



City of Kenmore
Planning Commission Meeting
Agenda
Tuesday, September 23, 2025
7:00 PM

ZOOM - LINK: <https://kenmorewa-gov.zoom.us/j/89458360289>

Telephone: Dial US: +1 253 215 8782

Webinar ID: 894 5836 0289

REQUEST AN ACCOMMODATION HERE: kenmorewa.gov/accommodation

If you have technical difficulties accessing the meeting virtually, please contact the Acting City Clerk at mkang@kenmorewa.gov.

Technical Difficulties - If the virtual component of the meeting disconnects, and we cannot resolve technical difficulties to reconnect the virtual component, the in-person meeting will continue at City Hall if there is a quorum of the body to conduct business.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER - 7:00 PM

2. ROLL CALL

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that the City of Kenmore is situated upon the ancestral lands of the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Sauk-Suiattle, Duwamish, Stillaguamish, Tulalip, Suquamish, Muckleshoot, and other tribes who are part of the Coast Salish Peoples. We recognize and express our deepest respect for their enduring stewardship and profound relationship with this land, which they have cherished and protected since time immemorial. We honor the First Peoples, acknowledge their vibrant cultures, and commit ourselves to learning from their wisdom in our journey to promote justice, equity, and mutual understanding. We pledge to stand alongside these communities in acknowledging past injustices and working towards a future that respects and celebrates the diverse heritage of this land.

4. FLAG SALUTE

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

We welcome our community members to the Planning Commission meeting. In

this forum, the Commission does not engage or dialogue with the public; the primary role is to listen. We will hear from our on-site guests first, followed by our pre-registered virtual guests. All guests must address comments to the Commission. The Clerk will acknowledge your request and call your name when it is your turn. Your time will start when we confirm that we can hear you. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and keep your comments to 3 minutes. We will not split your time with others or reset your time except by express approval of the Chair. You can submit materials to the Clerk in advance. This meeting is being recorded. Thank you for taking the time to express your comments.

- A) **VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT PRE-REGISTRATION PROCESS:** To provide public comments virtually, please fill out the [Virtual Public Comment Request Form](#) in advance of the meeting. The form closes at 12:00 Noon on the day of the meeting. You will be confirmed by the Clerk. If you are having difficulty, please reach out to the Clerk at stippleleen@kenmorewa.gov.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) 09.16 Meeting Minutes
1. 09.16 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

7. AGENDA ITEMS

- A) Staff Memo
1. PC Staff Memo
- B) Attachment 1: Draft List of Park Capital Facilities Projects
1. Attachment #1 Kenmore PROS Plan CFP
- C) Attachment 2: Draft PROS Element Goals, Policies and Objects
1. Att. 2 - DRAFT 2025 Kenmore PROS GOPs (092325 PC redline) B
- D) Att. 3 - DRAFT Parks & Rec Element
1. Att. 3 - DRAFT Parks & Rec Element 091625 PC v1 (track changes-comments)

8. ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE:

- A) 10/7: Public Hearing/Make Recommendation for City Council Meeting
10/20: Recommendation to City Council

City of Kenmore
Planning Commission Special Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

Planning Commission Members – In Attendance (the meeting was held onsite and virtually using the Zoom online platform)

Tracy Banaszynski, Chair

Kara Macias

David Dorrian

Edouard Lasalle

Absent

Dwight Thompson, Vice Chair

Mike Vanderlinde

Chris Olson

Staff

Todd Hall, Principal Planner

Shannon Tipple-Leen, Planning Commission Clerk

Michelle Kang, Co-Clerk

Consultants with Beckwith Consulting

Julie Blasek

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Banaszynski at 7:00 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Olson and Vanderlinde were excused from the meeting. Vice Chair Thompson was unexcused.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Land Acknowledgement was read.

4. FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was done.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public comment was given.

6. CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from September 2, 2025, were approved. The consent agenda was accepted with unanimous consent.

7. AGENDA ITEMS

Staff brought more updates to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan. In addition, Julie Blasek from Beckwith Consulting was in attendance.

Questions/Comments:

Commissioner Dorrian - Likes the order of P-1 GOPs.

Chair Banaszynski - Regarding statement at top of the goals, policies, and objectives. Remove the first statement as it implies goals and policies can be updated.

Commissioner Macias - Add statement that there is flexibility to change as needed.

Commissioner Lasalle - Needs assessment to inform the goals. If policies are general, then ok. Authority to change goals comes more from the Council.

Staff response - Goal could change over time. Redraft the statement in the positive to imply that the goals can change to reflect changing conditions.

Goal 1

Chair Banaszynski - Propose new policy, Policy 1.2.3 allow sufficient space from the shoreline for natural ecosystem processes when considering Water Walk trail locations, especially those involve hardscapes. For example, asphalt, concrete, boardwalk, etc.

Goal 2

Commissioner Macias - Goal P-2 add the word "equitable" after quality to read ..."to ensure quality and equitable recreational opportunities exist."

Chair Banaszynski – Grammar suggestions will be sent to staff.

Commissioner Dorrian - Old P-1.2.3 looks to be inadvertently removed. Add back: Policy P-1.2.3 Identify and retain important public access and view corridors to Lake Washington and the Sammamish River.

Chair Banaszynski - P-2.1.4, line 42, reword "Develop a Master Plan to explore opportunities for continuing habitat and riparian corridor, restoration, and opportunities that include public access where appropriate."

Chair Banaszynski - P-2.1.7, separate this one out? Policy P-2.1.7 Identify resource management agencies, such as the WRIA8 Salmon Recovery Council, and volunteer partners to steward critical areas in parks and open spaces. WRIA does not provide labor so separate volunteer partners into a separate policy.

Commissioner Lasalle - Maybe additional policy after 2.1.8 encouraging connection to First Nations culture.

Commissioner Macias - Agree, but maybe this is more appropriate in Goal 5.

Chair Banaszynski - Add policy about indigenous history so add a separate policy. Policy 2.1.8 add language about indigenous and community history.

Goal 3

Commissioner Macias - Objective 3.1, add"transportation, destinations, and recreation."

Commissioner Lasalle - 3.1.1, "Prepare and actively communicate and post a safe routes plan....."

Chair Banaszynski - 3.1.5, concern about Tolt Trail through wetlands as this section of trail was removed from the Transportation Element.
Staff response- Crossing the wetlands, it's not to exclude all connections, but specifically through the wetland.

Commissioner Dorrian - should we include something about ADA compliance?

Chair Banaszynski - Include inclusivity and accessibility throughout the Goals and Policies.

Chair Banaszynski - Really likes Policy 3.1.

Goal 4

Commissioner Lasalle - 4.1.3 "expected or comparable baselines and other levels of service" add reference to baseline/benchmarks about what the expectations are for residents; rest is good but not calling out the requests and not the benchmarking with our neighboring cities. Metrics to make it clear why we are adding things and what is missing.

Chair Banaszynski - Question on P-4.2.2, confused on both local and community-wide needs.

Commissioner Lasalle - Maybe change "community-wide" to "city-wide" needs.

Commissioner Dorrian - Change to "localized".

Commissioner Macias - Objective 4.3, should be put more emphasis on broader reference to school districts.

Commissioner Lasalle - P 4.3.3, expand to be more active in supporting volunteers.

Commissioner Dorrian - Old Goal P-4, does that end up anywhere else in the policies? This seems to be a guiding policy and may need to add back.

Goal 5

Commissioner Macias - Do we duplicate Goal 2 regarding the indigenous heritage?

Commissioner Dorrian - Goal P-5 , reword "diverse need of the community" at beginning.

Goal 6

No comments

Goal 7

Chair Banaszynski - Policy 7.1.1 - can we allow for the acquisition of property

before capital operations, maintenance, and site mitigation is budgeted. Draft new language.

City Staff clarified about adding new data, survey, and further clarifying PROS Element and Plan from Beckwith Consulting and also timing of approval of both.

Commissioner Lasalle - In order for us to be most efficient in providing recommendations where Kenmore should invest, and where we see the major gaps; sometimes gaps are accepted because we're over indexing on certain areas because we have benchmarks.

City Staff - Some data is available that the Beckwith team has collected. Typical benchmarks; not a pure science, based on personal needs; sometimes the city may choose to do something else than what's indicated in benchmark; as data comes forward, if adjustments need to be made, we can do that over time; PROS plan is a living document.

General comments

Chair Banaszynski - Infusing equity and inclusivity throughout; also about when talking about playground, thinking about how we are going to incorporate disability inclusivity; and include references to climate in the element - climate resiliency strategy.

Beckwith Staff - Recommendation in the crosswalk document prepared by Beckwith team adding language about a priority.

Commissioner Lasalle - Scope of PROS plan, greenery important in terms of heat islands, adequate greenery important as a contribution to parks and recreation outside of parks.

Beckwith Staff response - There is a heat island map.

City Staff - Could add something about "greenery" or "shade" to tie in as a theme.

Chair Banaszynski - Climate resiliency, strategy.

Beckwith Staff - Move away from the term Master Plan to a long-term strategic plan.

Chair Banaszynski - Stakeholder can be viewed as a derogatory term, transition language.

Commissioner Lasalle - Some tables that refer to percentages of residents, these aren't clear, should be converted.

Commissioner Dorrian - Element still reference to expanding Log Boom beach but that has been completed. Reference to special use amenities does not include The Hangar.

Commissioner Dorrian - PROS Plan, data and tie to decisions is not yet clear.

Commissioner Dorrian - Assessment of equity in previous plan there was an analysis of location of affordable housing.

Commissioner Dorrian - Implementation plan is very extensive for PROS but not PROS element should there be a better crosswalk between the two.

Chair Banaszynski - Always have been some projects in some part of the city (proposed) and would like to have opportunity to discuss those particular things. Beckwith response - Maybe after community input, could have more input for discussion in document.

Chair Banaszynski - Looking at some very old Master Plans, as what point can we just drop them and not resurface them (i.e. sports court); and need to annotate and define the purpose of the park.

Chair Banaszynski - Still need to talk about each park, something like guiding principles for each park location that would then inform decisions at park and looking at developing.

Chair Banaszynski - Long term plans (master plans), need to be annotated, a living reminder.

Beckwith response - Agree, should keep factual updates over time.

Commissioner Lasalle - If we have guiding principle or purpose of a park, then making decisions makes more sense (i.e., Log Boom Park purpose is to improve Lake WA access), having purpose of the park up front would help focus what we "should" have instead of "could" have.

Chair Banaszynski - Agree with Commissioner Lasalle statement but still want to talk about being sensitive to the land, environment, and what the land and water is telling us.

Commissioner Lasalle - Environmental situation defines the purpose of the park, environmental constraints inform purpose.

Commissioner Dorrian - What's happened at Kenmore Elementary, highlights challenge of wetland and reducing the playground area, trying to balance recreation and nature.

Commissioner Lasalle - Kenmore Elementary arboretum not accessible during school hours.

Chair Banaszynski - At next meeting, 9/23, need to be clear on what is going to the 10/7 public hearing and what is not.

Next Steps:

9/23 meeting: Additional Discussion (Final Comments on All Drafts)

10/7: Public Hearing/Make Recommendation for City Council Meeting

10/20: Recommendation to City Council

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Banaszynski adjourned the meeting at 8:28PM.

Planning Commission Clerk

Approved by Planning Commission on: _____



Memorandum

Date: September 22, 2025

To: Planning Commission

From: Debbie Bent, Community Development Director
Todd Hall, Principal Planner

Regarding: Review of the 20-year List of Capital Facilities Projects and Continued review of PROS Element Goals, Policies and Objectives

At the September 23, 2025, Planning Commission meeting, Staff and Beckwith Consulting will discuss/review the "draft" 20-year list of Parks Capital Facilities Projects for the Parks Capital Facility Plan (see Attachment #1).

- Red font on Attachment #1 are numbers carried over in the current Capital Facility Plan for on-going projects.
- All cost estimates are in 2025 dollars.
- Facility and trail development costs are based on projections for each finished improvement that include design fees, permits, taxes, and contingencies.
- Land values for mini parks are based on assessor 2025 values for the lots in the older neighborhoods of roughly \$1,200,000 for 0.3 acres and 1950-1960 house values of \$300,000.
- Funding source assumes studies and plans paid by General Fund, park and trail improvements generally by park impact fees and 7-9 year revolving levies. The aquatic facility by NPRSA, the over and underpass paid by WSDOT and Transportation Improvement Plan, and Lakepointe by King County.

