

## **Chapter Four:** **Current Parks and Recreation Facilities**

### **I. City of Sequim Park Categories**

The Parks Master Plan sets out the following park categories to create an inventory of existing parks and recreational opportunities. This inventory helps Park Board and City staff to determine the adequacy, extent and distribution of park resources within the community. The categories are adapted from Planning for Parks, Recreation and Open Space in Your Community, Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development, and from the parks plans of the cities of Port Angeles and Montesano, Washington. The importance of categorization is to provide a variety of park types which satisfy the broad range of community recreational needs.

#### **Regional/Reserve Parklands**

These parklands are typically left in their natural states, with minimal improvements or development, except the possibility of trails and benches. They are usually larger areas of land, and often are part of an open space area; sometimes a critical area may be a feature of this park type. Regional parks typically service a multi-community area.

#### **Community Park**

Community parks serve broader purposes than neighborhood parks. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open space. Community parks also serve as nodes for a City-wide pathway system. Facilities may include: field and court games, softball and baseball diamonds, playground equipment, tennis courts, basketball goals and other athletic facilities. Passive recreation opportunities (picnicking, benches, walking, etc.) may also be provided if a natural setting also exists.

#### **Neighborhood Park**

Neighborhood parks are the basic unit of the park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation, and includes large open playfields.

#### **School-Park**

School sites provide intensive recreational activities (sports fields, gymnasium, stadium, etc.), which also serve to fulfill many of the organized recreation needs in the City. The School District has final approval for uses of any or all school athletic fields and gymnasiums. The City and the School District can develop an interlocal agreement, which would determine how the more intense activities of the community are managed.

## **Sports Complex**

A sports complex typically consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities. These sites provide facilities for single-focus organized field sports such as baseball, football, soccer, swimming, tennis and other sports activities. These sports complexes typically are strategically located within the community's region; for Sequim they include the Sequim Aquatic Recreation Center (SARC), Boys & Girls Club, Dr. Standard Little League Park and the Sequim High School Stadium.

## **Special Use Sites**

These sites cover a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward a single-purpose visit. There are no size requirements but the site should be large enough to accommodate support facilities for the single activity, including spectators and equipment storage. The John Wayne Marina and associated shoreline amenities is a good example of a special use site in the City.

## **Urban Paths and Bikeways**

Urban paths and bikeways provide an opportunity within an urban setting for walking and bicycling. Where possible, they provide links to other recreational areas, scenic vistas, historic points of interest, or public access to a waterfront.

These pathways are typically designed as a portion of a statewide or local trail system. In Sequim, the Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) is a good example of a regional pathway serving the entire community.

## **Urban Malls and Squares**

Urban malls and squares are small passive areas designed primarily to improve and maintain urban environmental quality. They provide rest and relaxation areas and provide aesthetic improvements to adjacent developed areas. No intensive recreation facilities should be provided at these sites; however, landscaping, benches, table, etc. are typically developed. In addition, areas of protection from the elements through screening, plantings and covered areas should be provided.

These areas usually contain small green spaces that serve pedestrians in downtown shopping areas and are typically situated within a quarter mile of the shopping area (e.g.; Seal Street Park, Bank of America Park and Heritage Park).

## **Private Park/Recreation Facility**

This category includes parks and recreation facilities that are privately owned yet contribute to the public park and recreation system. Churches throughout the greater Sequim community provide playgrounds and small contemplative-style parks, typically associated with their church activities. There may be some opportunity for the community to use these parks and the associated facilities in the same manner as neighborhood parks (St Luke's Episcopal Church park on Fir Street).

## **Natural Resource Areas**

These are lands that are intentionally set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and for visual aesthetics/buffering. They can include undeveloped public or private land that is protected from development (except conforming recreational) or lands that are established through development mitigation. These areas may also be undeveloped areas within existing parks.

There are unique opportunities within the City to develop an eco-system recreational program based on natural environments such as the salt marsh, certain wetlands and the three creek corridors and their associated buffers.

Areas of natural quality are identified for resource-oriented outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, hiking, and bicycling. These areas may include active play areas, but typically 80 percent, or more, of the site is managed for natural resource preservation.

## **II. Special Events & Festivals**

The City has been the sponsor of the longest running festival in the State's history, the Irrigation Festival; which in 2006 celebrated its 108<sup>th</sup> festival. It has an annual attendance that ranges from 30,000 to 55,000 over three of its nine day run. It celebrates the opening of the irrigation channels to begin the planting and growing seasons for area farmers.

