



Chapter 9 - Parks and Recreation Element

People are attracted to Enumclaw’s rural character and natural setting. The community’s integrated parks and open spaces link the community’s strollers, walkers, joggers, bikers, swimmers, picnickers, music listeners, and organized sports teams to the outdoors. This linkage celebrates Enumclaw’s setting and recognizes the community’s accessibility to other outdoor activities available nearby. Fishing, camping, horseback riding, and car touring are a few of the activities that residents enjoy in the surrounding rural, State, and federal lands.

This chapter enhances and strengthens the City’s parks and recreation opportunities. An attractive and functional parks, natural areas, and community services network is vital to maintaining and improving the community’s overall quality of life. The opportunity for multiple forms of passive and active recreation creates community connections and healthier residents. It also attracts regional visitors.

This chapter identifies goals and objectives for meeting the City’s open space and recreational requirements based on identified needs, desires, and issues. The chapter guides the services, programs, and future preservation and enhancement of recreational and community facilities, including parks, ball fields, trails, the community center, and library.

The City conducted an inventory of existing facilities and programs, determined levels of service standards, and identified expected development of parks, trails, open spaces and recreation facilities for the Urban Growth Area (UGA) as part of the 2014 Parks and Open Space Plan. This chapter summarizes the 2014 Parks and Open Space Plan which includes the inventory, needs analysis, level of service and improvements to meet GMA requirements.

RCW 36.70A.030 and RCW 82.02.050 defines parks

and recreation as public facilities where impact fees can be charged. A rate study supports an impact fee for parks and community-service facilities charged on new private development proposals to assist in funding specific projects.

Goals and Policies

As adopted in the 2014 Parks and Open Space Plan. The department’s focus is on four primary goals, all of which encompass a variety of aspects that help attain that goal:

- Acquisition and Development. Acquire and develop a system of parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces that are safe, attractive, functional, and available to diverse populations.
- Maintenance. Maintain, protect, preserve, and restore existing parks and recreational facilities that furnish quality active and passive experiences for the community.
- Quality of Life. Enhance the quality of life in the community by providing services and programs that offer positive opportunities for citizens to lead healthy and productive lives.
- Citizen involvement. Provide an open and continuing opportunity to participate, comment and offer direction in the development of park and recreational facilities, space and activities.

PK-1 Acquisition and Development. Acquire and develop a system of parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces that are safe, attractive, functional, and available to diverse populations.

Policies



1.1 The priorities for acquisition of park land are as follows in order of priority:

a) Land in developing areas as necessary to meet minimum adopted levels of service for neighborhood and community park land;

b) Trail corridors identified in the Park Plan; and

c) Open space areas, wildlife corridors, historic structures or areas and view corridors that contribute to or enhance the unique character of Enumclaw.

1.2 Neighborhood parks provided by individual developments to meet minimum levels of service should be owned and maintained by the applicable homeowner's association.

1.3 During development review, if consistent with parks target outcomes or other needs identified in the Park Plan, pursue dedication of land for future parks, open space, and recreation facilities.

1.4 Partner with other agencies and organizations (local School District, King County, Pierce County, local tribes etc.) to acquire/develop community and regional park land/trails.

1.5 Priorities for development of existing parks and recreational facilities are as follows:

a) Redevelopment or rehabilitation of parks and/or facilities that are outdated and/or in need of major repair;

b) Development of undeveloped park land in developing areas;

c) Continue expansion/linkage of the Foothills Trail and other trails as identified in the plan; and

d) Development of a Community Center.

1.6 Design of park signs, benches, trash receptacles, drinking fountains, and other amenities should be standardized and consistent throughout the park system.

1.7 In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), ensure that park facilities are designed to be safe and accessible for use by the physically disabled.

1.8 Solicit public input during the park design process and incorporate public desires and needs into the design of parks where appropriate.

1.9 Layout and design of parks should maximize unique mountain views, scenic vistas and natural features for the benefit of park users.

1.10 Park design and programming should include features and facilities that address identified needs, and should balance active and passive recreation opportunities.

1.11 Encourage private interests to assist in the provision of recreational facilities and space through donations, sponsorship and dedication of land.

PK-2 Maintenance. Maintain, protect, preserve, and restore existing parks and recreational facilities that furnish quality active and passive experiences for the community.

Policies

2.1 Utilize maintenance best practices, preventative maintenance, and NPSI standards to improve park safety, operational efficiency, and usage.

2.2 Continue to utilize volunteer organizations and



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private sector services for repetitive, seasonal, and specialized maintenance activity.

2.3 Consider funding to maintain the City's public art collection.

2.4 Balance City, private, and volunteer efforts to provide an effective and economical mix of cooperative effort in developing and/or maintaining the public park system.

PK-3 Quality of Life. Enhance the quality of life in the community by providing services and programs that offer positive opportunities for citizens to lead healthy and productive lives.