Beckwith Consulting are also still working on the financial strategy. Information may also be presented at the September 23, 2025 meeting.

The Planning Commission will also continue review of the PROS Element Goals, Policies and Objectives. Attachment #2 changes shown in highlighted blue text address Planning Commission comments from the September 16, 2025 meeting. Attachment #3 is the Draft PROS Element Narrative with staff edits and comments.

Attachment 1: Draft List of Park Capital Facilities Projects
Attachment 2: Draft PROS Element Goals, Policies and Objects
Attachment 3: Draft PROS Element Narrative

Kenmore PROS Plan CFP

19 September 2025

Priority	Detail	Cost estimate	GF	Grant	CF	PIF	Levy	Bond	Other
Plans									
D9	Swamp Creek Wetland	Develop conservation and public access plan	\$75,000	X					
D3	Linwood Park	Develop master plan	\$100,000	X					
	City Hall/Skate Court	Assess feasibility of universal playground	\$60,000	X					
	Moorlands Park	Assess feasibility of synthetic turf	\$45,000	X					
	Twin Springs Park	Develop master plan including beaver pond conservation	\$100,000	X					
	Little Swamp Creek	Develop conservation and public access plan south to Twin Springs Park	\$80,000	X					
	Tributary 62	Develop conservation and public access plan east to Wayne Park-Inglemoor High School	\$100,000	X					
	Tributary	Develop conservation and public access plan south from Rhododendron Park	\$100,000	X					
	Arrowhead Creek	Develop conservation and public access plan	\$80,000	X					
	Inglewood Wetlands	Develop master plan for public access, conservation	\$80,000	X					
	181st Streetscape	Develop urban corridor plan and design	\$100,000	X					
	SR-522 Overpass	Assess feasibility of an overpass at 65th Avenue	\$125,000	X					
	Swamp Creek Underpass	Assess feasibility of an underpass of SR-522 and 175th Street at 80th Avenue	\$150,000	X					
Subtotal			\$1,195,000						
Acquisition									
A9	Swamp Creek	Acquire wetlands	\$7,800,000			X			
	Lakepointe	Acquire park site - 3.5 acres	\$5,250,000			X			
	Waterwalk	Acquire shoreline from Lakepointe - 11 acres	tbd		X	X	X		KingC
	Tl'awh-ah-dees Park	Expand open space 12.6 acres	tbd			X			
	Athletic Fields	Acquire site - 7 acres	\$10,500,000		X	X			
	NE 182nd Street	Acquire minipark in neighborhood	\$1,200,000			X			
	80th/83rd Avenue	Acquire minipark in neighborhood	\$1,200,000			X			
	Simmons Road	Acquire minipark in neighborhood	\$1,200,000			X			
	Moorlands	Acquire minipark in neighborhood	\$1,200,000			X			
	Recreation Center	Acquire site for multigenerational community/recreation center	\$7,500,000				X	X	
	Cultural Center	Acquire site for fine and performing arts, and cultural and historic center	\$3,750,000				X	X	
	Aquatic Center	Acquire site for reational aqualtic facility	tbd						NPRSA

	181st Streetscape	Acquire pocket or urban parklets in downtown, higher density neighborhood	\$918,274					X			
Subtotal acquisition			\$40,518,274								
Development - hold over projects											
D11	Twin Springs	Refurbish park	\$35,000	X							
P27	Tl'awh-ah-dees Park	Monitor improvements project	\$50,000	X							
P28	Log Boom Park	Monitor park improvements project	\$50,000	X							
P30	Rhodendron Park	Monitor boatshed improvements	\$50,000	X							
	Tolt Pipeline Trail	Construct phase 2 - 73-80th	tbd	X							
Subtotal holdover projects			\$185,000								
Development - parks											
	Lakepointe	Develop Lakepoint Park gathering area with supporting audio, lighting, and other services for summer festivals and events	\$15,000,000		X			X			King C
	Linwood Park	Install picnic shelter, upgrade playground	\$421,471					X			
	Northshore Summit	Install picnic shelter, sport court	\$307,425					X			
	Wallace Swamp Creek Park	Install signage, picnic shelter, 3 picnic tables, play area, community garden, and parking	\$935,888						X		
	Twin Springs Park	Develop pond overlook, 0.5-mile secondary paths, stream crossing, 2 play areas, 3 picnic tables, expand parking lot	\$898,490						X		
	Town Square	Expand amenities when neighboring properties redevelop	tbd								
	Skate Court	Add universal playground, add overhead shelter with bleachers, develop pump track extension, add benches, seating, and picnic tables	\$1,202,015						X		
	Log Boom Park	Provide kayak access from pier	tbd								
	Rhodendron Park	Pave and extend ADA trails, reconfigure basketball for sports court, add wayfinding signage	\$765,073						X		
	Moorlands Park	Add sports court, install synthetic turf on ballfield, install security lighting at shelter and restroom	\$1,987,541						X		
	Harbour Village Park	Add wayfinding signage	\$10,000	X							
	Athletic Fields	Install synthetic turf and lights on 2 rectangular fields	\$8,173,610		X			X	X	X	
	Senior Center	Upgrade 2,220 square foot building in Rhododendron Park for seniors and/or meeting facilities	\$444,000						X	X	
	Recreation Center	Develop 18,000 square foot multigenerational community/recreation center with 2 basketball courts with 4 pickleball court overlays, physical conditioning/wellness, lockers and showers, studio/classrooms	\$7,200,000						X	X	

	Cultural Center	Develop 28,000 square foot regional facility with 15,850 square foot black box theater, 4,290 square foot art studio and workshops, 4,290 square foot historical center, and 3,570 square foot café, lobby, gallery	\$11,200,000					X	X	
	Aquatic Center	Develop regional aquatic facility	tbd							NPRSA
	NE 182nd Street	Install 2 picnic tables, playground ages 5-12, sport court	\$536,164				X			
	80th/83rd Avenue	Install 2 picnic tables, playground ages 5-12, sport court	\$536,164				X			
	Simmons Road	Install 2 picnic tables, playground ages 5-12, sport court	\$536,164				X			
	Moorlands	Install 2 picnic tables, playground ages 5-12, sport court	\$536,164				X			
	Dog Park	Joint venture with Bothell for dedicated dog park facility	tbd							
	Park/Public Works Yard	Develop 2.81 acre and 10,000 square foot structure to house equipment, materials, and other maintenance requirements	tbd							

Subtotal parks development \$50,690,167

Development - trails

	181st Streetscape	Develop urban gathering areas, parklets in downtown, higher density neighborhoods	\$1,000,000					X	X	TIP
	Waterfront gathering	Develop pedestrian linkages between Burke-Gilman Trail, SR-522 over and undercrossings, Tl'awh-ah-dees , Long Boom, and Lakepointe Parks for activities node	\$533,562					X	X	TIP
	Tolt Pipeline Trail	Develop 2.32-mile gravel path around Swamp Creek and master plan links with Bothell and Lake Forest Park	\$944,839					X	X	
	Inglewood Wetlands	Develop 0.55-mile gravel access trails and viewpoints	\$223,992					X	X	
	Tl'awh-ah-dees Park	Develop 0.3-mile gravel trail north to 175th Street Bridge, 0.3-mile gravel trail south to bridge over Swamp Creek, add lighting in parking lot and park, add playground	\$244,355					X	X	
	Swamp Creek Trail	Extend 0.86-mile gravel trail from Tl'awh-ah-dees Park north through Swamp Creek	\$350,242					X	X	
	NE 181st Street Trail	Extend 0.15-mile gravel trail from 181st Street to connect with Swamp Creek Trail	\$61,089					X	X	
	NE 198th Street Trail	Extend 0.14-mile gravel trail from Wallace Swamp Creek Park to 198th Street	\$57,016					X	X	
	Tl'awh'ah-dees/Rhododendron Park Trail	Develop 0.27-mile gravel trail and bridge over Sammamish River and along the south shoreline	\$109,960					X	X	
	Lakepointe Trail	Develop 0.73-mile asphalt trail from Burke-Gilman around the Lakepointe development to Juanita Drive	\$779,000					X	X	
	Burke-Gilman Trail	Extend 0.25-mile asphalt trail to Juanita Drive to Saint Edwards State Park to Big Finn Hill	\$266,781					X	X	

	Burke-Gilman Trail	Develop 175-foot overpass of SR-522/Bothell Highway at 65th Avenue to 175th Street	tbd								TIP
	Burke-Gilman Trail	Develop 0.15-mile underpass of SR-522/175th Street at Swamp Creek to 192nd Street	tbd								TIP

Subtotal trails development **\$4,570,834**

Total **\$97,159,274**

GF - General Funds, CF - Conservation Futures, PIF - Park Impact Fee, TIP - Transportation Improvement Program

tbd - to be determined

1
2 ~~Text = deleted text~~
3 ~~Text = new text~~
4 ~~Text = deleted text to address Planning Commission Comments from 9/16/25~~
5 ~~Text = new text to address Planning Commission Comments from 9/16/25~~
6

2: Goals, objectives, and policies

9 Goals and policies form the framework for the Parks, Recreation, & Open Space (PROS) Plan. A goal
10 typically does not ~~may~~ change over time ~~to reflect unless changing~~ community values or economic
11 conditions ~~make it necessary~~. Policies are more specific statements that describe a means to achieving
12 goals, are measurable, and ~~also~~ may change over time.

14 The goals and policies were developed to provide policy direction for implementation strategies and
15 actions.

17 New Goal P-1: Develop new and maintain existing parks, trails and waterfront areas to support both a
18 balance of both active and passive recreation, while also prioritizing protection and stewardship of the
19 city's waterways and natural resources.

21 **Objective P-1.1 Provide high quality maintenance and stewardship of Kenmore parks and open spaces
22 that are sustainable, safe, and attractive to use.**

24 Policy P-1.1.1 Evaluate park and recreation facilities to ensure safety and operational requirements are
25 being met.

27 Policy P-1.1.2 ~~Develop~~ Maintain an asset maintenance and life cycle replacement schedule for all park
28 assets.

30 Policy P-1.1.3 Provide procedures, practices, and resources to maintain and operate a quality park and
31 recreation system.

33 Policy P-1.1.4 Establish and adopt park maintenance standards and practices for the park and
34 recreation system.

36 Policy P-1.1.5 Conduct regular safety inspections of park and recreation facilities and correct any safety
37 issues.

39 Policy P-1.1.6 Repair, replace/upgrade parks assets based on their condition and prior to reaching the
40 end of their expected life cycle.

42 Policy P-1.1.7 Use equipment, landscaping and design techniques that reduce long-term maintenance
43 costs and increase safety for park users.
44

1 Policy P-1.1.8 Incorporate sustainable design for new or renovation to existing park and recreation
2 facilities. For example, incorporate the use of low impact development and green building best
3 practices.

4
5 Policy P-1.1.9 Incorporate sustainable practices when implementing recreation program offerings. For
6 example, consider impacts of recreational programs scheduled in natural areas.

7
8 Policy P-3.2.4 Periodically conduct crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) reviews of
9 park and recreation facilities with the Kenmore Police Department.

10
11 Policy P-1.1.8 Establish appropriate new policies governing operations and use of park and recreation
12 facilities.

13
14 Policy P-1.1.9 Install park rules and regulation signs to inform and educate park users of appropriate use
15 and conduct within Kenmore city parks.

16
17 **Objective P-1.2 Establish and implement plans, development policies, regulations and**
18 **incentives for waterfront access to retain views and create water dependent recreational opportunities**
19 **in conjunction with private and public development.**

20
21 Policy P-1.2.1 Inventory and Continue to identify public and private parcels to locate a WaterWalk from
22 Log Boom Park to ʕ'axwadis (Tl'awh-ah-dees) Park.

23
24 Policy P-1.2.2 Identify specific opportunities for joint development, partnership, and other options for
25 implementing a WaterWalk.

