a seasonal float in the water off the beach at Log Boom Park to support informal waterfront use. A vendor is also under contract with the city to provide hand-carry boats and other waterfront activities for a fee (rental) at Log Boom Park on a seasonal basis. The number of people at the existing beach during the summer season often exceeds the existing capacity, with waterfront access spilling over onto the pier and non-designated shoreline areas. Expansion of the beach as shown in the Log Boom Park Master Plan would alleviate the capacity needs and provide better access to the waterfront for a variety of formal and informal uses.

If the proposed improvements in the Squire's Landing Park Master Plan were completed, it would meet the existing needs and support the projected growth in the KWAC program. Additional access on a more transient basis would be needed to further expand KWAC programs to new users, age groups, events, and programs. This additional access could be accommodated at Rhododendron Park and Log Boom Park once the proposed waterfront improvements to these parks are completed. Both sites can be used in some capacity today, but lack the support facilities, docks, ADA access, and other improvements to offer quality programming to all residents and organizations.

Figure X: Participation rates for non-motorized boats.

The proposed waterfront improvements at Rhododendron Park will primarily serve the School District's expanding rowing program and will adequately meet their need for waterfront access, though additional boat storage would likely be needed if the program reaches its full potential. Shared use with other groups and individuals is anticipated at Rhododendron Park and accommodated in the design of the proposed improvements.

Motorized boating use is generally limited by the number of parking stalls available at the one motorized boat launch available in Kenmore. The boat launch is owned and managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and is located off 68th Avenue NE. Part of the access drive for the boat launch is located on an easement within the adjacent Rhododendron Park and will be shared with the new proposed boat storage and hand-carry waterfront access in the park. There are approximately 40 parking stalls and one boat launch ramp available at the site. There are no docks and no pedestrian ADA boarding areas or ADA access to the water at the boat launch.

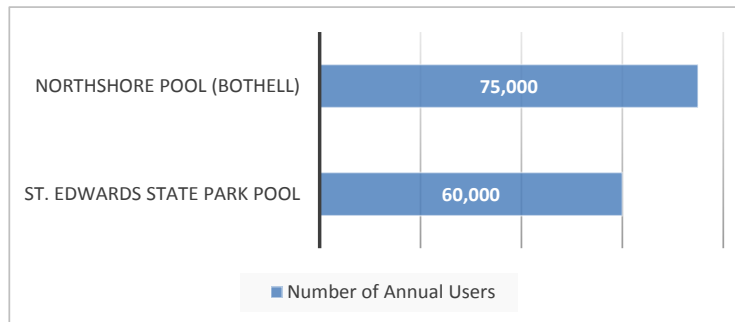
Aquatics

Previously, there was one aquatic center (indoor pool) at Saint Edward State Park that was closed in 2009 for renovation of the seminary building with no plans to reopen. Another pool at the Juanita Aquatic Center (Juanita High School) also closed in 2013. The one remaining pool near Kenmore, the Northshore Pool, is now the North Shore Lagoon and was renovated as part of the Anderson School redevelopment project, though it is still open to the public during select times.

A number of feasibility studies have been done over the years to determine the need and size of a proposed aquatic center. The previous pool at Saint Edward State Park had an annual participation rate of approximately 60,000 users (see Figure X). The Northshore Pool prior to the renovations had a participation rate of approximately 75,000 users. In all cases, the previous pools were highly

used and community feedback suggests that pool use is still a highly desired recreation activity for the community. The feasibility study suggested that any proposed aquatic center be a regional facility and developed in partnership with other jurisdictions.

Figure X: Aquatic center use (prior to 2013).



Participation Rates Key Findings

1. An aquatic center would be highly valued by Kenmore residents and there is a need for facilities to support aquatic programming and recreation activities within the region. Any new aquatic center should only be developed jointly with other jurisdictions to serve a regional need with Kenmore participating as part of this partnership approach.
2. A multi-purpose athletic complex should be developed – either by the city or jointly with other jurisdictions or organizations to serve youth and adult athletic sports. This could be through new acquisition, easements, or other forms of agreements in partnership with other agencies or organizations. Completing the proposed improvements for a multi-sport synthetic field at Saint Edward State Park will meet the current needs and accommodate some of the projected growth in youth sports, but additional opportunities should still be considered, especially to accommodate adult sports and alternative sports that are growing in interest. Some of this need could continue to be met in the short term through the use of the Bastyr fields, but use of the fields cannot be relied on to meet all the city needs long-term without a more permanent agreement in place.
3. Youth sports should continue to be a priority for the city to promote a healthy and active lifestyle early in life.
4. Continue to develop waterfront access and implement proposed improvements at Squire's Landing Park, Rhododendron Park and Log Boom Park for swimming, hand-carry boating, stand up paddle boards, and other water-based activities as a defining feature of Kenmore's park system.

CHAPTER 5

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Demand & Needs Analysis from the previous chapter identifies future needs for parks, recreation, and open space facilities and programs, evaluated through a variety of methods. The plan recommendations are organized in broad topics that correspond to the major themes resulting from the demand and need analysis and that are reflected in the community input received throughout the process. **Not all the key findings from the demand and needs analysis are reflected in the recommendations.** The recommendations **reflect the highest priorities from the key findings and that** relate to the seven PROS Plan Goals—and their objectives and policies—with each recommendation specifically tied to the goal(s) it relates to.

The seven goals represent the direction that Kenmore strives towards for the park, open space and recreation system:

1. Provide waterfront access.
2. Provide safe routes to park, recreation and open space facilities.
3. Preserve, maintain and enhance built and natural facilities to ensure quality opportunities exist.
4. Create a balance of passive and active recreation opportunities in parks.
5. Provide equitable opportunities for diverse and affordable recreation programs and community events.
6. Engage the community in parks, recreation and open space decisions and activities.
7. Create a financially sustainable parks and recreation system through partnerships and stewardship.