There also two other annual festivals that are at least three days long. They include the Lavender Festival with visitation exceeding 28,000 in 2005. This festival is nearly ten years old. The more recently created and successful special event is the Chocolate and Wine Festival Which will experience its second year in 2006. It was estimated that over 4,000 attended the Chocolate and Wine Festival in 2005. The City is on the periphery of the annual Farmers Tour and Crag Festival, but benefits from the many travelers who enjoy the activities.

Carrie Blake Park and adjacent lands are used extensively for the Irrigation, Lavender and Chocolate Festivals. The Sequim School District allows the annual carnival associated with the Irrigation Festival and has provided field access for vendors during the Lavender Festival.

## **III. City of Sequim Geographical Areas**

To determine the need for city parks and to strive for equitable availability to people living in different parts of the City and its urban growth area, the Citizen's Parks Advisory Board established a system of geographic areas for Sequim and the UGA. Eight geographic areas were identified based on geographic constraints and logical boundaries including the SR101 Bypass. The geographic areas are color coded and shown on Map C. Also shown on this map are the existing parks and recreation sites serving the City. The boundaries for these geographic areas are described below.

## **Geographic Area South of Highway SR101**

1. **South-West = SW** (parts of Sections 25 and 30). Approximate boundaries, SR101 on North, River Road on the West, 5th Avenue to the East, City limits to the South.
2. **South-Central = SC** (parts of Sections 29 and 30). Approximate boundaries, SR101 on North, 5th Avenue to the West, Rhodefer Road to the East, and City limits to the South.
3. **South-East = SE** (Section 28). Approximate boundaries, SR101 to the North, Happy Valley/Johnson Creek to the East, Rhodefer Road to the West, City limits to the South.

## **Geographic Area North of Highway SR101**

4. **East-Marine = EM** (parts of Sections 21, 22, 27, 28 and 34). Approximate boundaries West Sequim Bay Road on the North, SR101 to the South and West, Sequim Bay on the East.
5. **North-East = NE** (Sections 21 and 22). Approximate boundaries West Sequim Bay Road to the South, Rhodefer Road to the West, West Sequim Bay to the East, City Limits to the North.
6. **North-Central = NC** (parts of Sections 17 and 18). Approximate boundaries Hendrickson Road to the South, Brown Road to the East, Kendall Road to the West, and City Limits to the North.
7. **North-West = NW** (Sections 24 and part of 19). Approximate boundaries SR101 to the South, 5th Avenue to the East, City limits to the West, and Hendrickson Road to the North.
8. **Greater Downtown = GD** (Sections 19 and 20). Approximate boundaries SR101 to the South, Rhodefer Road to the East, 5th Avenue to the West and Hendrickson Road to the North. (Note: this area includes, but is larger than, the defined Downtown Subarea Core.)

## **IV. City of Sequim Recreation Site Inventory**

Table 4-1 identifies the respective geographic area for each park and recreation site serving the City.

In addition to the inventory of recreation sites that provide recreational opportunities to the City, a review and inventory of existing facilities is also necessary. This inventory will assist in determining facilities that are readily available and facilities which are lacking.

It should be noted that not all sites have been included in the facility inventory due to

Table 4-1

Existing Inventory of Parks and Recreation Sites Serving the Residents of Sequim: 2005