26
27 Policy P-1.2.3 Develop a Waterfront Master Strategic Plan to improve park activities and access
28 (physical or visual) along the water front while also focusing on the protection of sensitive natural areas.
29 Allow sufficient space from the shoreline for natural ecosystem processes when considering Water
30 Walk trail locations, especially those involve hardscapes

31
32 Policy P-1.2.4 Adopt development regulations and incentives that are consistent with and further the
33 implementation of a Waterfront Master Strategic Plan.

34
35 Policy P-1.2.5 Seek external funding sources or partnerships to provide public access and ensure water
36 dependent recreational opportunities are available.

37
38 Policy P-1.2.6 Identify and retain important public access and view corridors to Lake Washington and the
39 Sammamish River.

40
41
42 Policy P-1.1.4 Identify and prioritize undeveloped or underdeveloped waterfront properties in the city's
43 central core to consider for acquisition.

44
45 Policy P-1.1.5 Pursue opportunities for public access when key properties on the central waterfront
46 redevelop.

47

1 Policy P-1.1.6 Develop a plan for extending the trail system at ʔaxwadis (Tʔawh-ah-dees) Park along the
2 Sammamish River and/or Swamp Creek.

3
4 Goal P-2: Preserve, restore, maintain, and enhance built and natural environments to ensure quality
5 and equitable recreational opportunities exist.

6
7 New Objective P-2.1: Identify and implement strategies to preserve, restore, and enhance both built
8 and natural environments within parks and recreational areas to support high-quality, sustainable
9 recreational opportunities for current and future users.

10
11 Policy P-2.1.1 Identify opportunities to provide access, views, and education of
12 environmental critical areas.

13
14 Policy P-2.1.2 Establish and implement development regulations and incentives to provide access and
15 protection to critical areas.

16
17 Policy P-2.1.3 When developing parks, create a balance between habitat restoration,
18 particularly salmon habitat, enhancement, and public access.

19
20 Policy P-2.1.4 Develop a ~~Master Strategic Plan~~ to explore opportunities for continuing habitat and
21 riparian corridor restoration and that include opportunities for public access where appropriate.

22
23 Policy P-2.1.5 Seek funding sources to support efforts for habitat restoration, enhancement and public
24 access.

25
26 Policy P-2.1.6 Develop vegetation management plans for parks with critical areas.

27
28 Policy P-2.1.7 Identify resource management agencies, such as the WRIA8 Salmon
29 Recovery Council, and volunteer partners to steward critical areas in parks and open spaces.

30
31 Policy P-2.1.8 Develop and install interpretive signage to inform and educate about environmental
32 sustainability, the value and the function of environmental critical areas, and community history.

33
34 Policy P-2.1.9 Develop and install signage to inform and educate about community history including the
35 importance of First Nations and indigenous peoples culture and history

36
37 Policy P-2.1.10 Identify agencies and organizations in partnership with the City that support volunteer
38 programs and efforts focused on habitat restoration, vegetation management and stewardship.

39
40 Policy P-2.1.11 Develop, consider and implement climate resiliency measures that mitigate the impacts
41 of climate change (for example heat islands) such as planting trees, and vegetation in parks and in
42 corridors connecting parks.

43
44
45 New Goal P-3: Promote safe multimodal and non-motorized access to parks and recreational facilities
46 in the city.

1 New Objective P-3.1 Develop an interconnected road and off-road trail system throughout Kenmore
2 that supports both regional and local active transportation, destinations and recreation, while
3 thoughtfully protecting and integrating habitat corridors.

4
5
6 Objective P-3.2 Identify and prioritize key connections from neighborhoods to downtown,
7 the waterfront, parks, and public facilities.

8
9 Policy P-3.1.1 Prepare, communicate and promote a safe routes plan which maps a network of
10 pedestrian and bicycle connections from neighborhoods to downtown, the waterfront, parks, and public
11 facilities ensuring equitable, inclusive and accessible access.

12
13 Policy P-3.1.2 Identify and create opportunities to provide connections to parks, trails, and open space in
14 adjoining cities, including access to and parking for trail heads.

15
16 Policy P-3.1.3 Review development proposals for creating viewpoints, view corridors and easements for
17 pedestrian and bicycle connections to parks, recreation, and open space facilities.

18
19 Policy P-3.1.4 Plan and develop an off-road north-south trail-park connections utilizing the Swamp Creek
20 existing transportation corridors, as appropriate (i.e., 68th Ave NE, 73rd Ave NE).

21
22 Policy P-3.1.5 Acquire/Pursue the acquisition of easements and develop the Tolt Pipeline Trail linking to
23 adjoining cities excluding crossing the Swamp Creek wetland, consistent with the transportation
24 element.

25
26 Policy P-3.1.6 Establish and implement development regulations and incentives for new development to
27 provide pedestrian/bicycle routes.

28
29 New Goal P-4: Preserve, develop, and enhance existing parks and open space to provide a balance
30 between passive and active recreation opportunities and community needs.

31
32
33 Objective P-4.1 Preserve, develop, and enhance existing parks and open space to provide a balance
34 between passive and active recreation opportunities. Develop facilities and programs that adapt to
35 demographic shifts, community input, and identified needs.

36
37 New Policy 4.1.1 Design and manage Kenmore parks to support a balanced mix of active (e.g., sports,
38 playgrounds) and passive (e.g., trails, picnic areas, nature observation) recreational uses, ensuring
39 options that are equitable, inclusive and accessible for all ages, interests, and abilities.

40
41 New Policy 4.1.2 Based on level of service analysis, consider improving and developing new features or
42 amenities at existing parks that enhance experiences.

43
44 New Policy 4.1.3 Continue to monitor and assess baseline and benchmark data, level of service, trends,
45 community needs, demand, participation, satisfaction, and other key metrics for all recreational
46 programs so that informed decisions can be made for appropriate investment.

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Policy P-4.1.3 Pursue opportunities to ensure equitable access to all residents with access to an aquatic facility.

Policy P-4.1.4 Complete master strategic plans and development of park and recreation facilities 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.

New Objective P-4.2 Explore partnership opportunities to acquire properties to develop new parks and facilities to meet existing and future park needs.

New Policy P-4.2.1 Pursue local and regional partnerships with public and private entities to support planning, enhancement, and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities and programming.

New Policy P-4.2.2 Identify areas of Kenmore to locate a variety of park types and sizes that fit both localized and community-wide needs, depending on their location (i.e., mini, active, passive).

Policy P-4.2.3 Collaborate with private property owners and the business community to incorporate and expand public spaces throughout Kenmore.

Policy P-4.2.3 Identify and prioritize undeveloped or underdeveloped properties for potential acquisition.

Policy P-4.2.4 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-4.2.5 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-4.2.5 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.

Objective P-4.3 Encourage pursuing multi-purpose and/or joint use of school district (including adjoining school districts), special district, government, non-profit and other similar agency facilities for civic, recreational, cultural, and beautification activities.

Policy P-4.3.1 Partner with local jurisdictions, public agencies, and regional park providers to coordinate master plans, share facilities, and expand recreation opportunities such as aquatic centers and trails.

1 Policy P-4.3.2 Collaborate with organizations and agencies to enhance the city's visual character
2 through landscaping, public art, and thoughtful design.

3
4 Policy P-4.3.3 Encourage and actively support and partner with volunteer participation in park
5 maintenance, programming, and stewardship by providing the resources needed for success.

6
7
8 Policy P-7.2.1 Develop and execute joint use agreements when appropriate with other governmental
9 and community service providers to maximize public use of existing public facilities.

10
11 Policy P-7.2.2 Work cooperatively with local jurisdictions to pursue opportunities to provide aquatic and
12 recreation facilities to meet community need.

13
14 Policy P-7.2.3 Invite other local public agencies to participate in developing park master plans.

15
16 Policy P-7.2.5 Cooperate with the state and other regional park providers to establish and implement
17 park master plans for their facilities to ensure they are consistent with the city's vision and
18 Comprehensive Plan.

19
20 Policy P-7.2.6 Seek partnerships to enhance the visual beauty and character of the city including
21 landscaping and public art in appropriate locations.

22
23 Policy P-7.2.7 Provide sufficient resources to support and manage approved volunteer efforts.

24
25 Policy P-7.2.8 Use neighborhood and other organizational volunteers to supplement park maintenance
26 levels, where appropriate.

27
28 Policy P-7.2.9 Secure additional easement for use of Seattle Public Utility's property for continuing the
29 Tolt-Pipeline Trail.

30
31
32 New Goal P-5: To meet the diverse needs of the community, expand arts and cultural facilities and
33 opportunities in Kenmore

34
35 New Objective P-5.1: Expand community access to public art and cultural programs in Kenmore.

36
37 New Policy P-5.1.1 Support efforts to restore, protect, preserve, and foster education and stewardship of
38 natural, cultural, artistic, and historic resources.

39
40 New Policy 5.2.2 Build partnerships with community organizations, particularly those representing
41 diverse cultural groups, to collaboratively plan and host inclusive, community-building events for all
42 residents.

43
44 New Policy P-5.1.3 Identify locations for expanding opportunities for diverse indoor and outdoor spaces
45 for arts and cultural activities and events.

1 New Policy P-5.1.4 Explore opportunities to integrate public art throughout Kenmore's parks,
2 recreational facilities, and cultural programing.

3
4 Policy P-5.1.5 Provide Continue to expand urban park amenities, including public art and cultural
5 elements, in Kenmore's downtown.

6
7 **Objective P-5.2 Provide equitable opportunities for diverse and affordable arts and recreation**
8 **programs and community and cultural events.**

9
10 Policy P-5.2.1 Support the efforts of organizations that offer recreation and arts programs and
11 community and cultural events.

12
13 Policy P-5.2.2 Publicize arts and recreation programs and community and cultural event opportunities in
14 the city using the newsletter, webpage, and other marketing materials.

15
16 Policy P-5.3.3 Promote private arts, recreation, and cultural programming and facilities within the city.

17
18 Policy P-5.4.4 Promote plans that increase park amenities to existing parks that support new trends in
19 recreation, arts, and culture to continue to meet community need.

20
21 Policy P-5.5.5 Support recreation, arts, and cultural providers in offering opportunities in Kenmore and
22 define the city's role in providing programs for the community.

23
24 Policy P-5.6.6 Ensure that all future capital improvement projects have an allowance for
25 art and cultural elements.

26
27 **Objective P-2.1 Identify and prioritize key connections from neighborhoods to downtown,**
28 **the waterfront, parks, and public facilities.**

29
30 Policy P-2.1.1 Prepare a safe routes plan which maps a network of pedestrian and bicycle connections
31 from neighborhoods to downtown, the waterfront, parks, and public facilities.

32
33 Policy P-2.1.2 Identify and create opportunities to provide connections to parks, trails, and open space in
34 adjoining cities.

35
36 Policy P-2.1.3 Review development proposals for creating viewpoints, view corridors and easements for
37 pedestrian and bicycle connections to parks, recreation, and open space facilities.

38
39 Policy P-2.1.4 Plan and develop an off-road north-south trail connection utilizing the Swamp Creek
40 corridor as appropriate.

41
42 Policy P-2.1.5 Acquire easements and develop the Tolt Pipeline Trail linking to adjoining cities.

43
44 Policy P-2.1.6 Establish and implement development regulations and incentives for new development to
45 provide pedestrian/bicycle routes.

1 **Goal P-3: Preserve, restore, maintain, and enhance built and natural environments to ensure quality**
2 **recreational opportunities exist.**

3
4 Policy P-3.1.1 Identify opportunities to provide access, views, and education of
5 environmental critical areas.

6
7 Policy P-3.1.2 Establish and implement development regulations and incentives to provide access and
8 protection to critical areas.

9
10 Policy P-3.1.3 When developing parks, create a balance between habitat restoration,
11 particularly salmon habitat, enhancement, and public access.

12
13 Policy P-3.1.4 Update Wallace Swamp Creek Master Plan and evaluate the pond as a potential fish
14 passage barrier.

15
16 Policy P-3.1.5 Developing a Master Plan to explore opportunities for continuing habitat and riparian
17 corridor restoration and opportunity for public access.

18
19
20 Policy P-3.1.6 Seek funding sources to support efforts for habitat restoration,
21 enhancement and public access.

22
23 Policy P-3.1.7 Develop vegetation management plans for parks with critical areas.