The recommendations reflect opportunities and constraints available in the city, such as topographic limitations, availability of land, and other physical features. Specific implementation strategies (projects) are described within each recommendation. The recommendations and their implementation strategies represent a *fiscally unconstrained* context, so cost limitations are not accounted or reflected in these recommendations. This project list forms the basis of the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) described in the Implementation chapter that follows. The recommendations and the implementation strategies collectively meet the future needs of the community at the highest aspirational level to create a complete, quality parks system in Kenmore. The Implementation chapter identifies the project costs and establishes a priority for implementation

to reflect a *fiscally unconstrained* list (CFP- Parks Capital Facilities Plan) that becomes the basis of the *fiscally constrained* 6-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and is directly tied to the anticipated funding available within that timeframe. Also, for each implementation strategy listed under a recommendation, there is a note to reference which projects are new, or which are carried forward from the 2015-2035 CFP.

Recommendation 1: Improve access to parks, recreation and open space facilities.

Improved access to Kenmore's park system has also been a priority for the community through a number of surveys and outreach conducted since the previous plan was adopted. Access in relation to this plan means removing the tangible and intangible barriers that currently exist, or are perceived to exist, for all residents to enjoy a quality, safe, and inviting park, recreation and/or open space system in Kenmore. This includes physical barriers and ADA access within each park, improving park entries and providing clear views and wayfinding into parks, providing additional parks so everyone in the city can walk to a park or recreation facility, and simply providing the types of recreation that residents actually want. Programming examples within this, and in partnership with others, could include walking maps noting safe routes to parks.

The implementation strategies (projects) listed below meet Goal 4 and 5.

New Park Land. (Revised 2015 CFP Project). Acquire and develop property to support new parks, recreation, and open space to provide a recreation opportunity within a 10-minute walk of every resident in the city. Priority should be given the Moorlands area and the northeast corner of the city where there are gaps in meeting this goal and new residential growth anticipated over time. However, other areas and lands should also be considered as funding and opportunity allows. Approximately 30 acres is assumed over the course of the 20-year planning period, primarily as neighborhood or community parks, but could also include linear parks, trails, open space or special use facilities. New parks should include a balance of active and passive uses.

Tolt-Pipeline Phase 2 (2015 CFP Project). Acquire and develop the missing link from 73rd to 80th, includes acquisition, easements or other use agreement and development of an elevated walkway over Swamp Creek Wetland.

Moorlands Park Property Expansion (2015 CFP Project). Acquire and develop property adjacent to Moorlands Park to accommodate future growth and provide a greater diversity of recreation

amenities and programming in this part of the city. Includes updating the park's Master Plan to include the new acreage.

Moorlands Neighborhood Trail Connection (New). Acquire and develop a new trail connecting Rhododendron Park to Moorlands Park, **preferably separated from roadways as much as possible. The location of this trail has not been defined and will need to be determined at a future date.**

Twin Springs Park (2015 CFP Project – Currently in CIP). Includes phased development to provide parking and trailhead elements that would allow the city to open the park to the public (Phase 1). Additional improvements (Phase 2) would provide recreational elements suitable for the natural context of the park, such as informal play areas, picnicking, educational opportunities, and trails as shown in the adopted Master Plan.

Safe Routes to Parks (New). Dedicate funding to partner and support the city's Public Works Department in the development of safe walking routes to parks and recreation facilities. **Costs for this are not included in the CFP at this time.**

ADA and Universal Access (New). Dedicate funding on an on-going basis to provide for ADA and other accessibility improvements in parks to move the city towards a park system that provides universal access to all Kenmore residents. This could include physical improvements at parks, recreation and open space facilities, wayfinding improvements within those facilities or city-wide, and / or online resources, programs, and other materials that support understanding, accessibility, and use of the parks system for all residents regardless of age, ethnicity, language, culture, or ability. **Costs for this are not included in the CFP at this time.**

Recommendation 2: Access to the waterfront

Kenmore is a city uniquely located where the Sammamish River meets Lake Washington. It is a community that identifies itself, in part, through its proximity to water, whether the lake or the river that bisects the city. As such, its residents highly value access to the water, visual and physical, as part of their recreational needs. This is a priority expressed in the community outreach and is reflected in every parks and recreation plan developed since the city's original incorporation. Examples of waterfront access projects include trails along the waterfront, expanding water access and beach areas, overlooks that offer a unique view of the water, or new public access along rivers and Lake Washington. Programming opportunities, in partnership with others, could include kayak or stand-up paddle board summer camps or year-round rentals and fishing events.

The implementation strategies (projects) listed below meet Goals 1 and 2.

WaterWalk Trail (Revised 2015 CFP Project). Acquire and develop land, easements, or other agreements to support the vision for a WaterWalk trail along Kenmore's waterfront connecting Log Boom Park to Squire's Landing Park along Lake Washington and the Sammamish River. **This also coincides with the Lake Washington Waterfront Park and the Sammamish River Waterfront Park projects listed below.** Approximately 8,400 linear feet is still needed along the waterfront to

accommodate the proposed trail corridor. Additional land may be needed to accommodate construction limits for grading, vegetation management, shoreline edge treatments, mitigation opportunities, and other features. This also assumes that a public trail would be required as part of any development agreement for the Lakepointe property so acquisition of property through this area is not included in the CFP. A feasibility study and conceptual site plan is needed as the initial phase of the project to consider alignment alternatives, trail design standards, constructability, and permitting or mitigation needs.

Lake Washington Waterfront Park (2015 CFP Project). Acquire and develop land, easements, or other agreements to provide additional access to Lake Washington, especially as it may support recreational opportunities along the WaterWalk from Log Boom Park to Squire's Landing Park. This could include visual access and/or physical access. Based on the previous PROS planning process, this assumes up to 10 acres.

Sammamish River Waterfront Park (2015 CFP Project). Acquire and develop land, easements, or other agreements to provide additional access to Sammamish River, especially as it may support recreational opportunities along the WaterWalk from Log Boom Park to Squire's Landing Park. This could include visual access and/or physical access. Based on the previous PROS planning process, this assumes up to 12 acres.

