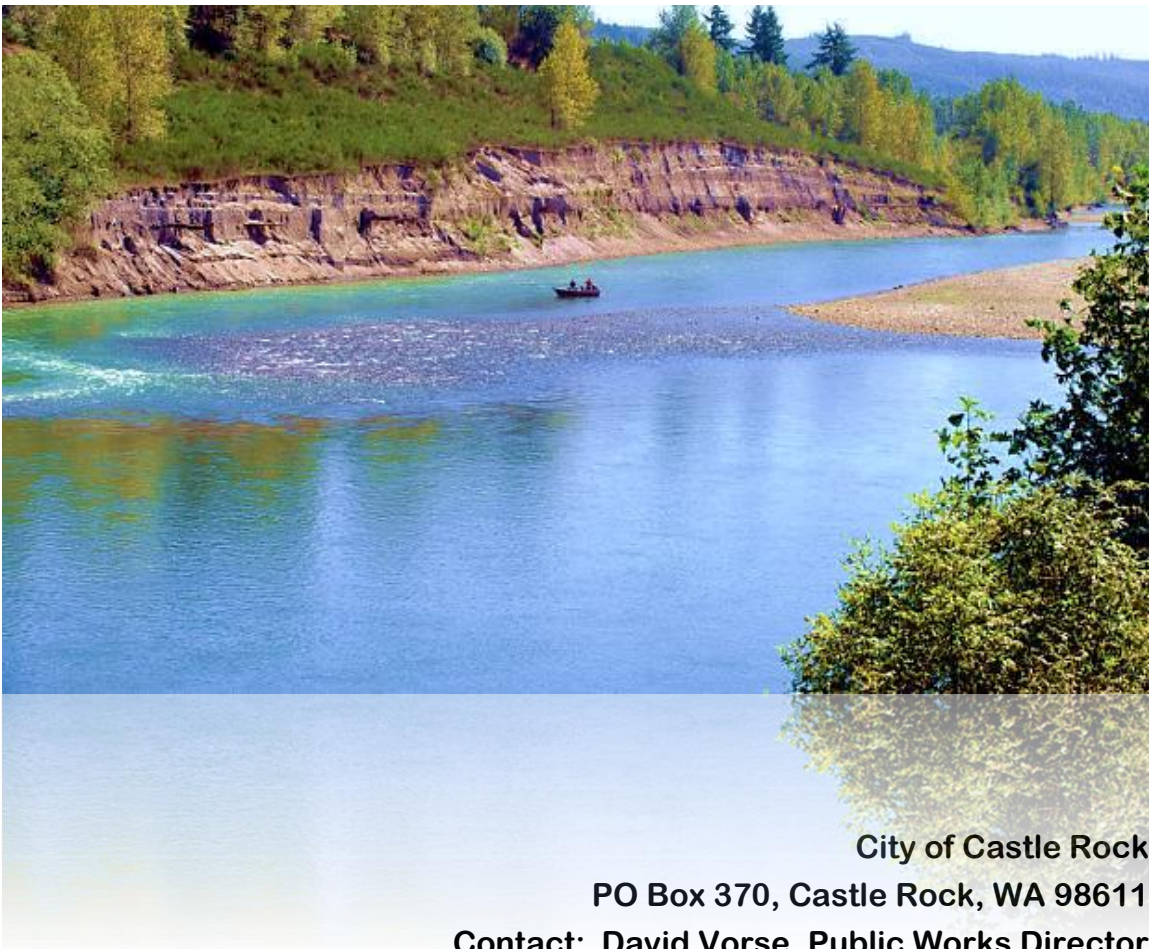


**City of Castle Rock  
&  
Castle Rock School District #401**

**PARK & RECREATION PLAN**

**Adopted February 2016**



City of Castle Rock  
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Castle Rock received the  
Association of Washington Cities  
2004 Municipal Achievement  
Gold Medal Award in  
recognition of the  
Riverfront Trail Project.

Association of Washington Cities  
2014 Municipal Excellence Award  
for Empowering Citizens  
(Bike Park expansion)



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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACS	American Community Survey
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ARPA	American Recreation and Park Association
DFW	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
DNR	Washington State Department of Natural Resources
BNSF	Burlington Northern Santa Fe
I-5	Interstate 5
LOS	level of service
MRSC	Municipal Research and Services Center
OFM	Washington State Office of Financial Management
PRORAGIS	ARPA Parks and Recreation Operating Ratio and Geographic Information System™
PROS	Parks, Recreation, and Open Space zoning district
RCO	Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
RV	recreational vehicle
SR 411	State Route 411 (also known as Westside Highway)
SR 504	State Route 504 (also known as Spirit Lake Highway)
WIAA	Washington Interscholastic Activities Association
WSDOT	Washington State Department of Transportation





# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

Coming together is a beginning;  
keeping together is progress;  
working together is success.

~Henry Ford

This document, completed under the Castle Rock Board of Park Commissioners' ("Park Board") review and guidance, substantially updates the 2011 *City of Castle Rock & Castle Rock School District Park and Recreation Plan*. It has also been vetted through and subsequently adopted by the Castle Rock City Council and Castle Rock School Board. Adopted by reference in the City's comprehensive plan, this document serves to fulfill the park and recreation planning requirements in the state Growth Management Act.<sup>1</sup>

Local-level park and recreation plans must be updated every six years<sup>2</sup> to retain eligibility for a variety of grant and other funding opportunities. Besides the statutory requirement, the six-year time frame also provides a pathway for setting realistic goals and objectives on a relatively short horizon. Additionally, the six-year time frame corresponds with that of the typical capital facilities plan, affording the City the opportunity to align capital projects between the two documents. This approach also meets state Recreation and Conservation Funding Board guidelines<sup>3</sup> administered by the state Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), generally referred to herein as "RCO guidelines." The plan will continue to be updated on a regular basis.

This update is a shared jurisdiction plan, as described in the RCO guidelines, continuing the collaborative relationship between the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401 ("School"). It was developed using the results of the 2015 Park and Recreation Survey (see Appendix A) and other public outreach/planning efforts. It is designed to meet or exceed all Washington State requirements<sup>4</sup> and to generally meet the RCO guidelines.

---

<sup>1</sup> RCW 36.70A.070(8). In reliance on advice from state Department of Commerce staff, this update was not treated as a comprehensive plan amendment by virtue of being a referenced standalone document. As such, it did not undergo state agency review per RCW 36.70A.106(3)(a).

<sup>2</sup> WAC 286-13-040(b) states that a jurisdiction is eligible to submit funding applications for up to six years after its local plan is accepted by the RCO.

<sup>3</sup> *Manual 2: Planning Policies and Guidelines*, Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board, February 1, 2014, at <[http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/manuals&forms/Manual\\_2.pdf](http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/manuals&forms/Manual_2.pdf)>

<sup>4</sup> WAC 286-26-080, 286-27-040, and 286-35-030 require that plans analyze demand and need as well as describe how the planning process gave the public ample opportunity to be involved in the plan's development. Additionally, WAC 286-04-065 directs the RCO to use a priority rating system that, in part, considers local needs when recommending funding.

Numerous parks and recreation projects have been completed since the last plan update. The following list briefly outlines public park and recreation accomplishments between 2011 and 2015:

- Completed Phase Two construction of the two-lane Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch including additional floats, canoe/kayak slip, accessible<sup>5</sup> restrooms, a fish cleaning station, lighting, a large picnic shelter/outdoor classroom, security cameras, and landscaping with irrigation. The work also included paving the remainder of the parking lot. As part of this project, stream bank mitigation enhancement work was completed on Whittle Creek behind 4 Corners Farm & Garden.
- Extended trails from Westside High into the North County Sports Complex and the boat launch.
- Extended the Riverfront Trail on the east side of the river up to the railroad bridge on Huntington Ave. North. Improvements include enhancing the ADA-accessible ramp and constructing a trailhead parking lot and a viewing platform by the river. Plans call for adding a restroom, signage, and landscaping.
- Began work on the welcoming entrance features at Lions Pride Park.
- Private developer donated land and funds to develop a mini park in the Lois Dye Estates subdivision. Equipment has been purchased.
- Improved the Skate Park by installing new equipment and rearranging the existing equipment. Basketball hoops and two half courts were added to make the space multi-useable.
- Improved the Castle Rock Library by developing a computer area, complying with ADA standards, adding storage, upgrading the heating system, painting and repairing the interior and exterior, replacing windows, and promoting reading programs.
- Developed a new Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) zoning district to help property owners, elected officials, and citizens manage recreation-based properties in the area on the west side of the Cowlitz River that was annexed.
- Improved Old Jail Park with landscaping and a horseshoe pit and picnic area.
- The Lions Club donated its Memorial Volunteer Park, now called Gateway Park, to the City. Volunteers and City staff renovated the park by improving the structures, adding landscaping, replanting the lawn, and adding electrical outlets.

---

<sup>5</sup> Refers to meeting the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- Expanded the School and community gardens and orchards.
- Successfully negotiated placement and began construction of a new visitor center at the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) park and ride at Exit 49. Eventually the trail system will link from the center to the downtown and uptown.
- Renovated the BMX track into a one-of-a-kind pump track and bike skills park for trail and mountain riding. In addition to the pump track, this facility had elevated boardwalks, trails, jumps, and log overs. It includes parking, a picnic structure, and many other unique features. The project won an Association of Washington Cities award for community involvement as it was built mostly with donated labor and recycled material.

Both the local community and visitors from outside the area have many reasons to celebrate the expanded park and recreation opportunities available to them. Despite the highlighted successes, there are still numerous projects that deserve attention, are very much needed, and will lead to a fully integrated park and recreation network unique to a city of Castle Rock's size.

This work will ensure that adequate facilities exist for current and future users of City and School park and recreation facilities. It updates the goals, objectives, and guiding principles for prioritizing, funding, acquiring, and developing and/or rehabilitating parks and recreational facilities/opportunities in and around Castle Rock. The City and School anticipate that a series of new accomplishments such as those listed above will be included in the next plan update.

The following chapter sets forth the goals and objectives that will direct park and recreation development in and around Castle Rock during this planning period. Subsequent chapters include the background information, including an analysis of demand and need, that was used to derive and support the stated goals and policies.



## CHAPTER II

### MISSION STATEMENT, GOALS, & OBJECTIVES

Our goals can only be reached through a  
vehicle of a plan, in which we must  
fervently believe, and upon which we  
must vigorously act. There is  
no other route to success.

~Pablo Picasso

#### Mission Statement

To provide Castle Rock residents, students, and visitors with a variety of recreational and leisure opportunities designed to enrich their physical health, social well-being, and overall quality of life.

#### City of Castle Rock Goals

1. To provide, improve, maintain, and facilitate a variety of year-round recreational opportunities for all age groups both in the city limits and outlying areas.
2. To provide more areas for active and passive recreation and educational opportunities by identifying possible locations for park expansion and land acquisition.
3. Provide for a system of parks, linear open spaces, and trails oriented to urban waterways.
4. Make recreation and tourism a building block of Castle Rock's economic development in concert with the City's 2005 *Strategic Marketing Plan*.
5. Seek a variety of funding sources to fully implement the capital improvement program, including recreation and economic development funds, donations, and other grant programs.
6. Collaborate with citizens, community groups, committees, partnering agencies, and organizations to maintain, improve, develop, and promote recreational facilities and opportunities in and around Castle Rock.
7. Utilize the *Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan* ("riverfront plan") as a guide to the phased development of the recreation corridor, including development plans for the large dredge spoil sites on both sides of the Cowlitz River.

8. Where practicable, ensure that land is set aside in conjunction with new residential development so that new facilities are proximate to new growth.
9. Where impracticable to achieve new development set-asides, ensure that sufficient fees are paid in conjunction with new residential development so that new growth contributes to park and recreation funding and development.
10. Plan for a variety of recreational facilities and opportunities throughout the city so that geographic barriers such as the river do not preclude public enjoyment of the amenities.
11. Seek a variety of funding sources to support the operation and maintenance of recreational facilities so that public needs are met.
12. Continue to promote the enhancement and extension of the Riverfront Trail network. The trails should also connect to the regional system identified in the *Cowlitz Regional Trails Plan* to Sequest Park and to the central business district.
13. Explore potential uses of the former Exhibit Hall.
14. Complete construction and promote use of the new Visitor Center.
15. Promote use of the Castle Rock Library.
16. Work to develop a facility for City services and a community/senior center.
17. Collaborate with other jurisdictions to provide better facilities and services in a cost-efficient manner.
18. Collaborate with the School and other interested groups on safe passage for students to and from school.
19. Promote physical activity among students by increasing walking or bicycling through promoting the use of established bicycle/pedestrian routes to serve schools and parks.
20. Engage the equestrian community in planning for trails, activities, and facilities for equestrian users.



## **Castle Rock School District Goals**

1. The School encourages full community use of all school facilities, provided that its educational and extra-curricular functions are supported at the level designated by the Board.
2. The School supports community/economic development activities in the region by making school facilities available when possible as host or support facilities.
3. The School intends to utilize real property to its fullest potential. Land that is not targeted for long-range building program needs will be properly maintained and/or developed to support additional district and community activities.
4. The School will work with other agencies to support projects that expand avenues for education, instill civic pride, and provide opportunities for meaningful community service.
5. The School will work with the City to foster partnerships between youth and the City, taking the lead in getting students to be involved with City planning and support groups (Chamber of Commerce, City Council, Park Board, etc.)