24
25 Policy P-3.1.8 Identify resource management agencies, such as the WRIA8 Salmon
26 Recovery Council, and volunteer partners to steward critical areas in parks and open spaces.

27
28 Policy P-3.1.9 Develop and install interpretive signage to inform and educate about
29 environmental sustainability, the value and function of environmental critical areas and community
30 history.

31
32 **Objective P-3.2 Provide high quality maintenance and stewardship of Kenmore parks and open spaces**
33 **that are sustainable, safe, and attractive to use.**

34
35 Policy P-3.2.1 Evaluate park and recreation facilities to ensure safety and operational requirements are
36 being met.

37
38 Policy P-3.2.2 Develop an asset maintenance and life cycle replacement schedule for all park assets.

39
40 Policy P-3.2.3 Replace assets prior to reaching the end of their expected life cycle.

41
42
43 Policy P-3.2.5 Provide procedures, practices, and resources to maintain and operate a quality park and
44 recreation system.

45
46 Policy P-3.2.6 Establish and adopt park maintenance standards and practices for the
47 park and recreation system.

- 1
- 2 [Policy P-3.2.7 Conduct regular safety inspections of park and recreation facilities and correct any safety](#)
- 3 [issues.](#)
- 4
- 5 [Policy P-3.2.8 Use equipment, landscaping and design techniques that reduce long-term](#)
- 6 [maintenance costs and increase safety for park users.](#)
- 7
- 8 [Policy P-3.2.9 Establish appropriate new policies governing operations and use of park and recreation](#)
- 9 [facilities.](#)
- 10
- 11 [Policy P-3.2.10 Install park rules and regulation signs to inform and educate park users of appropriate](#)
- 12 [use and conduct within Kenmore city parks.](#)
- 13
- 14 [Policy P-3.2.11 Incorporate sustainable design for new or renovation to existing park and recreation](#)
- 15 [facilities. For example, incorporate the use of low impact development and green building best](#)
- 16 [practices.](#)
- 17
- 18 [Policy P-3.2.12 Incorporate sustainable practices when implementing recreation program offerings. For](#)
- 19 [example, consider impacts of recreational programs scheduled in natural areas.](#)
- 20
- 21 **Goal P-5: Provide equitable opportunities for diverse and affordable arts and recreation programs and**
- 22 **community and cultural events.**
- 23
- 24 **Objective P-5.1 Provide Kenmore residents with information about current recreation programming in**
- 25 **Kenmore.**
- 26
- 27 [Policy P-5.1.1 Support the efforts of organizations that offer recreation and arts programs and](#)
- 28 [community and cultural events.](#)
- 29
- 30 [Policy P-5.1.2 Publicize arts and recreation programs and community and cultural event opportunities in](#)
- 31 [the city using the newsletter, webpage, and other marketing materials.](#)
- 32
- 33 [Policy P-5.1.3 Promote private arts, recreation, and cultural programming and facilities within the city.](#)
- 34
- 35 [Policy P-5.1.4 Consider providing park amenities to existing parks that support new trends in recreation,](#)
- 36 [arts, and culture to continue to meet community need.](#)
- 37
- 38 [Policy P-5.1.5 Support recreation, arts, and cultural providers in offering opportunities in Kenmore and](#)
- 39 [define the city's role in providing programs for the community.](#)
- 40
- 41 [Policy P-5.1.6 Ensure that all future capital improvement projects have an allowance for](#)
- 42 [art and cultural elements.](#)
- 43
- 44
- 45 **Goal P-6 Engage the community in parks, recreation and open space decisions and activities.**
- 46
- 47 **Objective P-6.1 Maintain and update the city Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) plan and**

1 conduct other appropriate master planning for Kenmore parks and recreation service delivery.

2
3 **New Goal P-6: Guide parks, recreation, and open space development through strategic, community-**
4 **based planning.**

5
6 **Objective P-6.1 Establish a comprehensive, data-informed, and community-driven planning**
7 **framework to guide the development, improvement, and management of Kenmore’s parks and**
8 **recreation system, ensuring alignment with community needs, strategic priorities, and sustainable**
9 **funding strategies.**

10
11 Policy P-6.1.1 Maintain and periodically update the Park, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan, park
12 master plans, and ordinances to reflect evolving community needs and citywide goals.

13
14 Policy P-6.1.2 Use inclusive public involvement to identify recreation needs, set priorities, and shape the
15 vision for park improvements and land acquisition.

16
17 Policy P-6.1.3 Conduct inventories, needs assessments, and level of service analyses to inform
18 planning and decision-making for parks and recreation.

19
20 Policy P-6.1.4 Identify funding sources, prepare capital improvement plans, and establish acquisition
21 strategies to ensure sustainable investment in park facilities.

22
23 Policy P-6.1.5 Coordinate the parks and recreation system with other city strategic plans to maximize
24 benefits and community impact.

25
26
27 Policy P-6.1.1 Conduct and prepare an inventory of public, non-profit, and private lands in
28 Kenmore available for expanding the parks and recreation system.

29
30 Policy P-6.1.2 Conduct a public involvement process to assess community attitudes regarding park and
31 recreation needs and opportunities in Kenmore associated with parks planning and improvement
32 projects.

33
34 Policy P-6.1.3 Conduct and prepare a demand and needs analysis for public parks and recreation needs
35 in Kenmore.

36
37 Policy P-6.1.4 Prepare level of service guidelines for the parks and recreation system.

38
39 Policy P-6.1.5 Identify potential funding sources and strategies for implementing the plan including
40 goals, objectives, and policy actions.

41
42 Policy P-6.1.6 Prepare a six-year Capital Improvement Plan for parks and recreation facilities.

43
44 Policy P-6.1.7 Ensure integration of the Park, Recreation and Open Space plan with other city strategic
45 plans.

46
47 Policy P-6.1.8 Update the PROS plan a minimum of every 6 years.

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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.

New Goal P-7: Create a financially sustainable park and recreation system through partnerships and stewardship. Identify and implement a stable and durable revenue source for acquisition and maintenance of the City’s parks, recreation, and open space assets.

New 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. Identify City and agency partnerships for joint development and maintenance of parks, recreation, and open space assets.

New Policy P-7.1.1 Budget for capital, operations, maintenance, and site mitigation before committing to new park projects or programs. Land acquisition for parks and open space can sometimes be a strategic opportunity where future costs for development and maintenance may be not be known.

New Policy P-7.1.2 Develop and maintain a six-year Capital Improvement Program to guide park and recreation priorities and funding needs.

New Policy P-7.1.3 Pursue a mix of funding sources—including grants, partnerships, impact fees, and regional collaborations—to support acquisition, development, restoration, and programming.

New Policy P-7.1.4 Collaborate with service districts, organizations, and volunteers to expand recreation opportunities and steward parks.

Policy P-7.1.5 Plan for long-term feasibility of the existing senior center to consider improvements or expansion of the existing facility or full replacement if no longer adequate to serve the community’s needs.

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

- 1 any new programs.
- 2
- 3 ~~Policy P-7.1.4 Utilize funding opportunities, emphasizing a regional approach, such as~~
- 4 ~~coordinating, and/or partnering with special service districts.~~
- 5
- 6 ~~Policy P-7.1.5. Identify and actively seek potential grant funding assistance from public and private~~
- 7 ~~sources for habitat restoration, acquisition, development, and renovation.~~
- 8
- 9 ~~Policy P-7.1.6 Require new development impacting park service delivery to pay its fair share of the~~
- 10 ~~costs of providing new park and recreation facilities as defined in the Parks and Recreation Impact Fee~~
- 11 ~~Rate Study Report (see Appendix E).~~
- 12
- 13 ~~Policy P-7.1.7 Seek partnerships to enhance opportunities for recreation programming at~~
- 14 ~~existing parks and recreation facilities.~~
- 15
- 16 ~~Policy P-7.1.8 Implement a city-wide policy for volunteers to help steward parks.~~
- 17
- 18
- 19 **~~Objective P-7.2 Encourage multi-purpose and/or joint use of school, special district, government,~~**
- 20 **~~non-profit and other similar agency facilities for civic, recreational, cultural, and beautification~~**
- 21 **~~activities.~~**
- 22
- 23 ~~Policy P-7.2.1 Develop and execute joint use agreements when appropriate with other governmental~~
- 24 ~~and community service providers to maximize public use of existing public facilities.~~
- 25
- 26 ~~Policy P-7.2.2 Work cooperatively with local jurisdictions to evaluate the need and the~~
- 27 ~~financial ability to construct and operate an indoor recreation and aquatic center facility to meet~~
- 28 ~~community need.~~
- 29
- 30 ~~Policy P-7.2.3 Invite other local public agencies to participate in developing park master plans.~~
- 31
- 32 ~~Policy P-7.2.5 Cooperate with the state and other regional park providers to establish and implement~~
- 33 ~~park master plans for their facilities to ensure they are consistent with the city's vision and~~
- 34 ~~Comprehensive Plan.~~
- 35
- 36 ~~Policy P-7.2.6 Seek partnerships to enhance the visual beauty and character of the city including~~
- 37 ~~landscaping and public art in appropriate locations.~~
- 38
- 39 ~~Policy P-7.2.7 Provide sufficient resources to support and manage approved volunteer efforts.~~
- 40
- 41 ~~Policy P-7.2.8 Use neighborhood and other organizational volunteers to supplement park maintenance~~
- 42 ~~levels, where appropriate.~~
- 43
- 44 ~~Policy P-7.2.9 Work cooperatively with Bastyr University to extend the lease agreement for use of their~~
- 45 ~~campus athletic fields.~~
- 46
- 47 ~~Policy P-7.2.10 Secure additional easement for use of Seattle Public Utility's property for continuing the~~

| 1 ~~Tolt Pipeline Trail~~
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PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The purpose of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element is to provide the policy framework for future development of Kenmore’s parks system, including open spaces, recreation facilities and programs. The Element provides a vision for the community and a guide to future planning, acquisition, and/or development of parks, recreation, and open spaces throughout the City.

Growth Management Act

One of the Growth Management Act’s (GMA’s) planning goals is to, “Retain open space, enhance recreational opportunities, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and develop parks and recreation facilities.”

The Act specifically requires local government 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;
- Evaluate facilities and service needs;
- Estimate park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period;
- Evaluate intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand; and
- Develop a capital facilities plan (CFP) identifying funds necessary to implement the plan for at least a six-year period.

Countywide Planning Policies

The Countywide Planning Policies do not contain a chapter specifically addressing parks, recreation and open space. Under the Development Patterns chapter, DP-2 states, “Promote a pattern of compact development within the Urban Growth Area that includes housing at a range of urban densities, commercial and industrial development, and other

1 urban facilities, including medical, governmental, institutional, and educational uses
2 and parks and open space..." An Environment policy (EN-1) states, "Incorporate
3 environmental protection and restoration efforts into local comprehensive plans to
4 ensure that the quality of the natural environment and its contributions to human
5 health and vitality are sustained now and for future generations."

6 **Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan**

7 The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is a state agency that manages grant
8 programs aiming to create outdoor recreation opportunities, protect wildlife habitat and
9 farmland, and help return salmon from near extinction. Since the agency began in 1964,
10 it has awarded more than \$1.7 billion in grants to nearly 7,500 projects. Since 1990,
11 the agency averages 230 grant awards, for a total of approximately \$60 million, every
12 fiscal year. RCO requires government agencies to plan for their parks and open space
13 needs, and adopt a Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan, in order to apply
14 for certain grants. Once adopted, a community's PROS plan is required to be updated
15 every 6 years to maintain eligibility for those grant programs. The City's most recent
16 PROS Plan was adopted in February 2020. The PROS Plan is being updated and is
17 anticipated to be adopted January 2026. Information gathered for the Plan, including
18 the results of several community involvement opportunities and a comprehensive
19 demand and needs analysis, has been used as foundational information for this
20 Element.

23 **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

24 **Geography**

25 Kenmore's natural resources are an important component of the city's park and
26 recreation system. Many of the city's existing parks are located beside or contain a creek,
27 river, freshwater shoreline, wetlands or significant forested areas. In fact, of the 153
28 acres of city-owned park land, 133 acres (more than 85%) are natural areas – forests,
29 wetlands, streams, and other natural environments. The City's abundance of natural
30 systems weaves in and around the city, connecting the different neighborhoods through
31 stream corridors, sensitive areas, and ravines to Swamp Creek, the Sammamish River
32 and Lake Washington. Creating connections and corridors provides essential habitat
33 which contributes to the overall health and viability of both the plant and animal
34 communities in Kenmore. The natural geography of the city provides both opportunities
35 and constraints for meeting park and recreation demand and needs.