Log Boom Park Waterfront Access (2015 CFP Project, Currently in CIP). Improve and expand the beach area of Log Boom Park, including a hand-carry boat launch and other support facilities, as shown in the adopted Master Plan. A Walkways and Waterways bond levy project is currently underway as part of the 2019-2024 CIP.

Squire's Landing Waterfront Access (2015 CFP Project, Currently in CIP – Phase 2 New). Improve recreational amenities and develop the park per the approved Concept Plan for access to the Sammamish River. Phase 1 is focused on the west side of the park with a new water access, trails, open space, educational opportunity, natural play area, picnic areas, and other features. A Walkways and Waterways bond levy project is currently underway as part of the 2019-2024 CIP. Phase 2 proposes to update the existing Concept Plan and develop an extension of the elevated walkway system (WaterWalk) to the east through the park, along with natural area restoration and enhancement.

Rhododendron Park (2015 CFP Project). Complete Phases 2 and 3 of the adopted Master Plan. Phase 2 includes the proposed boat house to support waterfront access and programming- an existing CIP project. Phase 3 would complete the remaining elements of the Master Plan.

Waterfront Programming (New - Programming Only). Support programming and community events along the waterfront and that provide direct access to the water. These include vendor opportunities at waterfront parks, water-related recreation for hand-carry or motorized boating, and other opportunities as may become available within the city. Actively seek and facilitate partnerships for water-related programs, facilities, and use.

Recommendation 3: Support active and healthy lifestyles

An active lifestyle is an important part of healthy living and key to city residents being able to live, work, and play in Kenmore. This starts by educating the community on the value and importance of a healthy lifestyle and offering a variety of opportunities to stay active no matter one's age, ability or interest. The projects below are centered around more active sports or new facilities, but other projects such as the trails along the WaterWalk or through natural systems and providing for more variety of activities within the parks like sport courts, fitness stations, climbing walls, etc, are also related to this recommendation even though they are listed under other recommendations in this chapter. Programming ideas related to this, provided in partnership with others, could include hosted park walks and fun runs, yoga in the park, weekly fitness classes, and lunchtime health talks.

The implementation strategies (projects) listed below meet Goals 4, 5 and 6.

Aquatic/Community Center Partnership (Revised 2015 CFP Project). Pursue a partnership with neighboring cities and the Northshore School District to explore ways to acquire land and develop a joint aquatic/community/ center as a regional facility. This could include creating a new regional task force or multi-jurisdictional citizen advisory committee; updating the previous aquatic center feasibility study to consider new public/private partnership methods, community center programming, new opportunities, and other possible locations; and funding approaches to the project. Only 25% of the potential total cost is included in the CFP assuming other partners will contribute the remaining funding for acquisition and development.

Linwood Park (2015 CFP Project). Develop and implement a master plan to renovate Linwood Park to improve and expand amenities to improve access to opportunities in this area of the city.

City Hall Park Phase 2 (2015 CFP Project). Develop the north side of the City Hall to provide additional recreation amenities for community gathering for improved recreation and event programs. Includes an updated Master Plan and implementation. Potential improvement ideas include a small community garden, picnic shelter, outdoor stage, seating public art, as well as more active activities such as table tennis, fitness areas, or similar activities.

Saint Edward State Park Ballfield (2015 CFP – Currently in CIP). Develop a multi-purpose, synthetic field at Saint Edward State Park. Based on the previous 2015 Athletic Fields CFP project, this CIP project is in a planning phase right now. The city has requested a lease agreement with State Parks to redevelop the field. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is being prepared in association with the city's requested lease agreement.

Bastyr Field Replacement or Development of Other New Fields (New). Develop a strategy for long-term replacement of the fields at Bastyr University. Initially, this would include extending the lease beyond 2025. However, to ensure the long-term availability of sports fields in the city, additional measures should be considered. A feasibility study and alternatives analysis are needed as the initial phase of the project to consider potential locations, partnerships, and development

opportunities in the local and regional context. Acquisition/development of new fields are not included in the line item for this CFP project, but could be included as part of other park land acquisition and development projects.

Programming Support (New - Programming Only). Support recreation programming to ensure access to programs, classes and leagues offered by other organizations and jurisdictions. This includes dedicating staff to coordinating programming efforts, producing marketing materials and other media releases that indicate where residents can go to find the different programs and events offered throughout the year, and / or providing scholarships for disadvantaged individuals to participate in programs and events who might not otherwise be able to participate. **Programming, would continue to be provided primarily by other jurisdictions, agencies or organizations with the city in a supporting role. A separate fund should be considered to be able to respond to new opportunities for recreation programming. Funding for programming support is not currently included in the CFP.**

Recommendation 4: Conservation of the built and natural environment

So much of what makes Kenmore unique and draws residents to want to live in the city is centered around the harmony that exists between the built and natural environments, the feeling of a city immersed in nature. Some of this is the proximity to water as noted above, but another major element that draws residents to the city is the abundance of natural areas . . . the streams, wetlands, forests and ravines that weave their way through the community and help define the character of the city. The preservation, restoration, and education of these natural systems is reflected in the projects listed below and provide the passive recreation needed to balance the active elements of this plan. Restoration and maintenance of the built environment is equally important to preserve the recreational value, safety, sustainability, and function of the park system as a whole. Programming opportunities, in partnership with others, could include volunteer planting and clean-up days or guided nature walks.

The implementation strategies (projects) listed below meet Goal 3.

Swamp Creek Natural Areas / Open Space (2015 CFP). Continue to acquire land, easements, or other agreements to protect the natural areas and develop an elevated walkway/nature trail along Swamp Creek, including its associated wetlands, heron rookery and the forested buffers important to support those systems. Approximately 18 acres is assumed for this item based on a general evaluation of available lands and the extent of the natural systems remaining undeveloped along the corridor. An initial Phase 1 is currently underway to purchase about five acres along the Swamp Creek corridor. Future phases would include the purchase of just over 13 acres of land for an

elevated walkway nature trail system and protection and/or restoration of the Swamp Creek Wetland.

