

**CITY OF ORTING  
WASHINGTON  
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-8**

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**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ORTING, WASHINGTON,  
ADOPTING UPDATES TO THE ORTING PARKS, TRAILS &  
OPEN SPACE PLAN**

WHEREAS, the City of Orting adopted the Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Orting Parks Commission and the Orting Planning Commission worked together to develop updates to the Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan consistent with the periodic update of the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Orting Parks Commission held a public hearing on May 6, 2015, and approved updates to the Orting Parks, Trail & Open Space Plan on that date; and

WHEREAS, the Orting Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 1, 2015, and approved updates to the Orting Parks, Trail & Open Space Plan on that date; and

WHEREAS, the Orting Parks Commission and Orting Planning Commission recommend that the Orting City Council adopt the updated Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan; and

WHEREAS, the updated Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan is completed and ready for adoption by the City of Orting; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office is a planning and grants agency which can administer grants and other funding to jurisdictions with a certified parks and recreation plan; and

WHEREAS, following adoption, the Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan will be submitted to and certified by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

WHEREAS, certification of the Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan will allow the City of Orting to retain eligibility to compete for a variety of state funding for six (6) years from the date of adoption;

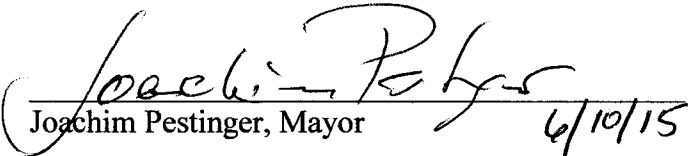
NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORTING, WASHINGTON, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Orting hereby adopts the updated 2016 "Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan."

Section 2. The Mayor is authorized to pursue available funding opportunities to implement initiatives designated by the plan.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2015.

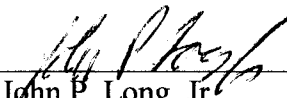
CITY OF ORTING

  
Joachim Pestinger, Mayor 6/10/15

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

  
Rachel Pitzel, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

  
John P. Long, Jr.  
Kenyon Disend, PLLC  
City Attorney

Filed with the City Clerk: 6/10/15  
Passed by the City Council:  
Resolution No.: 2015-8  
Date Posted:



# CITY OF ORTING

## Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan

2015 Update  
Final Draft for Adoption.

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# PARKS, TRAILS & OPEN SPACE PLAN

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City of Orting



## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

The *Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan* is intended to guide the acquisition of land and development of facilities for recreation and open space uses over the next 20 years. Goals, policies and capital facilities needs based on this plan are adopted into the City's Comprehensive Plan.

### BACKGROUND

Orting is blessed with many natural features that support recreation. The rivers and gentle topography of the valley floor provide many opportunities for casual play. For years, residents were able to satisfy most recreation needs by using these natural resources, school facilities, and the surrounding area. However, the City grew considerably throughout the 90s, and growth continues. New households bring demand for more parks, recreation facilities, and recreation programs.

In March 2003, the City adopted the *Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan* (PTOS). The PTOS assessed how well parks and recreation facilities served Orting's population and also developed a vision for the future of the parks system. A number of specific actions followed the 2003 adoption of the plan:

- Language from the PTOS was adopted into Orting's Comprehensive Plan, including policies for capital facilities planning and policies which established Level of Service (LOS) standards for parks and trails.
- Orting's Development Regulations provide for the collection of impact fees for parks.
- Adopting a parks plan renders Orting eligible for a variety of funding sources for parks and recreation development.

In June 2010, the City adopted an update to the Plan. The update included a revised inventory with nearly double the 2003 park land and outlined ongoing parks planning activities. The results of these planning activities included increased river access with over 20 public access points now established.

This document represents an update to Orting's 2010 parks plan. It includes an updated inventory reflecting new parks and recreation spaces acquired by the City, and considers projected population growth out to 2040 to calculate future demand.

## **ISSUES**

The Orting residential population nearly doubled in size from 2000 to 2010. The Level of Service standards established in the initial 2003 plan were essential in ensuring the parks inventory grew with the population, and that new development was paying for its share through a parks impact fee. However, growth is forecasted to occur at a significantly slower rate and the City is now challenged with planning for an aging demographic.

The 2014 public opinion survey revealed that the community is satisfied with the quantity of available parks and open space, but would like to see overall enhancements to the park system in the form of added features and improvements to existing facilities.

The Parks Plan continues to evaluate existing resources that the City feels should be included as part of the parks planning process, for example: incorporating potential river access points as identified in Orting's Shoreline Management Program into the Capital Facilities Element, or addressing community access to school recreational facilities.

Additionally, an effort has been made to reduce redundancies between the Parks Plan and other adopted City plans, therefore some text has been removed and replaced with references.

## **PLANNING**

The Parks Commission, the Planning Commission, and the public have all contributed to the update of this plan. In keeping with past methodologies, this plan uses an equitable method of ensuring that all new growth addresses its proportionate share of the impacts on parks and recreation by collecting mitigation fees based on those impacts. This requires the following steps:

- 1) An updated assessment of current and future demand for open space and recreation facilities that balances numeric data with public opinion and participation;
- 2) An updated inventory of the "supply" of existing land and facilities that accommodates the demand;

- 3) Level of Service (LOS) standards for land and facilities meeting the community's needs and preferences for parks and recreation;
- 4) A plan for the location and phasing of new improvements over time; and
- 5) A financing plan.

This results in an updated PTOS that is incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan and also used to continue to secure outside funding. Since impact fees can only be used to fund projects resulting from new demand, the City must find other sources to fund projects that result from existing demand. This includes grants, bonds and levies.

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is the state agency that provides grant funds to local governments to fund the planning, design and construction of facilities. In order to qualify for RCO funding, the City needs a certified plan that documents the items listed above and shows that the public was involved in preparing the plan. The 2010 update ensured the City's eligibility through 2016, and the 2015 update maintains the City's eligibility for another six years through 2021. Other sources of grant opportunities include the federal Community Development Block Grant Program and the Pierce County Conservation Futures Program.

The following chart shows the relationships between the state requirements for planning for parks and recreation within the growth management comprehensive plan and an RCO certified plan. Public involvement is required in both cases. This document follows GMA requirements, which are more specific.

<b>GMA PARKS ELEMENT</b>	<b>RCO CERTIFIED PARKS PLAN</b>
Goals and Policies	Goals and Objectives
Level of Service Standards	
Inventory of Existing Facilities and Capacities	Inventory
Forecast of Future Needs	Demand and Supply Analysis
Proposed Locations and Capacities of New Facilities	Capital Facilities Program
6-Year (Minimum) Financing Plan	



## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The PTOS has undergone multiple phases of public involvement. The first public involvement process in 2003 was designed to ensure that the community in Orting had the opportunity to shape the initial plan. After adopting the plan in March 2003, the City and the Parks Commission sustained continuous public outreach efforts to include significant public input in the development of Gratzner Park and North Park. Additional public outreach was conducted throughout the 2010 update process.

The most recent outreach effort was launched in the fall of 2014 to gather public input for the 2015 update. The outreach effort included a public open house and an online survey. The history of public involvement and more recent outreach efforts are described in detail in Appendix A: Public Outreach and Communication.

## GOALS AND POLICIES

Parks, trails, open space and recreation goals and policies are consistent between the PTOS and the Orting Comprehensive Plan. Updated policy language was recommended to the Planning Commission and incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan during the 2015 GMA periodic update. Goals and policies listed below are labeled as they appear in the Comprehensive Plan.

The 2015 update changed policy language to more accurately reflect community values and incorporate input received during the public involvement process. For instance, value was expressed for open space and natural areas; therefore a level of service standard of 14 natural resource acres per 1,000 population was established. This standard will maintain the supply of Natural Resource Areas as Orting continues to grow and provides the City with a realistic LOS. This LOS provision is further supported by Comprehensive Plan Goal LU 1, which references the reservation of the City's "rich natural resources".

## Capital Facilities

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**Goal CF 3** Ensure that the continued development and implementation of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) reflects the policy priorities of the City Council.

**Policy CF 3.3** *Policy CF 3.3 establishes the Level of Service (LOS) standards for City facilities and services including water supply, sanitary sewer, fire protection, police, and parks.*

Parks, Trails and Open Space LOS: The following level of service standards shall apply to land and facilities:

- Total Park Land – 8 acres per 1,000 population

- Mini-Parks – 1 acre per 1,000 population
- Neighborhood Parks – 2 acres per 1,000 population
- Community Parks – 5 acres per 1,000 population
- Fields and Courts – 1 per 1,000 population (located in parks)
- Trails – 1 mile per 1,000 population
- Natural Resource Areas – 14 acres per 1,000 population

**Goal CF 6** Develop a system of parks and recreation facilities that is attractive, safe, and available to all segments of the population.

**Policy CF 6.1** Mitigate impacts on parks, trails, and the recreation system from new growth based on impact fees, land dedication, and/or facility donations based on the level of service standards.

**Policy CF 6.2** Cooperate and coordinate with the school district, other public agencies and private groups through the use of interlocal agreements and contracts to meet the recreation needs of the City.

**Policy CF 6.3** Support continued development of the Foothills Trail and related links and parks for bicycles, pedestrians and equestrians, running through Pierce County to Mount Rainier National Park.

**Policy CF 6.4** Develop a network of parks, open space and trails throughout the city for pedestrians, bicycles and equestrians, with priorities on:

- a. The dedication and development of lands which would link with the Foothills Trail, the downtown parks, the Puyallup and Carbon River waterfront corridors and a linkage across the Carbon River to the Cascadia trail system,
- b. Maintaining and improving the accessibility, usability, and safety of Orting’s parks and trails, and
- c. Sustaining community-wide efforts to improve public access to the Carbon and Puyallup Rivers at those points along the banks which best fulfill the criteria for education, accessibility and restoration as outlined in the 2009 Shoreline Master Program.

**Land Use: Open Space and Recreation**

**Goal OS 1** The Recreation\Open Space Land Use Category is intended to acknowledge and protect the City's public parks and open spaces

through public and private initiatives including incentives, transfer of development rights, public land acquisition, greenways, conservation easements, and other techniques.

**Policy OS 1.1** The Recreation/Open Space district is for areas devoted to public recreational facilities such as parks and trails and areas that have been preserved as open spaces through a variety of open space programs.

**Policy OS 1.2** Recognize the important recreational and transportation roles played by regional bicycle trail systems, and support efforts to develop a coordinated system of greenway trails throughout the region.

**Policy OS 1.3** Promote the use of property tax reductions as an incentive to preserve desirable lands as a public benefit and encourage and support the participation of community-based non-profit organizations offering options and alternatives to development in the interest of preserving desirable lands as a public benefit.

To learn more about the content of the Comprehensive Plan, please contact City Hall or view the full document online at the City's website.

# PARKS, TRAILS & OPEN SPACE PLAN

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City of Orting



## CHAPTER 2: NEEDS ANALYSIS

### DEFINITIONS

The following types of parks, trails and open space are here defined so that the existing inventory and future demand can be expressed in measurable terms. Park typologies serve as a planning tool to classify park usage and gauge neighborhood access. The parks and facilities are described qualitatively by objectives, and quantitatively by service area and size criteria. Existing examples of each park or facility are provided, as well as the public value. The public value is an expression of the results of local public opinion surveys conducted during the 2010 and 2015 update process (results summarized in Appendix A).

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#### ***Mini-Park***

- Smallest park classification.
- Meet recreational needs in areas of concentrated or limited populations, isolated developments, topographic or environmental constraints or in business districts.
- Examples include scenic viewpoints, plazas, gardens, historic places, “tot-lots,” sport courts, fountains or beautification areas.

Service Area:           Less than ½ mile walking distance (about 7-8 city blocks)

Size Criteria:           Less than 1 acre

Guidelines:            Geographic spacing around City

Orting Examples: North Park; Williams Park; Triangle Park

Public Value: Well located, accessible, kid friendly and well maintained.  
North Park is specifically valued for its Saturday market and hometown feel.

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### ***Neighborhood Park***

- Recreation and social hub serving multiple neighborhoods and accommodating a wide variety of user groups, including children, adults, seniors, and special populations.
- Developed for both active and passive recreation activities for residents living within safe walking or bicycling distance.
- Access by way of connector trails, sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets.
- Activities specific to neighborhood needs.
- Informal, non-programmed open multi-use playfield or open space, basketball courts, picnic areas, pickle ball, and volleyball courts. Natural areas may allow for park trails and nature study.

Service Area: About ½ mile walking distance

Size Criteria: 1 acre to 4.9 acres

Guidelines: Geographic spacing around service area

Orting Examples: Whitehawk Park; City Park; Calistoga Park

Public Value: Well located (City Park is valued for its proximity to downtown and the Foothills Trail; Whitehawk and Calistoga parks are valued for their proximity to residential areas, the rivers and natural areas), kid friendly, dog friendly and well maintained. City Park is also valued for the shade it provides in the summer and the annual public events and festivals hosted there.

Figure 1: Five Acre Neighborhood Park

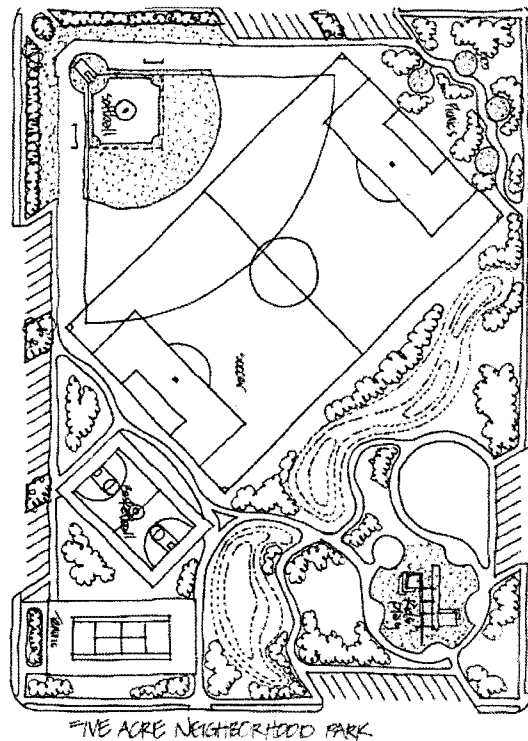
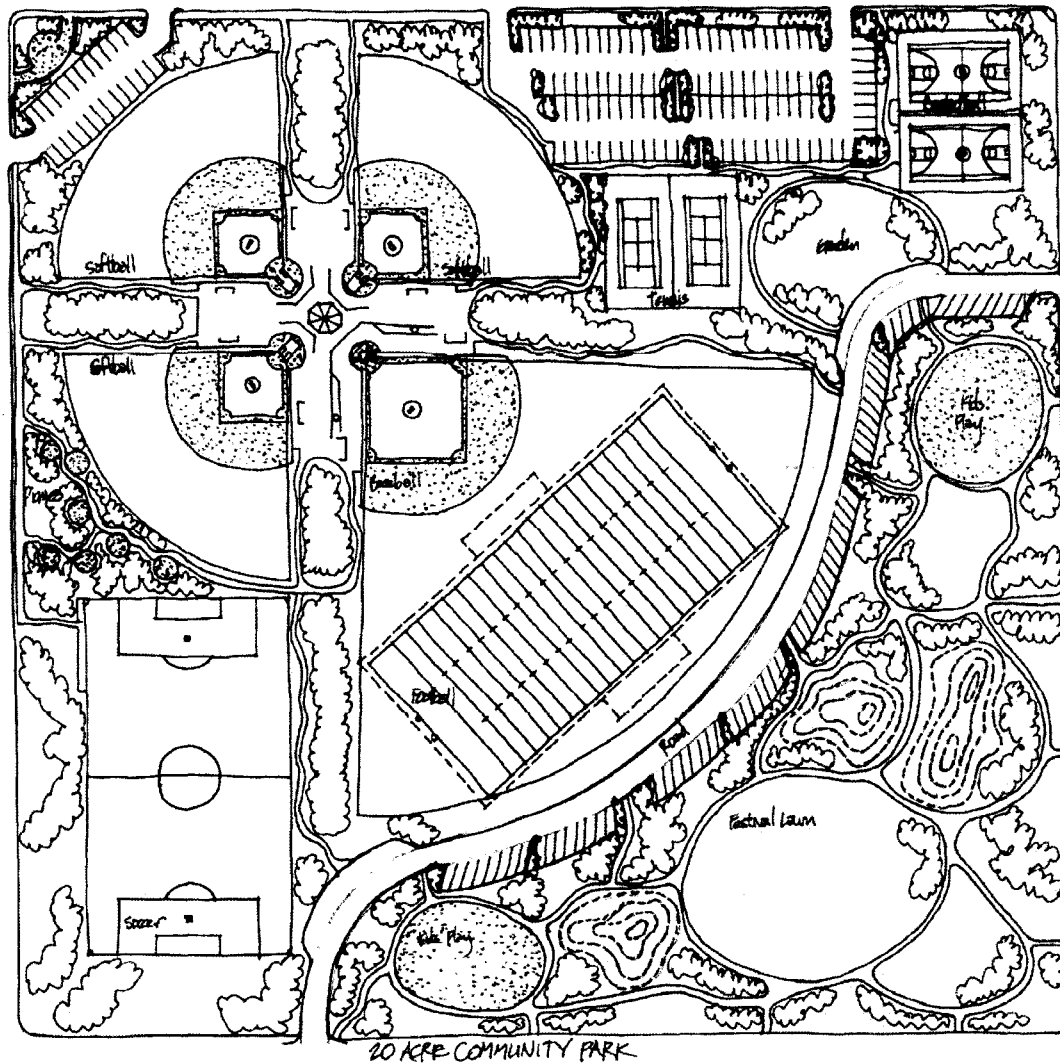