36 **Existing Park System**

37 The City of Kenmore has 14 parks, recreation and open space facilities totaling over 153
38 acres of park land. Other parks and recreation providers within the city that have
39 facilities open to the public include the State of Washington, King County, and Bastyr

1 University. These facilities are listed in Table 1, along with the improvements available in
2 each park. The parks and open space areas are shown on Figure 1. When combined with
3 other jurisdictions, which includes facilities owned by King County and State of
4 Washington, there are over 475 acres of park land within the city, of which City of
5 Kenmore's 153 acres represents 32 percent of the total inventory..

6 There is an additional 98 acres owned by Northshore School District that is located inside
7 city limits.

Table 1: 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)	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			
λax*adis (TI' awh-ah-dees) Park		X	X				~X		X	X	X		X
Wallace Swamp Creek Park			X						X	X	X		X
Rhododendron Park, Rhododendron Public Boathouse & Senior Center		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X
Log Boom Park	X	X	X	X			X		X	X			X
Twin Springs Park											X		X
City Hall Park & Jack Crawford Skate Park					X		~X		X	X			X
City Plaza & Hangar Building							~X		X	X			X
Swamp Creek Wetland Open Spaces			X										
Inglewood Wetlands			X										
Tolt-Pipeline Trail (1.3 miles)										X		X	
CITY TOTAL	1	3	7	5	1	2^{>}	6	2^{>}	7^{>}	11^{>}	3^{>}	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^{>}	4^{>}	3^{>}	12

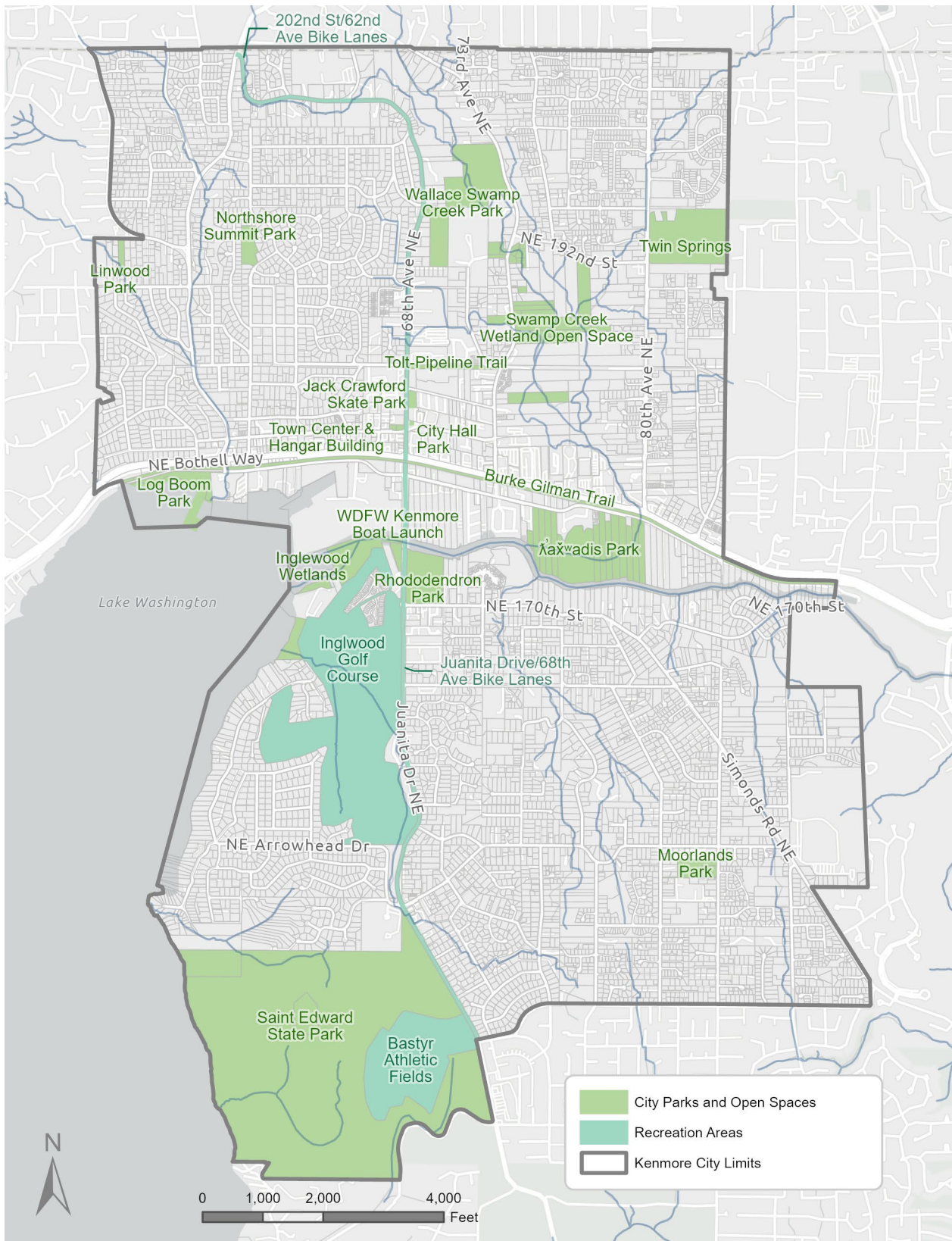
[>]See the Park Inventory and Valuation in the 2026 Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Rate Study Report for more detail on the total number of each type of playfield (soccer, baseball, etc.) and the total number of picnic shelters, picnic tables, paths and trails in the park system.

* Portable restroom

~ Indoor restroom

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FIGURE 1: Kenmore's Park and Recreation Facilities



Source: City of Kenmore GIS

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1 **Park Classifications**

2 The city’s park system has been divided into four classes of park and recreation
3 facilities as shown and described in Table 2. These four park classifications were
4 identified based on several key factors including: size, population served, function and
5 type of amenities that are or will be made available in the future. The geographic service
6 area, or the primary extent to which people are expected to walk or drive to access the
7 park, is shown for each park classification type. A list of each park within the city and its
8 associated classification and size is shown in Table 3.

9 Special use amenities generally serve specific functions, like the skate park, water access,
10 or the senior center and are included in all classifications of parks. Special use
11 amenities in Kenmore are mostly located near the downtown for ease of access and
12 accessibility to a wide range of users, in addition to being more easily accessible by
13 transit and from the Burke Gilman Trail. While there are a number of special use
14 amenities within park and recreation facilities in the city, there should be a focus on
15 connecting these facilities to residential areas, transit and downtown. Connecting
16 waterfront access areas to each other would create a stronger network of waterfront
17 recreation in the city. Special use amenities may be facilities contained within
18 Community or Regional Parks such as the Senior Center in Rhododendron Park or
19 the Environmental Educational and Research Center (EERC) in Saint Edward State
20 Park. Special use facilities in the city are shown on Figure 5.

1
2

Table 2: Park and Recreation Facility Classification Definitions and Total Acres.

Classification Type	Geographic Service Area	Service Description
Regional	Citywide	Contains unique features or amenities that serve users beyond the city limits City Total = 44.91 acres All Jurisdiction Total = 362.83 acres
Community	3/4-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 City Total = 40.2 acres All Jurisdiction Total = 47.4 acres
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 City Total = 34.5 acres All Jurisdiction Total = 34.5 acres
Linear	Citywide	Linear facilities that serve as connectors for pedestrian users and/or wildlife habitat City Total = 26.4 acres All Jurisdiction Total = 30.9 acres

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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 Figure 4. 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 **Max^oadis (Tl'awh-ah-dees) Park** Park and Log Boom Park **where improvements within the last few years have increased access to the water for hand-carry watercraft and implemented significant environmental restoration.**

Community Park

Community parks (Figure 3) 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. **Construction of the Rhododendron Public Boathouse, dock, boardwalk along with environmental restoration has increased recreation opportunities, access to the water and connection to other park improvements.**

1 **Neighborhood Park**

2 Neighborhood Parks are intended to serve a smaller, local need with a service area
3 limited to a 10-minute walk from the park, or about ½ mile. Most of the amenities
4 within neighborhood parks are centered around family, passive type recreation
5 activities such as walking paths, playgrounds and open lawn areas but ideally with
6 enough open space for informal athletic use. Neighborhood parks in the city are shown
7 on Figure 2 and are mainly located in the northern half of the city with only one
8 neighborhood park, Moorlands Park, located in the southern half of the city. All have
9 approved master plans except Linwood Park. Twin Springs park, will be opened
10 to the public by year end 2025 including minimal improvements. Considering
11 updates to existing master plans or developing a master plan for
12 Linwood Park should be considered..

13
14 **Linear Park**

15 Linear park and recreation facilities are unique as they serve as connectors for
16 pedestrian users and/or wildlife habitat. There are four linear park and recreation
17 facilities in Kenmore, shown on the same Figure 4 with regional parks. These parks
18 include: the Burke Gilman Trail, Tolt-Pipeline Trail and other neighborhood connecting
19 trails and the wetland open spaces along the Swamp Creek corridor between 73rd
20 and 80th Avenues NE and NE 192nd Street and NE 181st Street. Parks and recreation
21 facilities are connected east-west across the city through the existing Burke Gilman
22 Trail and connected north-south through recent multi-modal improvements along
23 Juanita Drive NE and 68th Avenue NE. Additional connectivity should still be developed
24 as opportunity allows, from residential areas to parks, schools, downtown, the
25 waterfront, and other major destinations., There are additional local trail connectors
26 within neighborhoods, particularly in the north side of the city, that exist but are not
27 well documented and not part of the total acreage or planning process.
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38 **Table 3: Kenmore’s Park and Recreation System Inventory: Size, Classification &**
39 **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
ʻĀxʻādis (Tl' awh-ah-dees) Park	41.01	33.75	Regional	Citywide
Wallace Swamp Creek Park	25.5	25	Community	¾ mile radius
Rhododendron Park & Senior Center	12.5	8.5	Community	¾ 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
Town Center & Hangar Building	0.5	0	Community	¾ mile radius
Swamp Creek Wetland Open Spaces (not including acquisitions in progress)	17	17	Linear	Citywide
Inglewood 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.

** Does not include the recent 10-acre acquisition.

Walkability

An effective park system should provide a picnic, playground, sport court, trail, or other local recreation facility within a 5-10-minute walk of residential areas measured by actual walking routes on sidewalks, paths, trails, roads, or other routes.

