

MEMORANDUM



Bellevue Parks &
Community Services

DATE: January 11, 2022

TO: Parks & Community Services Board

FROM: Ryan Walker, Senior Planner
Parks & Community Services

SUBJECT: Parks & Open Space System Plan Update 2022
For information and discussion – no Board action required

Parks and Community Services is in the process of updating the Parks & Open Space System Plan, which is one of the long-range policy planning documents for the Department. The current plan was last updated in 2016 and is on a six-year schedule for renewal and adoption by the City Council.

The Parks and Community Services Board was introduced to the Parks Plan update at the July 2021 meeting. Subsequently, at the September 2021 meeting, the Board received an update on the Parks Plan process and heard from park users as part of the public hearing. The October 2021 meeting featured a retreat-style discussion focused on areas of interest for additional parks and the capital project objectives. Review of capital project objectives continued at the November 2021 meeting with additional opportunity for feedback from the Board. Public outreach occurred during the fall and included a user survey, public meetings, social media, communication to community organizations, and platforms to engage and provide comment. Staff met with boards, commissions, and city-affiliated groups, as well as other staff. Regular outreach updates were provided to the Board. Inventory and mapping of the system has been occurring in the background.

It is now time to review the Parks Plan narrative and provide for remaining feedback as we push towards a final draft. The purpose of this meeting is to (a) provide an outreach summary, (b) review the plan draft, and (c) discuss next steps. The bulk of our time will be spent walking through the working draft, as included in this packet. This document contains text edits and additions based upon input received this fall and changes in the city over the past six years. You'll note that this draft contains text only, is not formatted, and does not include charts and photos. Formatting will occur when text is in a more final form. Included are flags throughout identifying significant edits or additions to the text. Most significant additions are in the Capital Project Objectives chapter (pages 30-63). Please review as your schedule allows and consider any big ideas that remain outstanding or need further explanation in the plan, including the capital project objectives and associated project prioritization criteria at the end of that chapter. This is intended as the last meeting to provide content feedback before we move into final drafting and review.

The 2016 plan along with additional information on the Parks Plan update is available online at: www.bellevuewa.gov/park-plan.htm. You may also visit the outreach hub for this project through Engaging Bellevue (www.engagingbellevue.com/parks-and-open-spaces). If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact me at (425) 452-4280 or rwalker@bellevuewa.gov.