Figure 2: 20 Acre Community Park



### **Community Park**

- Meet the needs of the entire community as well as preserve unique landscapes and open spaces.
- Allow for group activities and offer other recreational opportunities not feasible or desirable at the neighborhood level.
- Natural character of the some of the site could/should play a key role in the design.
- Ideally adjacent to or part of a larger natural resource area and/or greenway.
- Facilities may include community centers, swimming pools, stadiums, lighted athletic fields, picnic shelters, restrooms and parking lots.

Service Area: City wide  
Size Criteria: Greater than 5 acres or as needed to accommodate desired uses  
Guidelines: Preserve unique natural features; Meet active recreation facility needs  
Orting Example: Gratzer Park

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***Special Use***

- A designation that describes a park and/or recreation facility oriented toward a single purpose.
- Range in size and location, and may serve neighborhoods or the entire community.
- Parks or facilities may include historical sites, botanical gardens, public art spaces, skate board parks, water parks, amusement parks, and other public spaces associated with indoor recreation facilities.

Service Area: Dependent on use and park type located within  
Size Criteria: Variable, depends on function  
Guidelines: Dependent on use  
Orting Example: Charter Park skate park  
Public Value: Fun place for kids to skate, ride bikes and hang out with friends; provides easy access to downtown; cited as a fun stop and destination along the Foothills Trail.

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***Community Garden***

- Public or privately owned land gardened by a community group for food, plant or fiber production, either for personal or charitable uses.
- Provide access to fresh produce; encourage a connection to the environment; and support general health and wellbeing through outdoor activity.
- Gardens may be divided into separate plots for cultivation by one or more individuals, or may be farmed collectively by members of the group and may include common areas maintained or used by group members.

- Properly designed and managed, community gardens can greatly enhance a neighborhood's vitality and can be created on their own or in coordination with parks, playgrounds, or residential or mixed use developments.
- May depend on local governmental support in terms of ownership, access and management.

Service Area: Community-wide

Size Criteria: Variable

Guidelines: Community managed; Harvest Pierce County partnership encouraged

Public Value: Local residents stated an interest in centrally located community gardens; Serve as a gathering place for adults; Developed in conjunction with gardening club or society.

### ***School-Parks***

- Combines the resources of two public agencies.
- Allows for leveraging the recreation, social and educational opportunities available to the community.
- City may purchase additional property adjoining an elementary, junior high, or high school to provide for more open space.
- May incorporate park like elements into the school site
- Requires coordinating school and city programming.
- Works best where there is a clearly defined joint-use agreement in place.

Service Area: Determined by location of school district property

Size Criteria: Variable, depends on function

Guidelines: Joint agency plans can dictate school site location and park use

Orting Examples: Orting High School Campus; Orting Middle School

Public Value: Accessible, kid and dog friendly; young people enjoy these spaces for hanging out with their friends.



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### ***Natural Resource Areas***

- Lands set aside for preservation and protection of significant natural resources, floodway, open space, sensitive areas, important vegetation, etc.
- Objective is to enhance the livability and character of a community through preservation and conservation strategies.
- Community parks and natural resource areas may be similar with the exception of development for active recreation uses.
- May provide some passive recreational opportunities such as nature viewing and trail use.

Service Area: Community-wide; extending beyond City boundaries

Size Criteria: Variable

Guidelines: Resource availability and opportunity

Orting Examples: Carbon River Landing; Village Green Wetlands Park

Public Value: Calm, peaceful, not crowded, provide access to river trails and allow for exploration of natural environments

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### ***Greenways***

- Preserve natural resources and mediate between larger habitat areas, open space, and corridors for wildlife, while emphasizing trails.
- Includes both “natural” greenways and “man-made” greenways, such as those built as part of developments, safe power line rights-of-way, river and stream corridors and roadway rights-of-way.
- Often holds greater regional significance due to connector trails extending beyond community borders.

Service Area: City; Region

Size Criteria: Resource based; width varies from 25 feet in subdivisions to 200 feet which is considered optimal

Guidelines: Low-impacted user based; ties park system together

Orting Example: Foothills Trail

Public Value: Well located and easily accessible; provides access to Downtown Orting and to the rivers; is frequently used by adults and children for exercise, biking, walking, running,

walking dogs and hanging out with friends; is cherished for being well maintained, long, flat, beautiful and peaceful; and cited as a favorite and well-used feature in Orting's park system.

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### ***Park Trails***

- Multi-use trails located within a park-like setting, greenways, and natural resource areas.
- Emphasize harmony with the environment, allow for relatively uninterrupted movement.
- Heavy use patterns dictate separate paths for walkers, bicyclists, and equestrians. Separation of users is preferred, but may not be practical due to environmental or space considerations.
- Trails through sensitive areas are designed to have minimal impact in scale and use, most frequently in natural resource areas or wildlife preserves.

Service Area: City; Regional

Size: Varies in width, length, and location

Guidelines: WSDOT and other design standards

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### ***Connector Trails***

- Generally located within existing road rights-of-way, utility easements, drainage ways, or on sidewalks, connector trails throughout greenways tie parks and facilities together into a greater park, recreation and open space system.
- Emphasizes safe transportation between linked public facilities, such as parks and natural areas.
- Included as a part of a community-wide transportation system with clearly defined routes and design standards.
- Potential for lane-separated multi-use activity, and to serve commuter needs.

Service Area: City; Region

Size: Varies in width, length, and location

Guidelines: WSDOT and other design standards

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***On-Street Bike Lanes***

- Designated segments of paved roadways separating bicyclists from vehicular traffic and sidewalk pedestrian activity.
- Serves distinct user groups including commuters, fitness riders, and competitive athletes.
- Distinguished from multi-use park or connector trails by higher speeds traveled, typically 10-15 mph.

Service Area: Community

Size: Varies in width, length, and location

Guidelines: WASDOT and AASHTO

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***Equestrian Trails***

- Land use decisions and environmental constraints may affect the feasibility of developing equestrian routes in the City.
- Loop trails usually are best for horseback riding and should be planned in larger parks and natural resource areas.
- Holds greater regional significance, drawing users from a larger service area.

Service Area: City; Region

Size: Varies in width, length, and location

Guidelines: United States Forest Service

## PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY

Table 1 summarizes the existing (2014) inventory of City and other public land and facilities. These resources are mapped in Figure 3.

Table 1: 2014 Inventory of Public Parks, Trails and Open Space

PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY	Park/Facility Name	Area (Acres)	Trail Length (Miles)	Features	# Fields	# Courts
	<b>Mini-Parks</b>					
	Memorial Park	0.6		Plantings, Bench; Memorial Rock		
	Triangle Park	0.19		Plantings, Bench		
	Three Corners Park	0.19		Bench, Plants, Walkway		
	Rainier Meadows	0.92		Big Toy, Grassy Area, Half Court		0.5
	Williams Park	0.23		Plantings, Picnic Table, Benches		
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2.13</b>				<b>0.5</b>
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>						
	Calistoga Park	6.3		Baseball Field, Big Toy, Parking, Benches, Dog Park	1.0	
	City Park	7.2		Basketball Court, Gazebo, Big Toys, Restrooms, Shelter Area, Benches, Picnic Tables, Horseshoes Pits, Grassy Area, Parking		1.0
	Whitehawk Park	4.0		Half Court, Big Toy, Picnic Tables, Grass T-Ball Field	0.5	0.5
	North Park	1.3		Brick Area, Bollards, Benches, Shelter Building		
<b>Special Use</b>						
	Charter Park	7.6		Skateboard Area, BMX Area, Benches, Picnic Shelter		
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>26.4</b>			<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Community Parks</b>						
	Gratzer Park	17.5		Ballfields, Parking, Wetlands	2.0	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>17.5</b>			<b>2.0</b>	
<b>Natural Resource/Open Space</b>						
	Calistoga Levee Wetlands	56.2		Wetlands, Open Space, River Access		
	Carbon River Landing	27.2		Wetlands, Open Space, River Access		
	Rainier Meadows Wetlands	3.2		Wetlands, Open Space		
	Village Green Wetlands Park	40.2		Wetlands, Open Space, River Access		
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>126.6</b>				
<b>Trails</b>						
	Foothills Trail		2.3	Greenway, Benches, Viewpoints		
	<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>2.3</b>			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>172.8</b>	<b>2.3</b>		<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>

## PRIVATE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY

This plan assesses Orting's current and future needs for parks and recreation based on publicly owned land, provided in Table 1. However, citizens regularly use additional recreational facilities in and near Orting that are institutionally or privately owned, such as school recreational facilities and Lions Park. This plan does not include these resources in the needs analysis because their use is either primarily reserved for specific portions of the population or is not public. However, the public can arrange to access these facilities through fees or request forms.

Table 2 summarizes the existing (2014) inventory of privately owned park and recreation facilities, and descriptions of the facilities are provided below.

Table 2: 2014 Inventory of Private Parks and Open Space

	Park/Facility Name	Area (Acres)	Trail Length (Miles)	Features	# Fields	# Courts	
<b>SCHOOL DISTRICT</b>	<b>School-Parks</b>						
	Orting High School/OES	48.95		Big Toys, Track, 3 Ball Fields, Football & Soccer Field, Restroom	3.0		
	Orting Middle School	54.6		2 Fields, Stadium (future)	2.0		
	Ptarmigan Ridge Elementary	25.29		Grassy Area, Covered Paved Area			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>128.8</b>			<b>5.0</b>		
<b>PRIVATE</b>	<b>Mini-Parks</b>						
	Village Green Crescent Park	0.49		Big Toy, Half Court		0.5	
	Village Green Park	2.19		BBQs, Picnic Tables, Grassy Area			
	Hidden Lakes Parks (Multiple)	4.48		Benches, Picnic Tables, Water Feature, Half Courts (2), Big Toy		1.0	
	Rivers Edge Parks (Multiple)	1.17		Benches, Half Courts (2), Big Toy		1.0	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>8.33</b>			<b>1.5</b>	
	<b>Community Parks</b>						
	Orting Lions Community Park	25.0		Ball fields	4.0		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>25.0</b>			<b>4.0</b>	
	<b>Natural Resource/Open Space</b>						
Village Green North Entrance	0.23		Plantings, Bench				
Village Green South Entrance	0.04		Plantings				
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.27</b>					

## **Orting School District**

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The School District currently owns and operates outdoor play fields, play grounds and indoor recreation facilities (gymnasiums). Although these facilities are available for public use, school programming fills nearly all of the existing capacity.

However, access to these facilities is a priority for a portion of the community. In 2009, ten-percent of survey respondents listed the schools as among their favorite places in Orting's park system, citing kid friendliness, accessibility and fun places to hang out with friends as reasons for this preference.

## **Residential Developments**

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There are three residential developments within Orting with Home Owners' Associations that maintain private parks: Hidden Lakes, Rivers Edge, and Village Green.

The Hidden Lakes planned unit development includes multiple mini-parks offering a basketball court, play area, benches, and picnic area. Two of these parks include surface water detention ponds designed as year-round lakes. The Rivers Edge subdivision includes 2 mini-parks providing play areas, basketball courts, and benches.

The Village Green planned unit development includes 2 mini-parks (Village Green Park and Crescent Park) in addition to small dedicated open spaces at either entrance. The planned unit development also included a trailside park which was dedicated to the City as Williams Park and is currently well-used by Foothills Trail users. The results from the 2009 local opinion survey indicate that the private Village Green parks are valued for their location and accessibility.