Restoration of natural areas (New). Provide funding and volunteer coordination efforts to enhance and restore natural systems and open space areas within the park system on an on-going basis, including maintenance needs to support restoration efforts. Identify and cultivate long-term partnerships and volunteer events to support this effort. Costs for this are not included in the CFP at this time.

Educational opportunities around natural areas (New - Programming Only). Support educational opportunities, **provided by other jurisdictions, organizations or agencies**, that specifically target natural areas (wetlands, streams, urban forests, etc.). This could include programs, classes, clean-up days, and other services to engage residents in conservation of natural systems. Target opportunities for youth to support long-term stewardship within future generations of Kenmore residents (or beyond). Identify and cultivate partnerships to support this effort.

Operational and Maintenance Needs (New - Operational Only). Identify operational and maintenance costs associated with new capital projects, including long-term replacement, and account for those costs directly in the budgeting process.

Park Facility Major Repairs / Replacement (New). Create an on-going annual CIP project that would fund necessary major repairs and replacement for parks and recreation facilities. This strategy would include park facility repairs, renovation/restoration, and / or regular replacement for safety, functionality, or sustainability needs. Examples of projects of this strategy include: roof replacement on existing park structures, parking lot, access drive or court resurfacing, float/pier/boardwalk repairs, playground equipment upgrades or replacement, the replacement of subsurface soils and drainage improvements for athletic fields, upgrading irrigation systems to incorporate water-conservation technologies. Costs for this are not included in the CFP at this time.

Recommendation 5: Provide for a diverse range of parks, recreation and open space interests and ensure flexibility in the system to respond to changing interests over time.

While providing access to parks and recreation is an important factor in meeting the needs of the community, what happens in those facilities – the physical improvements, activities, and programs within each park – is equally important to creating a quality parks system for Kenmore residents. Improvements within parks should support opportunities for future programs, whether those programs are offered by the city or by others. They should be flexible to accommodate new trends or a shift in the demographics of the community over time, and they should be inclusive of all Kenmore residents. Improvements could include picnic facilities, multi-purpose courts and fields, or facilities to support new emerging sports like gaga ball courts and pickleball. Programming

ideas, in partnership with others, could include more community celebrations and events, a diversity day with food trucks from around world, or other similar events.

The implementation strategies (projects) listed below meet Goals 5 and 6.

Community Events and Gathering (New - Programming Only). Actively engage and support a variety of events to encourage and celebrate diversity in the community. This could occur through partnerships with other organizations or recognizing cultural needs and interests in the planning process for new parks and recreation facilities. Transitory, or pilot projects, that allow for greater exploration of potential new trends in recreation facilities or programs could be another way to engage in a greater level of diversity within the park system before committing significant resources to a more permanent installation.

Community Engagement (New - Programming Only). Continue to integrate community involvement in every aspect of developing new parks and recreation facilities to ensure the park system continues to respond to community interests. Look for ways to incorporate placemaking into park projects, bringing a higher level of site-specific and neighborhood context to the development of parks and recreation in the city.

Public Arts and Culture (New - Programming Only). Create programming, community space, events, and/or other methods to celebrate the unique character or identity of Kenmore residents through public art and cultural enhancement of parks and recreation facilities throughout the city. An allowance for public art and culture within all capital projects should be considered but is not included in the CFP at this time.

Wallace Swamp Creek Park (2015 CFP). Develop and implement a Master Plan to support habitat enhancement, protection of sensitive areas, nature trails, picnic areas, interpretive education, and other similar passive recreation activities.

Off-Leash Area (2015 CFP Project). Locate and develop a new off-leash area in Kenmore. It is assumed that this would occur at an existing park, but it could also be part of a new acquisition. It could be completed by the city or in partnership with another agency or community organization if feasibility and funding allows. This project should be considered when reviewing and updating park master plans. New acquisition for an off-leash area is not included in the CFP at this time.

Capacity Improvements at Existing Parks (Revised 2015 CFP Project). Develop and expand recreational opportunities at existing parks to add capacity, increase diversity in the types of amenities offered in the system, improve accessibility, and/or enhance the overall park experience. Amenities could include play areas, spray parks, off-leash areas, plaza and gathering areas, picnic facilities, benches, sport courts, trails, public art, climbing areas, new sports or recreational uses, and/or any other similar improvements.

CHAPTER 6

IMPLEMENTATION

Kenmore is making incremental progress towards creating a park and recreation system that addresses community needs and conditions. Chapter 6 describes the funding opportunities, financial resources, project costs, priorities for implementation, an existing level of service and an aspirational level of service if all recommendations of the updated PROS Plan are implemented. The implementation plan consists of a series of capital projects that are based on the overall vision and goals for the park system and the key findings in the demand and need analysis as they are reflected in the final recommendation. If implemented, these projects will respond to the needs of the community, meet or exceeds the proposed level of service, and result in a relevant and vibrant park, recreation and open space system well into the future.

Kenmore has made significant progress since the last PROS Plan update was completed in 2013. That plan identified many of the same goals, recommendations, and projects that are still relevant today and it's important to recognize the progress the city has already made. The accomplishments and projects completed, along with the respective timeframe they were completed, are shown below.

2014 – 2016 Accomplishments

- Ownership transferred to the city for the King County Portal Site, now known as Twin Springs Park
- Purchased 0.7 acres adjacent to Squire's Landing Park, enabling the Kenmore Waterfront Activity Center (KWAC) programming to begin
- Built City Hall Jack Crawford Skate Court
- Built Northshore Summit Park
- Installed a boarding float at Log Boom Park and contracted with a concessionaire for renting hand powered watercraft
- Replaced Log Boom Park Pedestrian Bridge connection to the adjacent marina
- Engaged the community through the Imagine Kenmore process to further identify and prioritize parks and recreation needs
- Community passed the Walkways & Waterways Bond Measure
- Play Day at Rhododendron Park began
- Stake Like a Girl Skate Boarding Camp began