CATEGORY	SITE NAME	OWNERSHIP	GEOGRAPHIC AREA	ACRES
Regional	Olympic National Park	NPS	Not in City	922,651
	Olympic National Forest	USFS	Not in City	633,677
	Sequim Bay State Park	WSPRC	Not in City	78
	Dungeness Rec. Area	Clallam Co.	Not in City	216
	Dungeness Landing	Clallam Co.	Not in City	18.6 (13 tidelands)
	Robin Hill Park	Clallam Co.	Not in City	195
	Marlyn Nelson Park	Clallam Co.	Not in City	1.2
	Cline Spit	Clallam Co.	Not in City	2.0
	Sunland Golf & CC	Sunland Golf & CC	Not in City	18-hole
	Skyridge Golf/Range	Private	Not in City	9-hole
Dungeness Golf & CC	Private	Not in City	18-hole	
Community	Carrie Blake	City	GD	22.7
	Pioneer Memorial	City	GD	5.0
	Water Re-use Demo. Site	City	GD	27.6
Neighborhood	Margaret Kirner	City	GD	1.3
	St. Lukes	Private	NW	0.2
	Spruce Street	City	GD	0.9
School-Park	School Campus	SSD #323	GD	77.2
	Greenfields	SSD #323	GD	4.1
Sports Complex	Dr. Standard Little League	City	SW	10.1
	SARC <sup>1</sup>	Rec. Dist. #1	GD	4.8
	Boys & Girls Club	SSD #323	GD	2.1
	Sequim HS Stadium	SSD #323	GD	20.0
Special Use Sites	Children's Park	SSD #323	GD	0.3
	John Wayne Marina	Port of PA	EM	5.7
	Master Gardener Site	Multiple	Not in City	3.0
Urban Paths & Bikeways	Olympic Discovery Trail	Multiple <sup>2</sup>	EM, GD, NW	5.4 Mile
	Zwicker Pedestrian Trail	City	GD	660 LF
	Walk/Bike Citywide System	City	All Areas	3.0 Mile
Urban Malls & Squares	Bank of America	Private	GD	0.2
	Heritage Park	Transit	GD	0.1
	Seal Street	City	GD	0.1
Natural Resource Area	Mary Lukes Wheeler	Clallam Co.	Not in City	10.0
	Dungeness Spit NWR	USFWS	Not in City	630
	Three Rivers	Clallam Co.	SW	8.5
	Railroad Bridge	Multiple <sup>3</sup>	Not in City	28

<sup>1</sup> Sequim Aquatic Recreation Center Tax District #1.

<sup>2</sup> The Olympic Discovery Trail is a regional facility and crosses multiple jurisdictions. Segments within the City are owned and maintained by the City.

<sup>3</sup> This park is administered jointly by the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Clallam Co. & Audubon Society.

availability to the general public. Some sites listed in Table 4-1 are quasi-public and are not available for public use without a user fee or prior authorization. Those sites which have facilities classified as open to the public will be identified in Table 4-2 with the respective facility listed. The facilities which are not open to the public will not be included in Table 4-2.

**Table 4-2**

**Existing Inventory of Recreation Facilities Serving Residents of Sequim: 2005**

RECREATION SITE	RECREATION FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES
Olympic National Park	Backpacking, beach access, boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking, lodging, mountain climbing, picnicking, tent/trailer camping.
Olympic National Forest	Boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking, lodging, picnicking, tent/trailer camping, restrooms.
Sequim Bay SP	Picnicking, tent/trailer camping, fishing, restrooms.
Dungeness Rec. Area.	Beach access, hiking, picnicking, camping, restrooms.
Dungeness Landing	Picnicking, interpretive center, boat launch, restrooms.
Robin Hill	Picnicking, hiking, gardening, athletic fields.
Marlyn Nelson	Boat launch, beach access, picnicking, hiking, restroom.
Sunland Golf	18-Hole golf course (Semi-private)
Skyridge Golf/Range	9-Hole golf course (Public)
Dungeness Golf	18-Hole golf course (Semi-private)
Cline Spit	Boat launch, beach access, restroom.
Carrie Blake	Mini-convention center, softball, skate park, playground, picnicking, hiking, restrooms.
Pioneer Memorial	Community hall, picnicking.
Water Re-use Demo. Site	Bandshell, hiking, pet areas, RC boating, fishing derby.
Margaret Kirner	Playground, picnicking.
Spruce Street	Undeveloped
School Campus	School activities, tennis courts, soccer, football, baseball.
SSD Greenfields	Field sports.
Dr. Standard	Little League baseball, restrooms.
SARC	Indoor swimming pool, courtgames, fitness center.
Boys & Girls Club	Indoor youth sports
Children's Park	Playground, basketball, volleyball.
John Wayne Marina	Boat launch, moorage, beach access, picnicking, restrooms.
Olympic Discovery Trail	Non-motorized trail.
Zwicker Pedestrian Trail	Non-motorized trail.
Citywide Walk/Bike System	Non-motorized trail.
Bank of America	Bench
Seal Street	Bench
Mary Wheeler	River Access, picnicking.
Dungeness Spit	Natural area, hiking, picnicking.
Three Rivers	Natural area, fishing, hiking.
Railroad Bridge	Interpretive Center, hiking, picnicking.
Master Gardener	Education, interpretive/conference facility.
Downtown Restrooms	Restrooms