## **City of Castle Rock Objectives**

1. Extend the Riverfront Trail on the east side of the Cowlitz River northward to Highway 504 and south to Salmon Creek. Explore partnering with Washington State Parks Commission and WSDOT to connect to Seaquest State Park, possibly utilizing the state's Scenic and Recreational Highways corridor management program.
2. Extend the Riverfront Trail on the west side of the Cowlitz River southward to Arkansas Creek, across the creek, and link to the regional trail system on Cowlitz County's Cook Ferry Trail site. Explore opportunities to develop equestrian trails on the west side of the Cowlitz River as part of the multipurpose trail system. Construction will likely occur in phases.
3. Pursue opportunities to enhance multipurpose trails so they provide recreational uses for the greatest range of population (i.e., walkers, joggers, runners, bicyclists, equestrians, etc.) and also satisfy a transportation component in a multimodal transit management program. Include the safe crossing of the Cowlitz River as part of such a plan.
4. Work closely with the School, North County Recreation Association, Castle Rock Fair Board, Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club, state Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Fish and Wildlife (DFW), WSDOT, Cowlitz County, and private individuals and organizations to continue further development of recreational opportunities.

5. Continue to improve, upgrade, and maintain the Skate Park to ensure it meets the needs and desires of the public. Make improvements to the Skate Park by adding additional equipment and utilizing some of the space for basketball courts.
6. Continue to improve, upgrade, and maintain the Bike Park to ensure it meets the needs and desires of the public.
7. Complete negotiations with DNR for the substantial transfer of the “High Banks” land to the City. Make improvements to the land on the west side of the Cowlitz River. Pursue opportunities to partner with a private developer to improve and market a portion of the site as a recreational vehicle (RV) resort. Other possible improvements include parking facility construction, development of access ramps to public fishing sites on the Cowlitz River and Arkansas Creek, and installation of erosion control measures. Fish habitat enhancement and educational opportunities could also result. A day-use area along Arkansas Creek should also be provided. A bridge crossing Arkansas Creek should be constructed or installed in order to extend the City’s trails to the regional trail system.
8. Promote a strong sense of community and provide an inviting welcome into the city for visitors and residents through the continuing development of gateway facilities.
9. Continue the planning and design work on a community center that will tie the community together and house a variety of facilities and events, including a swimming pool, and events (see riverfront plan in Appendix B for more details).
10. Continue developing and constructing the regional boat launch on the Cowlitz River.
11. Continue development of neighborhood parks and mini-parks. Development of park facilities in the area east of I-5 and northwest of Cowlitz Street around Cherry Street is a priority.
12. Work toward developing a community park at the City-owned dredge spoils site on the east side of the Cowlitz River (“Big Bend”) using the riverfront plan as a guide.
13. Ensure that new residential developments dedicate land for park areas, provide improvements to existing facilities, or provide monetary compensation to the City for the acquisition, development, and maintenance of recreational facilities.
14. Develop a pedestrian bridge or provide for another means of safe crossing over the Cowlitz River, directly linking the east and west segments of the Riverfront Trail with other recreational facilities.

15. Publish a pamphlet for distribution to the public and utilize the internet to promote recreational opportunities in and around Castle Rock.
16. Improve “The Rock” Community Park by rebuilding the scenic lookouts and trails alongside the Cowlitz River.
17. Encourage the private development of an RV park/campground on the west side of the Cowlitz River south of Whittle Creek on DNR land and City-owned dredge spoils. Funds generated from the campground could be used to support park and recreational operations. A public day-use area would also be included.
18. Add more features to the North County Sports Complex including an additional soccer field, basketball courts, expanded concession stand, play structures, open space/play fields, improved trail system, and improved parking.
19. Add a river current calming and sediment moving structure to the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch.
20. Initiate discussions with DNR and the Washington State legislature concerning the conveyance of the land along the Cowlitz River near Exit 48 to the City.
21. Make improvements to the Old Jail Park and Gateway Park.
22. Update the riverfront plan to include details of projects already completed and to ensure the plan considers emerging recreational needs.
23. Work with the Planning Commission and Development Review Team to examine the potential of adopting regulations requiring park, recreation, and open space land dedication for multi-family development, similar to that adopted in the City’s subdivision regulations.
24. For the next plan update, develop trend data that incorporates previous survey results.<sup>6</sup>
25. Prior to the next plan update, consider developing a Castle Rock profile in the American Recreation and Park Association (ARPA)’s Parks and Recreation Operating Ratio and Geographic Information System™ (PRORAGIS) database.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> See additional discussion on p. 58.

<sup>7</sup> See additional discussion on p. 60.

## **Castle Rock School District Objectives**

Castle Rock School District #401, in partnership with the City of Castle Rock, seeks to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Continue to improve and expand the community garden, orchard, and berry patch.
2. Complete and expand the Riverfront Trail and exercise stations, adding open and covered picnic facilities and a playground supported by community volunteers, donations, and grants.
3. Review, evaluate, and improve the elementary fields and gym and the middle school fields, gym, and fitness center to enhance safe use and access.

## CHAPTER III

### PLANNING AREA

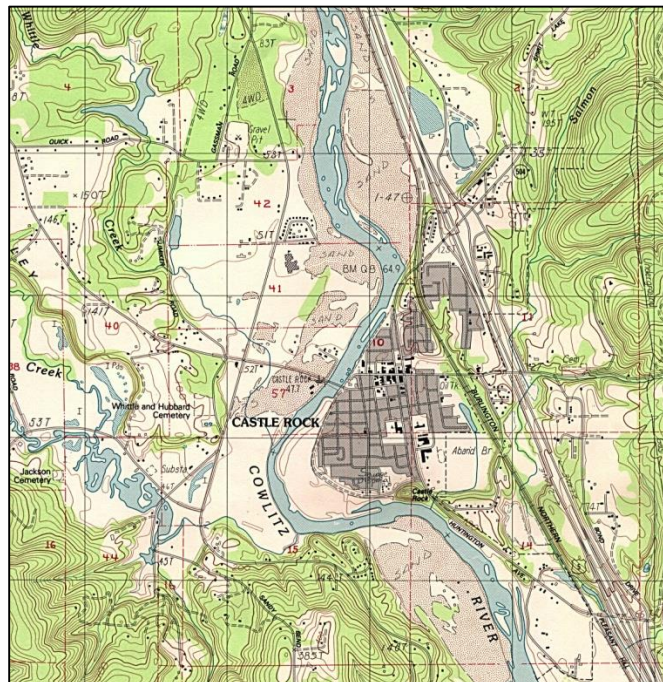
Plans are nothing;  
planning is everything.  
~Dwight D. Eisenhower

#### Description of the Planning Area

Castle Rock is the northernmost city in Cowlitz County, largely situated between the Cowlitz River and Interstate 5 (I-5). The city, shown in Figure III-1 below, lies about midway between Olympia and Portland and is 117 miles south of Seattle. It is located along the eastern banks of the Cowlitz River approximately two miles south of the junction of the Cowlitz and Toutle rivers.

Castle Rock is centered primarily on the donation land claim of Eliza and William Huntington, who settled the area in 1852. Huntington was a prominent fixture in the community in both the territorial house of representatives and senate and as county commissioner, Castle Rock postmaster, and territorial federal marshal.<sup>8</sup> The city is named after a large volcanic rock formation approximately 200 feet high that resembles a castle. During the period of active riverboat transportation on the Cowlitz River, "The Rock" formation was a major geographical landmark in Cowlitz County.

**Figure III-1. Castle Rock Area**



(Source: U.S. Geological Survey)

<sup>8</sup> *Pioneer History, Churches of Christ & Christian Churches in the Pacific Northwest (Cowlitz County/Castle Rock)* at <http://ncbible.org/nwh/WaCowlitz.html>

Castle Rock is a major gateway to the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. At Exit 49 off I-5, State Route 504 (SR 504), known as the Spirit Lake Highway, connects the city to the Mount St. Helens area (Figure III-2). One of the most popular and spectacular tourist attractions in Washington State, the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument is managed by the National Park Service and is visited by hundreds of thousands of people annually. The 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens forever changed the cultural and physical geography of the Castle Rock region. The eruption sent tons of ash and volcanic debris flooding through the Cowlitz River Basin and the city.

**Figure III-2. Relationship to Mount St. Helens**



(Source: U.S. Geological Survey)

Castle Rock has been known not only as “The Gateway to Mount St. Helens,” which dates back well before the mountain’s eruption, but also “The City of Champions,” reflecting earlier generations’ pride in Castle Rock-Toutle area loggers who won world championships in logging competitions.<sup>9</sup> A downturn in logging beginning in the 1980s, combined with the effects of the Mount St. Helens eruption, contributed to the exodus of residents and a decline in the local and regional economy. The ten years following the eruption marked the first decennial population decrease in the city since 1940.

Despite the events of the last 35 years, Castle Rock is poised for rejuvenation and opportunity. With a desirable natural environment, small-town appeal, affordable housing, good schools, and recreation opportunities galore, Castle Rock is a prosperous community with an exciting past and great potential for a bright future. By design, parks and recreational opportunities play an important and prominent part in the community and will continue to be a tie that binds.

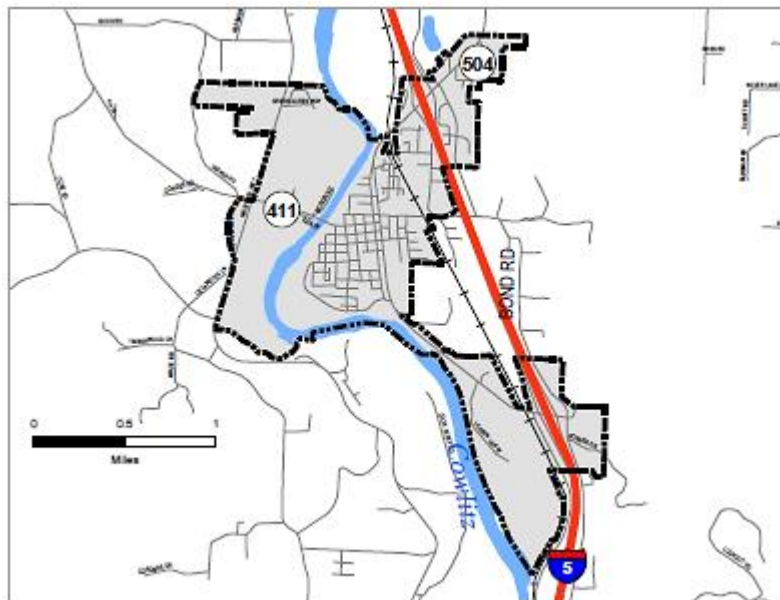
<sup>9</sup> “Castle Rock Area” by Bud May in *Legacy Washington*, Washington Secretary of State, at [http://www.sos.wa.gov/legacy/cities\\_detail.aspx?i=3](http://www.sos.wa.gov/legacy/cities_detail.aspx?i=3)



For planning purposes, this plan delineates multiple service areas, including:

1. **City of Castle Rock (“Local Service Area”).** The Castle Rock city limits form the Local Service Area (Figure III-3). The Castle Rock High School and grounds (including the North County Recreational Sports Complex and Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch), Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club Track, Castle Rock Fairground, and dredge spoils lands on the west side of the Cowlitz River have all been annexed into the City over the past decade. Community-scale recreational facilities such as mini-parks, neighborhood parks, and community parks principally serve city residents, an estimated population of 2,175<sup>10</sup>. When natural or constructed barriers isolate a neighborhood, the service area is divided into subareas that are examined at the Census Block level.

**Figure III-3. Local Service Area**

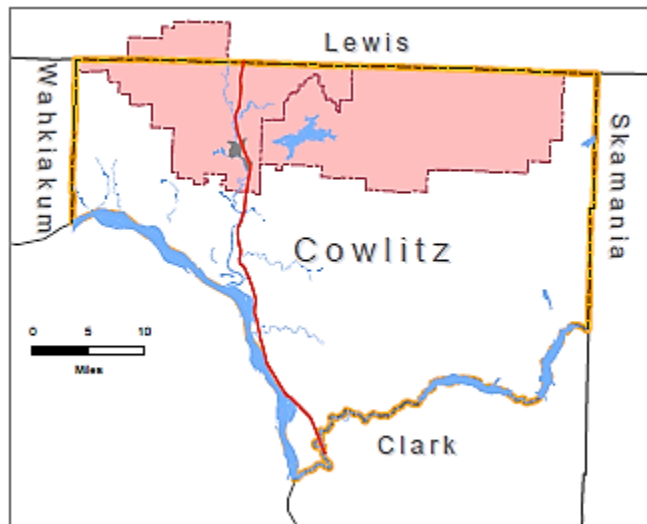


2. **Northern Cowlitz County (“Regional Service Area”).** As the only city in north Cowlitz County, Castle Rock serves as the recreational focal point for surrounding rural residents. As seen in Figure III-4, the Castle Rock and Toutle Lake School Districts are combined as a single metric unit for this service area. There are 13,813<sup>11</sup> people living in the two districts’ boundaries. Rural residents are actively involved with regional sports leagues and school recreational opportunities. They use community-wide parks and trails as well as the fairgrounds, senior center, and library.

