



City of Bellevue

# Parks & Community Services 2025 Accreditation

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Parks & Community Services Board

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# Information Only

Overview of the CAPRA accreditation process.

# AGENDA

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Accreditation Background



Accreditation Process



2025 Re-accreditation



Next Steps

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# Background

# What is Accreditation?

Process for evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of agency operations by comparing practices to objective professional standards.





# Value of Accreditation



- Third-party validation
- Data-informed decisions
- Continuous improvement
- Excellent public service

# Excellence in Public Service

- Parks & Community Services
- Police
- Utilities
- Transportation
- Fire





# Accreditation Background



- Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) re-accreditation occurs every five years
- 2005 initial accreditation
- 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025 re-accreditation



# CAPRA Background

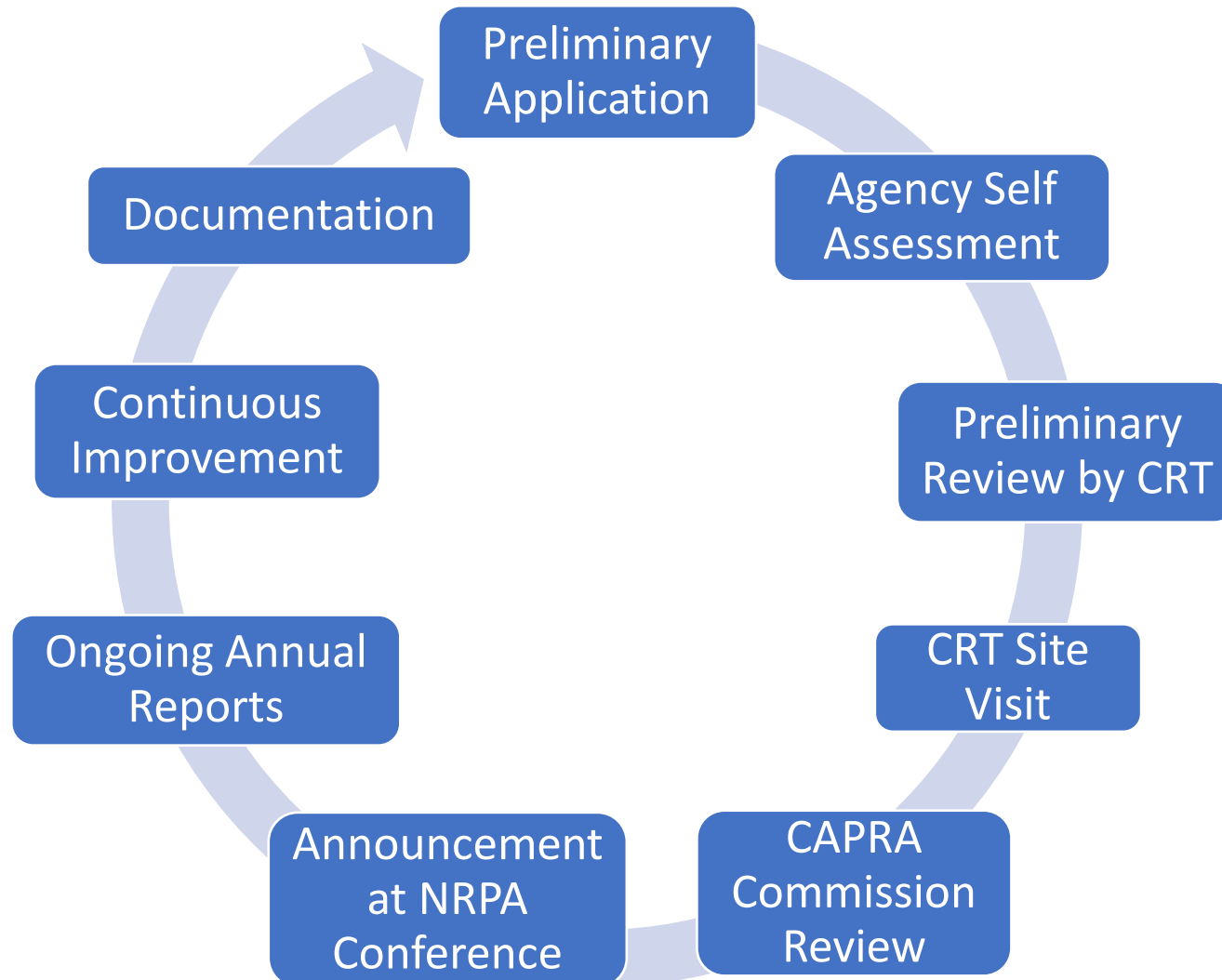
- CAPRA accreditation process formalized in 1994.
- 231 accredited park and recreation agencies in the United States.
- 3 accredited park and recreation agencies in WA



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# Process

# Accreditation Process



# Evaluation Criteria

- Agency Authority, Role & Responsibility
- Planning
- Organization & Administration
- Human Resources
- Financial Management
- Programs & Services Management
- Facility & Land Use Management
- Law Enforcement and Security
- Risk Management
- Evaluation, Assessment & Research





## ***Example: 2.4 – Park and Recreation System Master Plan***

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The agency shall have a comprehensive park and recreation system plan that provides recommendations for provision of facilities, programs and services; parkland acquisition and development; maintenance and operations; and administration and management. The plan shall be officially adopted by the policy-making body, updated periodically and linked with a capital improvement budget and a phased development program. The system master plan shall implement policies adopted in the comprehensive plan for the jurisdiction. Interested and affected agencies, organizations, and groups shall be engaged in the planning process.