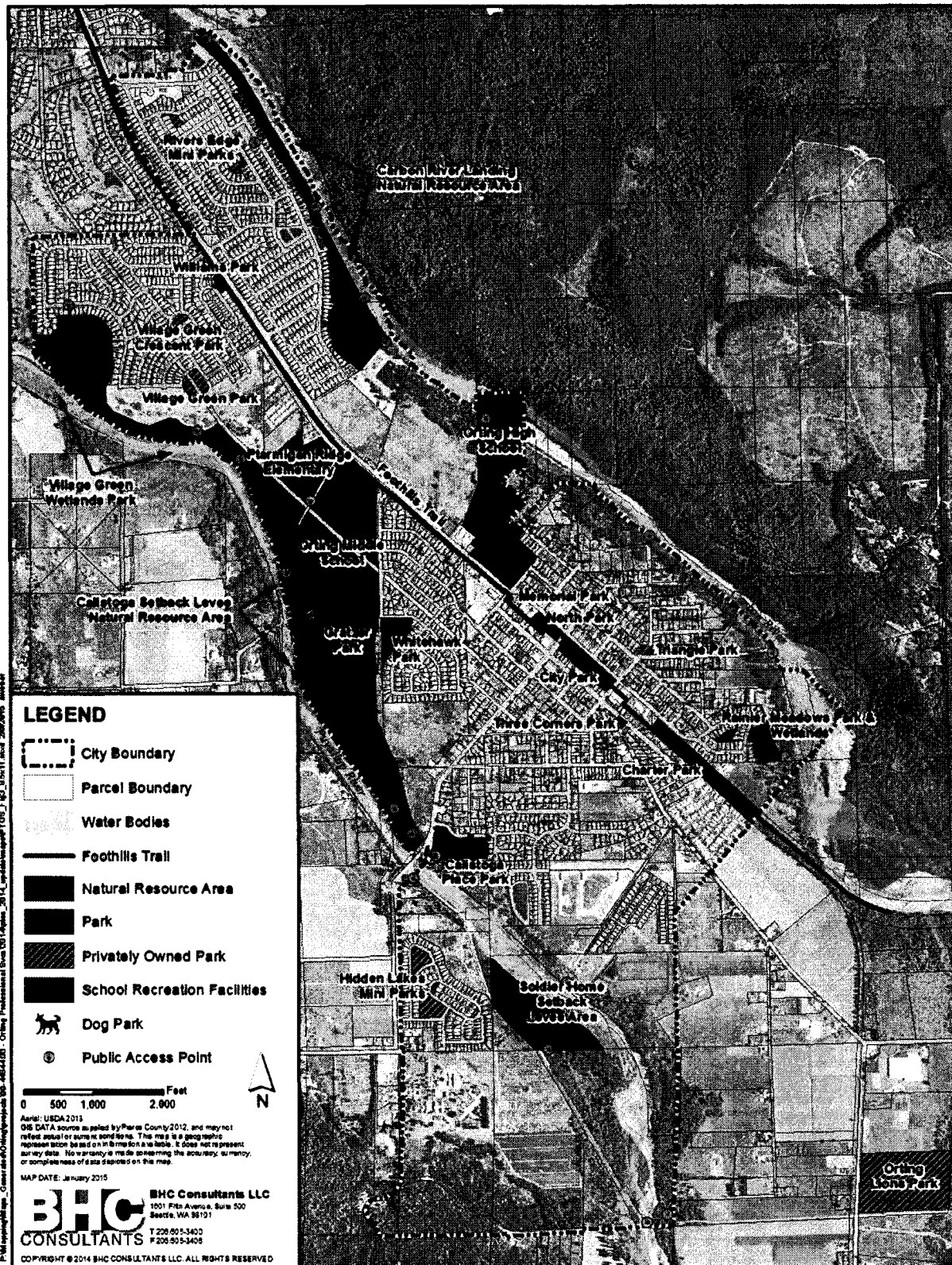
## **Lions Club**

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The Orting Lions Club owns and operates a 25-acre site called "Orting Lions Community Park" located southeast of the city limits. This site provides fields for organized "T-ball," baseball, softball and soccer activities, primarily programmed by leagues. The leagues take care of field preparation, and use is subject to a fee. The Lions Club plans to make several field improvements by the end of 2015, including a sprinkler system and new dirt. The installation of field lighting is a long range goal. Most field development is completed with volunteer labor. In the 2009 local public opinion survey, nearly 20% of the respondents listed this park as one of their favorites, stating that they appreciate it primarily for its accessibility and programming: for example, for adult and kid soccer.

Figure 3 on the following page shows the locations of all the existing sites, both public and private, within Orting.

Figure 3: 2014 Inventory of Parks, Trails & Open Space in Orting



## CURRENT NEEDS

The US Census found the City population to be 6,746 in 2010. The State Office of Financial Management has estimated the population as of April 1, 2014 to be 7,065. Current Level of Service standards for Orting parks, trails and natural resources areas are:

- Total park land – 8 acres per 1,000
  - Mini-Parks – 1 acre per 1,000 population
  - Neighborhood Parks – 2 acres per 1,000 population
  - Community Parks – 5 acres per 1,000 population
- Natural Resource Areas – 14 acres per 1,000 population
- Fields and Courts – 1 per 1,000 population (located in parks)
- Trails – 1 mile per 1,000 population (some may be in parks)

Table 3 lists Orting’s current parks and recreation needs, presenting the 2014 Demand (1/1000 of the 2014 OFM population estimate multiplied by the Level of Service standard), the current supply (based on the 2014 inventory), and the resulting surplus or need.

Table 3: Current Needs 2014

Park/Facility Type	LOS Standard	Demand	Total Supply	Surplus (Need)	Unit
<b>Total Parks</b>	<b>8 acres/1000 people</b>	<b>56.52</b>	<b>46.03</b>	<b>(10.49)</b>	<b>acres</b>
Mini-Parks	1 acres/1000 people	7.07	2.13	(4.94)	acres
Neighborhood Parks	2 acres/1000 people	14.13	26.40	12.27	acres
Community Parks	5 acres/1000 people	35.33	17.50	(17.83)	acres
Natural Resource Area	14 acres/1000 people	98.91	126.80	27.89	acres
Trails	1 mile/1000 people	7.07	2.30	(4.77)	miles
Field/Courts	1 unit/1000 people	7.07	5.50	(1.57)	fields/courts

## Community “Wants”

The 2014 local public opinion survey was directed at identifying shortfalls within the existing inventory. Participants were asked to identify desired recreation



programs and facilities for children and adults. With the exception of fields/courts, these identified needs are not accounted for by LOS standards and the demand is not population-based. The following list was compiled from survey results and is not prioritized in any manner. The list highlights potential projects that the City should consider as funding becomes available or external funding sources, such as grant opportunities, become known.

- Children's Splash Park
- Indoor Aquatic/Recreation Facility
- Community Garden
- Volleyball or Tennis Court
- Additional Dog Parks
- Obstacle/Frisbee Golf Course
- Exercise Stations Along Trails
- Year-Round Youth, Teen & Adult Programs
- Bathrooms & Lighting

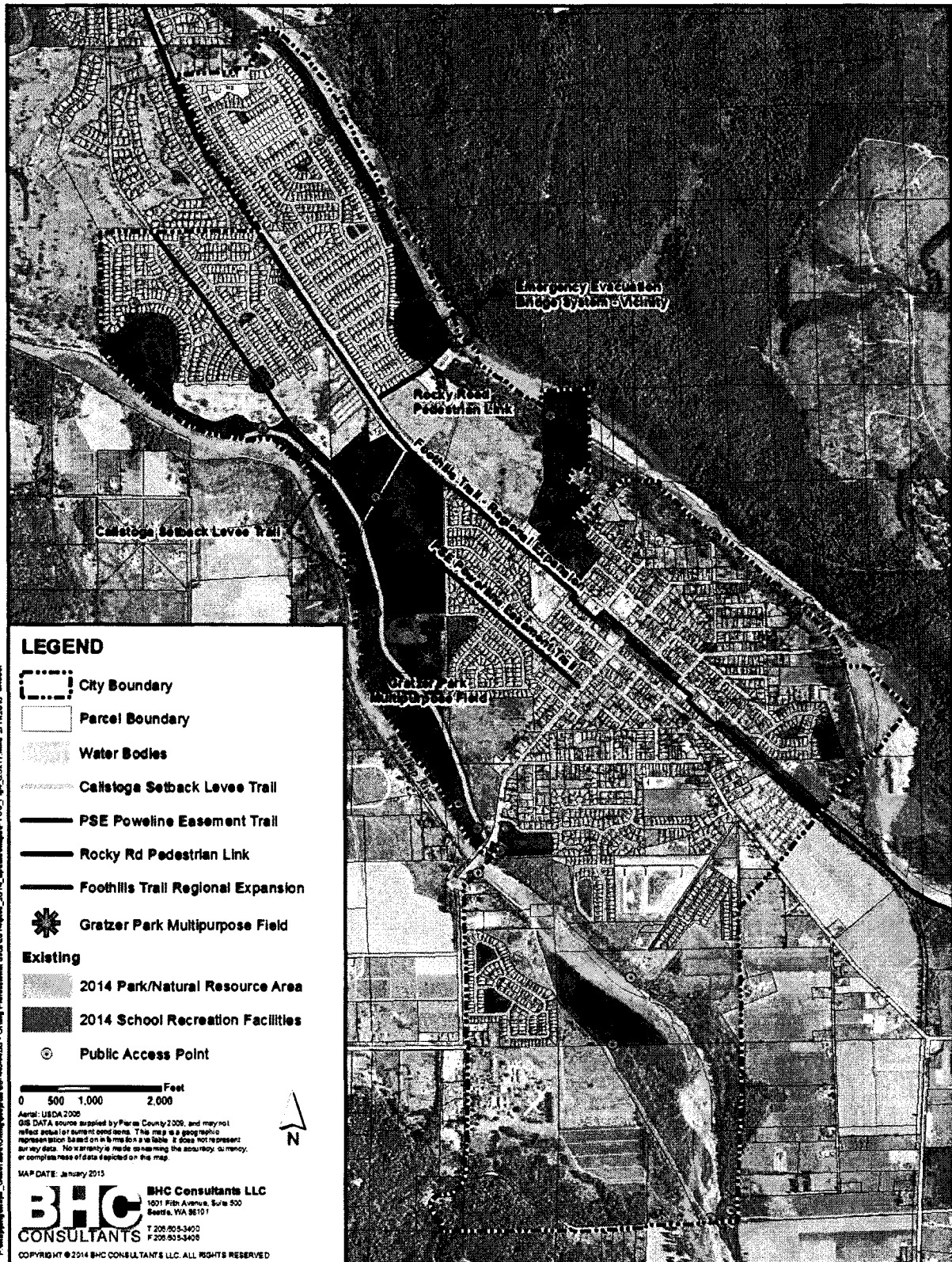
#### **PLANNING ACTIVITY**

A number of parks and trails projects are currently being planned for, by both the City of Orting and citizen groups. When complete, these projects will either fulfill needs identified by this assessment or those needs which were expressed by the public through community outreach (summarized in Appendix A). Current planning activities include:

1. Improved River Access
2. Calistoga Setback Levee Access
3. Safe Routes to School – PSE Power Line Easement Trail
4. Orting's Emergency Evacuation Bridge System
5. Pierce County Foothills Trail Extension
6. Gratzner Park Expansion & Improvements
7. Calistoga Park Improvements
8. Community Gardens Initiative
9. Splash Park Initiative

Table 4 summarizes the potential additional City-owned or public inventory upon completion of current planning projects. Figure 4 shows the location of current parks, trails, and open space planning activity within Orting.

Figure 4: Parks, Trails & Open Space Planning Activity in Orting



**Table 4: Potential Additional Inventory**

Park/Facility Name	Area (Acres)	Trail Length (Miles)	Fields	Location	Features
<b>Community Parks</b>					
Gratzer Park Improvements			1	Within existing Gratzer Park	Multi-purpose field
<b>Trails</b>					
PSE Power Line Easement Trail		1.7		Calistoga St. W to northern City limits	Connector Trail
Calistoga Setback Levee Trail		1.5		Along Puyallup River	Park Trail
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1</b>		

### 1. Improved River Access

Improved access to the Puyallup River and Carbon River was the most frequently identified priority during the October 2009 public open house. Survey results further confirmed this as a community priority: when asked how they currently use parks and open space in Orting, 70% of respondents said they had walked along river levees, 60% said they had played in the rivers or along their banks, and 45% said they had fished the rivers. Overall, improved river access was listed in the survey as one of the respondents' top priorities for the Orting parks system within the next five years. This sentiment was repeated in the 2014 public opinion survey.

Fishing along the Puyallup and Carbon Rivers within Orting is a local as well as regional draw. The City has created several designated Fisherman Parking areas throughout Orting in order to support this activity. Increasing public access along the river would serve local fisherman needs, as well as enhance the experience of visiting fisherman and contribute to the City's attractiveness as a regional fishing destination.

The City of Orting has already engaged in extensive shoreline planning to identify ideal places along both the Puyallup and Carbon Rivers where public access could be improved. Orting's Shoreline Master Program (SMP) includes a *Shoreline Restoration and Public Access Action Plan* which establishes goals for both public access improvement and river restoration.

The SMP uses these goals to identify and rank privately and publically owned sites which could be considered for improved access to the Puyallup and Carbon Rivers. The City currently has 20 public access points. These locations have informally established access to the river. Existing access points should be improved upon in a manner consistent with SMP goals and in support of the PTOS.

The SMP provides background information on each of the sites and outlines a strategy for improvement. For more detailed information regarding “Restoration and Public Access Prescription” and “Implementation and Timing,” see Chapter 9 Shoreline Restoration and Public Access. The SMP is available to the public at City Hall, or online.

## **2. Calistoga Setback Levee Access**

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The Calistoga Setback Levee stretches approximately 6,500 feet along the right bank of the Puyallup River, and reconnects approximately 53 acres of floodplain and salmon habitat to the river. The levee is designed to be vegetated and could be equipped with trails and pedestrian facilities accessible to citizens.

Orting’s comprehensive flood hazard mitigation planning process identified levee improvements as a way to improve flood protection, and this project was chosen by Orting City Council as the preferred alternative. Orting will provide local funding as well as project management. Once complete, Pierce County will own and operate the levee. The City will maintain an easement for public trail use. The project could provide approximately 1.5 miles of park trails, connecting several existing parks.

## **3. Safe Routes to School – PSE Power Line Easement**

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Puget Sound Energy (PSE) owns a right-of-way through Orting under a major power line that could be improved to form an ideal connector trail between parks and Orting Middle and Elementary Schools (see the map in Figure 3). Trail improvements will be contingent on a liability agreement between PSE and the City of Orting. One possible funding source could be the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) through their Safe Routes to School program. The next call for grant proposals will likely be in the first quarter of 2016 to seek funds for the 2017-2019 grant cycle.

In the past, WSDOT has looked for proposals that include well-developed partnerships between City staff, teachers, school administrators, law enforcement, public health professionals, parents and citizens. These partnerships should be well-established and demonstrate that the community is committed not only to engineering the physical improvements along the trail, but to the long-term implementation of traffic safety enforcement, encouragement efforts, and education. For example, this could include long term plans for events, activities, or even adopted school curriculum to teach kids about walking and biking safely to school. Winning projects demonstrate that the necessary groundwork has been laid to complete the project within the two year grant cycle.

## **4. Orting’s Emergency Evacuation Bridge System**

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Orting’s Emergency Evacuation Bridge System, formerly “Bridge for Kids”, is a community-planned a pedestrian evacuation route, subject to state and federal grants or other funds. The project consists of a pedestrian overpass spanning State

Route 162, located near the intersection of Rocky Road, and a pedestrian bridge spanning the Carbon River, located east of the Orting Waste Water Treatment Plant. The overpass and bridge will be linked by a sidewalk along Rocky Road. The bridge would provide a link between the Cascadia trail system, on the east side of the River, and the Foothills Trail, Orting Schools, and the Orting parks system. The project is near completion of design, and construction is anticipated to begin in 2015 pending available funding for environmental review.

Pierce County is leading the project design and is coordinating with the Washington State Department of Commerce (formerly CTED), Orting Bridge for Kids Committee, Washington State Department of Transportation, City of Orting, Orting School District, and the US Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). A total of over 2.8 million dollars in funding has been secured from the State gas tax, FHWA, and the State Department of Commerce.

### **5. Pierce County Foothills Trail Extension**

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The Foothills Trail is a critical connector between parks and neighborhoods within the Orting. It is also a segment of a regionally significant non-motorized Rail-to-Trail project that Pierce County continues to maintain, extend, and plan for. The Foothills Trail currently provides 15 consecutive miles of paved 12-foot wide path from Meeker to South Prairie and a 2 mile section in Buckley.

Pierce County plans to continue the trail to Puyallup where it would connect with the Riverwalk Trail, then ultimately to Tacoma and Sumner where it would connect with the Interurban Trail. The trail in Buckley will eventually continue east to King County and Enumclaw. When complete, the trail will be more than 28 miles in length.