<sup>10</sup> April 1, 2015 Population of Cities, Towns and Counties Used for Allocation of Selected State Revenues State of Washington, Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM), at [http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/ofm\\_april1\\_population\\_final.pdf](http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/ofm_april1_population_final.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> 2009-13 American Community Survey (ACS) Estimate via National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education at <http://nces.ed.gov/programs/edge/demographicACS.aspx>

**Figure III-4. Regional Service Area**



3. **Southwest Washington/Northwest Oregon (“Extended Service Area”).** Because the stretch of the Cowlitz River in and around Castle Rock offers some of the best recreational fishing in the Pacific Northwest, the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch draws users from the greater Southwest Washington/Northwest Oregon area. Additionally, Castle Rock’s business community continues to promote regional facilities and functions that will attract recreation tournaments and tourists. Figure III-5 depicts this greater service area including Cowlitz, Clark, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum, and Yakima Counties in Washington and Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Hood River, Multnomah, and Washington Counties in Oregon, whose population totals 3,871,100<sup>12</sup>.

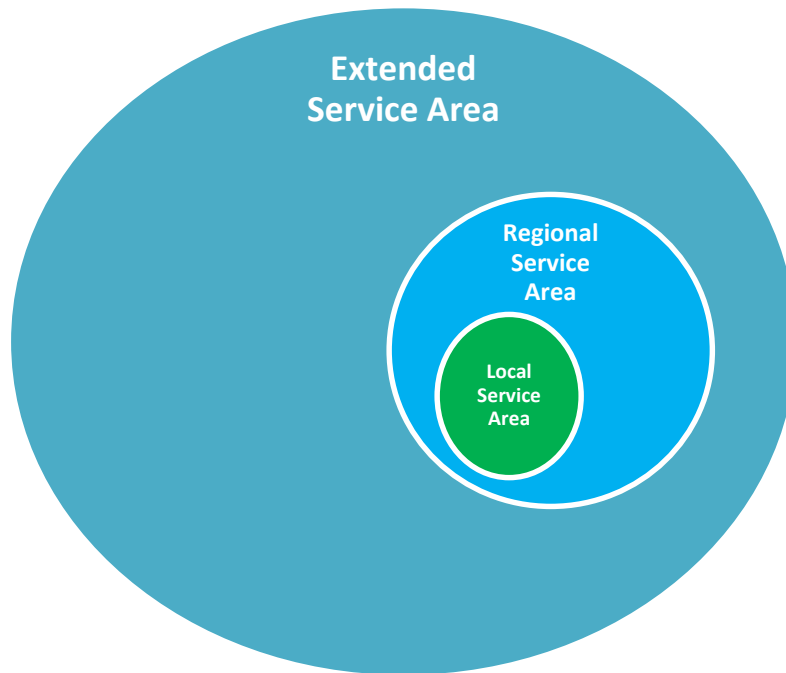
**Figure III-5. Extended Service Area**



<sup>12</sup> Ibid. note 10 (Washington); plus data at <http://www.pdx.edu/prc/population-reports-estimates> (Oregon).

Figure III-6 illustrates the relationship of these service areas to one another. When stating demography, subset data is not subtracted from the whole.

**Figure III-6. Relationship of Service Areas**



### **Broader Influences**

Included in and beyond the Extended Service Area is also a consistent, much broader service relationship with other populations whose numbers cannot be estimated. Usage of Castle Rock facilities is significantly and uniquely influenced by the city's proximity to Mount St. Helens and its location between Seattle and Portland. Castle Rock enjoys a rare marked "business loop" (Figure III-7) at Exit 48 and motorist information signage at Exit 49 that bring passersby into town. This bears consideration because even though these numbers aren't identifiable, these other factors introduce people to the area who may also use Castle Rock facilities while they are here, and/or who become aware of and return to specifically visit Castle Rock facilities later.

**Figure III-7. Business Loop**



WSDOT reports no other such business loops along the I-5 corridor. This is likely because of the lack of development at Exit 48; WSDOT states that business loop signage is not allowed where there is motorist information signage, which is abundant at Exit 49.

The Silver Lake Visitor Center run by Washington State Parks reports 102,998 visitors in 2014, noting that this number was surpassed in 2015. The center is located east of the city on SR 504 and is most directly accessed from I-5 via Exit 49 in Castle Rock. Stops at the U.S. Forest Service’s Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center likely overlap the Silver Lake center, but in addition to everyday tourists, it also hosts the Music on the Mountain summertime concert series. Other examples of special events focused on Mount St. Helens proximity include the Ash Kicker (currently on hiatus) and Li’l Squatches runs, both fundraisers sponsored by Bigfoot Events, and the Longview Rotary Club’s yearly Tour de Blast bike ride.<sup>13</sup> Further up SR 504 is Riverdale Raceway, which hosts motocross as well as auto races and may have some crossover interest with the motorcycle club in Castle Rock.

Cascade Bicycle Club’s annual Seattle-to-Portland ride passes through Castle Rock on the Westside Highway (SR 411) and uses the North County Sports Complex as a designated rest stop (Figure III-8). The club reports that this extraordinarily popular event reaches its maximum of 10,000 participants each year, which in 2014 included riders from seven countries and 45 states, and a total of 8,212 riders from Washington and 1,242 from Oregon.

<sup>13</sup> Bigfoot Events does not report participant data; Longview Rotary reports approximately 1,600 riders annually.

**Figure III-8. Castle Rock Seattle-to-Portland Rest Stop**



(Source: Bike Dreams blog at <http://the-whir-of-spokes-in-air.blogspot.com/2014/07/stp-song-is-over.html>)

Cowlitz Valley Runners also uses the North County Sports Complex for its yearly obstacle course race, the Sand and Misery Challenge. In 2015, its 166 finishers – some starters are not able to finish, so its overall participation number is undoubtedly higher – came from principally Washington and Oregon, but some from as far away as Minnesota. The runners' group remains the sponsor but in 2015 handed off the elaborate set-up required for the event to Castle Rock's Boy Scout Troop 313, shown in Figure III-9 constructing one of the obstacles.

**Figure III-9. Sand and Misery Challenge Course**



(Source: S&M Challenge Facebook page)



Castle Rock is located in Southwest Washington District Four of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA), whose entire menu of school sports activities is shown in Table III-1. Castle Rock is part of the Trico 1A league that also includes Kalama, King's Lake Christian, La Center, Seton Catholic, Stevenson, and White Salmon schools.

**Table III-1. Trico 1A League, District 4 WIAA Sports**

<b>Boys' Sports</b>	Football & Baseball
<b>Girls' Sports</b>	Softball, Volleyball, Bowling, & Gymnastics
<b>Both Boys &amp; Girls</b>	Tennis, Cross-Country, Basketball, Swimming, Golf, Soccer, Track, & Wrestling

(Source: [http://www.tricoathletics.com/index.php?league=30&page\\_name=school\\_home&school=0&sport=0](http://www.tricoathletics.com/index.php?league=30&page_name=school_home&school=0&sport=0))

The Trico league uses athletic facilities at Castle Rock high and middle schools. In addition, Castle Rock facilities are used by the Southwest Washington Youth Soccer Association, Cowlitz Youth Soccer Association, Castle Rock Toutle Lake Cal Ripken League, Castle Rock Youth Football, Castle Rock Toutle Lake Girls' Softball, and others. These groups bring players and boosters from other schools and communities to the area in conjunction with sporting events.

This is not an exhaustive list of features or activities but is illustrative of the impact nearby facilities, events, and activities have on Castle Rock. There is also an economic effect, as recreational visitors<sup>14</sup> to the community tend to spend money on food, gas, lodging, and retail. In 2015, the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments adopted the Fire and Ice Scenic Loop Plan, which is envisioned as a catalyst for Castle Rock and other communities in its planning area to attract more visitors through nature- and recreation-based tourism. Beginning at Castle Rock, SR 504 is one of the designated scenic byways that are integral to the concept.

Finally, it is important to note that a given facility may provide a variety of amenities that simultaneously serve multiple service areas. For instance, the North County Recreation Facilities includes the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch that serves residents of the Extended Service Area as well as the Sports Complex that serves the Regional Service Area. In addition, the master plan calls for installation of playground equipment to benefit the Local Service Area. While this is the largest recreational facility with unique offerings, many of the recreational facilities serve at least two of the identified service areas.

<sup>14</sup> See additional discussion on p. 71.



## Population and Demography

The 2015 population estimates provided by OFM and the Population Research Center in Portland State University's College of Urban and Public Affairs are used for population data. Table III-2 illustrates changes in total population between 2010 and 2015 for each of the service areas.

**Table III-2. Population Change by Service Area, 2010-2015**

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>2010 Population</b>	<b>2015 Population</b>	<b># Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Local	1,982	2,175	193	10.0%
Regional	13,239	13,813	574	4.3%
Extended	3,680,774	3,871,100	190,326	5.2%

From 2010 to 2015, the Local Service Area gained in population by 193 people, or about two percent per year. This likely reflects buildout of a single subdivision, Field of Dreams, that was constructed during this time period. This rate may be expected to adjust in the next decennial census period. While noting that population projections are always speculative, population growth in the Local Service Area is expected to remain at around one percent or less annually through at least the next decade.

Table III-3 depicts projected growth based on “high-medium-low” growth scenarios. The current growth rate is shown as the “high” scenario, while the expected growth rate is reflected in the “medium” scenario. Unlike a comprehensive plan, which discusses growth and population on a 20-year timeframe and is updated at various intervals, park and recreation plans must be updated on a six-year schedule to retain eligibility for state funding. As a result, population has only been projected through the year 2025. The City's next comprehensive plan update is due in 2017<sup>15</sup>, and population estimates will be reset to the 2020 federal census data once it is released. The next park and recreation plan update will benefit from the updated comprehensive plan figures in terms of selecting an appropriate and representative growth rate. Fresh census data might also be available by that time.

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<sup>15</sup> RCW 36.70A.130(5)(c) sets the deadline at June 30, 2017; however, the provisions of RCW 36.70A.130(6)(f) may offer the City an automatic two-year extension.

**Table III-3. Local Service Area Population Projections 2015-2025**

Year	Low Growth (0.5%)	Medium Growth (1%)	High Growth (2%)
2015	2,185	2,197	2,218
2020	2,240	2,306	2,440
2025	2,296	2,421	2,684

Table III-4 begins looking at the population characteristics in the Local Service Area<sup>16</sup>. Overall, population is fairly evenly distributed between the various age groups, with the highest percentage of residents falling between 35-54 years of age. Between 2000 and 2010, the only group showing an increase in population is between the ages of 25 and 44, with the bulk of the increase in the age 35-44 category. Meanwhile, the number of children under the age of 15 has decreased considerably. This suggests that the Local Service Area's population as a whole is aging and that fewer young people/families are moving to or remaining in the city. The 2010 Census found that about 66 percent of the households in the Local Service Area were comprised of families (defined as a householder with at least one other person related by birth, marriage, or adoption); but only about 48 percent of families had children under the age of 18. Table III-5 presents some of this same information for the Regional Service Area. The largest segment of the population clusters in the age 45-65+ category.

**Table III-4. Local Service Area Population by Age & Gender & % Change 2000-2010**

Age Group	Male	Female	2000 Total	2010 Total	% Change
Under 5	59	62	153	121	(20.9%)
5-9	70	63	184	133	(38.4%)
10-14	80	64	194	144	(34.7%)
15-19	60	75	154	135	(12.3%)
20-24	51	60	101	111	10.0%
25-34	127	124	256	251	(2.0%)
35-44	109	129	316	238	(24.7%)
45-54	134	157	281	291	3.6%
55-64	115	128	202	228	12.9%
65+	136	179	289	315	9.0%
Total	941	1,041	2,130	1,982	(7.0%)

<sup>16</sup> In evaluating population demographics, 2009-13 ACS data has been substituted for 2010 Census data where information is available. Otherwise, 2010 Census results are used.

**Table III-5. Regional Service Area Population by Age & Gender, 2010**

	<b>Castle Rock School District</b>	<b>Toutle Lake School District</b>	<b>Total Regional Service Area</b>
Total	10,564	3,249	13,813
Male	5,397	1,638	7,035
Female	5,167	1,611	6,778
Under 5 years	562	109	671
5 to 9 years	598	183	781
10 to 14 years	710	203	913
15 to 19 years	727	284	1,011
20 to 24 years	728	132	860
25 to 34 years	1,054	211	1,265
35 to 44 years	1,434	326	1,760
45 to 54 years	1,528	579	2,107
55 to 64 years	773	319	1,912
65+	588	232	2,533

The 2010-14 ACS estimates that 907 people make up the Local Service Area's employed workforce (age 16+). Top occupations, in declining order, include manufacturing; retail trade; education, health care and social services; accommodation and food services; and construction. More than 90 percent work outside of Castle Rock, and only about 15 percent work in Cowlitz County. Only about a third of the population age 25+ has graduated high school, and about 27 percent has attended some college but with no degree. As might be expected, this moderates median earnings, which range from \$21,500 (high school graduate) to \$30,375 (some college). This suggests that people are traveling further to find work and living off less than the average county range of \$28,345 to \$34,160 (high school graduate/some college).