- Sky Hawks summer camps at Rhododendron Park began

2017 – 2019 Accomplishments

- Built the Tolt-Pipeline Trail between 68th and 70th Street
- Installed a boardwalk and float at Rhododendron Park
- Built Kenmore Town Square and Hangar Building
- Offered free room rentals for community to help program the Hangar
- For the Love of Kenmore Summer Event at the Hangar began
- Movies @ The Square (Hangar Building Outdoor Plaza) began
- Replaced the float at Squire's Landing Park
- Renovated Moorlands Park, including construction of the baseball field
- Developed a Master Plan for Twin Springs Park through a community engagement process
- National Skyscraper Day Workshops with LEGO at the Hangar
- STEM Fundamentals with LEGO at the Hangar
- Preschool Music & Movement Class at the Hangar
- Just Get Me Started at the Hangar – all ages art – make and take home - classes
- Boat Cruise Adventures from Log Boom Park

2019 CIP Projects Underway

- Acquisition of 4.85 acres of Swamp Creek Natural Areas / Open Space
- Non-motorized transportation improvements along 68th Street and Juanita Blvd. for a complete north-south connection through the city
- Twin Springs Phase I Trailhead
- Rhododendron Park Boardwalk and Float Mitigation Monitoring and Maintenance
- Rhododendron Park Boathouse
- Squire's Landing Park Replacement Float Mitigation Monitoring and Maintenance
- Squire's Landing Waterfront Access and Natural Area Access Project
- Log Boom Park Waterfront Access and Viewing Project
- St. Edward Ballfield Improvements (SEPA/EIS only)



Funding Strategies and Resources

The city's biennial budget includes a six-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The State Growth Management Act also requires that the city adopt a twenty-year Capital Facilities Plan (CFP). Within the CIP, park capital projects and funding sources are identified. Financing capital projects comes from a variety of sources, such as general funds, reserve funds, impact fees, real estate excise tax, grants, private sector support, limited general obligation and general obligation voter approved bonds. While the 6-Year CIP is fiscally constrained matching the funding currently available to the cost of the projects listed, the remaining CFP recommendations are not fiscally constrained and could be funded by a variety of methods as opportunity allows.

The following describes a list of potential funding sources for capital projects and operations.

Grant Programs

The principal public funding sources applicable to parks and recreation development are found in the categories of local, state and federal programs commonly referred to as "Statutory Funding". These may include but are not limited to funding assistance programs administered by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for the State of Washington, King County Youth Athletic Facilities, King Conservation District, US Army Corps of Engineers, and other agencies including public, private and non-profit organizations. Grants for funding park projects generally require matching city funds to be eligible for grant funding assistance and many of these programs are competitive, with more grant applications than the level of funding available. Grants enable the city to leverage or supplement other funding resources and, in some cases, one grant program may be used to match another grant program, especially if the programs are through different agencies or organizations.

General Fund

The general fund provides the operating capital for day-to-day operations of the city. The primary sources of revenue for this fund are property and sales taxes. The general fund can fund capital projects through interfund transfer.

Reserves

Reserves are accumulated over a period of years for specific projects. Contributions from reserves can be made either from donations, property sales or unspent year-end resources. The City Council designates by resolution the purposes for which reserve contribution or property sales will be

dedicated. General purpose reserves are not available to fund capital projects unless the City Council determines that they be utilized for a specific project. Reserves could potentially be used to fund ongoing major replacement needs for park improvements.

Impact Fees

Impact fees for parks were adopted in 2001 as a source for funding parks capital projects. Impact fees are authorized only for roads, parks, fire protection and schools. These fees can only be collected for system improvements which meet all of the following:

- Reasonably relate to the new development
- Do not exceed a proportionate share of the costs related to the new development
- Are used to reasonably benefit the new development
- Are not for existing level of service deficiencies.

The City of Kenmore's Park Impact Fee calculation and background information is included in the Appendix.

Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)

This is a tax levied on the sale of real property within the city. It is legally restricted for capital purposes, including park acquisition, renovation, and development. The Growth Management Act stipulates that the city must use the REET primarily for projects contained in the Capital Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

General Obligation Bonds

These bonds are proposed by a County or City Council for acquisition or development. These are voter-approved bonds typically repaid through an annual excess property tax levy. The maturity period of bonds is normally 15 to 20 years and generally corresponds to the expected life of the improvement. For a general obligation bond to pass it must receive at least 60 percent voter approval as well as pass a validation requirement. The validation requirement is for at least 40 percent of the number voting to have also voted in the previous general election.

Limited Term General Obligation Bonds (Councilmanic Bonds)

These bonds are general obligation bonds issued by the City Council without voter approval. Under State law repayment of these bonds must be financed from general revenues since no additional property taxes can be levied to support related debt service payments.

Levy Referendum Proposition 747, the statutory provision limiting the growth of regular property taxes to 1% per year can be waived by referendum approval of a simple (50%) majority of ballots cast. Voters can be asked to approve a resetting of the property tax levy rate that would adjust the amount of revenue the city can generate. The new total revenue that can be generated by resetting the rate would be subject to the same 1.0% limitation, however, and the total amount of revenue and the resulting property tax rate would start to decline again in accordance with the Proposition. The adjusted rate and revenue would finance specific capital improvement, maintenance and/or operations projects.

King County Parks Levy

In August 2019, King County voters approved a measure to renew the property tax levy supporting parks, trails, and open space in King County. The measure, will replace the current levy that expires at the end of the year and generate an estimated \$810 million over six years, costing approximately \$7.60 per month for the owner of a home with an assessed property value of \$500,000. The revenue generated by this levy means county-wide investments in parks, trails, recreation, and open space protection for the benefit of all King County residents, no matter where they live.

Revenue Bonds

Revenue bonds encompass a broad category of mechanisms for financing. For the purposes of project development, revenue-bonding procedures may be used based on authorizing statutes or based on leasehold values of land, facilities and operating entities that create a cash flow. Cities also have authority to issue revenue bonds for utility purposes such as water service, sewer service, refuse and storm water drainage. The following are agreements possible through this funding method:

- Land lease/development agreements with private corporations for the development of commercial recreation.
- Land lease/development agreements with public and private entities for the development and operations of special events and entertainment facilities.
- Concession or operating agreements for promotion and administration of festivals, pageants or cultural events.
- Land lease/development or co-development agreements for development and operations of a sports complex and sports tournament center.
- Land lease/development agreements for community recreation and aquatics center, family health and fitness centers, water slide parks, corporation picnic centers, and other forms of joint development projects.