### **6. Gratzer Park Expansion & Improvements**

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Phase I of the Gratzler Park Master Plan was completed in 2011 thanks to outside contributions from Pierce County, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), and donors. Phase I consisted of two ball fields and a parking area. Grant and funding opportunities are currently being pursued to complete Phase II of the Gratzler Park Master Plan. Phase II consists of a multipurpose field and play area.

Further Gratzler Park improvements and facility needs include lighting, restrooms, concessions, and parking lot paving. The 2014 PTOS survey asked participants to prioritize improvements they would like to see constructed at Gratzler Park. Listed below is the percentage of participants and the feature they would like to see constructed:

- 27% for Concessions
- 25% for More Parking

- 18% for Additional Ball Fields
- 17% for Field Lighting
- 13% for Restrooms

The City intends to pursue an RCO Youth and Community Athletic Facilities grant to begin to meet these needs. The grant is awarded to projects that increase or maintain the capacity of an existing youth and community outdoor athletic facility for purposes of competitive play. According to RCO, there are no funds available at this time. If funds are appropriated by the State Legislature, the City will submit a full application in the spring of 2015.

### **7. Calistoga Park Improvements**

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The City has completed Phase I of Calistoga Park improvements. Phase I included the development of a fenced-in dog park with a trail and benches, additional landscaping is to be conducted. Phase II will include a new big-toy and relocated play area, and potentially the addition of a separate dog park for small dogs. The existing big-toy has been the subject of safety concerns. The 2014 PTOS survey asked participants to indicate safety improvements they wished to see within the Park, improvements were prioritized as follows:

1. Improved paths connecting park features
2. Replace existing play area
3. Improved visibility of features
4. Construct small dog park

### **8. Community Gardens Initiative**

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The 2014 PTOS survey asked participants to rank features they would like to see added to the existing inventory, on average community gardens ranked second. As a result, the City is pursuing a partnership with Harvest Pierce County (Harvest), a program of Pierce Conservation District. Harvest partners with interested communities to establish community gardens. They organize interested gardeners, assist in identifying potential sites and resolving utility issues, such as water and waste, and provide ongoing capacity training.

### **8. Splash Park Initiative**

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Public input received during the 2015 update revealed a community interest in developing a children's splash park within an existing park. A splash park, or spray pad, is a recreation area for water play that has little to no standing water. The City and Parks Commission will begin to explore potential locations and external funding opportunities.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Table 5 lists capital facility and improvement projects for the next 6-years. Gratzer Park Phase II is included in City's Comprehensive Plan Capital Facilities Element 20-year CIP.

Table 5: Capital Facility and Improvement Program

	PROJECT	YEAR	COST	FUNDING SOURCES
1	Calistoga Park Improvements	2015-2016	\$8,000	General Fund, REET
2	City Park Gazebo Renovation	2015-2016	\$25,000	General Fund, REET
3	Lighting in the Parks	2015-2016	\$40,000	General Fund, REET Impact Fees
4	Gratzer Park Wetland Mitigation	2015-2016	\$20,000	General Fund, REET Impact Fees
5	Gratzer Park Phase II: Additional athletic fields and related facilities	2016-2021	\$625,000	Grants, Impact Fees, Donations, General Fund, REET
6	Power Line Easement: Safe Routes to School	2017-2021	\$800,000	Grants, Impact Fees, General Fund, REET
7	Splash Park	2017-2021	\$200,000	General Fund, REET

## FUTURE DEMAND

According to Puget Sound Regional Council population forecast data, Orting's population is expected to reach 8,442 by the year 2040, a forecasted increase of 1,377 residents. Table 6 presents the future demand associated with population growth based on the current Level of Service standards. These demand calculations assume the City has satisfied the current (2014) unmet demand as identified in Table 3.

Most of the future demand should be addressed through facility donations, impact fees, or other sources of funding. In planning for future demand, it is also important to consider how operations and maintenance of new facilities will be funded. Typically, this can be done through the general fund, or sometimes through levies and users' fees. Here too, partnerships should be considered, such as using the resources of the school district to provide services, or requiring homeowners' associations take care of facilities within their communities.

**Table 6: 2040 Demand Associated with Forecasted Growth**

<b>Park/Facility Type</b>	<b>LOS Standard</b>	<b>2040 Demand: Total</b>	<b>2040 Demand: Associated with Growth</b>	<b>Unit</b>
<b>Total Parks</b>	<b>8 acres/1000 people</b>	<b>67.54</b>	<b>11.02</b>	<b>acres</b>
Mini-Parks	1 acres/1000 people	8.44	1.38	acres
Neighborhood Parks	2 acres/1000 people	16.88	2.75	acres
Community Parks	5 acres/1000 people	42.21	6.89	acres
Natural Resource Area	14 acres/1000 people	118.19	19.28	acres
Trails	1 mile/1000 people	8.44	1.38	miles
Field/Courts	1 unit/1000 people	8.44	1.38	fields/courts



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# PARKS, TRAILS & OPEN SPACE PLAN

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City of Orting



## CHAPTER 3: FISCAL ANALYSIS

### INTRODUCTION

This Chapter is intended to illustrate how the application of the Level of Service (LOS) standards for parks, trails and open space result in land acquisition and development costs. These costs are met by a combination of tax revenues in the general fund, grants, dedications, and impact fees.

- Under state law and city ordinance, developers of new residences are responsible for meeting the demand for facilities and services that are created by the growth that they generate. This may come in the form of impact fees, land dedication, or site improvements negotiated during the permit process.
- In the case of current shortfalls of park land, trails, or recreation facilities resulting from city growth, but not addressed by prior developer fees or contributions, public funds will be necessary to pay for land acquisition and facilities.

The *Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan* (PTOS) establishes the basis for City policies and regulations aimed at creating a long-term funding program for these needs.

### LEVEL OF SERVICE

The Level of Service (LOS) standards provide the means for assessing and monitoring the capacity of city land and facilities to meet the demand of the citizens. As updated, current LOS standards are:

- **Total Parks** *8 per 1,000 population*
  - Mini Parks **1 acre per 1,000 population**
  - Neighborhood Parks **2 acres per 1,000 population**

- **Community Parks**                      **5 acres per 1,000 population**
- **Natural Resource Areas**              **14 acres per 1,000 population**
- **Fields and Courts**                      **1 per 1,000 population**
- **Trails**                                      **1 mile per 1,000 population**

The characteristics of these categories of parks and facilities are described in Chapter 2.

### EXISTING DEMAND

Based on these LOS standards, the estimate of 2014 needs includes:

- 3.64 acres of mini parks;
- 17.83 acres of community parks;
- Several play fields and/or sport courts; and
- 4.77 miles of trails.

Since there is a surplus in current neighborhood park acreage, **total park land need** is 10.49 acres.

The purpose of this chapter is to meet the impacts created by **new growth**.

Recognizing this, the current needs and existing shortfalls are:

- A distribution of smaller parks which are accessible, either by trail connections or via parking access, to adjacent residential neighborhoods;
- Designated areas to be set aside for the preservation and protection of significant natural resources, floodways, and open space;
- Additional courts and fields either distributed to provide easy access to neighborhoods or within close proximity to Downtown Orting shops and activities;
- Trail connections linking the Foothills Trail, the “Powerline Trail,” the river Levees and the proposed Carbon River bridge; and
- Continued improvements and updates to parks, fields, courts, and children’s play areas and equipment.

### COST ANALYSIS

The following indicates the range of costs that are associated with the current needs. These are based on the following assumptions:

- **Land** – Pierce County Assessor’s 2014 land values of 24 vacant parcels in and around Orting were investigated. In accordance with state law RCW 84.40.030, the land is valued at 100% of its true and fair market value taking

into consideration the highest and best use of the property. These parcels range in size from half an acre to over 50 acres. The assessed value in dollars per acre ranges from \$690 to nearly \$87,000. The average cost per acre is \$23,764. Site development costs vary considerably depending upon the types of facilities and finishes used.

- **Fields/Courts** – Field/Court development costs vary based on activity, materials, and land acquisition. In looking at comparable estimates for other jurisdictions, we have assumed an average development cost of \$260,000 per field or court located within a park.
- **Trails** – Trail development costs vary based on surface materials used and land acquisition. In looking at comparable estimates for other jurisdictions, we have assumed that trails located outside of parks will cost about \$172,000 per mile including land and improvements.

Further and more detailed analysis of land values may be included in future code updates.

Table 8 lists the 2014 needs and associated costs for parks and facilities based on the current needs assessment and previous cost analysis.

Table 8: 2014 Needs & Associated Costs

Park/Facility Type	Need	Cost
Land	10.49 Acres	\$23,800/acre
Fields & Courts	1.57 Fields/Courts	\$260,000/unit
Trail	4.77 Miles	\$172,000/mile

There are many variables such as actual land parcels configuration, location, etc. The important point illustrated here is the amount of land and associated costs that would be required to achieve the proposed LOS. Methods to finance would be the City general fund, bonds, levies, grants, or donations. In all cases except for grants and donations, the source of the funding would be taxes.

### LONG TERM NEEDS

The City population is expected to reach approximately 8,500 by the year 2040, this equates to roughly 1,400 additional Orting residents. To achieve the same level of parks and recreation service, this population growth<sup>1</sup> would result in the following additional 2040 demand:

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<sup>1</sup> Orting population growth is estimated to be 1,377 persons from 2014 to 2040. Growth is calculated as PSRC forecast minus OFM estimate; OFM estimates a 2014 population of 7,065 persons and PSRC Land Use Baseline forecast data estimates a 2040 population of 8,442 persons.

- 11.02 acres of total park land;
- 1.38 fields or courts; and
- 1.38 miles of trails.

These needs are only associated with forecasted growth and do not account for current unmet demand for parks and recreation facilities. Most of these future needs should be provided for by impact fees. The PTOS should identify locations for future parks, trails and facilities to be funded.

In planning for future needs, it is also important to consider how operations and maintenance of new facilities will be funded. Typically, this can be done through the general fund, or sometimes through levies and users' fees. Here too, partnerships should be considered, such as using the resources of the school district to provide services, or having homeowners' associations take care of facilities within their communities.

#### **IMPACT FEES**

For future growth to "pay its fair share," impact fees must be based on the adopted LOS and a realistic estimate of the cost of land and facilities necessary to meet the demand. The fees are adopted by City ordinance into the development code and can be amended periodically to reflect cost escalation or other factors the change over time.

Using the cost assumptions described above, whereas the average dwelling unit (DU) size is approximately 3 persons<sup>2</sup> and there are approximately 333 DU per 1,000 population, an illustration of the potential impact fee for parks, trails and open space could be as follows:

- Park Land
  - Total LOS for park land = 8 acres per 1,000 population;
  - Proportional land requirement per DU =  $8 \div 333 = 0.024$  acres; therefore
  - Proportional land cost per DU =  $0.024 \times \$23,800 = \$571$ .
- Fields/Courts
  - Total LOS for fields/courts = 1 field/court per 1,000 population;
  - Proportional facility requirement per DU =  $1 \div 333 = 0.003$  units; therefore
  - Proportional unit cost per DU =  $0.003 \times \$260,000 = \$780$ .

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<sup>2</sup> According to the 2010 US Census the average household size in the City of Orting is 3.01.

- Trail
  - Total LOS for trails = 1 mile per 1,000 population;
  - Proportional trail requirement per DU =  $1 \div 333 = 0.003$  miles; therefore
  - Proportional trail cost per DU =  $0.003 \times \$172,000 = \$516$ .

The cumulative sum, \$1,867 per dwelling unit, is further reduced by a 50-percent reduction factor to ensure capital facilities needs are met by a balance of impact fees and public funds. As a result, the potential impact fee is **\$934 per dwelling unit**.

This illustrative example will be further refined during the process of amending the development code during the 2015 Comprehensive Plan update process. A more updated estimate of land and facilities costs as well as associated City management costs may be necessary. The resulting impact fee ordinance may include provisions for other approaches to mitigation, such as credit for facility development.

#### OTHER FUNDING

In order to finance current land acquisition and facility development needs, the City must initiate fund-raising through debt financing such as bond issues or levies, federal, state, or county grants, and private contributions. Partnerships with the Orting School District and the Lion's Club should also be pursued.

Orting is also fortunate in having dedicated volunteers who help with these responsibilities. This important contribution should be fostered in the future.

#### OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COSTS

While this chapter deals with primarily with capital costs and revenues, annual budgeting must acknowledge the City's responsibilities related to the operation and maintenance of parks and facilities, as well as to providing recreation programs. The City has budgeted \$160,000 for 2015 parks operations and maintenance expenditures. Given the current inventory of 46.2 acres of total park land, the anticipated average cost per acre is \$3,463.20. This value excludes capital expenditures. As total park acreage increases, the annual budget should increase proportionately.

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# PARKS, TRAILS & OPEN SPACE PLAN

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City of Orting



## APPENDIX A: PUBLIC OUTREACH & COMMUNICATION

The Orting *Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan* (PTOS) has undergone multiple phases of public involvement. The first phase evolved from the initial GMA planning efforts of the 1990s and was designed to ensure the Orting community had the opportunity to influence the first parks plan, adopted in 2003. The City and the Parks Commission sustained ongoing public outreach efforts to include significant public input in the development of Gratzner Park and North Park, and an outreach effort was launched to gather public input to update the PTOS in 2010. The public was further engaged during the current update process.

Appendix A summarizes public involvement efforts from 2003 to 2015, and presents a record of the details of public involvement contributing to the current update.

### 2003: CREATING THE PTOS & PUBLIC OUTREACH

Parks planning was not acknowledged with urgency in the City of Orting until the late '90s. Orting experienced significant growth over the prior decade with a population nearly doubling in size, and additional growth forecasted. Orting's parks and recreational needs had previously been satisfied by an abundance of undeveloped lands and the development of the Foothills Trail, and the need for parks was viewed with less urgency than resolving transportation issues, regulating land development, and ensuring utility availability. These opinions were the result of the visioning process that launched early '90s GMA planning efforts, citizens participated in workshops, meetings and surveys.

Growth both changed the nature of the community and the attitudes of residents. As new neighborhoods were developed, additional park and open space land and recreation facilities were either dedicated to the City or maintained by homeowners'



associations. New residents brought new ideas about the need for, and function of, parks.

By 2000, the Orting Parks Commission, the Planning Commission and the City Council realized that planning for current and future demand was necessary. Public testimony at meetings highlighted concerns about the availability, location and design of parks and facilities. Commission members and the Mayor discussed recreation needs and potential projects with citizens leading to the scope of work for the planning. The existing network of parks volunteers and annual City Park volunteer events, were used as an opportunity for communication.

When the parks planning process was launched, the Parks and Planning Commissions sponsored workshops and held joint meetings where citizens were asked to provide suggestions for parks, trails, and recreation facilities. At the final workshop, citizens were invited to participate in an exercise aimed at defining parks preferences. "Orting Bucks" were distributed to all participants who could then spend them on any combination of desired parks and recreation facilities.



As the initial PTOS took shape, community outreach broadened to local media including two community-based newspapers, the Country Gazette, and the East County Sun. The Draft and presentation slides were also made accessible on the internet. The Parks Commission passed a motion endorsing the draft at its January public meeting. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 3, 2003 and passed a motion recommending adoption by the City Council (see Figure A-2 and Figure A-3). The Council held its hearing on March 13 and adopted the plan as recommended by the Commissions.

# Orting's Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan to be examined

## First public hearing set for February 3

by Cherie Kuranko

A considerable amount of growth occurred in the City of Orting during the 90s and Orting's population continues to rise each year. As the population spirals upward, a demand for more recreational facilities and programs climbs as well.