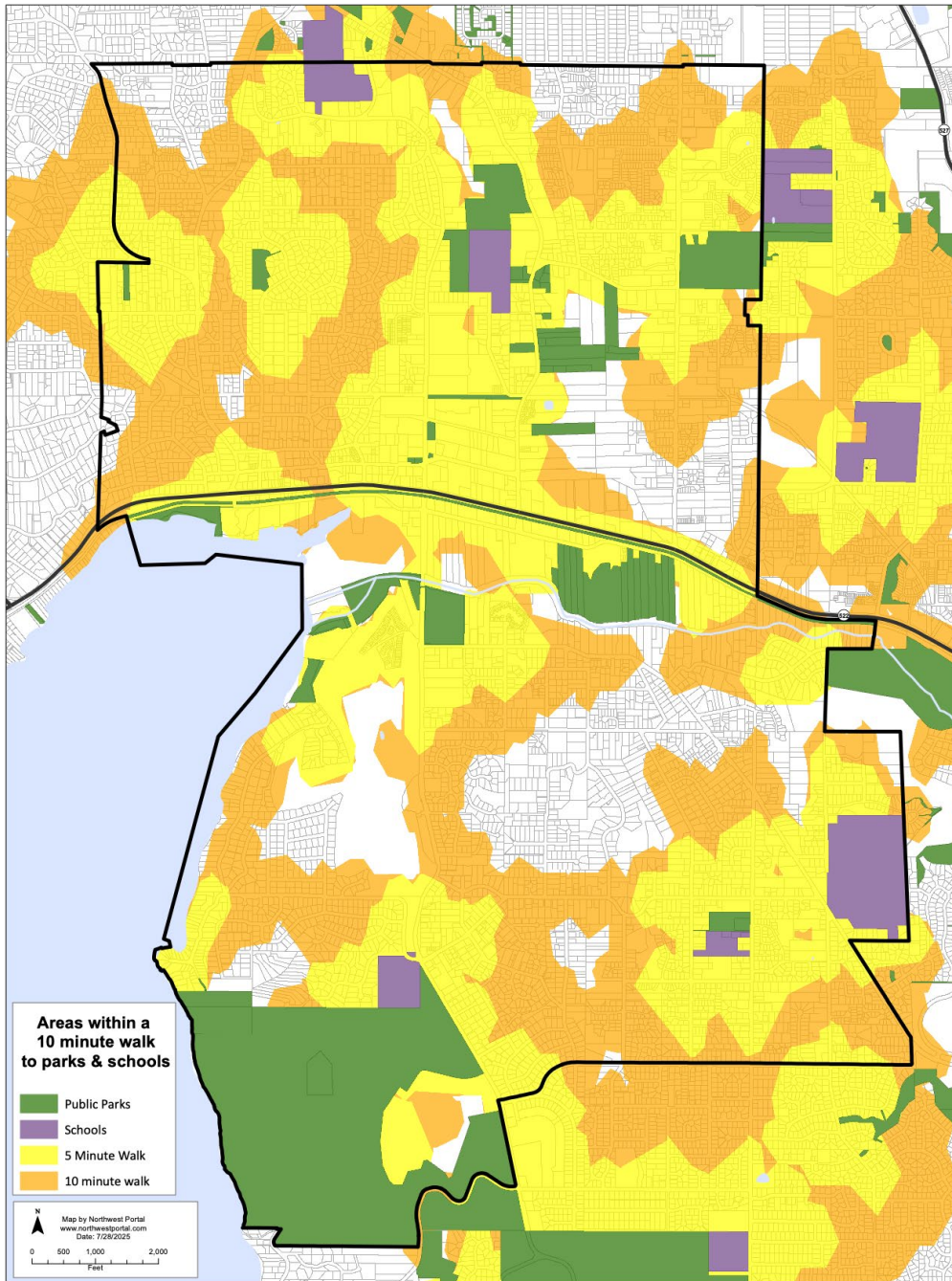
Natural features such as steep hillsides, water bodies, and other obstacles as well as manmade obstacles like limited access highways or major traffic corridors or the lack of safe paths, trails, sidewalk improvements affect a 5-10-minute walk measurement.

Figure 2: Walkability, calculates a 5-10-minute walk distances using sidewalks, paths, trails, and roads that account for natural and manmade obstacles from existing park, recreation, school, and other community facilities.

Park service gaps are areas beyond the 5-10-minute walk of residential developments indicating residents must walk further or commute by bike or vehicle or are blocked by natural or manmade obstacles from a recreational activity.

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FIGURE 2: WALKABILITY



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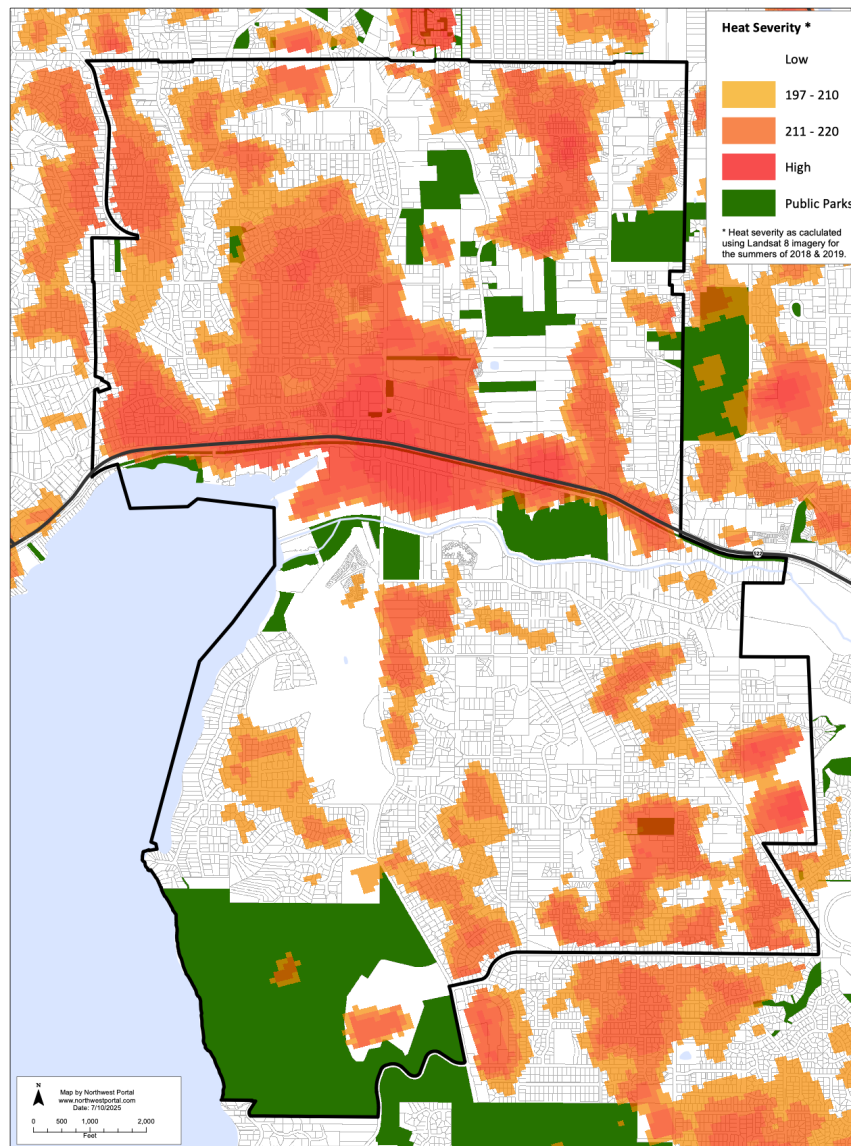
Source: City of Kenmore GIS

Heat index

Heat indices are developed by the Trust for Public Land using Landsat 8 imagery for the summers of 2018-2019 to determine which areas of a city are impacted by extensive heat reflecting pavement and building roofs and the lack of mitigating tree and vegetation cover. The heat indices range from low (197-210) or slightly warmer than surrounding areas to severe (221+) or of temperatures of risk to human presence and activity.

As shown on Figure 3: Heat Severity, the most severe Kenmore heat locations include the paved areas around major commercial parking lots and industrial yards along the Bothell Way/SR-522 which include City Hall and the Skate Court, Hanger, the Tolt Pipeline Trail, and the Burke Gilman Trail, and residential neighborhoods directly north of downtown with limited tree cover and parks.

FIGURE 3: HEAT SEVERITY



Source: City of Kenmore GIS

Social equity

An effective park system should ensure that park services and facilities are provided residents in areas of the city that are less advantaged than the general population.

Figures 4-7 were generated for Kenmore for equity variables using the US Census Bureau's 2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS) census tracts based on the percent each equity variable was present. The results indicate:

- **Housing cost stressed** – significant percentages (34.4%) of households of northwest Kenmore census tracts are paying more than 30% of gross income or are housing stressed for rent or mortgage payments.
- **People of color** – significant percentage (46.9%) of persons of color are concentrated in the east central census tract of Kenmore.
- **Limited English** – a sizable percentage (16.3%) of persons in the northeast census tracts of Kenmore speak limited English.
- **Disability** – significant percentage (21.7%) of the persons in the northeast census tract of Kenmore have a physical or mental disability.

FIGURE 4: HOUSING COSTS

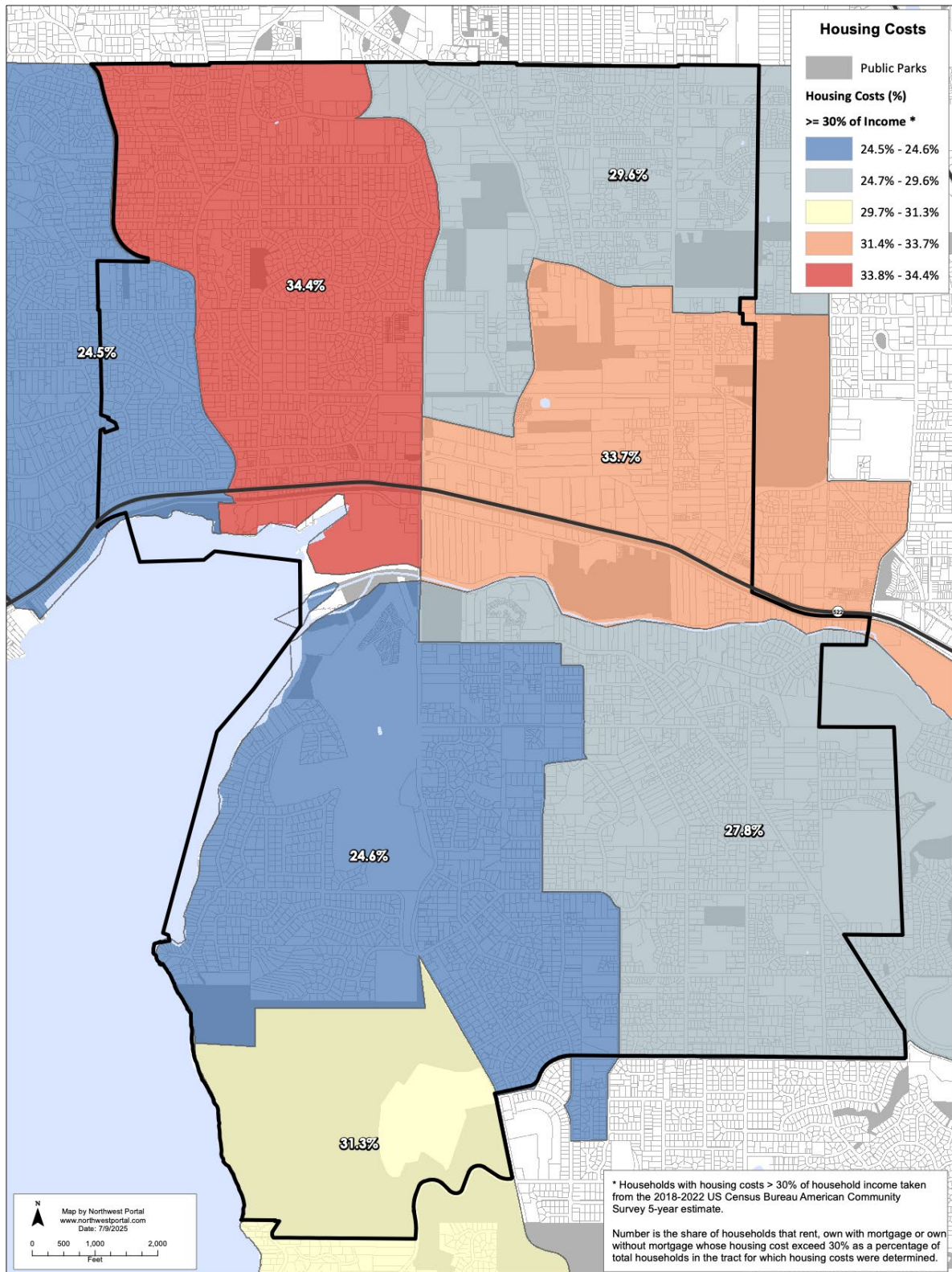
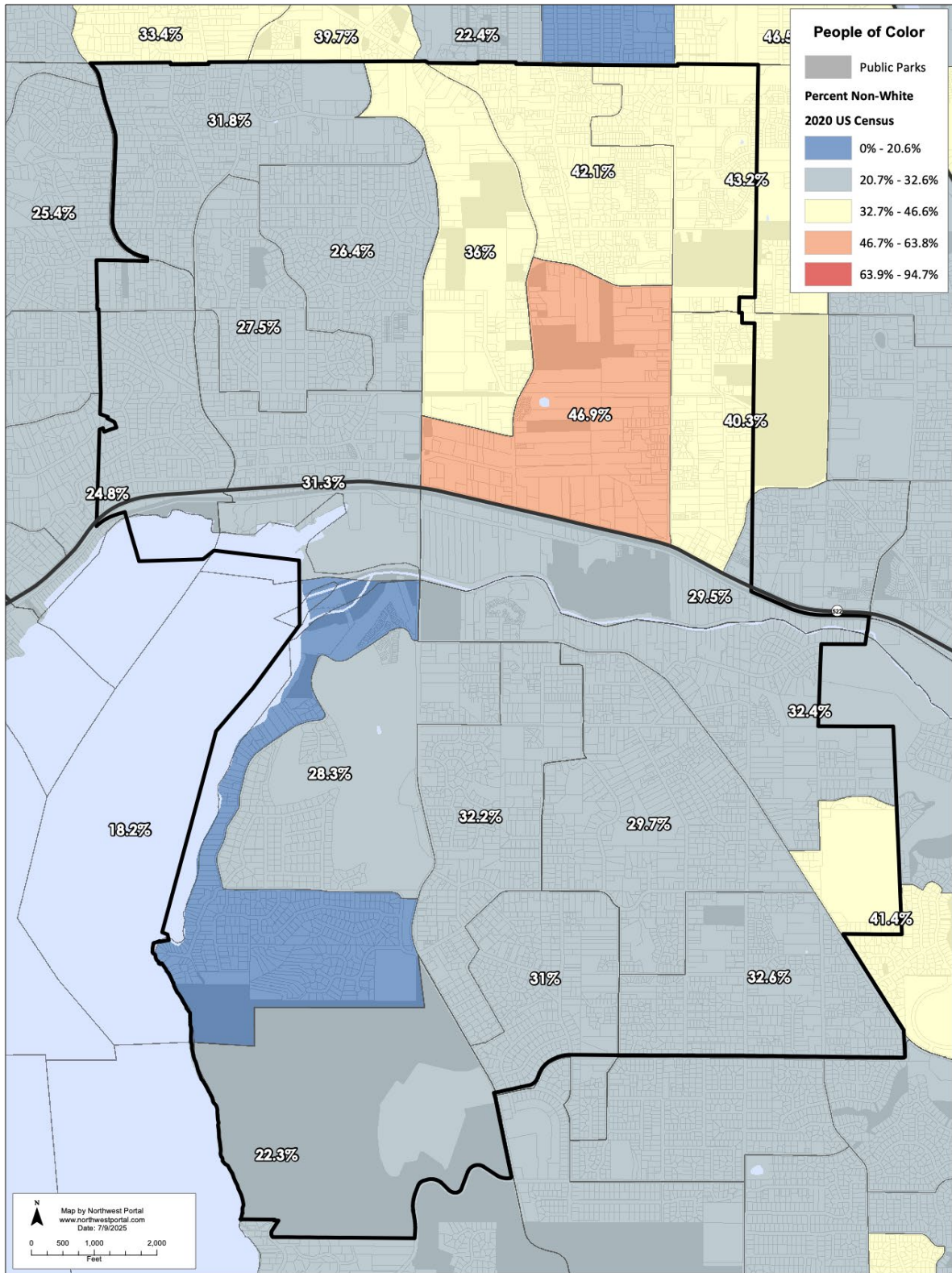


