



**CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO**

**PARKS, RECREATION & NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
ADVISORY BOARD**

**Description**

**History**

In 1979 City of Lake Oswego created the Natural Resources Advisory Board (NRAB) and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB). In 2015 members of City Council looked at the feasibility of combining these advisory boards into a single advisory board whose mission includes parks, recreation and natural resources.

On February 16, 2016, the City Council of the City of Lake Oswego passed Ordinance 2708. The ordinance of the Lake Oswego City Council amended Article 12.51 of the Lake Oswego Code to Conclude the Natural Resources Advisory Board and the Park & Recreation Advisory Board, and to create Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Advisory Board. City Council of the City of Lake Oswego passed Ordinance 2708, creating the "Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Advisory Board.

Effective March 17, 2016, there is hereby created a Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Advisory Board (PARKS Board) and the former NRAB and PRAB advisory boards are hereby dissolved.

**Composition, Term**

Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Advisory Board (PARKS Board) of the City of Lake Oswego consisting of nine regular members who shall be appointed for three-year terms, plus up to two members less than 18 years old who shall be appointed for one-year terms that may be renewed for one additional year.

## **Qualifications**

No less than a majority of the members of Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Advisory Board shall be residents of the City of Lake Oswego. Any members not residing in the City shall reside within the City's Urban Services Boundary. No fewer than two members shall have education or vocational experience in natural resources management, landscape planning and design, or park planning and management. The City Council shall endeavor to ensure that membership is diverse in education, experience and interest so that all aspects of the Board's mission are adequately represented.

## **Mission.**

The mission of the Park, Recreation and Natural Resources Board (PARKS Board) is to advise and assist City Council and Staff in the city-wide provision, operation, conservation and protection of the city's parks, open spaces, recreation facilities, community centers, programs and opportunities, natural resources and environmental quality for the health and well-being of the residents of Lake Oswego.

PARKS Board will consider and address the use, planning, acquisition, development, maintenance, and management of park lands and open spaces; and the policies and programs that meet community needs and preserve, restore and enhance natural areas including those that address surface water management, wildlife habitat, trees, tree groves, stream corridors, shorelines and ecologically distinctive natural areas.

## **Duties**

Collaborate with City Council and City Staff on the following overall responsibilities:

- Encourage and promote community awareness of park, recreation, natural resources and the environment by various means; develop strong relationships with the various sports leagues, community organizations and the Adult Community Center; and work cooperatively with the Commission for Citizen Involvement and the various neighborhood and community organizations.
- Coordinate with other governmental and community organizations in park planning, use and programming, and natural resource protection and enhancement.
- Monitor and communicate trends in local, regional and national recreation and natural resource protection and the needs of the public.
- Advise on acquisition, easements, donations, and land use actions to preserve and provide parks, open spaces, trails, bikeways, and natural resources.
- Advise on actions potentially affecting parks, recreation facilities, recreation programs and natural resources

- With City Council approval, establish citizen task forces and or advisory board sub-committees to address parks, recreation and natural resource planning and strategic issues, to review and update plans, and to provide detailed studies and reports on areas of new policy development.

Collaborate with City Council and City Staff on the following specific duties:

- Assist in development of periodic long range strategic plans regarding parks, recreation, and natural resource management and protection enhancement
- Prepare an annual set of goals with recommended time frames to implement those strategic plans that:
  - a) Identify and prioritize potential acquisition and development projects, maintenance programs, and recreational and wellness opportunities for all age groups
  - b) Identify and prioritize natural resource protection, environmental quality and ecosystems enhancement projects and opportunities that address broad natural resource issues within the City and Urban Service boundary.
  - c) Advocate for adequate budget and capital improvement funding for these projects.
- Dedicate one or more meetings per year to a discussion of plans and policies to protect, restore, and enhance the environmental quality within the City's Urban Service Boundary, including conservation of natural resources and preservation and enhancement of ecosystems, open space, and natural corridors.
- Assist City staff on management and maintenance issues, such as parks rules and regulations, City and School Board joint facility use agreements, specific recreational program offerings and program pricing, and other relevant issues.
- Assist City staff and advise the City Council on creating, approving, managing and monitoring specific park friends groups and their activities.
- Designate Lake Oswego Heritage Trees as provided in LOC 55.06.030.

**Contact Person**

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