Table III-6 provides similar data for the Regional Service Area, drawn from the 2009-13 ACS<sup>17</sup> and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction Washington Report Card<sup>18</sup> data for each school district. Table III-7 compares the percentage of people living in poverty in the two service areas by broad age groups. Taken together, this data implies that while working-class people probably use Castle Rock parks and recreation facilities less during their work periods because they are away from the area, they may rely more on publicly funded recreational opportunities during their leisure time.

**Table III-6. Employment/Income Characteristics for Regional Service Area**

Characteristic	Castle Rock School District	Toutle Lake School District
Employed workforce (age 16+)	3,654 (outside city limits)	1,251
Educational attainment	HS graduate Some college	(same) (same)
Top 5 occupations (declining order)	Education, health care & social services Manufacturing Retail trade Transportation & warehousing Accommodation & food services	(same) (same) Accommodation & food services Other (except public admin.) Retail trade
Mean travel time to work	28.8 minutes	30.6 minutes
Median earnings	\$32,097	\$35,351
Free/reduced lunch	47.8%/610 students	40.8%/254 students

<sup>17</sup> Ibid. note 16

<sup>18</sup> <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx?groupLevel=District&schoolId=1&reportLevel=State&year=2014-15>

**Table III-7. Local & Regional Service Area % Living in Poverty by Age Group**

<b>% Below Poverty Level</b>	<b>Local Service Area</b>	<b>Regional Service Area Average</b>
All people for whom determined	15.2%	10.6%
Under 18 years	20.2%	8.6%
18 to 64 years	13.3%	12.5%
65 years and over	14.1%	7.1%

The 2009-13 ACS estimates that 21.1 percent of the Local Service Area's adult (age 18-64) population is disabled in some manner. Of this group, about 10.9 percent has an ambulatory disability. This increases to 55.3 percent in those over age 65, with about 29.5 percent having an ambulatory disability. Very few, if any, ambulatory disabilities are ascribed to children in the area. Because of wide variation in the nature and extent of ambulatory as well as any other disabilities that might exist, these populations may or may not need special accommodations in order to use park and recreation facilities, or they might be able to access some facilities while not others (for example, a paved area versus grassy field). This is imperfect data that cannot be neatly applied to park users lacking specific, targeted surveying that is outside the City's resources. Therefore, it should not be viewed as indicative of park needs in Castle Rock. At the same time, the City and School should keep access for persons with disabilities in mind as park and recreation facilities are developed and, to the greatest extent possible, design for a variety of capability levels.

This demographic information becomes especially important when planning for future parks and recreation opportunities. Understanding the geographic population distribution in the Local Service Area is also critical to the placement of facilities. A more detailed examination of population distribution within the Local Service Area is included in Chapter V as part of the Demand and Needs Analysis.



## CHAPTER IV

### INVENTORY

The prudent heir takes careful  
inventory of his legacies and gives a  
faithful accounting to those whom he  
owes an obligation of trust.  
~John F. Kennedy

#### Inventory of Existing Facilities

This chapter begins with Table IV-1, a condensed index of parks and recreational facilities, followed by individual profiles of recreation opportunities and parks in and around the Local Service Area. It concludes with maps showing their location (Figures IV-1 through -3). For the most part, these facilities are under the jurisdiction of the City or the School, although some are owned and/or operated by private entities or DNR. All acreages stated are approximate. Park classifications are discussed in more detail in the following chapter.

When considering school facilities, it is important to keep in mind that although a variety of recreational opportunities may exist, some are not accessible to the general public outside of organized school activities and/or events. The estimate of schools' outdoor recreation space was gained by deducing building footprint, parking areas, access roads, and landscaped areas from total acreage figures. As with the general purpose sites, all area calculations are general and approximate in nature.

**Table IV-I. Existing Recreation Facilities In and Around Castle Rock (page 1 of 3)**

<b>Map Label</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Park Type</b>	<b>General Location</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Developed</b>	<b>Primary Activity</b>	<b>Facilities/Features</b>
1	<b>Castle Rock High School</b>	School Park	5180 Westside Highway	107 acres (72 = Sports Complex)	Yes	School-related activities, public use after hours	Numerous features (see individual description)
2	<b>North County Recreation Sports Complex</b>	Regional Park	Access just south of high school 5180 Westside Highway	65 acres	Phase 1 completed	Active recreation, community sports	Baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, restroom, trail, concession stand
3	<b>Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch</b>	Regional Facility	Access just south of high school 5180 Westside Highway	2 ramps	Phases 1 & 2 completed	Boat access to the Cowlitz River for recreation & emergency responders	Ramps, boarding and transient floats, fish cleaning station, restroom, parking, host site
4	<b>Fairgrounds</b>	Special Use	Just over the A St. Bridge, south of PH 10	15 acres	Yes	Various fair-related activities	Outbuildings, stage, grounds, etc.
5	<b>Motorcycle Club Facilities</b>	Private Recreation Facility	Adjacent to the fairgrounds	20 acres	Yes	Motorcycle races & similar events	Stands, racetrack, concession stand, etc.
6	<b>City/DNR Dredge Spoil Land (west) "High Banks"</b>	N/A – undeveloped	South of the fair & motorcycle grounds	95 acres	No	Passive & active recreation	Unimproved trails, fishing, etc.
7	<b>Bike Park</b>	Portion of Community Park	West end of Warren St. SW, off of the Riverfront Trail	2 acres	Partially	Active recreation, bike riding	Skills park including pump bike course, elevated board walk, log overs, jumps, etc. & picnic shelter



**Table IV-1. Existing Recreation Facilities In and Around Castle Rock (page 2 of 3)**

<b>Map Label</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Park Type</b>	<b>General Location</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Developed</b>	<b>Primary Activity</b>	<b>Facilities/Features</b>
8	<b>Memory Lane Volunteer Park</b>	Neighborhood Park	Western end of Michner St.	1 acre	Yes	Passive & active recreation location for adjacent neighborhood	Covered picnic tables, swings, slide, grassy areas
9	<b>Skate Park</b>	Portion of Community Park	West end of Third Ave. SW, off of the Riverfront Trail	0.5 acre	Partially	Active recreation, skateboarding, & roller blade users	Skateboarding facilities, basketball hoops & ½ courts
10	<b>“The Rock” Community Park</b>	Cultural/Historical Site or Facility	West of Huntington Ave., south of Dike Road	3 acres	Yes	Passive recreation, trails, etc.	Trails, covered picnic area atop the hill
11	<b>Lions Pride Park</b>	Community Park	Along Huntington Ave., south of “The Rock”	7.9 acres	Yes (room for expansion)	Picnicking, access to Riverfront Trail, sightseeing	Picnic tables, restrooms, parking, RV waste disposal
12	<b>Castle Rock Elementary School</b>	School Park	700 Huntington Ave.	43 acres	Yes (room for expansion)	School-related activities, public use after hours	Numerous features (see individual description)
13	<b>Castle Rock Middle School</b>	School Park	615 Front Ave. SW	4.5 acres	Yes	School-related activities	Tennis courts, open field, ball field
14	<b>Cold Water Park</b>	Mini-Park	Adjacent to the Senior Center	2,500 sq. ft.	Yes	Neighborhood playlot	Play structure, bench, etc.
15	<b>Senior Center</b>	Special Use Facility	Behind City Hall	2,600 sq. ft.	Yes	Leisure, social, & entertainment outlet for seniors & community	Large rooms with tables and kitchen facilities, etc.

**Table IV-1. Existing Recreation Facilities In and Around Castle Rock (page 3 of 3)**

<b>Map Label</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Park Type</b>	<b>General Location</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Developed</b>	<b>Primary Activity</b>	<b>Facilities/Features</b>
16	<b>Castle Rock Library</b>	Cultural/Historical Site or Facility	137 Cowlitz St. W	3,750 sq. ft.	Yes	Passive use for reading, lectures, crafts, internet use	Library facilities
17	<b>Castle Rock Historic Jail</b>	Cultural/Historical Site or Facility	65 Jackson St. SW	300 sq. ft.	Partially	Passive use for picnicking, resting, & enjoying history	Historic jail, landscaping
18	<b>Former Castle Rock Exhibit Hall</b>	Cultural/Historical Site or Facility	147 Front Ave. W	6,100 sq. ft.	Yes	Passive use for leisure, social, entertainment, & educational outlet	Currently being evaluated for a new purpose or surplus
19	<b>Gateway Park</b>	Mini-Park	North entrance to Castle Rock along Huntington Ave.	0.25 acre	Yes	Passive use park for picnicking & resting	Covered picnic area, gazebo, & plants
20	<b>Riverfront Trail</b>	Multi-Purpose Trail System	Parking access: Huntington Ave. base of hill at north end of city	Linear; 4 mi.	Yes	Multi-purpose trail	Parking lot, access to trail; lighting, benches, viewing
21	<b>Lois Dye Estates Park</b>	Mini-Park	607 Tia Court NE., near Pioneer Ave	0.27 acre	No	Neighborhood playlot	Play structure, bench, & picnic table
22	<b>Jacobson Preliminary Plat</b>	Mini-Park	11000 Dougherty Dr.	0.4 acre	No	Neighborhood playlot	Vacant land to be developed if subdivision is finalized
23	<b>Castle Rock Visitors Center</b>	Cultural/Historical Site or Facility	Exit 49/I-5 interchange, at WSDOT park & ride	(outpad at P&R)	Under development	Drop-in center	Structure, restrooms, brochures
24	<b>City-Owned Dredge Spoils (east side) "Big Bend"</b>	Community	Between the Cowlitz River and Dike Drive	30 acres	No	Passive & active recreation	Unimproved trails, fishing, etc.

## 1. **Castle Rock High School**

Location: 5180 Westside Highway

Outdoor Recreation Area: Approximately 25 acres

High School Features:

2 baseball fields

2 softball fields

Stadium with football field

All-weather track (8 lanes)

4 tennis courts

Practice football field

Soccer field

Indoor gymnasium (school use only)

Weight room (school use only)

Access to trail with exercise equipment

Forum/lunch room with kitchen, classrooms,  
& a small theater

Library open to the public in the summer



## 2. North County Sports Complex

Location: 5180 Westside Highway

Outdoor Recreation Area: Approximately 65 acres, of which approximately 25 is developed

**Description:** The sports complex represents a partnership between the North County Recreation Association and the Castle Rock School District, with much of the work being done by volunteers. The Riverfront Trail runs partially through the complex, and the complex's parking lot serves users of both facilities. The complex hosts sports leagues, tournaments, and special events and serves as a recreational focal point for the entire region.

### Sports Complex Features:

5 baseball/softball fields

Concession stand/restrooms

2 soccer fields

## Potential for basketball & volleyball courts

Large parking lot







(Includes high school and boat launch)



### 3. *Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch*

Location: 5180 Westside Highway

Size: 7 acres

Features/Description: The Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch, which is located adjacent to the North County Sports Complex, opened in June 2010. This is the only boat launch that provides recreational and emergency response access for a 23-mile stretch of the Cowlitz River. Because this portion of the river provides unique opportunities for recreational fishermen, the facility serves the Extended Service Area.

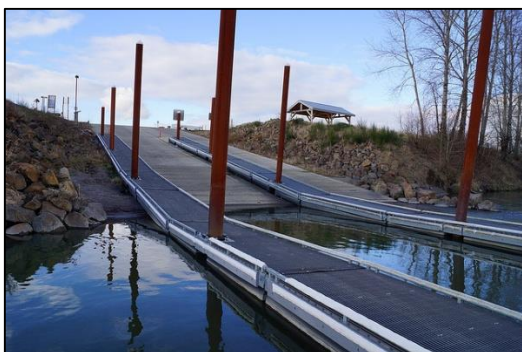
Existing improvements include:

Two concrete launch lanes  
Log boom  
58-vehicle paved parking area  
Restroom  
Picnic shelter

Life vests  
Fish cleaning station  
Canoe/kayak slip  
260' of boarding & transient floats  
Host RV site

Future planned improvements include:

River current calming & sediment moving structure







#### **4 & 5. Fairground & Motorcycle Club**

Location: West side of Cowlitz River, along Fair Lane

Size: *Fairground:* Approximately 15 acres    *Motorcycle Club:* Approximately 20 acres

Features/Description: The community fairgrounds and motorcycle club are adjacent to one another and are located in the area that has been annexed into the city since the last park plan update. The fairgrounds are managed by the Castle Rock Fair Board and are primarily used to house the community fair. They contain characteristic buildings and facilities typical of small community fairs including several barns and outbuildings, a small stage, and a variety of other features. The motorcycle track is managed by the Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club and is used for motorcycle races and other similar events. The motorcycle grounds include a racetrack, grandstands, a concession stand, and a ticket booth.





**6. City/DNR-Owned Dredge Spoils – West Side of Cowlitz River “High Banks”**

Location: West side of Cowlitz River, south of PH 10 and east of SR 411 (south of Fairground and Motorcycle Club land)

Size: Around 30 acres (City) and 65 acres (DNR)

Features/Description: On the west side of the Cowlitz River, the City of Castle Rock and the DNR jointly own and manage this dredge spoils land. Although the spoils are largely undeveloped, there is a dirt road, which provides access to the river and a series of mostly unimproved trails. The area provides a popular fishing and picnic spot and has the potential to be developed into a community park, RV resort, or multi-purpose recreational site. Signage has been installed for an off-leash area on the site.