FIGURE 5: PEOPLE OF COLOR



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FIGURE 6: LIMITED ENGLISH

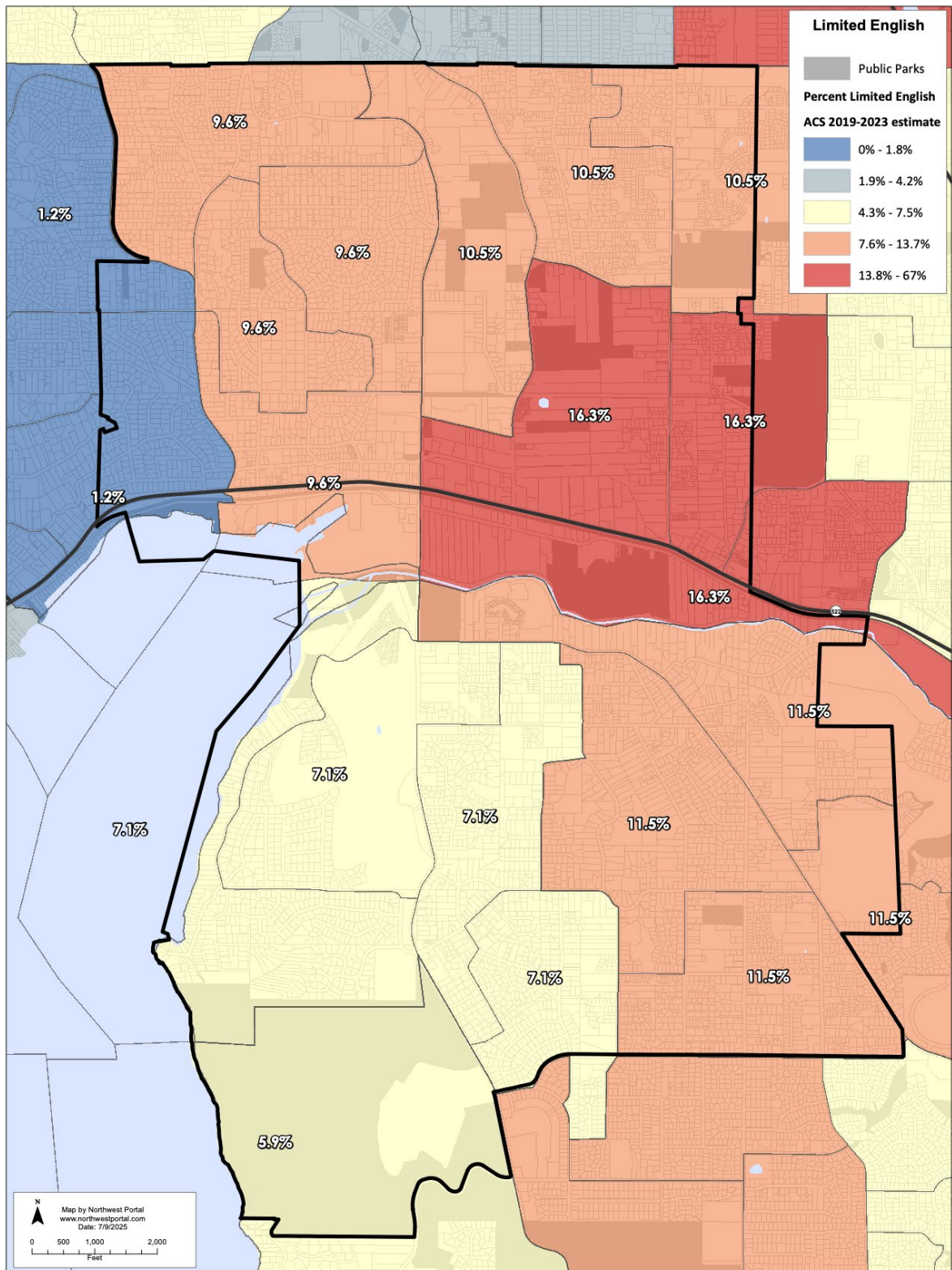
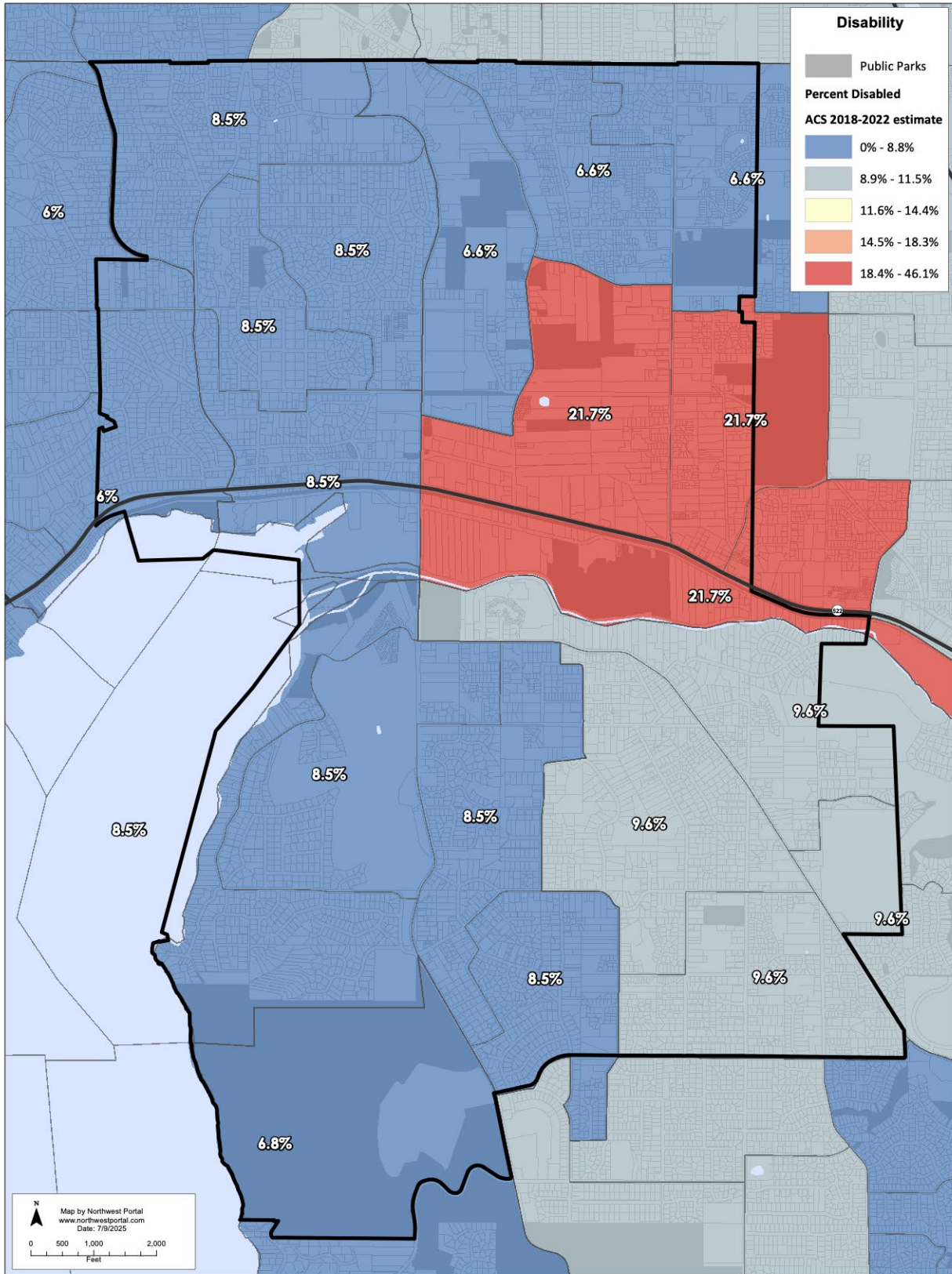


FIGURE 7: DISABILITY



1 **Existing Park Plans**

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

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

16 **Updating the master plans to reflect completed improvements and/or identifying**
17 **amendments or new concepts should be considered.**

18 A copy of the existing park Master Plans or Concept Plans is included in **Appendix A** to
19 the 2026 PROS Plan.

20 **Current Level of Service**

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

25 The City of Kenmore has chosen to measure the level of service for parks, recreation
26 and open space facilities in terms of the value of the current parks system per capita
27 as this methodology was used in the Park Impact Fee Rate Study (**2025**). This
28 method accommodates the *quantity* and the *quality* of parks, recreation and open
29 space facilities by including the value of the park land and the facilities built within those
30 parks. The level of service calculation is shown in Table 4 below and only includes
31 completed city-owned facilities. New facilities or lands that are currently in progress of
32 acquisition or construction are not included in this calculation.

33 The existing level of service, \$ per capita, is the value of the current parks and recreation
34 system divided by the total population of the city in **2025** (24,520). This means that
35 **today**, for every Kenmore resident the city has spent \$ (in **2025** dollars) on park,
36 recreation and open space land and facility improvements. The total value of the
37 existing parks system is shown in greater detail in **Table 1** of the **2025** Parks and
38 Recreation Impact Fee Rate Study Report.