In the past, the City has relied on the Comprehensive Plan to continue adding to its parks, trails and other recreational facilities. The ten-year-old plan has helped gain property for parks and open space land from the developers that have been building houses in our valley, but the plan is now considered outdated and unable to keep pace with current growth.

In June of 2002, the City Council, Planning Commission and Parks Commission initiated the formal process for developing a new plan. The new plan, currently in the draft stage, is called the (Draft) Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan.

Mayor Jones stated, "The City of Orting is proud of the quality of life it offers to its residents and the attractions that bring visitors to our community. As our City grows with new families and businesses, we understand the critical importance of maintaining our lush valley setting, providing opportunities for recreation, and respecting our

traditions. This draft Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan is our first attempt at defining a long-range approach to meeting this vision."

Since June, a great deal has been accomplished. Several public meetings and an open house were held last year to allow citizens an opportunity to view and discuss the plan and to ask questions or make suggestions. It was during the course of these public meetings and through long hours spent fine-tuning the project at regular meetings that the draft plan was developed.

Before it could be decided what types of facilities Orting lacked, the group needed an inventory of the current ones already available in Orting. As seen in the graphic accompanying this article, an inventory of the existing parks, trails and other recreational facilities was completed and contains a blend of city, school, private and other public-owned properties.

With an inventory in place, the plan moved forward to address how many and what type of recreational facilities are still needed at the present time and in the future. To accomplish this, Orting's population and the Level of Service Standards, both current and projected figures, were used. The Level of Service Standards (LOS) provides the basis for assessing and monitoring the capacity of city land and facilities to meet the demand of the citizens:

Mini-Parks (tot lots), 2 acres per 1,000 population;

Neighborhood Parks, 2 acres per 1,000 population;

Community Parks, 5 acres per 1,000 population;

Fields and Courts, 1 acre per 1,000 population (located in parks);

Trails, 1 mile per 1,000 population (some may be in parks).

These are based on an analysis of similar standards used by other jurisdictions in Washington as well as national guidelines.

Based on these Level of Service Standards, it was determined that in year 2002 there was an existing demand for 6 acres of mini-parks, 20 acres of community parks, several play fields and sports courts and one mile of trail. The draft states that some of these unmet needs will be met by the completion of new facilities on land dedicated to the City or private parks included in recent projects approved by the City or by related actions. The City has come up with a couple of options to meet the remaining demands. Those options are as follows:

A community park of sufficient size to accommodate several play fields and courts suitable for junior and adult league play, along with passive recreation, children's play area(s), picnic facilities, restrooms and off-street parking that can be used for community events and activities. This option's estimated cost is \$270,000 - \$390,000, with the size listed as 20 acres.

The other option would be to provide a distribution of more intensive facilities within 2-3 parks that would be larger than neighborhood parks, somewhat similar to Calisoga Park, ideally located on an arterial for community access. This second option is estimated to cost between \$260,000 and \$450,000 and is listed as two "Super" Neighborhood Parks at 8-10 acres each.

Trail connections linking the Foot-hills Trail, the "Powerline Trail," and the

proposed Carbon River bridges are included with both of the above options. The trail portion is estimated at an additional \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The draft plan states the method to finance these costs for the current needs is through "the City general fund, bonds, levies, or grants. In all cases except for grants, the source of the funding would be taxes."

Over the next 15-20 years the City is expected to double in population and therefore would need to add 14 acres of mini-parks, 40 acres of community parks, 4+ play fields, 4+ sport courts and 4 miles of trail to stay current with the city's growth.

The expenses for these future recreational needs are to be addressed through developer dedications, facility donations or impact fees. Changes and additions are being made to the Comprehensive Plan that will allow the City to collect funds

for these projects as new housing developments are constructed in our area.

The City of Orting would like to encourage citizens to attend the first public hearing on February 3, 7 p.m. at Orting City Hall. It welcomes participation, questions and comments.

Working closely with the Parks Commission, Planning Commission and City Council, an excellent draft plan was written by City Planning Consultant Roger Wayoner of Berryman & Henigar that explains the details in an easy-to-read format and provides graphics that help visualize what this plan is all about.

If anyone is interested in reading more about the plan before attending the public hearing, a copy of the Draft Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan can be obtained at City Hall or at the web site [www.bh-seattle.seohost.com/client/orting/orting.htm](http://www.bh-seattle.seohost.com/client/orting/orting.htm).

PARK/FACILITY TYPE	2002 DEMAND	2002 SUPPLY	2017 DEMAND
Mini-Parks	6 Acres	1.83 Acres	16 Acres
Neighborhood Parks	8 Acres	21.64 Acres	16 Acres
Community Parks	20 Acres	0	40 Acres
School Parks		(limited)	
Natural Resource Areas	N/A	36.17 Acres	
Greenways		19.32 Acres (14.26 Acres)	
Special Use Parks	1	1	1
Fields & Courts	4-5 Fields 4-5 Courts	3 Half Courts 1 Basketball Court 2 Ball Fields	~10 Fields ~10 Courts
Trails	4 Miles	1.5 (+1.7) Miles	8 Miles

Comparison of Orting's supply and demand for parks last year and fifteen years from now.

Figure A-1: Article about the 2003 Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan published in a local newspaper.

Page B-2, The SUN, January 29, 2003

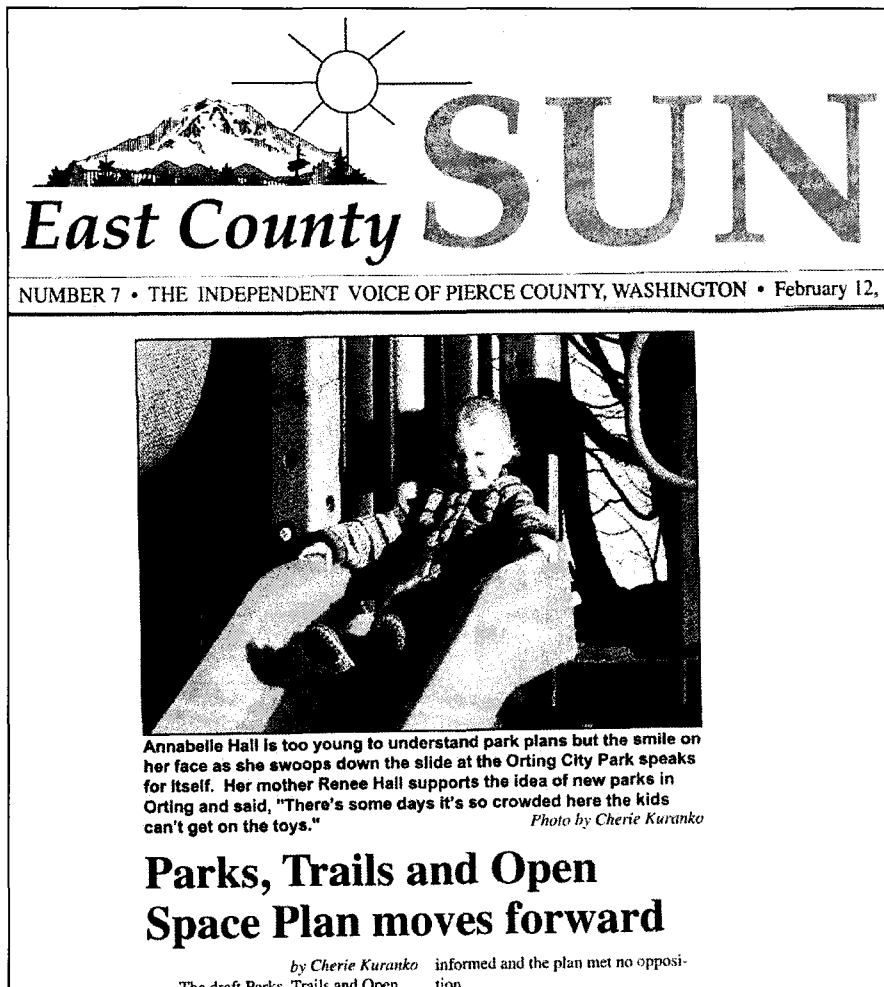
# News Next Door

*News Next Door Policy: This space is for nonprofit events or organization c*

## Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan

The first public hearing will be held on Monday, February 3 at 7 p.m. at Orting City Hall for the Parks, Trails and Open Space Draft Plan. Citizens are encouraged to attend the meeting and participate. A copy of the draft plan can be obtained at City Hall or on the web at [www.BH-Seattle.xohost.com/client/orting.htm](http://www.BH-Seattle.xohost.com/client/orting.htm).

Figure A-2: Announcement for a public hearing prior to the adoption of the 2003 Plan



The clipping is from the newspaper 'The SUN', East County, issue number 7, dated February 12, 2003. The masthead includes a logo of a sun over a mountain range. The main headline reads 'Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan moves forward'. Below the headline is a photograph of a young child, Annabelle Hall, smiling while sliding down a slide at Orting City Park. The text accompanying the photo states that her mother, Renee Hall, supports the idea of new parks in Orting and quotes her saying, 'There's some days it's so crowded here the kids can't get on the toys.' The article is by Cherie Kuranko. At the bottom of the clipping, it is noted that the draft Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan was informed and met no opposition.

Figure A-3: 2003 Publicity for the initial Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan

## 2010 UPDATE

Public outreach for the PTOS update began the summer of 2009 after the Parks & Planning Commissions had reviewed an updated parks inventory and a population-based needs analysis. The outreach effort included a public open house and an online survey.

### Public Open House

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Members of both Commissions posted fliers about the public open house around town (see Figure A-5). The flier and a one-sheet responding to frequently asked questions about the parks plan update process (see Figure A-6) were on display at the City's table at the October Pumpkin Festival in downtown Orting. The open house was also announced on the City reader board at the intersection of Washington Avenue North and Williams Boulevard Northwest north of town several days before the event.

On Thursday, October 22nd, a dozen folks or so braved the road construction and dropping temperatures to stop by Orting Station, enjoy some free cookies and coffee, and talk about the future of Orting's park system. Each person was greeted with a stack of \$100 in Orting Park Bucks to spend as they pleased on options for the future of parks, trails and open space. In the end, people at the Open House spent a total of \$1,100 in Orting Park Bucks on five categories:

- |   |       |              |
|---|-------|--------------|
| • Improved River Access                                   | \$340 | 31% of total |
| • More Trails   | \$260 | 24%          |
| • More Fields, Courts & Facilities for Neighborhood Parks | \$200 | 18%          |
| • More Ballfields in Gratzner Park                        | \$180 | 16%          |
| • More Mini-Parks   | \$120 | 11%          |

Some people left additional comments, which included suggestions for:

- More open space for kids
- More toys in parks for toddlers
- Additional ½ courts & basket ball hoops (in Triangle Park)
- A sand volleyball court, smoother grass, & a year-round sani-can (Charter Park)
- More ballfields (Whitehawk Park)

Informational posters were available to help answer questions on the following topics:

- Where are all the parks in Orting? The poster, 2009 Inventory of Parks, used an aerial photo to show the locations of all the public and private parks, trails and open space in Orting.
- Where are all the facilities in Orting? The poster, 2009 Inventory of Facilities, used a street map to show where all the public park facilities are in Orting such as: fields, courts, play areas, the skate park, benches, picnic tables, restrooms, parking, etc. See Figure A-7.
- How do people access the rivers in Orting? A poster on River Access used an aerial map to show 18 potential public access points to reach the Carbon and Puyallup rivers. The access points were taken from Orting's 2006 Shoreline Master Program. The poster asked people if they thought improving river access was an important issue.
- What do the different types of parks mean? A poster about Definitions showed how the City currently distinguishes between types of parks based on size and the area they serve. See Figure A-8.
- Does Orting have enough parks, trails and facilities? The poster illustrated the result of a number-based analysis of Orting's current parks and recreation Level of Service. According to the numbers, Orting has enough medium and large sized parks, but does not have enough trails, fields, court or small parks (called Mini-Parks) to serve the City's current and future populations. However, the poster asked people what they thought based on their own experience: does Orting have enough? Too much? Not enough? See Figure A-9.
- What parts of the City have good walking-access to parks? A poster on Walking Distance illustrated all the parcels within Orting that are a half-mile walk or less from at least one small or medium sized park. This poster shows that homes in the northeastern and southwestern parts of town are more than half a mile walk from these parks. See Figure A-10.

## Survey

A survey was used to gather additional public input. The survey was posted online and announced on the City's website, as well as on the City reader board at the intersection of Washington Avenue Northwest. Fliers for the public open house directed people to the online survey, and paper copies of the survey were made available at the City Hall and at the Public Safety Building. Additional respondents, including a number of teenagers, completed paper copies of the survey at the October Pumpkin Festival. A flier describing the parks plan update and directing community members to the online survey was included in Orting's February 2010 utility bill. Announcements about the survey were made at Planning Commission, Parks Commission, and Chamber of Commerce meetings in January and February 2010.

The survey was open from the end of September 2009 through the end of February 2010; it was taken by 63 people.

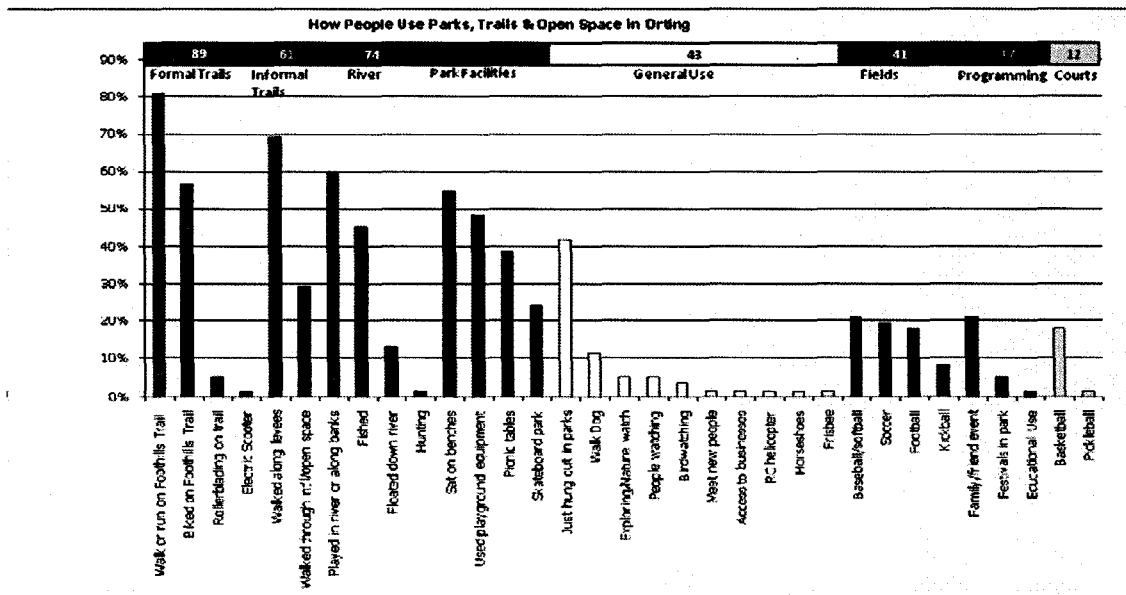
*Respondents' use of the Orting parks system*

98% say they use parks & trails in Orting. Respondents were asked to list all the activities they do in Orting on a regular basis.