Thanks to a state appropriation, the City and DNR are currently working to transfer ownership of a large portion of the current DNR land to the City. DNR will retain a portion surrounding Arkansas Creek.



## 7. *Bike Park*

Location: West end of Warren Street SW, off the Riverfront Trail

Size: There are bike trails throughout much of the dredge spoils, but the developed pump track portion is relatively small (less than an acre).

Features/Description: The former BMX tract constructed in 2003 has been developed into a full skills park and now includes a pump bike course, elevated boardwalk, log overs, jumps, etc. There is also a picnic shelter. Future planned improvements include additional skills structures, restrooms, parking, and lighting.





## 8. *Memory Lane Volunteer Park*

Location: North of the Skate Park at the western end of Michner Street

Size: Approximately 1 acre

Features/Description: Memory Lane Volunteer Park is a fairly small facility that is owned and operated by the City. The park features one covered picnic table, two swings, one slide, one bench, and one play structure. There is some limited open space available and planted evergreen trees that have been dedicated along the memorial walk.



## 9. *Skate Park/Basketball Half Courts*

Location: West end of Third Avenue SW, off the Riverfront Trail

Size: Around 0.5 acre

Features/Description: The Skate Park includes a variety of features such as ramps and 17,000 square feet of smooth asphalt surface. Basketball hoops and half courts have also been added to the original 2003 development.



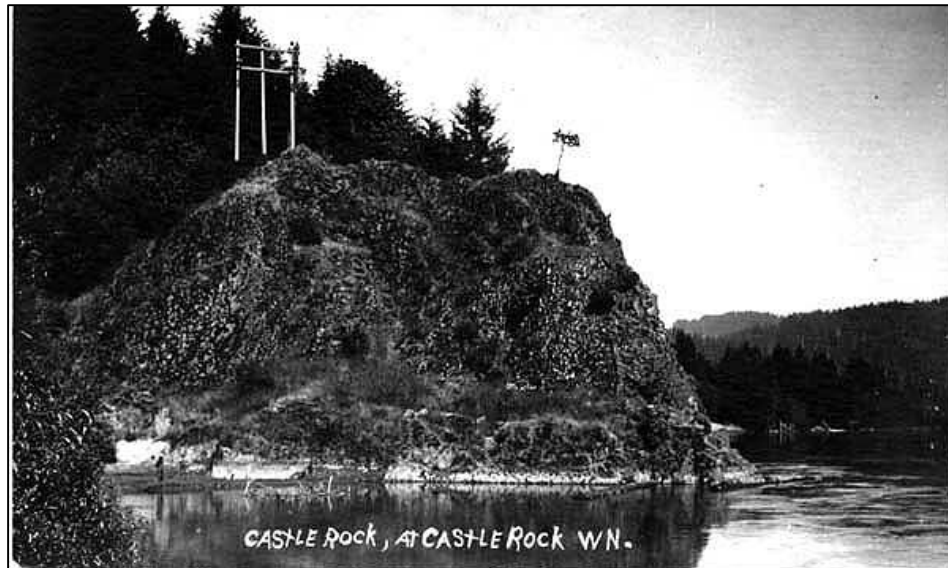


## 10. ***"The Rock" Community Park***

Location: West of Huntington Avenue just south of Dike Drive

Size: 3 acres

Features/Description: The Rock Community Park consists of a small and steep hill with rock cliffs dropping off into the Cowlitz River. The city is named after this formation and it has deep historical value to the community. The park is mostly unimproved but does have some walking/hiking trails (non-paved) scattered throughout. There is a trail to the top of the hill, where a picnic shelter and bench are located.



## 11. *Lions Pride Park*

Location: Huntington Avenue along the Cowlitz River at the southern entrance to the city, just south of “The Rock”

Size: 7.9 acres

Features/Description: Lions Pride Park is located at Castle Rock’s southern gateway and serves as a starting point for those wishing to access the Riverfront Trail. Additional recreational activities include picnicking and river viewing, although actual access to the Cowlitz River is limited because of steep banks in the area. Site features include six covered picnic areas with benches and barbeque grills, permanent restroom facilities, a paved driveway and three paved parking spots, including one ADA-accessible<sup>19</sup> space, and an RV waste disposal station. The park is also proximate to where entrance improvements have been completed and where future enhancements are planned. Overall, a significant portion of the site remains undeveloped with room for possible expansion.



<sup>19</sup> Here, “accessible” refers to parking stalls that accommodate vehicles for those with disabilities, compliant with the ADA.

## **12. Castle Rock Elementary School**

Location: 700 Huntington Ave. S

Size: *Site Area* - around 43 acres; *Outdoor Recreation Area* - around 39 acres

### Features:

Large swing set (6 swings)

2 baseball and/or softball fields

Full basketball court

Gymnasium\*

Large play structure with benches

Tether rope area

Tot playground

2 paved play areas

3 soccer fields (2 standard sized)

2 grassy play fields

\* Gymnasium open to the public during non-school hours

Comments: The outdoor facilities at Castle Rock Elementary School are accessible to the public during non-school hours. There are no gates that preclude pedestrian access or have the potential to be locked. Therefore, it is assumed that the facilities are basically open to the public after school and during holidays, breaks/vacations and weekends.





### 13. **Castle Rock Middle School**

Location: 615 Front Ave. SW

Size: *Site Area* - around 4.5 acres; *Outdoor Recreation Area* - around 2 acres

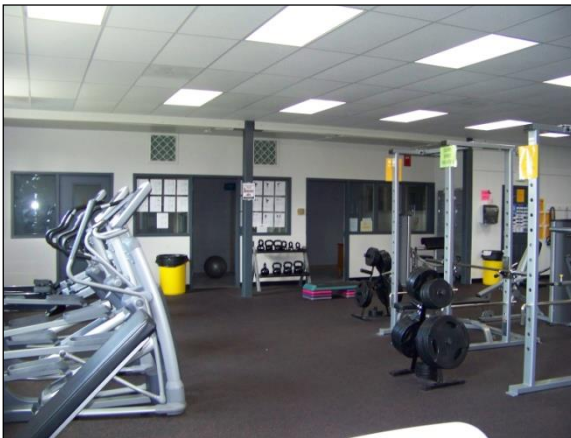
Features:

Grass field/play area  
Unimproved baseball/softball field  
Gymnasium\*  
Fitness Room  
Tennis Courts

The fitness room includes 25 pieces of high-tech exercise equipment, including 13 cardio machines and 12 weight machines. It has restrooms but no showers.

\* Gymnasium open to the public during non-school hours

Comments: The grassy field and unimproved ball field are open and accessible from Hibbard Street. Overall, the site features very few recreational options and could be improved to better serve the community.



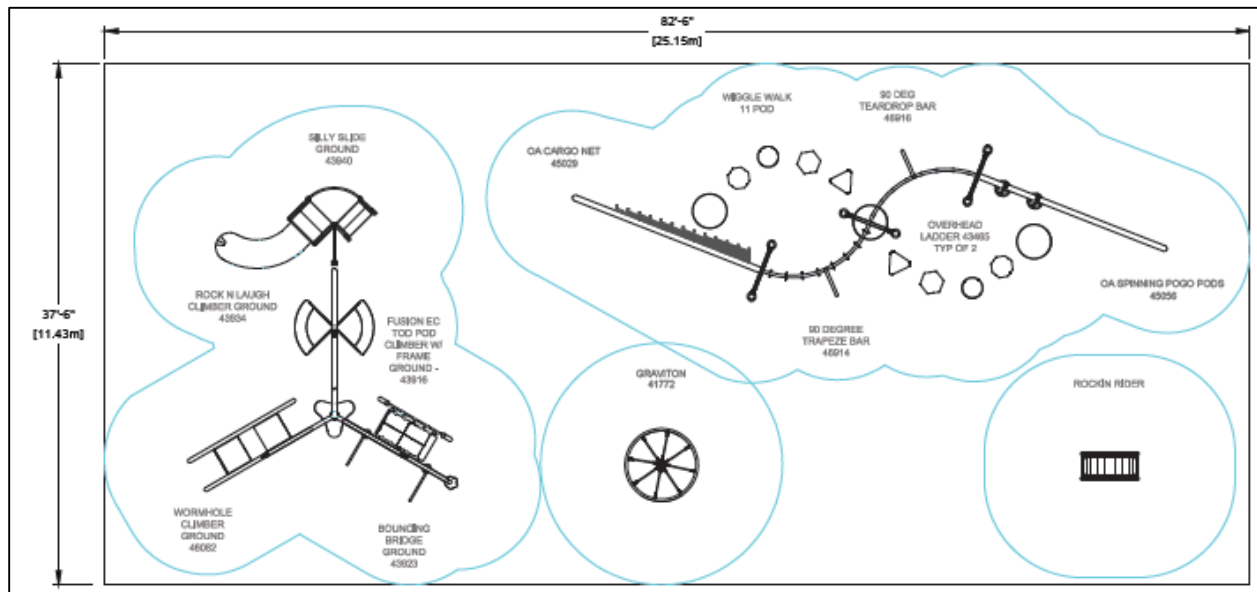


#### 14. Cold Water Park

Location: Adjacent to the Senior Center

Size: Approximately 2,500 square feet

Features/Description: This small park provides the immediate area with a small playlot for younger-aged children. It features a slide, two rockers, one bench, one set of swings with four swings, and a play structure. This park offers an excellent example of how a small lot, or even a portion of a lot, can be transformed into a site with recreational value. In late 2015, the City received a generous “in memoriam” contribution, channeled through the Castle Rock United Methodist Church, to update the park’s play elements. As of the 2016 plan update, the City is in the process of acquiring and installing these improvements.<sup>20</sup> Meanwhile, the church is seeking a private foundation grant for two additional pieces of standalone equipment.



<sup>20</sup> If possible, existing equipment will be repurposed to other parks.

## 15. Senior Center

Location: Corner of Second Avenue and A Street (inside City Hall building)

Size: Approximately 2,600 square feet

Features/Description: The Castle Rock Senior Center is a non-profit organization that leases space from the City. The physical space within the building is a large multipurpose room that doubles as the Council Chambers. Led by a board of directors, the center provides a leisure, social, and entertainment outlet for seniors, with many nutritional, health, recreational, and fitness programs. The senior center also hosts community events.



## 16. **Castle Rock Library**

Location: 137 Cowlitz St. West

Size: Approximately 3,750 square feet

Features/Description: In addition to customary materials found in a library, the Castle Rock Library is pleased to offer:

- Summer reading program for children
- Public computer and internet access
- Specialty collection of local history and genealogy
- Winter reading program for adults (February)





**17. Old Jail Park**

Location: In the back lot of 65 Jackson St. SW

Size: Approximately 300 square feet

Features/Description: There is an opportunity at this historic facility for passive recreation such as picnicking, playing horseshoes, and an interpretive sign discussing local history among landscaping.



**18.     *Former Castle Rock Exhibit Hall***

Location: 147 Front Ave. SW

Size: Approximately 6,100 square feet

Features/Description: The Castle Rock Exhibit Hall building previously hosted the Visitors' Center that is being relocated to its own space in a more visible location, collocated with the WSDOT park and ride on the west side of I-5 at Exit 49. After more than 23 years in operation, the Exhibit Hall closed in 2014. The displays on loan have been returned to their owners or relocated. The future of the building, in light of its condition, is being evaluated.



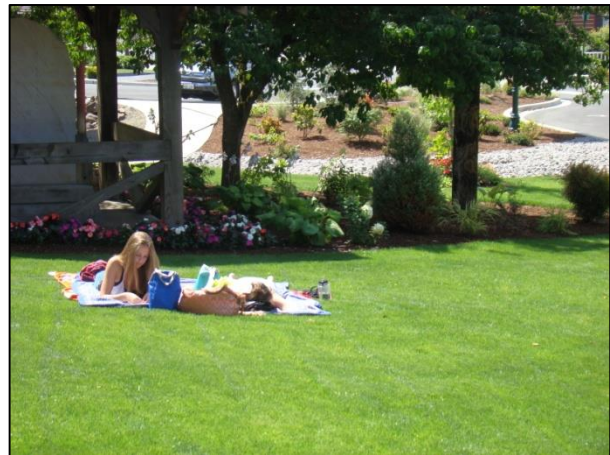


## 19. Gateway Park

Location: North entrance of Castle Rock, north of Barr Street NW, between Front Avenue NW and Huntington Avenue N

Size: Around 0.20 acre

Features/Description: Memorial Park is owned and maintained by the City. The park provides open space and picnic opportunities to local residents and travelers just passing through. Other site features include a covered picnic table, gazebo, and many varieties of trees.



**20. Riverfront Trail (corresponds to parking lot access point labeled on map)**

Location: The Riverfront Trail runs along the east side of the Cowlitz River from Lions Pride Park to near N. Huntington Avenue/SR 411. On the west side of the Cowlitz River, the trail extends from near Green Acres subdivision along the backside of the high school grounds adjacent to the Sports Complex south to Mosier Road and from the fairgrounds south to Whittle Creek.

