

Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update

Ryan Walker, Senior Planner Parks & Community Services

Parks and Community Services Board | February 13, 2024





Agenda

- 1. Background
- 2. Changes Addressed
- 3. Next Steps





Action

Recommend updates to policies in the Parks, Recreation and Open Space element of the Comprehensive Plan





Background

| > | Q2 2022 Q3 2022 | Update the Vision |
|----|--------------------|--------------------------|
| > | Q4 2022 Q1 2023 | Lay the Foundation |
| | Q2 2023 Q3 2023 | Discuss Options |
| WW | Q4 2023 Q1 2024 | Refine Map & Policies |
| • | Q2 2024 Q3 2024 | Recommend & Adopt |

- February 28, 2022 Council launched Periodic Update
- April 20, 2022 Board introduced to scope of update to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space element
- November 8, 2022 Board reviewed major changes
- January 9 Board will review specific changes to the policies in the element
- February 13 Board will make a recommendation to Planning Commission on the policy changes in the element



Background

Analyses & Assessments

Environmental Impact Statement

Public Events, Surveys, Etc.

Strategy Team Engagement

Board/Commission Comments

Growth Management Act

Regional Requirements





Community Engagement

EngagingBellevue.com/ Bellevue-2044

 Open for feedback until 2/16

Events

- Open House 1/20
- Community Conversation 2/8
- Engage with youth through 3 area middle and high schools





Community Engagement

- Policy moves that resonate
 - Focus on sustainability, stormwater management and ecological health
 - Walking and biking access to parks
 - Equity and universal access to parks
 - Gathering space in parks
- Ideas missing?
 - Need more parkland
 - Ensure number of parks rises with population
 - Tree canopy, use of native plants
 - Safety in parks

- Consider while deliberating
 - Access of all park users in all parts of the city, including seniors, families, children, those with mobility issues
 - Access to recreation programming for all ages
 - Balancing the need for infrastructure for cars and keeping as much of the parkland green as possible.



- PCS Board suggested changes to policies at Jan 24 meeting
- Staff addressed suggested changes





Emphasize density as one driver of urban parks and open space acquisition in PA-2.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|--|
| PA-2 | Recommendation: Obtain land throughout the community to meet present and future parks and open space needs, with emphasis on providing park land concurrent with growth <u>and density</u> of urban neighborhoods, in alignment with the Parks and Open Space System Plan. |



Include the development of existing waterfront property, not just newly acquired property in PA-8.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|--|
| PA-8 | Recommendation: Acquire and develop waterfront property to increase public access to Bellevue's lakes. |



Combine PA-16 & PA-13, but don't lose the concept of linking public and private recreation & facilities.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|---|
| PA-X | Recommendation: Encourage a network throughout the city of privately funded and managed facilities that serve recreation and cultural needs and may supplement or link with facilities and programs in the public system. |



Use the word "safe" when referring to bicycle and pedestrian facilities (as in PA-5) if there are no unforeseen implications in doing so.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|---|
| PA-14 | Recommendation: Develop <u>safe</u> pedestrian and bicycle linkages between neighborhoods and major natural areas, recreation facilities, schools and commercial centers. |



Clarify PA-22 so it is consistent with department planning documents

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|---|
| PA-22 | Recommendation: Provide a variety of services and programs accessible to all throughout the city with special emphasis on underserved groups including low-income households, youth, individuals with disabilities and older adults. |



In PA-24, do not remove "resources" from the policy.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|---|
| PA-24 | Recommendation: Offer programs that are tailored to the unique <u>resources</u> , land and facilities within the city's parks and open space system. |



Ensure that PA-25 addresses local history.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|---|
| PA-25 | Recommendation: Use parks to celebrate and preserve the full <u>local</u> history, of the region through park design, signage, programming, and cultural landscape conservation. |



Meeting the needs of a diverse population is important. Streamline language and make sure that PA-32 retains reference to culturally-specific needs as well as intercultural needs.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|--|
| PA-32 | Recommendation: Based upon data trends and inclusive outreach, monitor and respond to the community's evolving recreation and community service needs to ensure a mix of relevant and effective facilities that meet the needs of a diverse population, and including programs that are culturally specific or promote intercultural exchange. |



Clarify the reference to green certification or performance standards in PA-43.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|---|
| PA-43 | Recommendation: When feasible, install, renovate, or replace facilities using materials, construction, and operation methods that meet or exceed green <u>building</u> certification or <u>other</u> performance standards and are known to be weather-resistant and longer lasting. |



Clarify to address concern that "non-park" is too limiting in PA-46.

| Policy Number | Change |
|------------------|--|
| PA-46 | Recommendation: Eliminate and prevent non- recreational use of park uses of park lands and facilities that impact or are not in alignment with the intended use or plan for them. |



Next Step

Recommend policy changes to Planning Commission





Sample Motion

Move that the Parks & Community Services Board recommend the amendments to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space element policies, as presented in the attachment to the memo, to the Planning Commission as part of the periodic update to the Comprehensive Plan.