Policies

3.1 Provide recreational programs and opportunities that address the needs of all segments of the population.

3.2 Coordinate with outside organizations, the school district, and other partners to maximize recreational opportunities and minimize duplication.

3.3 Strive to keep programs updated to reflect changing public needs and desires.

3.4 Arts, community events and other cultural activities all encourage a sense of place and cultural identity. The City has limited funds for these activities, but recognizes that it can provide technical or organizational support.

3.5 Reflect community identity using public art to create unique community places, define or redefine public spaces, or create a strong sense of place.

3.6 Provide opportunities that highlight the talents of local artists.

3.7 Support community events such as the Wine Walk, Street Fair and 4th of July Celebration, that are provided by non-profit organizations.

3.8 Support arts organizations that provide quality programs and services that benefit the greater community.

PK-5 Provide a continuous, multi-use, safe and enjoyable trail system throughout the City

Policies

5.1 Development of and connections to the regional trail system of Pierce and King County (Foothills Trail) is a priority for trail funding.

5.2 Trail systems should be separated from vehicle travel lanes by a planter strip to improve the user experience.

5.3 Trail linkages should be planned to connect neighborhoods to public facilities including parks, schools, and library; and to the central business district.

5.4 The City trail system should provide connections to the regional trail system of Pierce and King Counties.

5.5 Encourage a trail network in developing subdivisions via right-of-way dedication and developer participation.

5.6 Incorporate existing public lands and rights-of-way into a linked network of trails and other non-vehicle corridors.

5.7 Coordinate school routes and the proposed trail system where possible.

Park Classification Types and Definitions

Based on past planning efforts, the city has adopted several types of parks for the community: mini-park, neighborhood park, community park, and open space. Table 9.1 describes the size, purpose and use of these park types.



Table 9.1 Park Classifications

Park	Size	Purpose	Service Zone	Use
Mini-Parks	0 - 1.6 acres	Decorative open spaces, & monuments	Several blocks	Active or
				Passive
Neighborhood Parks	0 - 4.9 acres	Serving	¼ mile	Generally active
		residential neighborhoods		
Community Parks	5 + acres	Serving	Entire	Active or
		community at large	Community	Passive
Open Space	5 + acres	Serving	Entire	Passive
		community at large, typically contains a significant natural or cultural feature	Community	

Park types and sizes serve as a planning tool to classify park usage and gauge neighborhood access to park and recreation facilities. Actual park usage may vary from the classification standard.

Service zones refer to the primary population that is served by the park facility. In general, the greater the size of the park and the more amenities it offers, correlates to the size of the service zone that is served by the facility. Boise Creek Park is classified as a community park, however as an athletic complex, Boise Creek Park serves a significant regional population base.

INVENTORY OF EXISTING CITY PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Table 9.2 identifies the existing parks in Enumclaw by type, size, and generally how they are used. The term “active” implies that the park includes

such facilities as baseball, softball or soccer fields, tennis, or basketball courts. The term “passive” implies that the park is developed for quiet activities including walking, picnicking, nature study, and contemplation. Some elements may include small play structures and minor equipment.



Table 9.2 Existing Parks

Site	Type	Acres	Use
Anderson Riverview Park	Open Space	20	Undeveloped
Boise Creek Park	Community	19.3	Active
Bruce Guenther Park	Mini-park	0.4	Passive
City Hall Park	Mini-park	1	Passive
Dwight Garrett Park	Community	5.4	Active
Elk Meadows – Tract P	Neighborhood	2.32	Active
Ellenson Park	Neighborhood	2.6	Active
Farmer’s Park	Community	10	Undeveloped
Fell Hill Park	Open Space	14	Open Space
Flensted Park	Neighborhood	2.5	Active
Goodwill Park	Mini-park	0.52	Passive
MacFarland Park	Neighborhood	6.5	Active
Mahler Park	Community	30	Passive
Martin Johnson Park	Neighborhood	4.5	Active
Montgomery Park	Neighborhood	1.6	Active
Rainier Trails Park	Neighborhood	3.6	Active
Rotary Park	Mini-park	0.25	Passive
Scott Park	Mini-park	0.7	Passive
Triangle Park	Mini-park	0.4	Passive
Veterans Memorial Park	Mini-park	1.6	Passive
*Berilla Estates II dedicated open space	Mini-park	0.1	Undeveloped
**Chinook Winds dedicated open spaces	Mini-park	0.22	Undeveloped
TOTAL		127.51	



Table 9.3: Existing City Recreational Facilities and Trails (In or Near Enumclaw UGA)