Size: east side - 1.9 miles total; west side - 2.1 miles total

Features/Description: The Riverfront Trail network is a trail system located mostly along the Cowlitz River dike. Trail amenities include trail lighting, benches, and viewing areas. An ADA-accessible ramp connects the trail to downtown Castle Rock. The trail joins residential, commercial, school, and recreational areas to one another, providing a safe mode of travel for the entire community. The trail is widely used by walkers, bicyclists, joggers, skateboarders, and dog walkers.



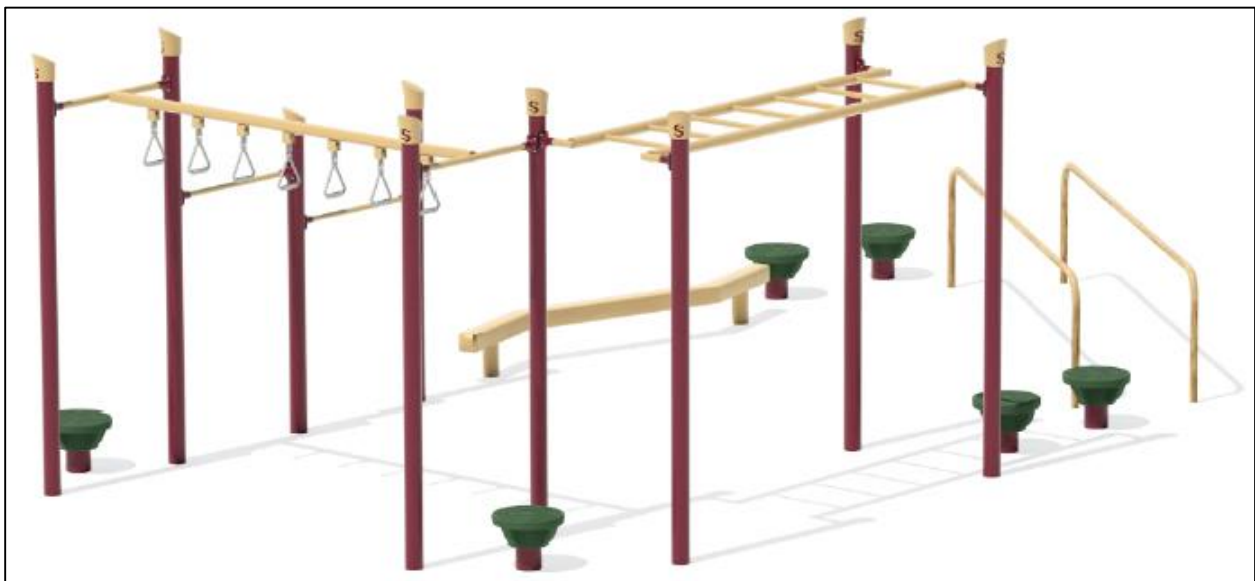
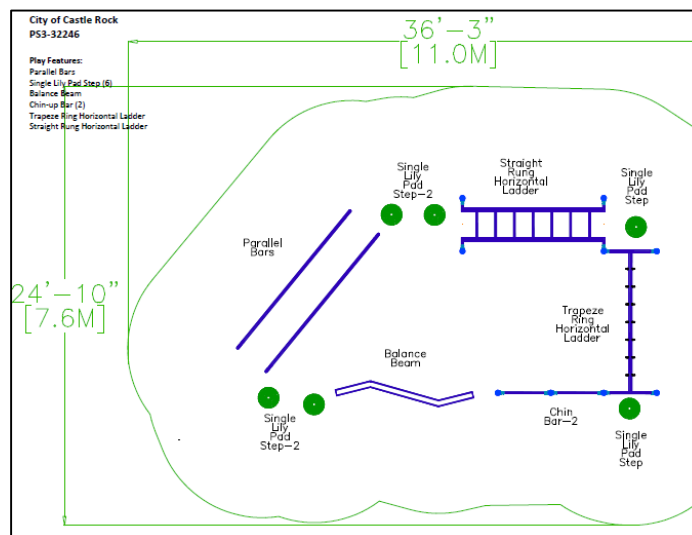


## 21. *Lois Dye Estates Park*

Location: 607 Tia Court NE., near Pioneer Ave.

Size: Around 0.27 acre

Features/Description: In the course of designing a new single-family residential development, ABT Development dedicated a tract of land for a public park and \$10,000 toward improvements. The park's amenities were recently decided upon by the residents after buildout of the development and include a bench, play elements, and picnic table. As of the 2016 plan update, the City is in the process of acquiring and installing improvements.



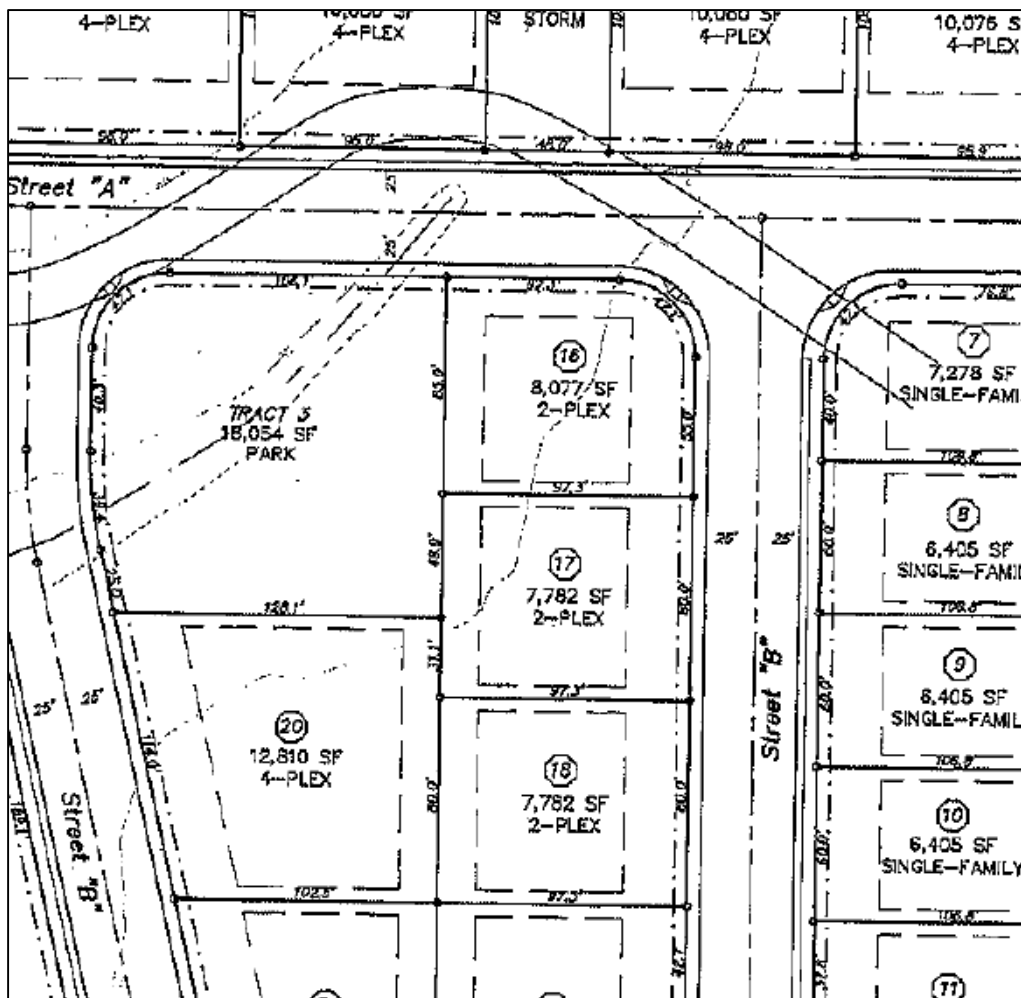


## 22. Jacobson Preliminary Plat – Future Park

Location: 11000 Dougherty Drive NE

Size: Around 0.4 acre

Features/Description: In the course of negotiating improvements necessary to demonstrate satisfaction of local and state subdivision requirements in order to achieve preliminary plat approval for a mixed use commercial/residential development, Jacobson Investments proposed to dedicate a tract of land for a public park. Also included in the designs are lands necessary for trail connection easements. Since its inclusion in the 2011 park plan update, development was delayed because of economic concerns. Recently the developer began looking into reactivating the project, although it is not clear whether it will proceed. At the time of the 2016 plan update, the associated dedication is being retained on the list as a potential future facility.

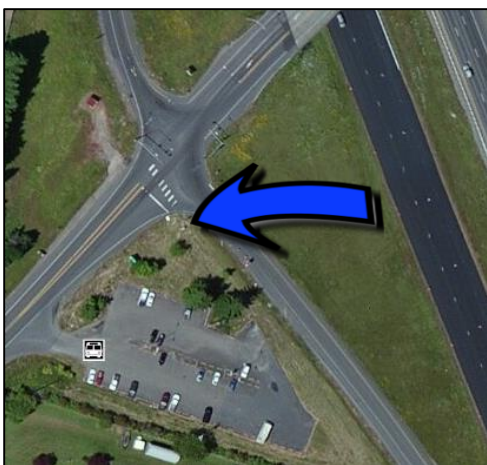


## 23. Castle Rock Visitors' Center

Location: WSDOT Park & Ride at Exit 49/I-5 interchange

Size: n/a

Features/Description: The City was able to negotiate space for a small building pad collocated with the WSDOT park-and-ride to build a new visitors' center, currently under construction. It replaces the former visitors' center that was incorporated into the Exhibit Hall and provides superior visibility to those using Exit 49 off I-5. The center may or may not continue to be represented in future park plan updates as it is not a park and recreation facility per se. However, it will be a parklike setting that includes a proposed pet area, and the site will act as a trailhead to the Riverfront Trail and the future bike/pedestrian pathway heading east from Exit 49 on SR 504 to connect to Sequest State Park. It is expected to be a great asset in directing visitors to Castle Rock's outdoor opportunities.



**24. "The Big Bend" - City-Owned Dredge Spoils – East Side of Cowlitz River**

Location: East side of the Cowlitz River west of Dike Drive

Size: Approximately 30 acres

Features/Description: This City-owned area was used to place spoils dredged from the Cowlitz River after Mount St. Helens erupted. Recreational opportunities within the City-owned properties have been planned for in the adopted Riverfront Master Plan, appended to this plan. The site provides a few limited recreational functions and has many possibilities for future development. Currently developed facilities within the dredge spoils site include the skate and bike parks.

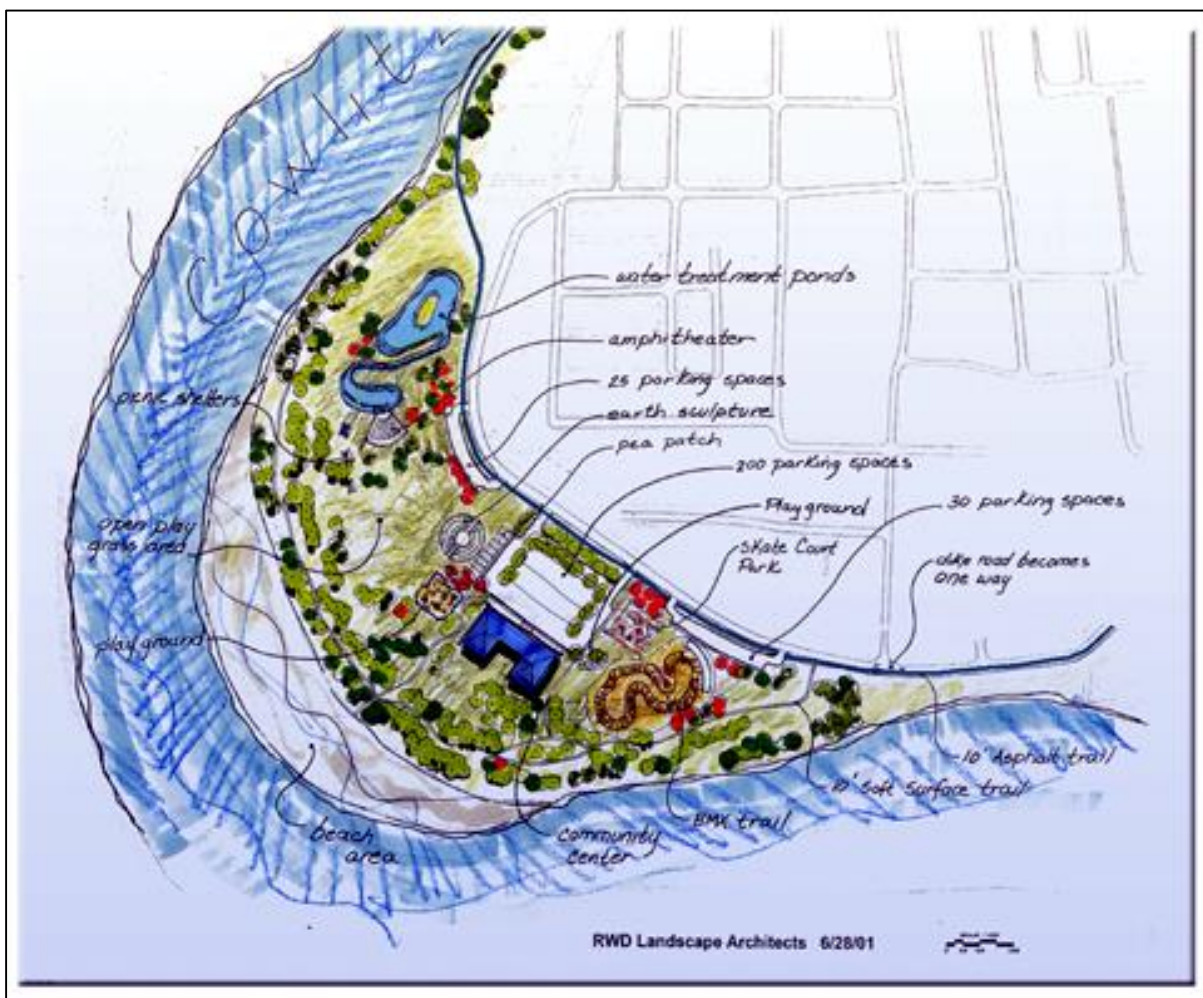




Figure IV-1.

