

- archival storage for written, photographic, audiovisual and sound recordings of historic importance.
- I. Provide information on private and public sources of funding available for use by property owners in the renovation and maintenance of historic structures.
 - J. Encourage community groups, such as neighborhood associations and business and arts organizations, to propose potential historic or cultural resource sites for inventory and evaluation.
 - K. Establish and maintain an appropriate system of signage to recognize historic resources on public and private properties.
 - L. Maintain code provisions that encourage preservation of historic structures through adaptive reuse*, or, if feasible, as an alternative to demolition, by moving the structure to a different location where it can be preserved if on-site preservation is not possible.

RECREATION

Background

Statewide Planning Goal 8: Recreational Needs

“To satisfy the recreational needs of the citizens of the state and visitors and, where appropriate, to provide for the siting of necessary recreational facilities including destination resorts.”

Today, the City owns more than 600 acres of land included in the park* system. Most of the City’s property holdings are managed within the Parks and Recreation Department. The Department provides a variety of recreation programs for all ages, including the Adult Community Center (ACC); sports and fitness classes, team sports leagues, and sports events; Indoor Tennis Center and Golf Course; and cultural programs for all ages, including outdoor recreation, entertainment, and community events.

Parks Plan 2025 guides the services, investments and plans for the City’s parks, facilities, recreation programs and natural areas. Land use policies applicable to parks and recreation, pursuant to Statewide Planning Goal 8, are incorporated below.

Summary of Major Issues

The following issues were identified through the City of Lake Oswego Parks Plan 2025 process and Comprehensive Plan update:

- Ensure that all residents have access to essential recreation services,* which the Parks Plan defines as Exercise and Sports, Play for Children, and Nature Experiences. These are currently not available equally throughout the city, and would be difficult to provide in certain areas. To fill geographic gaps and provide equitable access to these experiences, recreation facilities, such as traditional playgrounds, nature play areas, sports fields, sports courts, trails, and opportunities to enjoy nature would need to be renovated or new ones developed.



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- Prioritization of parks renovation over development of new capital facilities to maximize the City investment in existing facilities.
- A key land use planning issue is whether to maintain existing assets that may serve fewer people or to provide new ones that serve more people. Developing new facilities requires appropriately zoned land.
- A key issue is whether the City should provide recreation facilities and services where private facilities are available and provide the same services. This issue relates to the requirement that land use applicants, including the City, demonstrate a public need where land is proposed to be rezoned, per the Land Use Planning chapter.

Goals And Policies

Goals

1. Plan, acquire, develop, and maintain and restore a system of park and recreation lands and facilities that are available to all segments of Lake Oswego's population and which can serve the Community's diverse current and long-range community needs.
2. Provide diverse recreation programs that provide opportunities for learning, recreation, healthy living and fun.

Policies

1. Provide park and recreation opportunities, balancing the provision of children's play areas, natural areas, and exercise/sports facilities, within one half-mile of as many residents as possible, as land and resources allow.
2. Subject to financial constraints, fill service gaps in essential recreation services, as identified by the Parks Plan, through development of new facilities at existing sites, through partnerships, or at new sites if necessary.
3. Improve park access, for example, by linking neighborhoods to parks via trail corridors and safe pedestrian and bicycle routes along city streets.
4. Involve neighborhoods and adjacent property owners in the planning and design of park and recreation facilities to address compatibility issues and to mitigate impacts of intensive uses, such as traffic, parking, bright lights and noise, on residential neighborhoods.
5. Preserve and enhance significant natural resources and historic sites that are located on parklands.
6. Address the land use, public facility and transportation impacts of park and open space land acquisition and development through coordination with affected neighborhoods, state, federal and regional agencies, and other jurisdictions.
7. Provide and enhance low-impact recreational access, such as swimming, canoeing, and kayaking, from public waterfront properties at the Willamette and Tualatin Rivers.

8. Maintain an adopted parks system development charge methodology, which ensures that future development pays its share of existing and planned Park acquisition and development costs.

Recommended Action Measures

- A. Provide diverse recreational programs that include opportunities for learning, cultural enrichment, healthy living and fun.
- B. Identify service gaps in essential recreational services through the Parks and Recreation master plan(s) and respond by proposing new land acquisition and facilities in the Capital Improvement Plan* and prioritizing through the annual budget process.
- C. Maintain parks and recreation facilities in a manner that will prolong the life of capital assets, reduce operational costs, assure safe and accessible use, improve park design and conserve resources.
- D. Involve Lake Oswego area citizens and other interest groups in the planning and implementation of park and open space land acquisition, conservation and development programs.
- E. Enhance the provision of Parks and Recreation services in Lake Oswego by coordinating activities and sharing resources when appropriate with Lake Oswego School District and other agencies and jurisdictions.
- F. When feasible, develop major neighborhood park and sports field facilities jointly with Lake Oswego School District.
- G. Coordinate with the Lake Oswego Corporation to protect the aesthetic and recreational qualities of Oswego Lake.
- H. Provide opportunities for all citizens, regardless of income, to access parks, recreation facilities and programs, including those with special needs.
- I. Provide public access to public open space* in ways that protect and preserve the functions and values* of natural resources.
- J. Consider public safety in the planning, design and management of parks, open spaces, and trails, and maintain ongoing contact and coordination with public safety officials.
- K. Develop and maintain partnerships with other governmental agencies and organizations to optimize funding and facilities, and to improve park and recreation opportunities for the community.
- L. Design and construct greenways, pathways and natural area trails in ways that minimize their impact on natural resources, including wetlands, stream* corridors,* existing tree groves* and wildlife habitat.
- M. Periodically review and update Lake Oswego's parks and recreation master plan(s) and make conforming amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.
- N. Utilize alternative methods to acquire and develop parks, open spaces and trails, such as purchase of easements, bequeaths of life estates, acquisition of development rights, and other methods.

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- O. Maintain a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to advise the City Council on parks and recreation issues, such as parks acquisition and development, park design and facilities, recreation programs and priorities, and citizen involvement for parks and recreation planning and implementation.
- P. Continue to provide swimming access on Oswego Lake through the City's Swim Park and through coordination with the Lake Oswego School District to preserve the Lake Grove Swim Park.

LIBRARY

Background

While the provision of library services is not mandated by Statewide Planning goals, the City of Lake Oswego finds that its library is an essential public facility. The Lake Oswego Library offers informational, cultural and recreational opportunities for the community. It has the highest annual per capita library use in Oregon, serving over 1,000 visitors daily, with circulation of over 1.3 million items per year.

The Library is open seven days a week and provides opportunities for community gatherings and personal enrichment, as well as many events throughout the year, such as the Lake Oswego Reads program; music, performing arts and author series; discussion groups; and computer classes. The Library also maintains historical archives and other items representing the history of Lake Oswego and environs.

Summary of Major Issues

In 1988, a citizen Task Force on Library Growth found that the library had reached its design capacity. Since then, several studies have explored facility needs and options, including the feasibility of developing a new, larger library with community meeting facilities, or a branch library. As of 2013, there is no plan for building such a facility, though the need for a larger library is well documented. Therefore, the policies and recommended action measures contained in this chapter are intended to guide future land use planning for library services.