Site	Acres	Status or Use
Recreational Facilities		
Aquatic Center	Pool 4,956 sf	
Facility - 13,540 sf	Active	
Golf Course	193 acres	Active
Library (KCLS since 2012)	10,500 sf	Active
Senior Center	6,388 sf	Active
Youth Center	3,150 sf	Active
Enumclaw Park (Pete's Pool)	40.4	1 lighted softball/baseball, 1 lighted football stadium, 2 tennis, picnic, children's play area, restroom
Trails		
Enumclaw Foothills Trail	1 mile	Paved
BNSF Rail Corridor	30 acres	Undeveloped



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Table 9.4: Existing Non-City Recreational Facilities (In or Near Enumclaw UGA)

Site	Acres	Status
Private Community Open Space		
Mountain Villa Open Space	1	Dedicated to community
Mt. Peak Village Open Space	2	Dedicated to community
Crystallaire Open Space	2	Dedicated to community
Mt. Meadows Open Space	1	Old BNSF right-of-way, leased to Mt. Meadows
Old BNSF right-of-way, leased out community assoc.		
Enumclaw School District Facilities		
High School Auditorium	NA	Used for performing arts
Sunrise Elementary School	2	Playground, fields covered play area
Jr. High / High School Site	20	2 playgrounds 2 football 3 baseball / softball 4 tennis 2 turf soccer 2 all weather soccer 2 practice soccer
Kibler Elementary School	2.8	Playground, field, covered play area
J.J. Smith Elementary School	2.2	Playground, field, covered play area, track
King County Recreational Facilities (other)		
Mount Peak (King County owns 16 acres at the north tip of Mount Peak. Washington DNR owns 200 acres, extending south 2 miles from County land.)	216	Steep, informal, user-maintained trail, no off-road parking.
State Parks: Nolte State Park, Flaming Geyser State Park, and Kanaskat-Palmer State Park	1,100	Regional Recreation
Mud Mountain Dam Day Use Area (US Corps of Engineers)	21	Playground, restrooms, picnic shelters, 130 parking spaces, overlooks, tower

Adopted Level of Service and Demand Analysis

The City of Enumclaw has adopted levels of service (LOS) that are easy to measure, feasible and relevant to the unique needs of Enumclaw residents. The LOS for park land determines that amount of land needed while the LOS for facilities determines the types of facilities needed in the park system. Park and trail land are determined using acres per 1,000 population as well as locational criteria. Need for park and trail land is based on the adopted level-of-service and the future population of nearly 16,000 people, as described below.

LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR PARK LAND

The City of Enumclaw has adopted the following level-of-service standards for park and recreation land:

Neighborhood Park: 2.26 acres / 1000 population and all residences located within ¼ mile. Approximately seven (7) acres of additional park land will be acquired primarily through dedications during the development process. Neighborhood parks one (1) acre in size or larger are publically owned and maintained. Neighborhood parks less than one (1) acre in size are privately owned and maintained as “Tot Lots” within subdivisions. A new neighborhood park in the southeast portion of the City and a new neighborhood park in the Big West Subarea (located within the City of Enumclaw’s urban growth area, west of Enumclaw’s 2013 city limits) would be needed to satisfy the requirement that all residents be within ¾ mile of a neighborhood park.

Community Park: 3.59 acres / 1,000 population. Existing community park land is sufficient for anticipated growth, so no new community park land is needed.

Trails: 1/4 mile of trail / 1,000 population. Approximately 1.6 additional miles of useable trails



will be needed by 2030. Useable trails means that right-of-way has been acquired and the trail is level, cleared and has a useable surface such as gravel or chips.

LEVEL-OF-SERVICE FOR PARK FACILITIES

Neighborhood Parks

Every neighborhood park should have facilities to serve a broad range of the population and should include one or more play structures (5-12), one or more adult fitness structures or activity features (fitness equipment, bocce, horseshoes, etc), a sport court or a multi-purpose playfield.

*Trails, fitness equipment and/or bocce/horseshoe fields should be added to existing parks as appropriate to the park to increase the range of age of users.

*Playgrounds, tennis courts, volleyball courts and baseball fields, benches and restrooms should be maintained or added to parks as appropriate.

Enumclaw Aquatic Center

Currently the pool is not at capacity and can accommodate additional growth. The City should maintain the pool and make improvements (such as improving locker rooms) as needed to increase capacity to keep up with population growth.

Regional Programs and Facilities

Enumclaw operates several recreation facilities that serve a regional customer base as their primarily market. The majority of patrons who use the Enumclaw Aquatic Center, Enumclaw Golf Course, and Boise Creek Athletic Complex do not reside in

Enumclaw. While the Enumclaw Golf Course recovers it operating costs through user fees, the operations of the remaining facilities are subsidized by the City, and non-resident fees have been established to recover a portion of the additional expense.