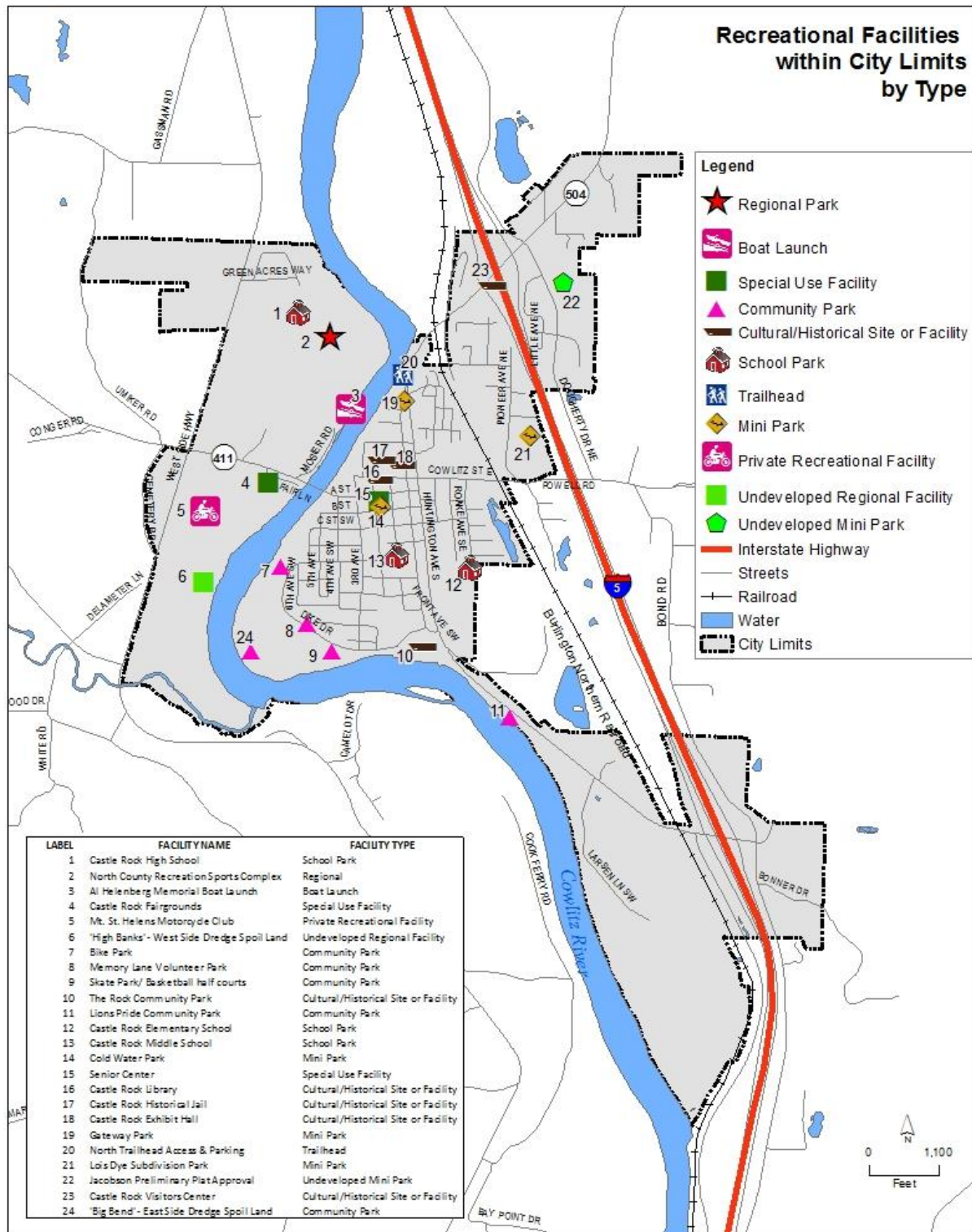


Figure IV-2.

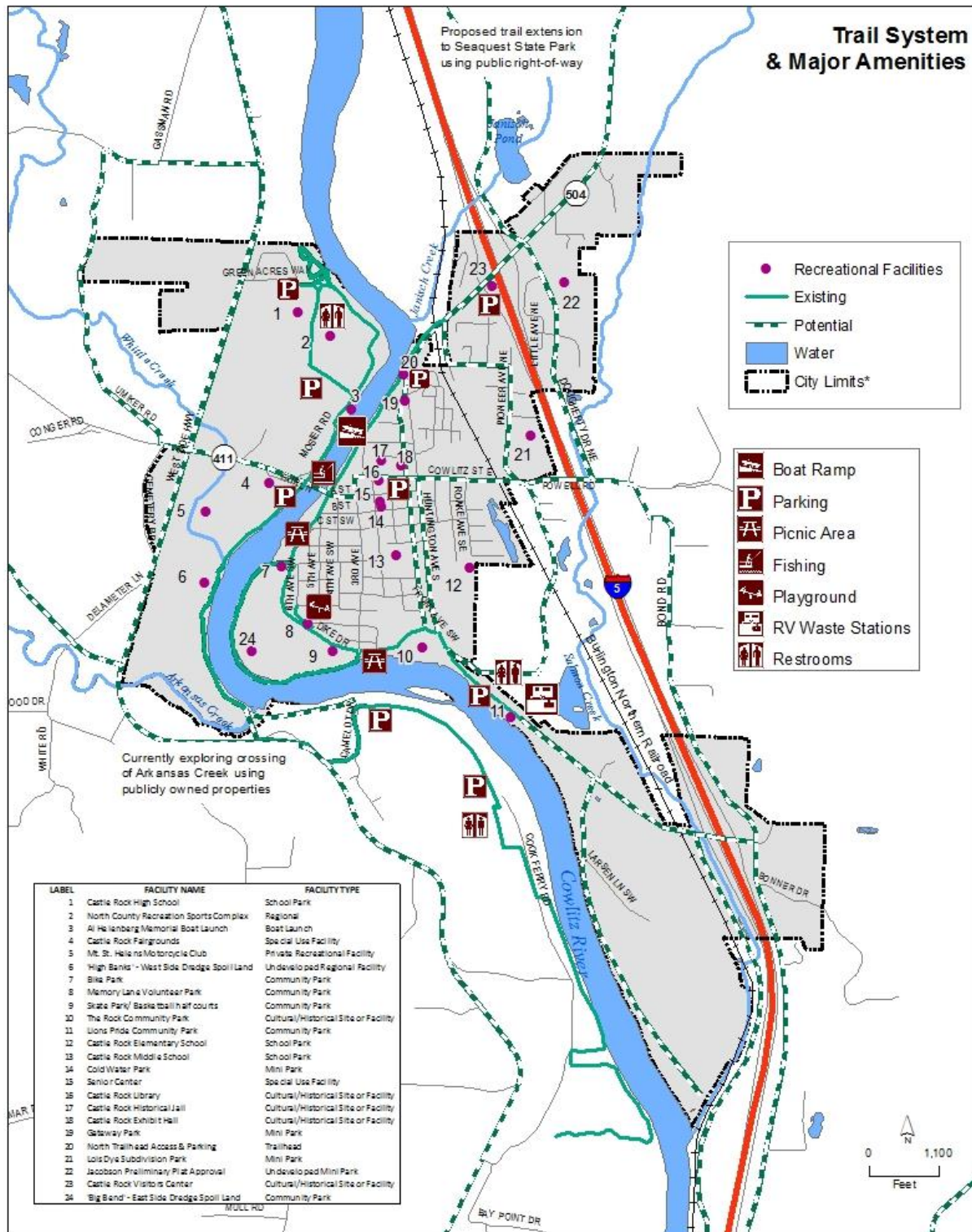
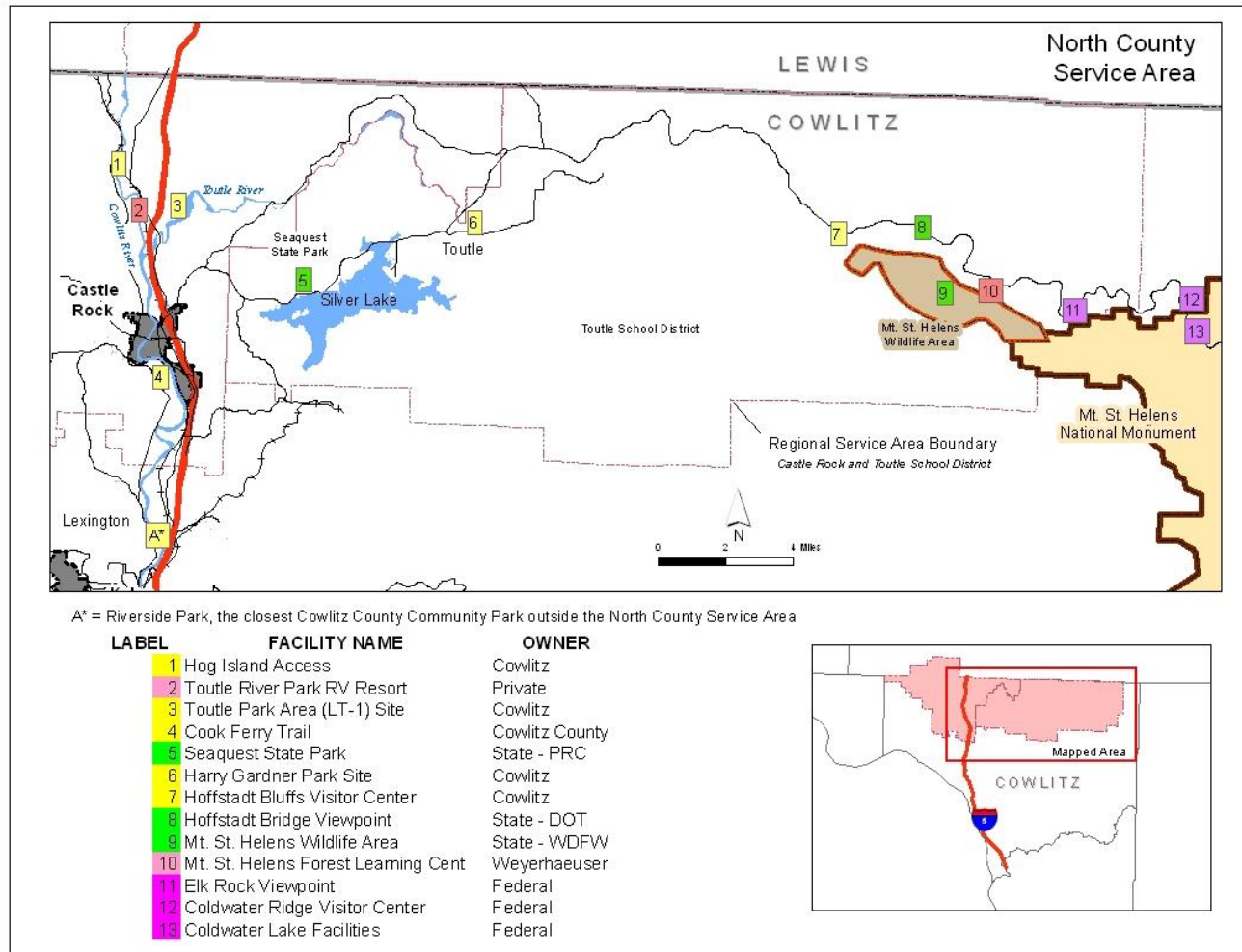


Figure IV-3.





## CHAPTER V

### DEMAND & NEED ANALYSIS

The nation behaves well if it treats its natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value.

~ Theodore Roosevelt

In the parks and recreation world, numerous approaches can be taken to assessing demand and need. From examining participation trends and evaluating existing facilities to reviewing demographic data, there are many options available to communities of all different sizes. The City has chosen to continue its earlier approach of evaluating demand and need by utilizing a hybrid approach that includes reviewing, updating, and considering:

- Public feedback on current use and preferred facilities and services out in the future
- Progress since the 2011 park plan update
- Updated inventory
- Demographic information
- Formal discussion and personal observations of the Park Board, City staff, elected officials, school representative, and others
- Existing documents and community planning efforts
- New opportunities

General population and other demographic information was explored in Chapter III. With this update, the inventory and evaluation of existing facilities has been set out separately in Chapter IV. This chapter includes a review of park and recreation standards with an examination of the community survey results and the spatial distribution of the population, as well as a look at other influences on demand. This chapter concludes with a summary of park and recreation needs based on a careful assessment and integration of the factors affecting demand.