Respondents who use the Foothills trail use it several times a week to several times a month:

- Daily 8.6%
- Several times a week 25.9%
- Several times a month 41.4%
- Several times a year 24.1%

Figure A-4: How respondents say they use parks, trails & open space in Orting



*How respondents feel about the park system.*

For their top three favorite spaces, survey respondents listed:

1. Foothills Trail
2. City Park
3. North Park

Activities that respondents LEAVE Orting to do (Top Ten Answers)

- |             |                      |
|-------------|----------------------|
| 1. Hiking   | 6. Tennis            |
| 2. Fishing  | 7. Nothing           |
| 3. Swimming | 8. Skiing            |
| 4. Beach    | 9. Soccer            |
| 5. Camping  | 10. Horseback riding |

Respondents' favorite parks outside Orting (Top Five Answers)

1. Puyallup Park: wading pool
2. Point Defiance: zoo, scenery, variety of activities, open space, landscaping
3. Mount Rainier
4. Tacoma Waterfront
5. South Hill's Bradley Park: lake, lakeside trail, big toys, open, spacious, clean, convenient, safe

What respondents said the City should do to make parks and trails better within the next five years (Top Six Answers)

1. Improve access to rivers
2. Add more big toys in neighborhood parks and mini parks
3. Improve City Park (suggestions include updating big toys, replace the slide tunnel, wading pool, rock climbing wall)
4. Keep parks clean, maintained, and updated (such as adding garbage cans and restrooms)
5. Adult sports programming
6. Dog park and or dog baggie stations along trail

Respondents' dislikes and concerns about Orting's parks and trails (Top Five Answers)

1. Safety: along trail, from dogs, from injury on fields, for small children playing near roads
2. Dangerous & frequent road crossings
3. Teen behavior (vandalism, language, skating at Orting station) and the need for community center or recreation building
4. No concerns at all
5. Garbage not controlled

What respondents think is missing in Orting right now. (Top Five Answers)

1. Nothing is missing
2. A YMCA, teen center, or recreation building
3. Swimming pool, spray ground or wading pool
4. Dog Park
5. Basketball & other paved and/or covered courts

Additional comments were received addressing other ways participants utilize the parks and river access, people's favorite parks and why, improvements people would like to see in the next five years, dislikes, and additional general concerns. These comments informed the 2010 update, and the impact is apparent. Some concerns have still not been met due to funding constraints, but the primary issues have been addressed: river access has improved, adult sports programming has increased, City Park has been renovated, and the City has opened a dog park, to list a few. The results of this survey informed the 2015 update survey, which enabled the City to check its progress.



Figure A-5: Flier announcing the 2009 public open house, posted around town and on display at the City's booth at the Pumpkin Festival.

**Public Open House**

Do you walk  
fish  
run play  
exercise bike  
skate  
in the City of Orting?

Come tell us:

**WHAT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS?**

**HOW DO YOU USE YOUR PARKS?**

**WHAT'S MISSING?**

**Orting Station**

**October 22, 4:30-7:30**

Free cookies & coffee  
Fill out a survey at [www.cityoforting.org](http://www.cityoforting.org)

The City of Orting is updating its parks plan, initially adopted in 2003, to set realistic short-term goals for city-owned parks, trails & open space. In addition, an updated plan will allow Orting to retain eligibility for the kinds of grants that have helped fund improvements to the park system in the past, such as the purchase and development of Gratzler Park. Public participation is a critical part of the update - we need to hear from you!

Figure A-6: Frequently Asked Questions - distributed to explain the process to the public and publicize the Open House.

**Updating the Orting Parks Plan frequently asked questions**

**Why should we update the Orting parks plan?**  
The City of Orting is updating its parks plan, initially adopted in 2003, to set realistic short-term goals for city-owned parks, trails, and open space. In addition, an updated plan will allow Orting to retain eligibility for the kinds of grants that have helped fund improvements to the park system in the past, such as the purchase and development of Gratzler Park.

**How do we go about updating the plan?**  
An updated inventory of all parks, trails, and open space in Orting is evaluated to assess how well these things are serving the needs of the current community and to estimate how well they will serve the needs for the community in the future. The analysis helps point out the gaps in the current system, and the update process gives the community and the City a chance to collaborate to set some realistic short-term goals. These goals, along with strategies for implementing them, are added to the updated plan before it is reviewed by the RCO, recommended by the Orting Parks and Planning Commissions, and approved by the City Council.

**So having a parks plan can help Orting access grants and funding? How does that work?**  
The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) provides "funding for general parks and recreation, boating, trails, water access, habitat conservation, off-road vehicle recreation, and firearms and archery range recreation" to jurisdictions with up to date plans. This agency reviews parks plan prior to adoption, and then grants eligibility for up to six years. Updating Orting's parks plan now would make us eligible through 2010.

**OK, we're updating our 2003 plan, but between 2003 and now, how did we use the old plan?**  
Orting received RCO funding for ball fields in Gratzler Park, the first of which are slated for construction this year. The City also purchased the property for Gratzler Park with the help of a Pierce County Conservation Futures Grant, thanks to the parks plan. Portions of the parks plan have been added to the Comprehensive Plan, and Orting adopted a Parks Impact Fee program, collecting over \$254,000 since 2005 for park improvements.

**How can I be involved in updating the plan?**  
In order to evaluate the current system of parks, trails, and open space in Orting, we need to hear from you! Public participation is very important. We need to know how you use these kinds of spaces in Orting or how (and why) you don't. We would like to hear what your priorities are for the future of parks in this town. Tell us what your concerns are and what you think should be included in the City's plan for parks. There are many ways to participate and let us know what you think.

**Fill out a survey on the City's website**  
[www.cityoforting.org](http://www.cityoforting.org)

**Come to an Open House at Orting Station, October 22nd, 2009 from 4:30-7:30**

Or attend a Parks Commission Meeting, first Wednesdays of the month in the Public Safety Building, starting at 6:30 pm.



# 2009 Inventory of Orting Park and Recreation Facilities

Where does Orting go to play? This map shows the location of all the facilities in Orting's public parks, shown in green.

The 2003 parks plan set standards for the number of ball fields and courts.

In addition to public facilities, some members of the community may have access to facilities in private parks and on school property, shown in gray. However, since the public can not be guaranteed access to these private facilities at all times, they are not counted as part of the public park system.

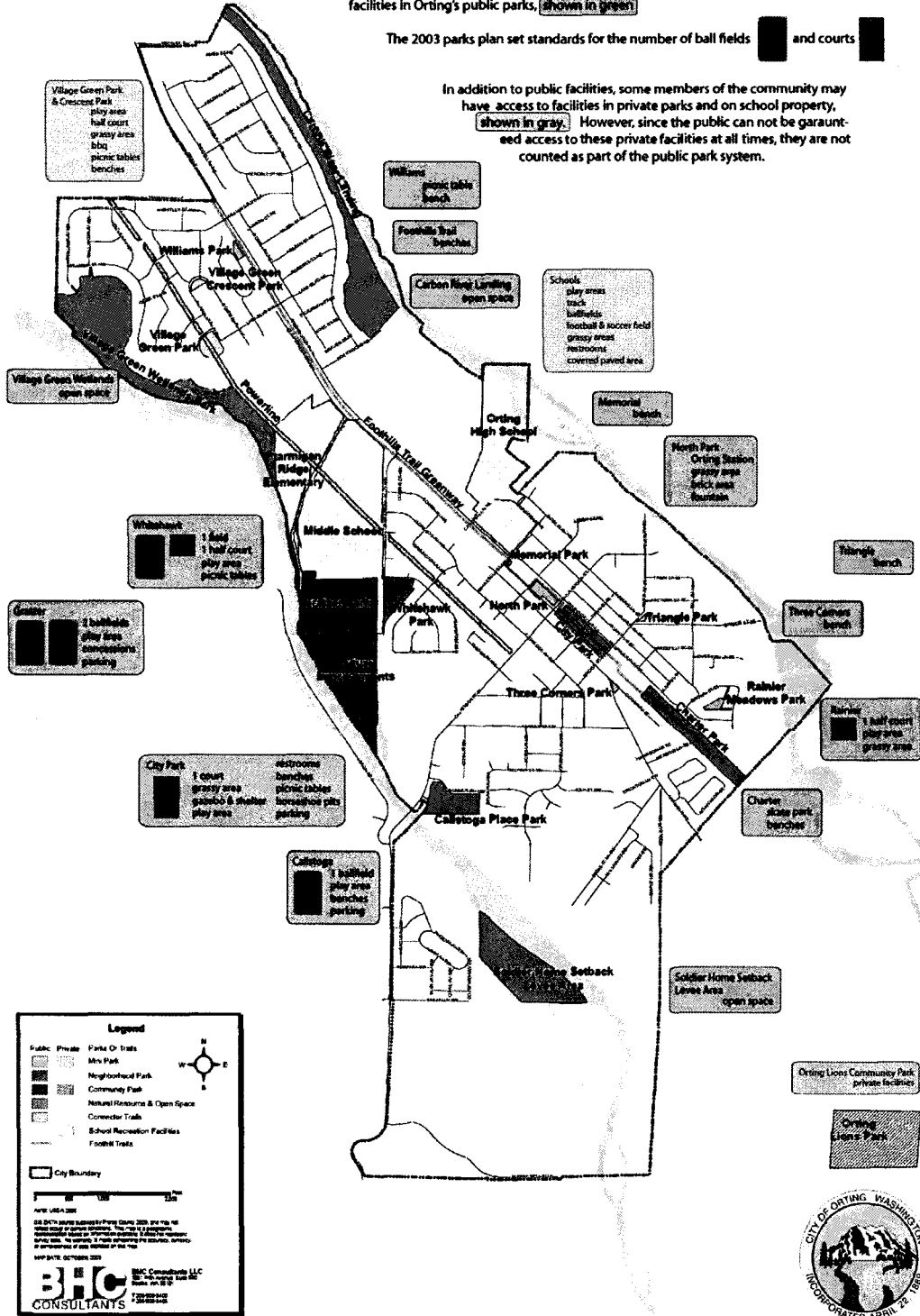


Figure A-7: Informational Poster from October 22, 2009 Public Open House

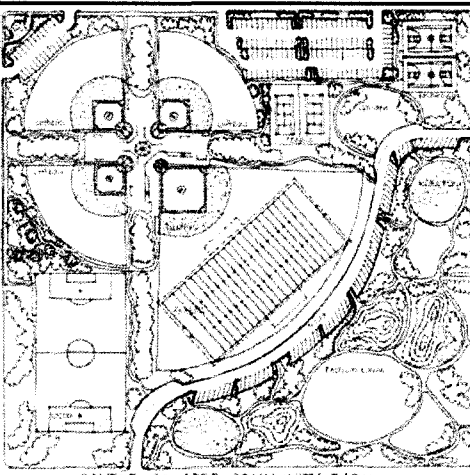
Figure A-8: Informational Poster from October 22, 2009 Public Open House

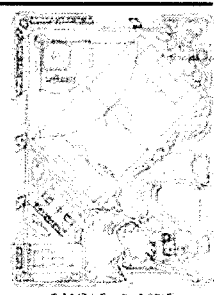
i

## What's the Difference between a Neighborhood Park and a Community Park?

Orting's 2003 Parks Plan defines a range of park types:

 <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">SAMPLE 25-ACRE COMMUNITY PARK</p>	<p style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin: 0;"><b>Community Parks</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>City wide</i></p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Service Area</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Size Criteria</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Guidelines</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Orting Examples</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">25-30 acres or as needed to accommodate desired uses</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Preserve unique natural features; meet active recreation facility needs</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Gratzner Park</p>	<p style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin: 0;"><b>Neighborhood Parks</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>About 1/2 mile walking distance</i></p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Service Area</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Size Criteria</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Guidelines</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Orting Examples</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">About 1/2 mile walking distance</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">5 acres minimum; 7-10 optimal</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Geographically spaced in service area</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Whitehawk Park City Park Calistoga Park</p>
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SAMPLE 6-ACRE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

<p style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin: 0;"><b>Mini-Parks</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>Less than 1/2 mile walking distance (about 7-8 blocks)</i></p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Service Area</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Size Criteria</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Guidelines</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Orting Examples:</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Less than 1/2 mile walking distance (about 7-8 blocks)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">One lot up to 1 acre</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Geographically spaced around City</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;">Williams Park North Park Memorial Park Triangle Park Three Corners Park</p>	<p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;"><i>MINI-PARK</i></p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 20px;"><i>EXAMPLE SIZE: 1 ACRE</i></p>
--	--

Note: These examples are intended to illustrate the general types of facilities that are typically found in neighborhood and community parks. However, the specific size, configuration, and design of parks in the City of Orting should reflect the needs and vision of the community.

**Additional Definitions**

The existing parks plan also defines other types of trails and open space:

<p><b>Natural Resource Areas:</b> Land set aside for preservation &amp; protection of floodways, open space, sensitive areas or important vegetation which may also provide some passive recreation opportunities. ORTING EXAMPLES - Carbon River Landing</p> <p><b>Greenways:</b> Corridors from 25 to over 200 feet wide for wildlife corridors and natural resource preservation. They also emphasize use (such as park trails) more than Natural Resource Areas, and can be used to tie park system together. ORTING EXAMPLE - Foothills Trail</p> <p><b>Special Use Park:</b> Parks, usually 2-5 acres, oriented towards a single purpose use. ORTING EXAMPLE - Charter Park Skatepark.</p> <p><b>Park Trails:</b> Variety of trails and multi-use paths located within parks, greenways, and natural-resource areas.</p>	<p><b>Connector Trails:</b> Trails that emphasize safe recreation and transportation to and from parks and natural resource areas. These are planned as part of the City transportation system, and are generally located within existing rights-of-way, utility easements, drainage ways and sidewalks.</p> <p><b>On-Street Bikeways:</b> Bike lanes which are designated segments of paved roadways separating bicyclists from vehicular traffic. Different from connector trails because they serve commuters, fitness riders and competitive athletes who cycle at higher speeds.</p> <p><b>Equestrian Trails:</b> Loop trails for horseback riding which could be planned for in larger parks and natural resource areas.</p>
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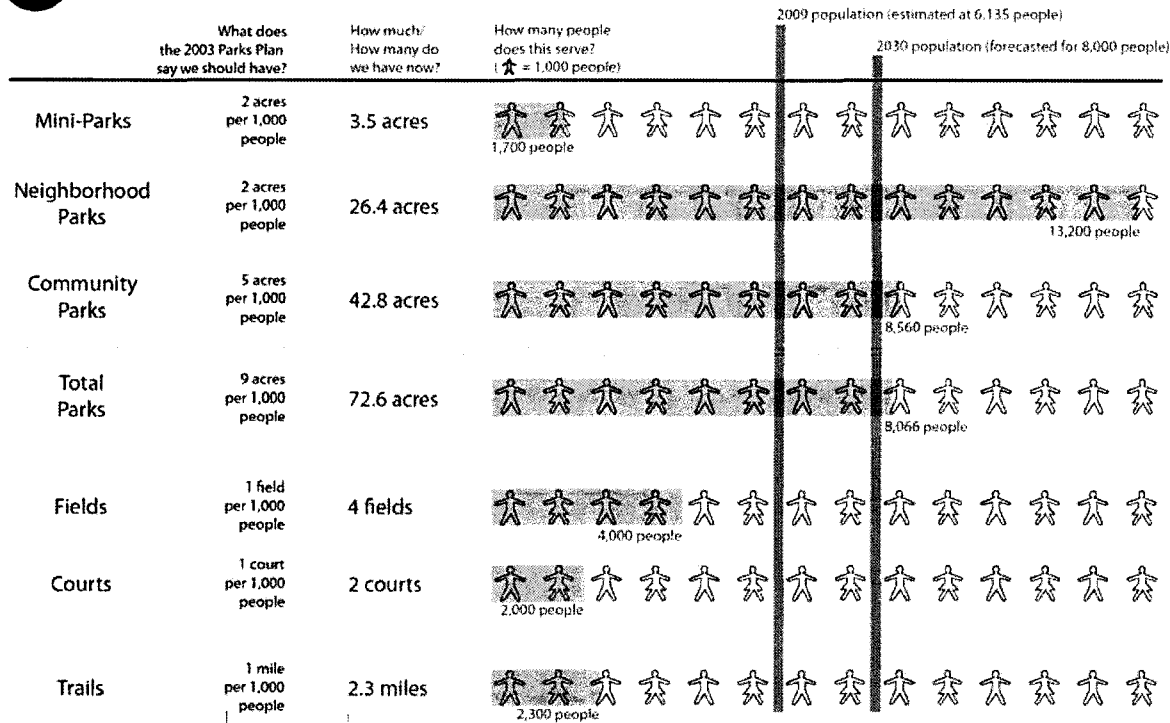


Figure A-9: Informational Poster from October 22, 2009 Public Open House

## **i** Level of Service Standards for Orting Parks & Facilities



A 2009 inventory counted all the public parks, trails and facilities in Orting. Private parks, school facilities, and parks outside the City (such as the Orting Lions Community Park) were not counted.

