

## **Chapter Two:** **Goals and Policies**

To adequately provide for the broad range of recreational activities, a framework of goals and policies should be identified. A goal is an end result of which plans and policies are directed. A policy is the means and guidelines by which one will accomplish the goal. The following mission statement represents the overriding concept for the City's park and recreation system with the goals defined to achieve the mission.

**Mission Statement: Sequim residents of all ages will have an excellent park system, under dedicated management, offering a variety of outdoor activities convenient to their homes.**

Also identified in this Chapter are the proposed projects established to accomplish the policies and goals of this plan.

### **I. Goals:**

1. During the development review process, require that individual dedicated pieces of open space contribute meaningfully to the desired park and open space system and provide means of linking to the areas described in the *Non-Motorized Transportation Plan*.
2. Work with the Citizen's Park Advisory Board, the Public Works and Planning Department, Planning Commission and City Council to define a funding strategy that is realistic and attainable and will place a priority on developing existing park facilities and acquiring those defined as high priorities by the community and not currently or adequately available in the county.
3. Provide each geographic area as noted in the Parks Master Plan Map C with a neighborhood or community park.
4. Provide linkages between parks and other trail systems according to the *Non-Motorized Transportation Plan*.
5. Develop a source of financing to provide capital facilities and other park improvements, either through impact fees, grants or other contributions, transfer of development rights and donations to a Capital Parks Reserve fund.
6. Recognize and coordinate with the large number of volunteers and volunteer groups to assist in park maintenance and promotion.
7. Link major open spaces, natural amenities (wildlife habitat and critical areas), and local parks together; while, extending non-motorized

linkage to major activity centers such as schools, community centers, employment centers, and to the downtown core.

8. Provide qualified [certified] staff to keep Sequim parks safe and clean.
9. Periodically review the land use inventory and utilize the GIS system to identify potential properties for parks and trails, based on a regional/geographic area needs analysis.
10. Offer both passive and active recreational opportunities for varied ages and activity levels such as senior softball, facilities for skateboarders and cyclists, soccer fields, spaces and facilities for picnics, off-leash dog area and shaded seating areas for passive relaxation.
11. Expand Citizen's Parks Advisory Board to include 2 student age members, with one year terms.
12. Determine the appropriate level-of-service standard for each park classification.
13. New development open space mitigation fees should be dedicated to the creation, development, expansion of parks, open space and trail systems, and not to maintenance.
14. Encourage the expanded use of the City's recreational facilities into evening hours by providing user fee night lighting for sports areas such as tennis, soccer and baseball.

## **II. Policies:**

1. The City should share recreational opportunities by coordinating with County, State, Tribes, Port, local School District, private individuals, Sequim Aquatic Recreation Center and other local agencies, when and where feasible.
2. The City should conserve open space for its natural environment, and for cultural and recreational values.
3. The City of Sequim should encourage recreational activity programs, whether sponsored by City, School District or others.
4. The City should continue to advocate a community of healthy and active residents of all ages and capabilities.
5. The City should ensure high quality park designs we will follow the best available park development practices.

6. City will use “Best Available Science” and “Best Management Practices” in its efforts to expand the park and trail system.