- Operating and concession agreements for merchandising, food and beverage concessions and other retail sales venues linked to recreation activities.

Conservation Future Funds (CFT)

This tax is based on the Washington State's Current Use Taxation Law passed in 1970 which enabled counties to levy a tax of up to 6.25 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation for the purpose of acquiring various types of open space. King County has levied the full amount authorized by the state and has collected the tax since 1987.

Donations

Gifts and donations from individuals, foundations, and business can also be used to supplement city resources for the improvement of its facilities. Philanthropic contributions from private donors may provide an excellent source of capital and operation funding as well as potential leverage for attaining matching funding.

Park Districts

Park and Recreation District Service Areas (PRSA). Section 36.68 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) provides for the creation of park and recreation service areas, which can consist of all or a portion of a county. PRSAs may include cities within their boundaries, although this is not a requirement. PRSAs may be initiated by passage of a county resolution or by petition. In either case, simple majority approval by voters within the proposed service area is required. If approved by 60% of the voters, PRSAs may issue bonds or enact special levies for the construction and maintenance of recreation facilities. PRSAs are considered to be taxing authorities in their own right, and any debt incurred, following voter approval, does not count against a city or county's debt limit. The statute allows a county to assign operational responsibility for facilities developed by a PRSA to a city through an interlocal agreement.

The closest example of a local PRSA is the Northshore Parks and Recreation Service Area (Northshore PRSA) that encompasses the Northshore School District boundary. The Northshore PRSA may be used to help fund parks, recreation and open space facilities, but only those that will serve the entire PRSA boundary.

The Northshore Parks and Recreation Service Area was created to locate and develop a regional senior center in the mid-1980's. The Northshore Senior Center is now located in Bothell. The Northshore PRSA was also convened to conduct an aquatic facility needs analysis and location study in June 2008. Planning for a regional aquatic facility was not pursued after completing the aquatic facility study.

Metropolitan Park District. In 2002, the state legislature authorized the establishment of metropolitan park districts as special units of government that may be wholly independent of any involvement with a city, county, or any other local public agency or jurisdiction. Metropolitan Park Districts have their own independent taxing authority as a municipal corporation in the state of Washington. Like a PRSA, metropolitan park districts may provide recreational facilities that are specific to the district's boundaries in return for the district residents' agreement to pay the special development, operation and maintenance costs utilizing special financing devices. A metropolitan park district must be initiated by local government resolution or citizen petition following hearings on feasibility and cost studies of the proposed district's facility development or operation costs. The proposal must ultimately be submitted for voter approval (50%+1) including all provisions relating to any special financing agreements. The boundaries of the park district may coincide with city boundaries. A Board of Commissioners may be elected to oversee the park district, although an existing City Council may take the place of a separate Commission if a District's boundaries are contiguous with the city's boundaries.

User Fees

The fee structure typically preferred by recreation agencies is a system of individual activity fees. This reflects the common desire to offset certain traditional activities free of any fees or charges while allowing the city to defray operating costs and expenses for intensive activities such as league sports.

Additionally, there may be entrance fees for "special use" park facilities and entrance fees, plus activity fees, at other facilities such as sports parks and recreation centers. The actual fee schedule is a function of policy and may be subject to annual review. Adoption of user fee schedules should consider "market values" for recreation services, which have a modifying effect on the amount of user fees charged, and considerations for low-income populations through direct modification of fees or scholarship programs to offset fees. In addition, user fees typically do not offset all public costs for parks and recreation and, thus, should be considered an offset of some recreation program operations and maintenance expenses.

Joint Development / Joint Use Partnerships

Public/private or public/public partnerships designed to leverage each dollar through the added economics of joint development in areas of acquisition, operations and maintenance, infrastructure development, joint use parking/drainage, etc. Examples include commercial recreation, such as miniature golf or standard golf courses, aquatic centers, amusement parks, sports centers, theater or performing arts facilities, arenas and other forms of enterprise tied to recreation services.

While not actually considered joint development, there may be opportunities for maximizing facility value, such as joint use parking from an adjacent public or private facility that will result in reducing the effective cost of the new facility (parking, surface water retention, etc.) An example would be the Bastyr University ballfields.

- Donations \$ 2,000.00

If this same level of funding continues, this results in a total contribution of \$4,710,700 by the end of the planning period in 2039.

General Obligation Bonds

The city issued general obligation bonds to pay a portion of capital improvements at two park facilities: Squire's Landing Park and Log Boom Park. Total bond fund contribution for these facilities is \$8,300,000. New development activity will assume its proportionate share of this bond obligation through payment of property taxes as described further in the Park Impact Fee Rate Study Report.

Surface Water Management (SWM) Capital Facilities Charge

The city recently adopted a Stormwater Capital Facilities Charge (CFC). Funding collected through this resource will be considered for growth related capital projects, including but limited to parks facilities.

Grant Programs

In addition to the funding sources listed above, it is anticipated that the city will continue to submit for parks and recreation grant funding through a variety of agencies. Up to \$5,000,000 in revenue could be received from various grant resources over the life of this plan.



Capital Facilities Plan

The Capital Facilities Plan below identifies proposed capital projects, acquisition and development of physical facilities within the park system, that correspond to the plan recommendations described previously. These projects have emerged from reviewing the results of the analysis of the community needs through this planning process. Each project is cross-referenced to the parks and recreation goal (or goals) that the project supports.

Figure X shows the short-term priorities included in the 6-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This is the fiscally constrained list of projects and is updated annually to reflect the current funding available. The mid-term priorities are shown in Figure X and the long-term priorities are shown in Figure X. The mid-term and long-term projects are not fiscally constrained and represent the aspirational goals for a complete, high quality park system that meets all the needs of the community for the future, however, these projects are not funded. Implementation will be dependent on future funding and as opportunity allows.