Orting's 2003 Parks Plan set these numbers, called Level of Service Standards, as goals for best serving the current and future community.

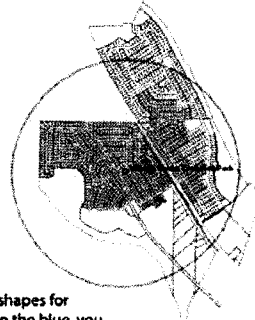
**Does Orting Have Enough?** According to the numbers, Orting has more than enough total acreage of parks to serve the community well, both now and through 2030, but it doesn't have enough of a specific kind of park (Mini-Parks) and it doesn't have enough facilities such as fields, courts, and trails. **But what do you think?**



# **i** Walking Distance to Orting's Mini-Parks and Neighborhood Parks

How far are people willing to walk to get to the park? The 2003 Orting Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan estimates that people would walk about half a mile to get to a medium sized Neighborhood Park and less than half a mile to reach a smaller Mini-Park.

On this poster, walking-distance means all the places\* one could reach by starting at the park and walking half a mile in any direction by sticking to roads, sidewalks, and pedestrian paths (see the example blue shape in on the right). Notice how this area is smaller than the yellow circle, which shows half a mile as the crow flies.

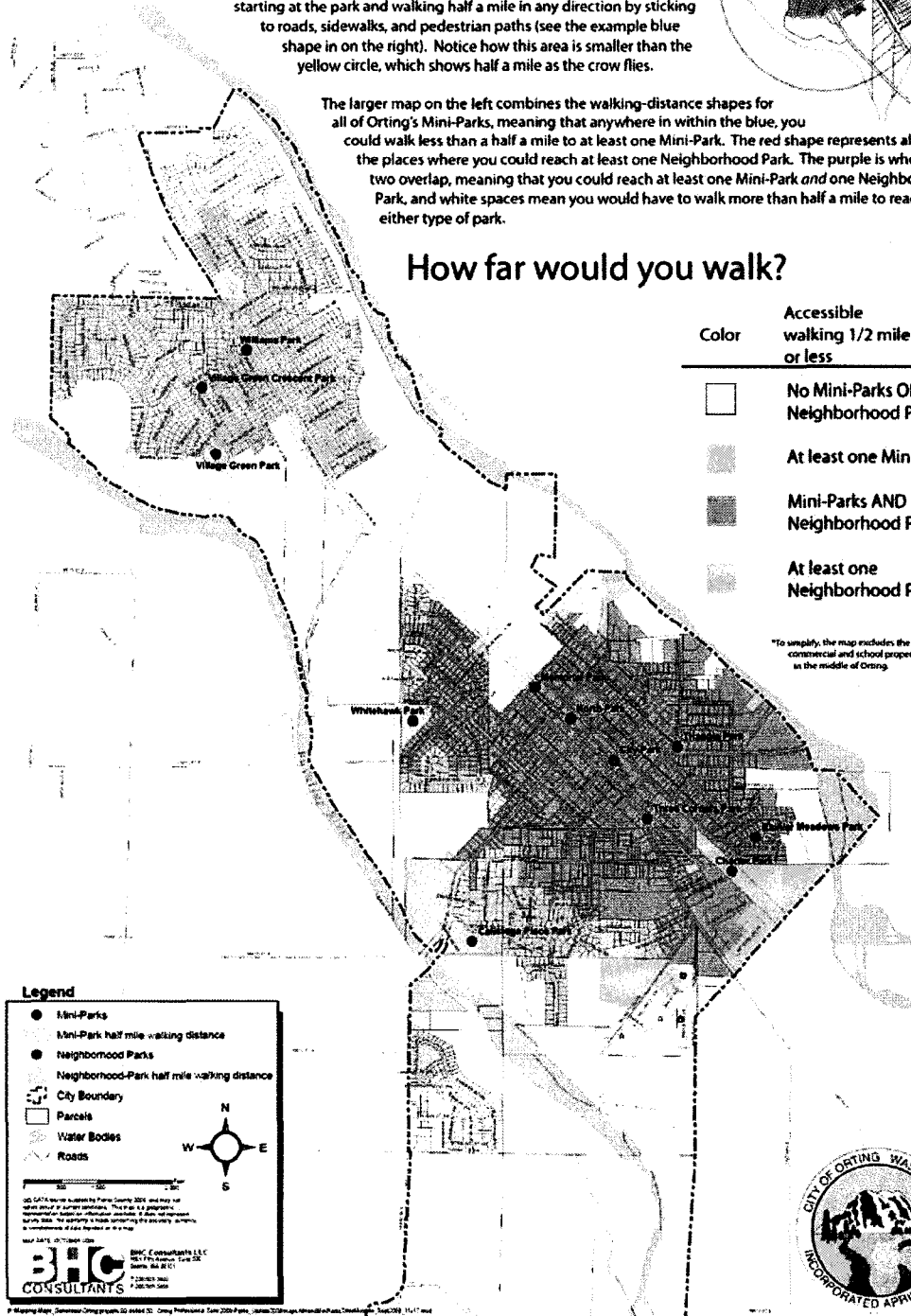


The larger map on the left combines the walking-distance shapes for all of Orting's Mini-Parks, meaning that anywhere in within the blue, you could walk less than a half a mile to at least one Mini-Park. The red shape represents all the places where you could reach at least one Neighborhood Park. The purple is where the two overlap, meaning that you could reach at least one Mini-Park and one Neighborhood Park, and white spaces mean you would have to walk more than half a mile to reach either type of park.

## How far would you walk?

Color	Accessible walking 1/2 mile or less
White	No Mini-Parks OR Neighborhood Parks
Light Blue	At least one Mini-Park
Dark Blue/Purple	Mini-Parks AND Neighborhood Parks
Light Red/Pink	At least one Neighborhood Park

\*To simplify, the map excludes the large commercial and school properties in the middle of Orting.



**Legend**

- Mini-Park
- Mini-Park half mile walking distance
- Neighborhood Park
- Neighborhood-Park half mile walking distance
- ▭ City Boundary
- ▭ Parcels
- ▭ Water Bodies
- ▭ Roads

Map Scale: 0 100 200 Feet

Map Date: 07/2008 (08)

**BIC CONSULTANTS**  
BIC Consultants LLC  
10017 Riverstone Lane SE  
Burien, WA 98148  
P: 206.835.3800  
F: 206.835.3801



Figure A-10: Informational Poster from October 22, 2009 Public Open House

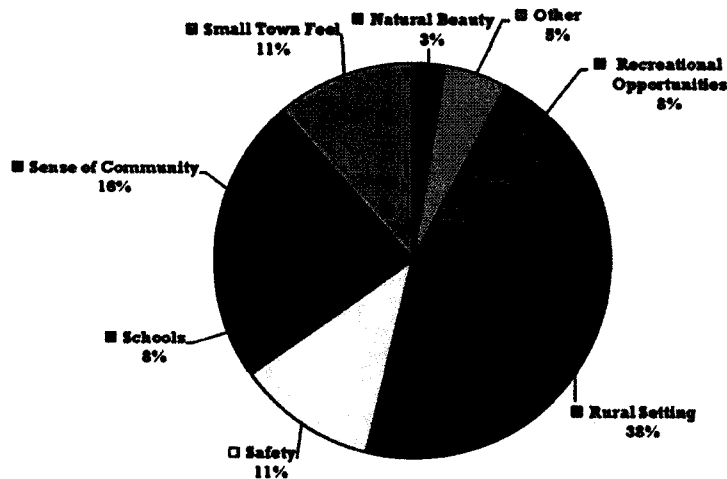
## 2015 UPDATE

The City sought to integrate and coordinate the PTOS update with the 2015 Comprehensive Plan update. The PTOS update engaged the public through an open house and several surveys, but also built upon the foundation of earlier public outreach undertaken for the Comprehensive Plan update. The findings of the PTOS public outreach and involvement reveal a community that is generally satisfied by the quantity of public parks and facilities, but would like to see improvements in quality and programs offered. As a result of the feedback, the City has surveyed the community to identify program improvements, the Parks Commission has initiated a relationship with a County community garden group, and will continue to pursue funding opportunities to support existing facilities, to name a few.

### Comprehensive Plan Outreach

Public outreach for the 2015 PTOS update occurred in conjunction with the 2015 Comprehensive Plan update. Outreach began with the Comprehensive Plan online public opinion survey. The survey received 122 responses between November, 2013 and April, 2014. Survey results revealed that 8-percent of participants valued "recreational opportunities" and 44-percent valued the "rural setting" and "natural beauty" above all other aspects of Orting. When asked to rate how the City was doing in terms of parks, about 85-percent of participants indicated "good" or "excellent". In terms of recreation, about 70-percent of participants indicated "good" or "excellent".

### **What is the #1 thing that you value about Orting?**



City of Orting Comprehensive Plan Survey - Draft Results - April 11, 2014



Figure A-11: Community Values Chart

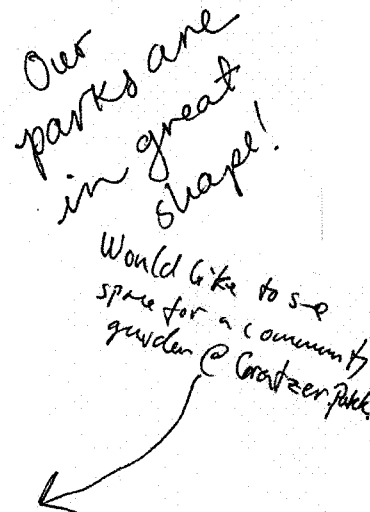
This initial survey revealed that the community was largely satisfied with the provision of parks and recreational opportunities within the City, and the high value expressed for the "rural setting" inspired the creation of a new Level of Service standard for Natural Resource Areas. The preliminary results of the survey were presented at the Comprehensive Plan Community Open House on February 5, 2014.

### Open House

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On September 17, 2014 a joint open house was held for the PTOS update and Comprehensive Plan update at the Orting Station. This was the second open house for the Comprehensive Plan update. The open house attracted 40 visitors, from within and just outside Orting. Posters were displayed that depicted aspects of both plans, including parks, shoreline, economic development, land use, transportation, utilities, and the environment. The results of the Comprehensive Plan Survey were also graphically displayed. The visual aids created a comprehensive picture of Orting. The parks posters portrayed the updated inventory and current parks planning activities (see Figure 17), Gratzler Park improvements (see Figure 18), and shoreline public access. The PTOS was also available for review.

Visitors were asked to comment on the posters by writing on post-its and sticking them to the displays. Visitors were informally interviewed by City staff, planning consultants, and Parks Commissioners. Verbal parks-related comments received addressed the desire for community gardens in existing Community Parks, availability of parking as the City grows, and need for general improvements. Overall, visitors were pleased with the quantity of parks within the City. Visitors were encouraged to complete a paper copy of the Parks survey, or directed to complete the survey online.



Our parks are in great shape!  
Would like to see some for a community garden @ Gratzler Park

Figure A-12: Open House Comments

### Parks Public Opinion Survey

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The Parks, Trails and Open Space online public opinion survey was launched September 4, 2014 and open through the end of the month. Similar to the previous Comprehensive Plan survey, the survey was advertised on the City's official webpage, through social media, by word of mouth, and on the City's reader board. Paper copies of the survey were made available at City Hall and at the September Open House. Overall, participants appear to be generally satisfied with the quantity of parks, but would like to see general improvements and upgrades.

There were a total of 56 participants. Several demographic questions were asked to obtain a sense of who was participating. The average participant was 40-years old and has lived in Orting for 9 years. The average household size was 4.4. This demographic data is consistent with 2010 Census results, which found the median age in Orting to be 32.7 years old with a third of the population under the age of 19, and the average family size to be 3.34 persons. Orting is a community of small, young families.

The parks survey was informed by the results of the 2010 update survey, as well as the Comprehensive Plan survey. The idea was to build on earlier results.

*Questions*

Which of the following statements best represents how the City is meeting our parks, trails, and program needs?

- Meets all needs 21.15%
- Meets some needs 76.92%
- Does not meet any needs 1.92%

What parks and recreational features do you use? Rank most used to least used:

- |                                   |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Trails                         | 6) Orting Station       |
| 2) Playgrounds                    | 7) Dog Park             |
| 3) Parking                        | 8) Multi-Purpose Center |
| 4) Gazebo/Picnic Shelter/BBQ Area | 9) Skate Park           |
| 5) Ball Fields                    | 10) Basketball Courts   |
|                                   | Other: Zumba            |

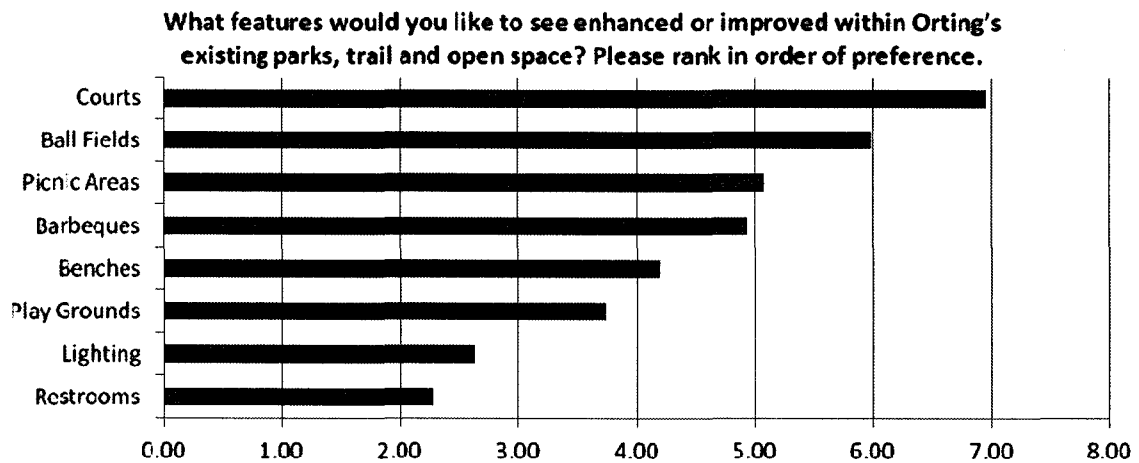


Figure A-13: Survey Question 8 Graph



**What features would you like to see added to Orting's existing parks, trail and open space?**

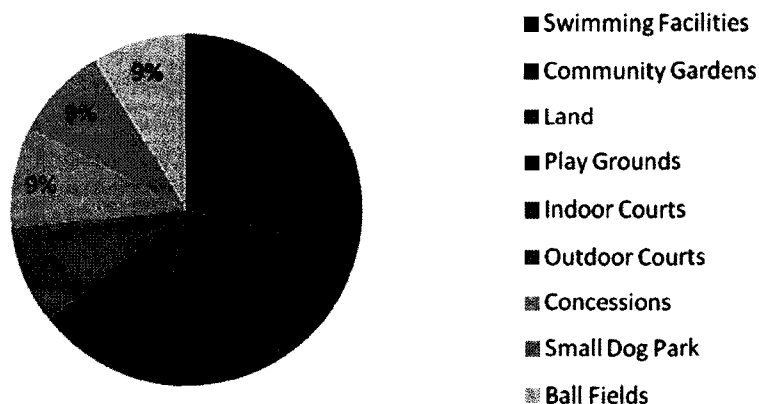


Figure A-14: Survey Question 9 Chart

Over the next 6 years, what YOUTH parks and recreation programs/facilities would you like to see developed in Orting's parks?

