As a kick-off to the Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas (PRANA) System Plan, the City’s planning team developed a series of questions for community members to answer. For this first public input activity, the questions were taken, in the form of six display boards, to three community events. By providing input opportunities at a variety of well attended events, the City was able to start a conversation with over 150 residents (and a variety of visitors) about the future of parks, recreation and natural areas in Lake Oswego. These were the first of many opportunities for the community to help shape this plan through a continuing conversation that will occur over the year as the plan is developed.

This planning effort will also include an update and expansion of the Luscher Farm Master Plan that addresses the opportunities created by the property acquisitions around the farm site. This planning effort will focus on the unique role that the Luscher Area properties have to play within the context of the larger parks, recreation and natural areas system.

The six questions asked at the intercept events identified the benefits, functions, faculties and programs that are most important to Lake Oswego residents and park users. Community responses received at these events suggested topics needing further public input.

In addition to placing dots on display boards to indicate their preferences, participants added additional notes and had conversations with the planning team during the events. A record of these additional comments is provided at the end of the document.
The responses to this question were consistently high response with nearly all responses in the “Very important” area of the scale.
The responses to this question indicate the most important functions of the park system are: protecting important places (75), enhancing health and well-being (72), and bringing neighbors and people together (61). These findings will help focus further questions as the public input continues.
Aquatic programs and swimming (63) were selected as the most needed programs, followed by special events (55) (likely influenced by the fact that each intercept was held at a Lake Oswego special event) and then adult sports (46) (with special interest in tennis). Fitness programs, environmental programs, and education/special interest classes also received a significant number of responses.
For opportunities close to home, experiencing nature (92) was the most important to intercept participants. A second cluster of responses included group gatherings, play for children and exercise.
The Luscher Area Plan will begin following the initial analysis of the parks, recreation and natural area system, to ensure that the role of this key site is integrated into the system as a whole. This board requested comments to help identify the range of existing ideas about the area. Comments transcribed from this board are provided on the next page.
**Luscher Area Plan Ideas**

- CSA-!! Keep community farm plots/expand, sustainable programs
- CSA continue, Farm space
- CSA is great
- Continue gardening. Complete walking path into West Linn
- Place for parties reunions, outdoor weddings
- Open space with trails and information signs
- Leave it as a farm but use it as a "dude" farm with paths for spectators
- Leave it alone as much as possible - no amenities except perhaps a few paths - NO pavement, asphalt, picnic tables, etc.
- Luscher Farms nature trails environmental center keep as natural as possible
- Some recreation, keep it open. Some arena sports fields
- Running and walking paths. Gardens like Rose and fuchsia gardens. Fairs like art fair.
- Walking path with bark chips (get mileage re-2 mile loop)
- Walking paths
- Never ending bike paths, bike paths, bike paths, bike paths!! And long, long, long!!
- Bike paths that connect - Luscher/West Linn/Lake Oswego and Tryon.
- Bike path
- Dirt bike bmx pathways
- Biking paths, swimming pool
- Pool-community center
- Pool and community center.
- Recreational pool
- Not housing, add pool, community center
- Golf course, swim facility
- Tennis courts
- Need more convenient parking: accessibility, more community garden
- Bike paths, golf course, running path, NW demonstration garden
- Arboretum
- Rural Chinese garden like the one outside Seattle - charge admission
- Create an artist-in-residence program using existing Farr House as residence-seek environment/park/community themed arts.
- Demonstration garden for native plants/plant nursery!
- Big festivals. Centennial was great!
- Place for socializing, dog park/coffee, socializing outlet while dogs play
- Make the centennial an annual event!
While the events in Lake Oswego attract residents from nearby cities and beyond, 130 of 159 red dots (indicating where respondents live) were placed on the map in Lake Oswego. Blue dots, indicating respondents’ favorite or most visited park, concentrated on Lake Oswego’s major parks (with an expected high representation for Millenium Plaza and Westlake Park where the events were held). Where blue dots piled up, a number count is provided.
Additional Ideas and Comments:
Please note the crack at George Rogers Park Tennis Court, it is becoming a hazard
Continue planning native white oak at Rassekh property
Move City Hall to the West End Building
Hedges along south shore crowd walkers out onto the street
Better access to park and recreation events, email lists and flyers
City booth at farmers market with info about city events
Natural area strategies will also be useful to private open space managers, which will benefit the city as a whole.
The theater group that practices/perform at iron furnace in George Rogers Park is loud, I like that they can use this space but it seems like it is every night.
I don’t believe the City should purchase land without a purpose in mind (referring to Luscher area properties)
The positive impact of special events like this (movie at Millennium Plaza) on businesses like mine should be noted
Box like realtor boxes at the farmers market. A flyer of activities in the city (advertising of pageants and events).
Keep: LO reads is great, farmers market, arts festival.
Aquatic-Improve the appeal of the lake for public swimming. Is it possible to improve the "swim water" maybe in conjunction with LOIS.
Nature-More linked trails for a longer hiking experience.
Bike trail along river connect Foothills to G. Rogers
Programming:
- School age education support
- Keep the golf course
- Dog friendly
- Having a place for people to play
- Better enforcement of dog leash law
- Tennis courts
- Box like realtor boxes at the farmers market. A flyer of activities in the city (advertising of pageants and events).
- Keep: LO reads is great, farmers market, arts festival.