DATE: November 16, 2021

TO: Human Services Commission

FROM: Ryan Walker, Planner

Parks & Community Services

SUBJECT: Parks & Open Space System Plan Update 2022

For information and discussion

Parks & Community Services is updating one of its long-range policy planning documents, the Parks & Open Space System Plan (Parks Plan). The Parks Plan provides policy and guidance on the acquisition, development, and management of parks and open space citywide. It holds the big ideas. The current Parks Plan was adopted in 2016 and is on a six-year schedule for renewal. The Parks Plan is prepared by the Parks and Community Services Department and recommended to Bellevue City Council for adoption by the Parks and Community Services Board.

The input of the Human Services Commission will be helpful in determining what changes we need to make to the plan to keep it future-focused and relevant considering the changing needs of the community today. While much of this plan focuses on the future parks, trails, and open space facility needs, there are elements related to use of parks for community services, quality of access to facilities, and partnership options to expand facilities and services.

At the next Human Services Commission meeting I will briefly introduce the Parks Plan and offer an opportunity for discussion. In addition to questions of your own, please consider the following:

- Personally, how do you use the park, trail, and open space system today? What type of recreation facilities and features would you like to see more of in the future?
- In general terms, how can the Parks & Open Space System Plan reflect the findings within the Human Services Needs Update? What are trends in human services relevant to use of park facilities? Are there partnerships that you see a need for in enhancing programming and facilities in the parks and open space system?

To further participate and spur ideas please take a five minute survey. The survey, along with other opportunities to engage, can be found at https://www.engagingbellevue.com/parks-and-open-spaces. You are welcome to share this link with other Bellevue park users. The 2016 plan is linked from this website or can be downloaded at www.bellevuewa.gov/park-plan.htm. To submit feedback to me directly or pose any questions, please write to rwalker@bellevuewa.gov or call (425) 452-4280.