- None (3)
- Youth programs for all ages (soccer, baseball, volleyball, tumbling, special Olympics, drama, art) (9)
- Spray park (7)
- Tennis courts (5)
- Swimming pool (4)
- Indoor recreation or rental facilities (3)
- Teen spaces and activities (2)
- Movies in the park that are consistent and not cancelled unless for rain (2)
- More toddler friendly toys, toddler play area; play areas for younger children (2)
- More River access/open space (2)
- Update some of the older areas (2)
- More space for current activities/programs
- It would be nice to continue with the sports. Keep enhancing the programs we currently run.
- Would like to see more sponsored events such as fun runs, bike rides, fishing derbies.

- Lacrosse and Frisbee golf.
- Obstacle courses
- More playground equipment outside of the housing developments
- Partnerships with the schools.
- Equestrian/FHA space (Gratzer landing area?)
- Football field

Over the next 6 years, what ADULT or SENIOR parks and recreation programs/facilities would you like to see developed in Orting's parks?

- None (2)
- Year round programs (art, gardening society, canning, growing, mommy and me exercise, run club, water aerobics) (6)
- Swimming pool (4)
- Tennis courts (3)
- Community garden/Garden Club (2)
- Dog parks (2)
- Obstacle courses
- Trails
- Fishing access
- Better handicap trails with bathrooms.
- The parking lots could be paved to allow better access for those that are less able.
- Maybe a lovely garden area that can be walked through and provide beautiful backdrops for family photos.
- Volleyball areas, open space parks, organized softball.
- Exercise stations along the trail.
- Maybe a few of the small BBQ near the Puyallup river park.
- More free adult programs, residents should not have to pay for the facilities at the school.

**What features would you most like to see constructed at Gratzer Park?**

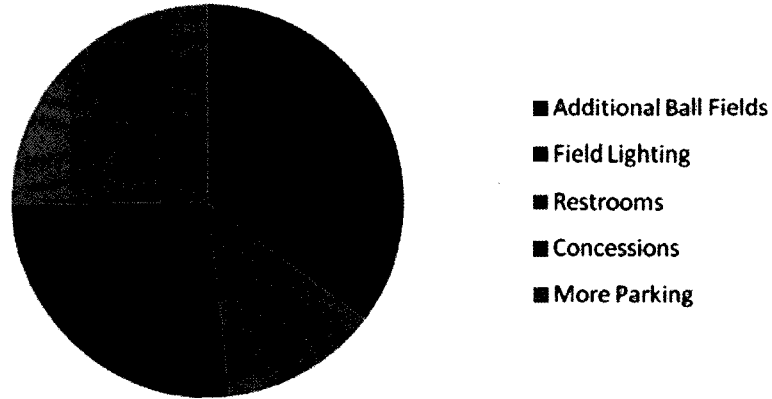


Figure A-15: Survey Question 10 Chart

**Are you interested in safety improvements at Calistoga Park?**

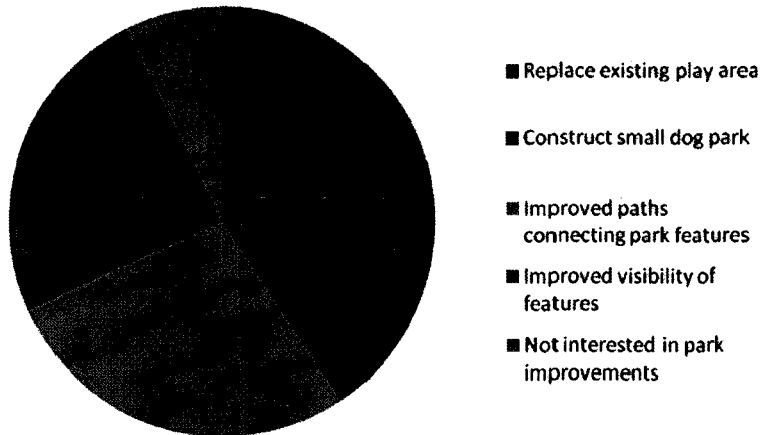


Figure A-16: Survey Question 11 Chart

Additional comments:

- With swimming pool or spray park would be a huge improvement.
- Picnic area
- Our town can do better.
- put in a bike lane on the trail

- Please add a slide or two to the play structure. A small dog park would be great as I have a terrier and he goes to insane when it comes to that huge field to run in.
- Dog park structures (such as agility)
- Lighting
- Obstacle Courses
- ADD Handicap Accessible features and swings....make it so that the public can't destroy it!
- This park is fantastic! It only needs more and cleaner facilities, like all parks
- Add a water feature kids can play in.
- Better parking
- Put a bike lane on the trail
- Bathroom
- Safe play equipment for toddlers.
- Thanks for working on ways to make Orting a better place to live!

### **Recreation Program Survey**

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The results of the 2014 public opinion survey revealed the community's interest in seeing increased youth and adult recreation program opportunities. The City followed up with a Recreation Program Survey. The survey was promoted through the City's website and through social media. The survey had 28 participants.

The 6-question survey asked participants which programs they have previously participated in, sought to identify other programs of interest, included questions related to program registration and communication, and even asked for requests for potential instructors.

#### *Questions*

Would you consider participating in any of these programs?

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| • Summer Camp Sports    | 13/28 participants |
| • Summer Activity Camps | 11/28              |
| • Kids Night Out        | 11/28              |
| • Fitness Class         | 11/28              |
| • Cooking Class         | 9/28               |
| • Knitting              | 8/28               |

- Daddy/Daughter Dance 5/28
- Adult Basketball 5/28
- Adult Soccer 4/28
- Card Making/Crafts 4/28
- Dodge Ball 3/28
- Kickball 2/28
- Health and Nutrition Class 2/28
- Write in's:
  - Adult Baseball (1)
  - Adult/Child Cooking Class (1)

What are the best ways that we can inform you about program registration?

- Facebook 23/28 participants
- Reader Board 15/28
- Website 13/28
- Email 12/28
- School Flyer 11/28

We have recently added online registration and payment. How do you prefer to register?

- Online 20/28 participants
- In the Office 9/28
- Over the Phone 3/28

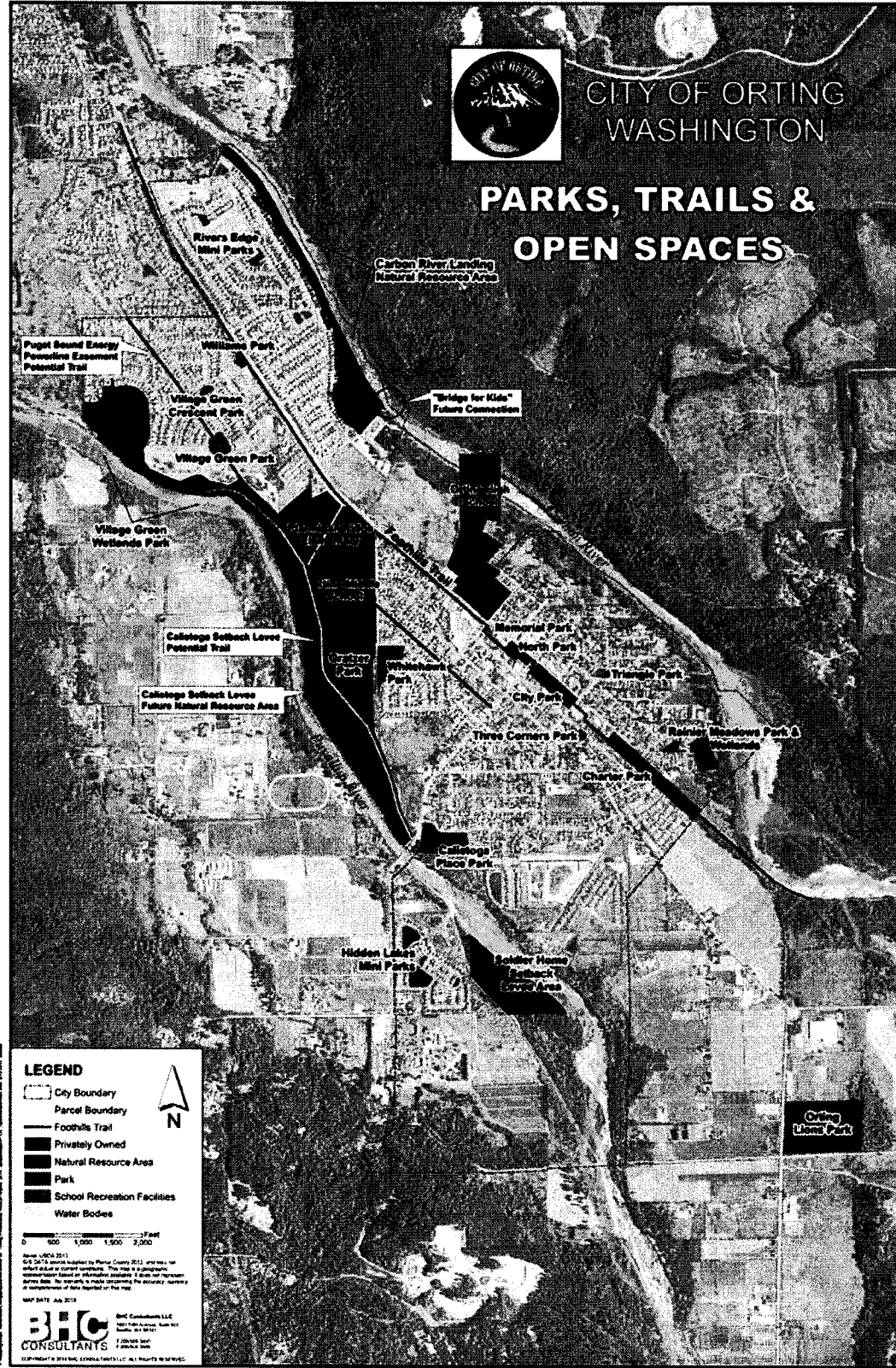
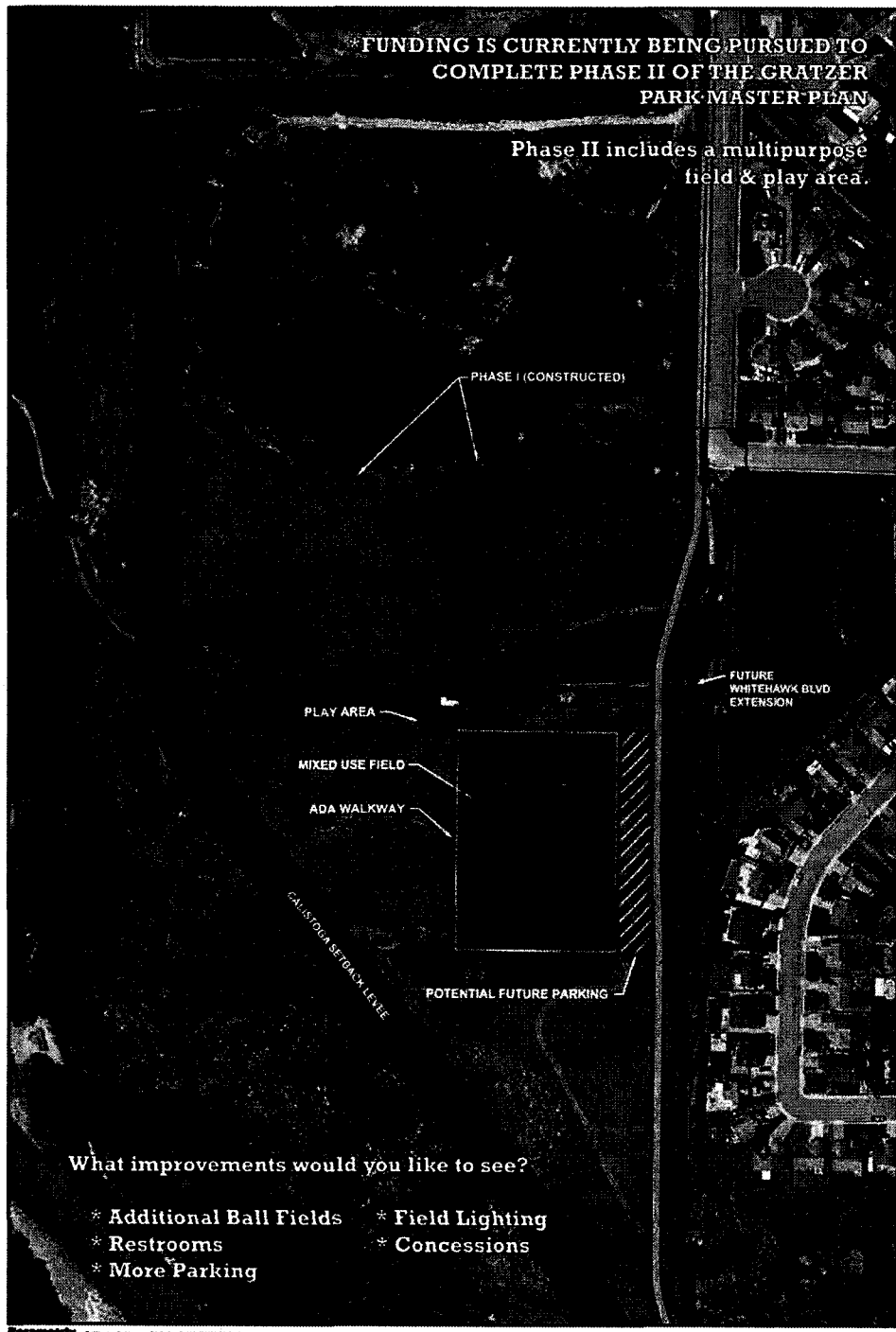


Figure A-17: Inventory & Planning Activities Poster

# GRATZER PARK

## MULTIPURPOSE FIELD & PLAY AREA



Parsons Brinckerhoff DATE: Aug 1, 2011 FILE: P017000000A.DWG



Gratz Park Phase II  
Conceptual Design  
City of Orange

Figure A-18: Gratz Park Improvements Poster