Table 9.5: Park Land Level-of-Service (Based on a future population of 15,996)

Park Category	2013 Existing Acreage	Adopted LOS (acres or miles per thousand residents)	2035	
			Future Acreage-Adopted LOS	Additional Land Needed
Mini-Park	5.19	None	N/A	N/A
Neighborhood Park	29.02	2.62	36.15	7.13
Community Park	59.3	3.59	57.43	0
Open Space	34	None	N/A	N/A
Trail	1.6 miles	0.25 mi	4	2
TOTAL	127.51			

Parks Improvement Program

The details for making park improvements, costs and timing are covered in detail in the 2014 Parks and Open Space Plan. The major future project needs are summarized below.

Facilities Outside the UGA

The City has developed a policy to operate recreational facilities only at locations inside the Urban Growth Area (UGA). The Fell Hill and Anderson Riverview sites are well outside Enumclaw’s UGA but were acquired through donation. The City intends to hold the Fell Hill and Anderson Riverview sites in reserve, with no specific development plans.



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Neighborhood Parks

A few areas still will not be within ¼ mile of an active-use park (Neighborhood Park or Boise Creek Park) after the Elk Meadows, Future Southeast Park, and Future Big West Park are built. The areas, not within ¼ mile, are located at the edge of the UGA. The area to the extreme north is now covered by Thunder Mountain Middle School, with its own ball fields. Developing the following facilities will satisfy substantially the proximity standard included in this chapter.

Future Southeast Park

In order to satisfy LOS requirements that all residents are within ¼ mile of a neighborhood park, a new Southeast Park (not necessarily the final name) will be developed in conjunction with the Holdener Farm property, and will probably be about five acres in size. The exact location, cost, negotiations, and timing cannot be known until the Holdener property develops.

Possible Future Big West Park

This plan anticipates a new park north of SE 448th Street and east of 244th Avenue SE. This area is currently very rural and undeveloped. It is also located outside of current City limits. If the entire Big West urban growth area is annexed and develops, this park would be necessary to meet the LOS standard that no residential part of the City should be more than ¼ mile from a neighborhood park. However, that park will only be built if residential development expands beyond 244th Avenue. For the purpose of this Chapter, it is assumed that this park would be acquired through the land development process.

Improvements to other Parks

All of the existing serviceable parks are slated for some improvements. Some of these improvements, such as installation of off-street parking, will increase the parks’ usage capacity. Other improvements, such as replacement outdated play equipment, will not increase capacity. With the Boise Creek Park, plus the school ballfields, Enumclaw currently has adequate playfields, however, improvements are necessary to keep up with high demand and facilitate maintenance.

The following additional facilities should be considered on a City-wide basis in either neighborhood or community parks:

- *1 Climbing Wall
- *1 Outdoor Environmental Learning Center (Mahler Park)
- *1 Dog Park (Farmers Park)
- *1 BMX Park
- *2 Gathering Space/Outdoor Theater (Downtown and Elk Meadows Park)
- *2 Covered Play Areas
- *3 Picnic Shelters
- *1 Outdoor Fitness/Park or facility
- *1 Community Center with multi-purpose gymnasium
- *1 Spray Park

Mahler Park, Community Park

The projected deficit of 30 acres of community park land will be met by providing access and environmental education improvements to the 30 acres at Mahler Park. This park is not now serviceable, but with the improvements identified, it will be added to the inventory of developed parks. It will be Enumclaw’s first passive-use community park. Mahler Park will not provide active recreation because of deed restrictions and because of Newaukum Creek and forested wetlands. The Cedar River Academy



conducted a study and developed a draft master plan which has been incorporated into this plan.

Trails

According to the 1998 Community Survey, and the 2011 Park Survey, trails are the highest outdoor recreation facility priority citywide. To realize its full potential, the City's trail system must connect to King County's regional trail system. The level of service standard requires 3.4 miles of trails by the Year 2031. To satisfy this standard the City plans to complete the Foothills Trail and the Battersby Loop portions of the trail system. These trails provide approximately 3.5 miles of trail.

Community Center

The City has planned for a community center since the early 1990s to accommodate seniors, youths, families, performances, and arts programs and provide dedicated display, work studio, and storage for the visual arts. The existing Senior and Youth sites can be "surplused" to help offset the cost of this new facility. An updated feasibility study is needed for this project.

Spray Park

The City plans to investigate the feasibility of building a spray park in the City. A feasibility study that reviews locations, program, design and cost is needed.

Enumclaw Aquatic Center

Since the preparation of the Parks and Recreation Plan, the City has received the Forward Thrust Pool from King County. The City is neutral on who operates the facility so long as the citizens' needs are

met. Maintenance and locker room improvements are primary pool projects.

ADA Accessibility

The projects in this plan have been designed to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements. As construction drawings for the projects are prepared, ADA compliance will be ensured. Law requires that ADA accessibility deficiencies be rectified whenever a facility is substantially upgraded. If suitable funding becomes available sooner, any existing ADA deficiencies will be rectified sooner.