# *Example: 2.4 – Park and Recreation System Master Plan (cont'd)*

Suggested Evidence of Compliance: Provide the current plan with documentation of official approval; describe update process; and describe a phased implementation program with linkage to the agency's capital improvement budget.

The system master plan shall include:

- a. Agency mission (1.4);
- b. Agency objectives (1.4.1);
- c. Recreation and leisure trends analysis (10.5.1);
- d. Needs assessment (10.4);
- e. Community inventory (10.5.2); and
- f. Level of service standards (10.3.1).



# **2025 Re-accreditation**

# 2025 Re-accreditation



- 20+ Department Standard Leads
- Coordination with other departments
- CAPRA Review Team (CRT) advance review
- CRT virtual site visit 3/31-4/2
- CRT report submitted to CAPRA Board
- Announcement of re-accreditation at NRPA National Conference



# CAPRA Review Team Observations

- Thorough and well-organized responses
- Beautiful and well-written plans
- Integrated processes
- In-depth expertise
- Community outreach
- Value for community voice



# Results



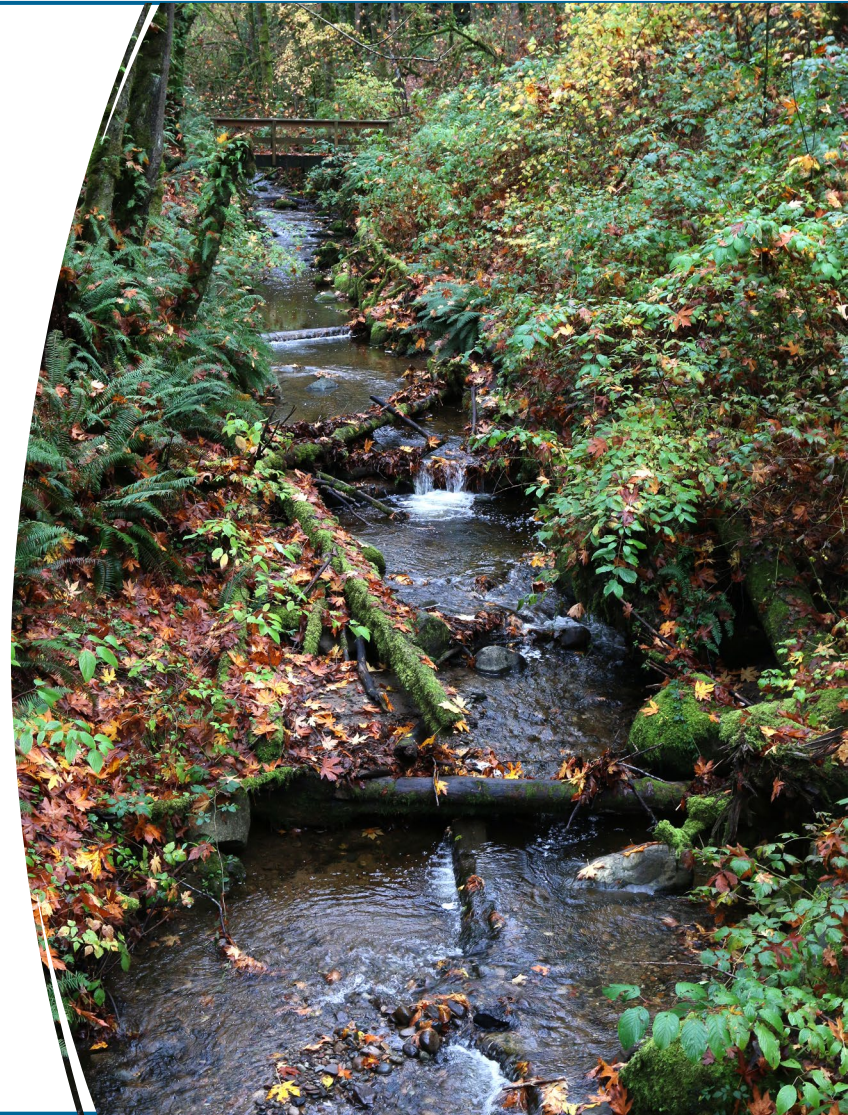
**Perfect Score in  
2020 and 2025!**

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# Next Steps

# Parks & Community Services Board

- Champions of our Work
- Ongoing Plan Review and Input
  - Parks & Open Space System Plan
  - Comprehensive Plan
  - Recreation Program Plan
  - Sustainable Bellevue Plan
- Public Engagement
  - Policy Planning Documents
  - Park Design





# Department Work



- New standards
- Annual report
- Ongoing documentation
- Continuous improvement



**Thank you for your support**