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Table 4: Level of service calculation.

Category	2025 Existing Level of Service <i>(value)</i>
TOTAL <i>value per capita</i>	\$3,259
TOTAL <i>value</i>	\$74.4 million

5
6

Park & Recreation Programming

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

16 The Hangar, opened in August of 2017, is the city’s main indoor gathering space for
17 recreational activities and events.

18
19

FUTURE DEMAND AND NEEDS

20 The 2025 PROS Plan evaluated demand and needs through a variety of lenses. Key
21 findings from the analyses follow.

Parks and recreation trends

22 National, state and local trends were evaluated. Key findings include:

- 24 • Parks and recreation facilities need to be flexible to serve a diverse audience through
25 broad community appeal. They should be accessible and welcoming to everyone.
- 26 • Parks are becoming a key component in promoting climate resiliency, showcasing
27 sustainable design strategies and implementing green infrastructure practices.
- 28 • Parks are a catalyst for youth to become the future stewards of the environment,
29 offering a safe place to explore, discover, and understand the intricate balance of
30 ecology, especially within the urban fabric of the community.
- 31 • Recreation facilities and programs need to support active lifestyles for all ages and
32 abilities.

- 1
- 2 • Parks can improve civic pride and create a sense of place by installing public art,
3 outdoor gathering spaces, public fountains, interpretive displays of local history and
4 the natural environment and protecting important views and view corridors.

5 **Community interests**

6 Community surveys and an open house have contributed to evaluating this aspect of
7 demand and needs. Key findings include:

- 8 • Waterfront activities, access to water, and protection of the natural environment
9 along the waterfront are core guiding principles.
- 10 • The greatest needs not currently being met include a pool/aquatic center and pickleball
11 courts, followed closely by off-leash areas, indoor fitness/gyms, and outdoor tennis
12 courts. The community had the least interest or need for additional skateparks or a
13 spray park.
- 14 • Adult fitness and wellness programs were ranked as the most important programs
15 needed.
- 16 • The community is supportive of acquiring additional properties to preserve natural
17 open space and wildlife habitat. The top ranked facility needs included nature trails,
18 paved trails, and natural areas or reserves.
- 19 • Trails and walking routes are at the top of the list for desired recreation activities and
20 they are also some of the most-used facilities. Walking paths was the most
21 important feature to the community that could be added or improved in Kenmore's
22 park and recreation park system based on the results of the 2025 Parks and
23 Recreation Survey.

24 **Benchmark comparisons**

25 This comparison reviewed Kenmore's park system against those in other jurisdictions.
26 Key findings include:

- 27 • The City of Kenmore contains less than the national average of parks acreage in the
28 system, but is on target with other jurisdictions in the Pacific Northwest region for city-
29 owned facilities. When considering all publicly accessible parks and recreation
30 facilities open to the public, the city exceeds the national and regional average.
- 31 • The City is on par with other jurisdictions for some outdoor facilities, like
32 playgrounds, tot lots, skateparks and courts, but is below average for other outdoor
33 recreation amenities, specifically, community gardens, dog parks, spray parks, and
34 multi-purpose courts.
- 35 • The City is below average for the number of indoor recreation facilities, except for
36 senior centers. This includes a need for additional aquatic facilities and gyms. Some

1 of this need can be met through outdoor improvements, like fitness stations and
2 athletic courts and expanding the beach at Log Boom Park. This would not entirely
3 replace the need for indoor facilities.

- 4 • Parks in the city all generally contain the same types of facilities. Variation of
5 types of facilities, overall character of park features, and including special interest
6 facilities, especially at the larger parks, will help diversify the system. Some of these
7 new uses to consider include pickleball, futsal, disc golf, parkour, and rock climbing.

8 9 **Population growth**

10
11 Key findings related to future population growth include:

- 12
13 • Kenmore is a growing community with a variety of housing types throughout the city.
14 With the majority of residents commuting to work in a single-occupancy vehicle, park
15 and recreation facility improvements that support and encourage multi-modal
16 transportation choices should be considered a high priority.
- 17 • Higher density residential housing occurs mostly in downtown Kenmore, where the
18 majority of assisted housing and senior housing is also located. Activities in this
19 area should support healthy living, encourage active recreation, and focus on ease
20 of access to recreation opportunities.
- 21 • The population is mostly middle-aged and of a white ethnic background. However, other
22 more diverse ethnicities are growing and are expected to continue to grow in the
23 future. Recreation activities that appeal to older youth and active adults should be
24 considered, along with a greater variety and flexibility in those activities to better
25 respond to changing demographics and increasing diversity over time.

26 **Geographic distribution**

27 After assessing the location of current park properties, key findings include:

- 28 • Kenmore has a great overall distribution of parks with few gaps remaining in the
29 overall system. It also has the potential to be a highly walkable city with the majority
30 of residents living within a 10-minute walk to an existing park or trail. Making
31 those routes safe for walking allows everyone access to the park system without
32 relying on single-occupancy vehicles.
- 33 • Access to parks is especially important where residential development (of all types) is
34 expected to occur.
- 35 • A system of public spaces with waterfront access, connected by a
36 pedestrian/bicycle route along the water, would expand opportunity.
- 37 • New parks in gap areas should be considered as opportunity allows.

- 1 • The quality of the parks system is high, and Kenmore has done a lot in recent
2 years to upgrade, expand, and improve its parks. Implementing existing master plans
3 for city parks and trails and continuing to upgrade and expand existing parks as
4 opportunity and funding allows would support this high quality.
- 5 • Kenmore has an extensive network of natural systems, from waterways to wetlands
6 and urban forests. However, there is very little public access to these areas and
7 limited educational features that highlight these areas within the community.

8 **Recreation programming**

9 Reviewing recreation programming in the City, key findings include:

- 10 • The City has successfully partnered with other organizations and agencies to
11 provide recreation programming in the city while the City focuses on community
12 events.
- 13 • Recreation programming providers could expand offerings to Kenmore residents,
14 especially for adult programs and athletic leagues.
- 15 • Tracking participation in various programs would support future planning efforts.
- 16 • Program venues should be accessible and have appropriate support facilities.
- 17 • Better access and parking, along with other supporting infrastructure, could
18 facilitate and expand community events in Kenmore.

19 **Participation rates**

20 A number of organized activities take place in the City, including several that take
21 advantage of the City's abundance of natural areas such as Camp Roots and the
22 Wilderness Awareness School at St. Edward State Park and Nature Walks at Wallace
23 Swamp Creek Park. A review of participation rates for activities that could require
24 special park facility development—such as athletic fields, an aquatic center, and
25 waterfront activities—was conducted. Key findings related to participation rates include:

- 26 • An aquatic center would be highly valued by Kenmore residents and there is a
27 need for facilities to support aquatic programming and recreation activities within
28 the region.
- 29 • A multi-purpose athletic complex – developed either by the city or jointly with other
30 jurisdictions or organizations – would serve youth and adult athletic sports. Some of
31 this need could continue to be met in the short term through the use of the Bastyr
32 fields, but use of the fields cannot be relied upon to meet all the city needs long-
33 term without a more permanent agreement and field improvements in place.
- 34 • Youth sports should continue to be a priority for the city to promote a healthy
35 and active lifestyle early in life.

- Water-based activities such as swimming, hand-carry boating, and stand-up paddle boarding are a defining feature of Kenmore’s park system.
- Activities that provide education about the City’s natural systems help support environmental stewardship by current and future generations.

OBSTACLES AND OPPORTUNITIES AFFECTING FUTURE DEMAND AND NEEDS

Obstacles

Obstacles facing the City in the effort to meet demand and needs include:

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 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. The Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan identifies a Priority Pedestrian Network that includes pedestrian amenities along key routes to improve the walkability and safety of pedestrians in the city.

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 gained significant waterfront access and safe walking routes with the passage of Kenmore’s Walkways & Waterways Improvements bond measure in November 2016. Proposition 1 Walkways & Waterways Improvements was the first city bond measure ever on the ballot in the City of Kenmore.

The Walkways and Waterways bond measure included new sidewalks and bicycle lanes on Juanita Drive NE and 68th Ave NE and public waterfront access and natural area improvements and restoration at Log Boom Park, Rhododendron Park, and **ḵʷaxʷadis (Tl'awh-ah-dees) Park** Park for water dependent recreation. These five projects

1 included in the \$19.75 million bond measure reflect the results of public input.

2 **Water-Walk Trail** –There is an opportunity to connect Log Boom Park on Lake
3 Washington with **ʔaxʔadis (Tl'awh-ah-dees) Park** Park at the confluence of Swamp Creek
4 and the Sammamish River. This water-walk trail would require acquisition or dedication
5 of privately-owned property in between to make this idea a reality. The city can pursue
6 opportunities for public access when key properties on the central waterfront redevelop.

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

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

21 **Partnerships** – Kenmore relies on partnerships for providing park and recreation
22 facilities, programs and services. Partners provide facilities, programs and services that
23 provide for, activate and care for the park and recreation system. Creating new
24 partnerships will provide a more sustainable park and recreation system for future
25 generations.

26 **Intergovernmental coordination opportunities** – Regional approaches for meeting park
27 and recreational demand are ongoing. The Northshore Parks and Recreation Service
28 Area (NPRSA), a regional taxing district, was created in 1988 by Bothell, Snohomish and
29 King County and was updated in 2001 to include Kenmore and Woodinville. NPRSA
30 supports the Northshore Senior Center (NSC) located in Bothell and, in 20**24-2025**,
31 NPRSA developed an aquatics center need analysis and location study to consider
32 options for locating a regional **community center with potential** aquatic center.

33 **Potential to work with King County as part of the King County Land Conservation initiative**
34 **to acquire land for open space. Over the last several years the City has acquired land**
35 **within the Swamp Creek basin for open space conservation.**

36 **Potential to partner with Seattle Public Utilities on agreements to improve portions of the**
37 **Tolt Pipeline right-of-way.**

38
39 **Opportunities to Play** – For Kenmore residents to stay and play, recreation program

1 opportunities and sufficient facilities need to exist including community gathering spaces
2 such as off-leash dog parks or community gardens. Adding these facilities to existing
3 parks or new parks within the system will create a more diverse park system and
4 provide greater opportunities for residents to stay and play.
5



1 **GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

2 Following are the Parks, Recreation and Open Space goals, objectives and policies. The
3 goals establish overarching priorities that establish the vision for the Parks, Recreation
4 and Open Space Element. Objectives provide direction and policies provide the action to
5 support the goals. These actions are specifically related to the implementation of a
6 healthy, viable and balanced park and recreation system for Kenmore.

7
8 **PLACEHOLDER – SEE DRAFT G.O.P’s in separate document**
9

10 **IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**



11
12 The Capital Facilities Element includes the 20-year capital facilities plan for parks,
13 recreation and open space. The capital facilities plan identifies a series of fiscally-
14 unconstrained capital projects that are based on the overall vision and goals for the
15 park system and the key findings from the demand and needs analysis. If implemented,
16 these projects will respond to the needs of the community, meet or exceed the proposed
17 level of service, and result in a relevant and vibrant park, recreation and open space
18 system well into the future.

19
20 As Kenmore continues to grow, the city expects to spend at least the same amount per
21 capita on future park, recreation, and open space land and facility improvements as
22 it did in 2019 to accommodate this new growth. The projected future population is
23 multiplied by \$ per person to come up with a total value of the future park system if
24 this proposed level of service is maintained over time.

25 Another possible level of service measure discussed in the PROS Plan is the acreage
26 benchmark. This benchmark is developed by dividing the total existing acres of parks,
27 recreation and open space in Kenmore by the current population and multiplying that
28 number by 1,000, resulting in a total of acres per 1,000 residents. Using this benchmark,
29 meeting level of service in the park system would be assessed solely through increased
30 park acreage as the population grows. However, new acreage may not be needed to
31 address all demand and needs; improvements at existing parks may be adequate. For
32 this reason, the dollar per capita measure rather than the acreage benchmark has been
33 selected to address level of service for parks, recreation and open space.

34 Other specific implementation strategies include:

- 35 • Develop walking maps of safe routes to parks.
 - 36 • Develop a map of City walkways and trails.
- 37
38

39 **REFERENCES**

- 1
- 2 Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Rate Study Report, December 2025
- 3 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, February 2026