The priority of each project between short, mid, or long term and the addition or deletion of projects from this list is also subject to change as new opportunities arise, new partnerships are formed, or new funding becomes available. The cost of each project is included in the figures below, along with the project number and the goal each project supports.

The total cost of the short term, 6-year CIP (2019-2024) list, is \$11,747,000. The current CIP numbers associated with each project are shown in the figure below where applicable. With two new short term projects proposed, the total cost increases to approximately \$12 million to be included in the draft proposed 2020-2025 CIP for park facilities. The mid and long-term projects, when combined with the short-term projects, would result in a total cost of about \$200 million. Costs are based on 2019 dollars and include construction costs, permitting, design, sales tax and other associated planning and development costs. Escalation of costs over time is not included.

Figure X: Capital Facilities Plan – Short Term (6-Year CIP).

CFP PROJECT NO.	PRIORITY	GOAL	CIP PROJECT NO.	PROJECT DETAIL	DRAFT 2020-2025 CIP Project Costs**
A			ACQUISITION		
A9	Short	3	P 31	Swamp Creek Wetland Acquisition – Phase 1	\$1,700,000*
D			DEVELOPMENT		
D11	Short	4, 5	P 1	Twin Springs Interim Use Plan	\$100,000
D5	Short	1	P 6	Moorlands Park Improvements	\$50,000***
D6	Short	2	P 18, P 18a	Rhododendron Park Boardwalk & Float Mitigation	\$96,000*** \$8,000***
D8	Short	2	P 26	Squire's Landing Replacement Float Mitigation	\$16,000***
D8A	Short	1	P 27	Squire's Landing Waterfront Access Project	\$5,750,000
D4	Short	1	P 28	Log Boom Park Waterfront Access Project	\$2,740,000
D7	Short	1, 6	P 29	Saint Edward State Park Ballfield (SEPA/EIS Only)	\$800,000*
D6A	Short	1, 6	P 30	Rhododendron Park – Phase 2 Boatshed	\$487,000
D9	Short	2, 3	-	Swamp Creek Wetland Trail Access Point (NEW)	\$75,000*
D3	Short	4	-	Linwood Park (Master Plan) (NEW)	\$100,000*
			SUBTOTAL		
					\$11,922,000
R			REPAIR/REPLACEMENT (RENOVATION) PROJECTS		
X	Short	3, 5, 6	-	Park Facility Repair / Replacement	<i>Not Included</i>

* Initial phase only, additional phases and costs are also included in mid or long-term projects.

** List of short-term projects is derived from the most recent CIP adopted by City Council in 2018. Projects and costs shown may be adjusted, added, or deleted annually as needed.

*** Completed projects.

Figure X: Capital Facilities Plan – Mid-Term (7-12 Years).

PROJECT NO.	PRIORITY	GOAL	PROJECT DETAIL	2019 Total Cost*
A			ACQUISITION	
1	Mid	1, 6	Bastyr Field Replacement (Feasibility Study)	\$ 150,000
5A	Mid	2	Moorlands Trail Acquisition (Rhododendron Park to Moorlands Park; location to be determined)	\$5,000,000
10	Mid	2, 6	Tolt Pipeline – Phase 2 (73rd to 80th)	\$1,230,000
19	Mid	3, 4, 5	New Park land Acquisition	\$5,560,785*
23	Mid	1, 2	WaterWalk Trail Acquisition – Phase 1 (Log Boom to Squire's Landing)	\$ 741,438
D			DEVELOPMENT	
2	Mid	5	City Hall Park – Phase 2	\$ 620,000
3	Mid	4	Linwood Park (Implementation)	\$1,057,770
6B	Mid	5	Rhododendron Park – Phase 3	\$1,040,000
7	Mid	1, 6	Saint Edward State Park Ballfield	\$7,000,000
9	Mid	2, 3	Swamp Creek Wetland Nature Trail	\$1,785,000
10	Mid	2, 6	Tolt Pipeline Trail Phase 2 (73rd to 80th)	\$ 3,500
11A	Mid	4, 5	Twin Springs Park Phase 2 Trails	\$1,716,000
11B	Mid	4, 5	Twin Springs Park Phase 3 (Nature Play, Shelter)	\$1,800,000
12	Mid	3	Wallace Swamp Creek Park (Master Plan, Implement)	\$1,281,500
13	Mid	4, 5	ADA and Universal Access	<i>Not Included</i>
15	Mid	5, 6	Dog Off-Leash Area	\$739,000
16	Mid	5	Existing Park Capacity Improvements (Expansion or New Features)	\$9,750,000*
18	Mid	3	Restoration of natural areas	<i>Not Included</i>
21	Mid	4, 5	Safe Routes to Parks (Partnership with Public Works)	<i>Not Included</i>
23	Mid	1, 2	WaterWalk Trail Development (Feasibility and Implementation)	\$5,000,000*
R			REPAIR/REPLACEMENT (RENOVATION) PROJECTS	
X	Mid	3, 5, 6	Park Facility Repair / Replacement	<i>Not Included</i>

* Initial phase only, additional phases and costs are also included in long-term projects.

Figure X: Capital Facilities Plan – Long Term (13+ Years).

PROJECT NO.	PRIORITY	GOAL	PROJECT DETAIL	2019 Total Cost
A			ACQUISITION	
5	Long	4, 5	Moorlands Park Expansion Acquisition	\$ 741,438
9A	Long	3	Swamp Creek Wetland Acquisition – Phase 2	\$4,655,000
14	Long	6	Aquatic/Community Center Partnership Acquisition (1/4 of Cost)	\$6,250,000
17	Long	1	Lake Washington Waterfront Park Acquisitions	\$7,414,380
19	Long	3, 4, 5	New Park land Acquisition	\$16,682,355
22	Long	1	Sammamish River Waterfront Park Acquisitions	\$8,897,256
D			DEVELOPMENT	
5A	Long	2	Moorlands Trail Development	\$5,000,000
5B	Long	4, 5	Moorlands Park Expansion Development	\$1,650,000
8B	Long	1	Squire's Landing Waterfront Access – Phase 2	\$4,144,800
10	Long	2,6	Tolt Pipeline trail – Phase 2	\$3,402,000
14	Long	6	Aquatic/Community Center Partnership Development (1/4 of Cost)	\$10,625,000
13	Long	4, 5	ADA and Universal Access	<i>Not Included</i>
16	Long	5	Existing Park Capacity Improvements	\$9,750,000
17	Long	1	Lake Washington Waterfront Park Development	\$10,000,000
18	Long	3	Natural Area Restoration	<i>Not Included</i>
19	Long	4, 5	New Park Land Development	\$45,000,000
21	Long	4, 5	Safe Routes to Parks	<i>Not Included</i>
22	Long	1	Sammamish River Waterfront Park Development	\$5,000,000
23	Long	1	WaterWalk Trail Development	\$5,000,000
			SUBTOTAL COMBINED: MID & LONG TERM	\$189,625,160
			TOTAL CFP	\$201,457,160
R			REPAIR/REPLACEMENT (RENOVATION) PROJECTS	
X	Long	3, 5, 6	Park Facility Major Repairs / Replacement	<i>Not Included</i>

Level of Service

Level of service is a way of measuring the quantity and/or quality of the parks system in relation to the number of residents in the city. Level of service can be determined by any of the factors identified in the demand and needs analysis above, but it is up to each city to determine what its level of service should be and how it should be measured.

The City of Kenmore has chosen to measure the level of service for parks, recreation and open space facilities in terms of the value of the current parks system per capita as this methodology was used in the Park Impact Fee Rate Study (May 2019). This method accommodates the *quantity* and the *quality* of parks, recreation and open space facilities by including the value of the park land and the facilities built within those parks. The level of service calculation is shown in Figure X below and only includes completed city-owned facilities. New facilities or lands that are currently in progress of acquisition or construction, like the 68th / Juanita Blvd. non-motorized trail improvements and the Swamp Creek Open Space Phase 1 acquisition, are not included in this calculation.

The existing level of service, \$3,259 per capita, is the value of the current parks and recreation system divided by the total population of the city. ***In order to maintain at least the same level of improvements as new growth occurs, the proposed level of service must match the same value as the existing condition.*** This means that today, for every Kenmore resident the city has spent \$3,259 (in 2019 dollars) on park, recreation and open space land and facility improvements. This number is derived by dividing the total value of the park system by the total existing population. The total value of the existing parks system is shown in greater detail in Table 1 of the 2019 Park Impact Fee Rate Study Report found in the PROS Plan Appendix. As Kenmore continues to grow, the city will spend at a least the ***same amount per capita*** on future park, recreation, and open space land and facility improvements as exists today to accommodate this new growth. The projected future population is multiplied by \$3,259 per person to come up with a total value of the future park system if this proposed level of service is maintained over time.

Figure X: Level of service calculation.

Category	2019 Existing Level of Service (value per capita)	2039 Proposed Level of Service* (value per capita)	2039 Aspirational Level of Service** (value per capita)
TOTAL value per capita	\$3,259	\$3,259	\$6,649
TOTAL value	\$74.4 million	\$92.8 million	\$202 million

* Assumes at a minimum the same value, quantity and quality, of parks would be provided to accommodate new growth as currently exists for Kenmore residents.

*** Assumes all projects (short, mid and long term) listed in the Capital Facilities Plan were completed by 2040, though recognizing many projects would likely extend beyond 2040. Proposed and aspirational calculations are based on 2040 population projections.*

The aspirational level of service shown in the figure below indicates the potential increase in the quantity and quality of parks and recreation facilities in the system if all of the proposed ideas and interests expressed by the community through the public process and identified by the demand and need analysis were completed as they are described in the 2019-2039 Park Capital Facilities Plan. The total value of all potential future projects is divided by projected future population in 2040 to equal an aspirational level of service of \$6,649 per person. This aspirational level of service is not intended to indicate any current deficiency in the parks and recreation system but recognizes the long-term vision and potential for new opportunities to provide parks and recreation facilities in the future if additional funding or partnerships were available. **Partnerships and acquiring new land as opportunity allows are two strategies that could be used to move the city closer towards these aspirational levels.**

The existing and proposed level of service will increase as development projects are completed to keep up with growth in the community. This increase will be reflected as the PROS Plan is updated on a regular basis. The corresponding benchmark for the total park acres resulting from the level of service calculation, based on the assumptions for the projects listed in the Capital Facilities Plan, is shown in Figure X.

The existing acreage benchmark is developed by dividing the total existing acres of parks, recreation and open space in Kenmore by the current population and multiplying that number by 1,000 resulting in a total of 6.4 acres per 1,000 residents. As with the level of service, **the proposed benchmark is intended to match the existing level of improvements.** Therefore, the proposed benchmark for future acres needed is developed by multiplying 6.4 acres times the projected future population and then dividing by 1,000. The aspirational benchmark takes all of the proposed acres shown in the Capital Facilities Plan plus the existing acres of parks, recreation and open space, and divides those total acres by the future projected population, then multiplies this number by 1,000 so the resulting number represents the total acres per 1,000 residents if all of the projects shown in the Capital Facilities Plan were completed by 2040.

Figure X: Benchmarks resulting from level of service calculation.

Category	2019 Existing Benchmark	2039 Proposed Benchmark*	2039+ Aspirational Benchmark**
TOTAL acres / 1000 residents	6.4	6.4	9.0
TOTAL acres	146 acres	194 acres	273 acres

Comprehensive Plan

**Assumes at a minimum the same value, quantity and quality, of parks would be provided to accommodate new growth as currently exists for Kenmore residents.*

*** Assumes all projects (short, mid and long term) listed in the Capital Facilities Plan were completed by 2040, though recognizing many projects would likely extend beyond 2040. Proposed and aspirational calculations are based on 2040 population projections.*