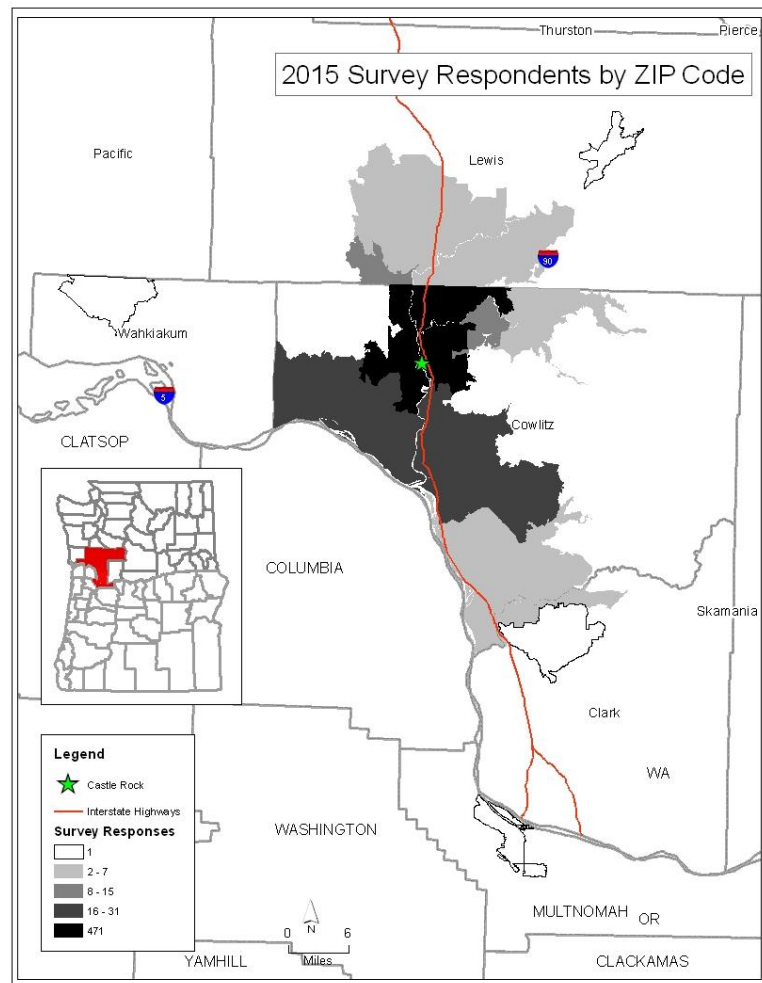
#### Community Survey Results

In late 2015, a survey was distributed to solicit public input and to ensure the adopted plan best addresses users' desires and concerns and the needs of the community. Surveys were distributed both in hard copy form and using SurveyMonkey® to residents, students, businesses, and community groups. Downtown businesses took part in distributing the survey to customers. It was treated as a school assignment for students, resulting in strong youth participation. The electronic version was also pushed out to local businesses, community groups, and the media via their Facebook® pages, several of which redistributed the invitation to participate. The City received 674 responses, which provided valuable feedback about use of and possible improvements to existing facilities, direction on the procurement and

development of new parks/features, and on the overall level of service provided. For the next update, the Park Board would like to add depth to the survey results and evaluation by including a trend comparison of survey results over time.

**Figure V-1.**

Figure V-1 shows the ZIP Code distribution of survey respondents. This survey did not see participation from the large geographic area that defines the Extended Service Area. This is likely due to the expansion of what was the BMX track into the Bike Park. During the time of the 2011 update, survey participation was influenced by advocates for inclusion of a pump course, who shared the survey with numerous other groups in Southwest Washington/Northwest Oregon. The City still considers this to be the Extended Service Area for planning purposes, but since interest in advocating for a specific project has now been satisfied, there is no longer an active effort to recruit support at that larger geography.



Some of the general findings from the survey are included below, while full survey results are located in Appendix A.

- Responses to individual questions varied in terms of their participation level. From among 674 responses, the first question received the highest number of responses (669), while only 321 respondents answered question 7, which received the lowest level of response. It asked the respondent to fill in the name of the one park or recreational facility he or she uses the most often. Over 350 people skipped this question. The reason isn't clear, although it could be reflective of people simply not knowing the names of various facilities.



- Of the 674 respondents, 471 live in the 98611 ZIP Code area (70 percent). This generally represents the Local Service Area.
- About nine percent of the respondents chose not to indicate whether they live in the Castle Rock city limits. Of those who did respond, 273(45 percent) say they live inside the city.
- The Riverfront Trail is the most widely used facility, with 383 of 669 respondents (57 percent) reporting having used the trail in the previous year. About 14 percent of these users report using it weekly, and nine percent daily.
- Besides the Riverfront Trail system, the High School Sports Fields (53 percent), North County Sports Complex (49 percent), and the Elementary School Playgrounds/Fields (46 percent) are used by the largest percentage of respondents.
- The Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club Grounds and Memory Lane Park showed the highest number of non-users (75 percent and 69 percent, respectively).
- Seventeen percent of respondents said they have used the boat launch at least once in the past year.
- Asked to rate facilities from poor to excellent, many respondents expressed no opinion. From among the responses received, the Junior High Playgrounds received the worst rating (67 percent poor or fair). Other parks or facilities that were rated poor or fair by 45 percent or more of the respondents include the Elementary School Playgrounds/Fields (45 percent), Library (46 percent), Fairgrounds (47 percent), Memory Lane Park (48 percent), Skate Park and Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club Grounds (49 percent each), and the Dredge Spoils Land (53 percent).
- Over 50 percent of respondents said that improvements to local parks and recreational facilities had helped them to become more physically active.
- Youth activities (age 10-18), outdoor recreation, and children's activities (ages 0-9) ranked most highly among the top two recreational opportunities respondents would like to see available or expanded (63, 56, and 52 percent, respectively, of respondents ranked them as a #1 or #2 priority).
- Overall, there appears to be strong community support for a swimming pool, additional trails, and additional athletic fields.
- The survey provided valuable information on needed improvements at many facilities. The long list of narrative answers requires additional scrutiny.

- Only 12 percent of respondents were willing to pay at least \$5 annually to support parks and recreation facilities. At the same time, close to 50 percent of respondents indicated they are willing to pay up to \$20 a year.

## Park and Recreation Standards

Facility standards provide a way to measure the amount of park and recreational space needed to meet the demands of a community. In the past, the NRPA held up Mertes and Hall's *Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenways Guidelines*<sup>21</sup> as its standard for recreation; local agencies more or less used the guidelines as national standards. However, the NRPA no longer considers these guidelines to be a best practice for agency management and planning, stating that "applying a 'one size fits all' approach to address the needs of widely varying communities does not provide accurate guidance for parks and recreation planners."

Instead, NRPA advocates the use of comparative benchmarking using its PRORAGIS system, a tool that collects and analyzes data about parks and recreation agencies across the country and enables them to compare themselves to others they identify as similar in terms of a variety of factors such as geography, climate, and size. PRORAGIS is not accessible without first creating a profile of one's community, though. An agency must enter considerable data to be able to use the PRORAGIS analysis features; it is also possible to build a GIS dataset but this requires uploading information as well. PRORAGIS also offers a calculator that provides communities with a snapshot of the positive environmental, economic, and social benefits of their parks. This work was not scoped with the current park plan update, but the City may wish to work toward building a PRORAGIS profile for use in subsequent updates.

Irrespective of the metrics that are used, the NRPA recognizes that every community is unique and has specific circumstances, so it encourages local jurisdictions to use park planning metrics that are tailored to local needs. While noting that the "acres of parkland per 1,000 population" metric – also known as a community's level of service (LOS) – is the most common technique for determining whether a community has enough parkland, the NRPA cautions that LOS can vary widely due to a community's history, culture, demographics, density, development patterns, and other factors. The juxtaposition of Castle Rock's relatively small population and the influx of I-5 travelers and visitors for tourist-based attractions and events in the area makes using a simple "per 1,000 population" measure inadequate.

The 1998 park plan used a population-derived standard based on estimated users. The 2005 and 2011 updates supplemented that information with survey results to provide a better understanding of trail use and to suggest improvements and trail extensions. This update continues the approach taken in 2011 that used both numerical standards produced via the "population ratio method" and qualitative statements derived from analysis of population distribution, survey results, and other sources of information. The results are meant to be

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<sup>21</sup> *Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenways Guidelines*. Mertes, James D. and James R. Hall. Urban Land Institute, November 1996.

flexible requirements and are framed by the context of the expressed need discussed in the survey results above.

The three service areas (Local, Regional, and Extended) presented in Chapter III figure into some of these choices. The service areas have been substantiated via league and/or facility registrations and previous and current survey results. For instance, based on contact information, 70 percent of the Senior Center members live outside city limits, while only 30 percent are Castle Rock residents. Additionally, annual pass registrations for the boat launch indicate that 64 percent live in Castle Rock, 19 percent live elsewhere in Cowlitz County, and 17 percent live in other parts of Washington. Unfortunately, there is no means of tracking day use, which is thought to extend to other parts of the Extended Service Area and beyond.

The following general park classifications and service area and size standards were established by examining the Mertes and Hall classification system through the lens of local factors to create measures tailored to Castle Rock. Continuing the approach used in the 2011 update, the listed “standard” is a population-derived figure (ratio). Facilities listed below were drawn from the comprehensive list of existing park and recreation facilities and their associated classification included in Chapter IV (Table IV-1). In each of the need analyses below, the expressed need for the year 2025 assumes a one percent annual growth rate (“medium” growth scenario in Table III-3). Acreages are approximate, and all figures are rounded.

### **Mini-Parks**

Sometimes called “pocket parks,” a mini-park is the smallest park classification and is designed to address limited or isolated recreational needs of a small geographical area or to account for unique recreational opportunities. This type of park may include active and passive recreation activities including small play areas, scenic overlooks, landscaped public areas, and/or picnic and sitting areas. A mini-park does not function in isolation, but instead is ideally part of a network of parks located within close proximity to all residents.

<b>Table V-1. Mini-Park Service Measures</b>		
Service Area	Size	Standard
1/4 mile or less	2,500 sq. ft. – 1 acre	1 park per 750 people

#### **Location and Development Guidelines:**

1. Must serve a specific recreation need and be easily accessed by the target user group
2. Could ideally be established in conjunction with a residential plat on dedicated land
3. If possible, should be linked to other parks via greenways and trails
4. No parking lot; is meant to be walkable

<b>Table V-2. Mini-Park Need Analysis</b>			
	<b>Supply</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>2016</b>	3 facilities (Cold Water, Gateway, & Lois Dye Estates) <sup>22</sup>	3 facilities (2,175 pop./ 750)	Need fulfilled
<b>2025</b>	(no change)	3 facilities (2,421 pop./750)	Need fulfilled

### ***Neighborhood Parks***

Neighborhood parks serve an immediate population generally within close walking distance and provide playground equipment for small children and limited areas for outdoor games and the like. Ideally, a neighborhood park also incorporates facilities for other age groups in addition to children. Neighborhood parks are the basic unit of most park systems and serve as the recreational and sometimes social focus of the neighborhood with the focus on informal active and passive activities.

<b>Table V-3. Neighborhood Park Service Measures</b>		
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Standard</b>
1/2 mile	1.5 – 5 acres	1 facility per 1,500 people, <u>with</u> a minimum of 1 acre per 1,000 population

Location guidelines:

1. Can be reached by a majority of users without need to cross or use a major arterial, railroad, or highway
2. Priority should be given to lands/facilities that have expansion potential
3. Possibly includes small parking lot

<sup>22</sup> If developed, the park dedication associated with the Jacobson preliminary plat would also be a mini-park. Given the speculative nature of the plat's completion, it is not included for purposes of estimating need. If it is not developed, Subarea 1 will go unserved. (See additional discussion in Chapter VI.)



<b>Table V-4. Neighborhood Park Need Analysis</b>					
	<b>Supply (facilities)</b>	<b>Need (facilities)</b>	<b>Supply (acreage)</b>	<b>Need (acreage)</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>2016</b>	1 facility (Memory Lane Volunteer Park)	1 facility (2,175 pop./1,500)	1 acre	At least 2 acres (2,175 pop./1,000)	At least 1 acre deficit
<b>2025</b>	(no change)	2 facilities (2,421 pop./1,500)	(no change)	At least 2 acres (2,421 pop./1,000)	1 facility + at least 1 acre deficit

### ***Community Parks***

Community parks serve more than one neighborhood. They can be of any size but are generally larger than a neighborhood park and are usually large enough to include several ball fields; spectator seating; and any number and type of other facilities such as tennis courts, picnic shelters, natural areas, flower gardens, and a swimming pool. A community park may be small and limited in what it offers, but it may have a community-wide draw because of location and special features. In Castle Rock, community parks are used by many residents of the Regional as well as Local Service Area.

<b>Table V-5. Community Park Service Measures</b>		
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Standard</b>
1/2 – 3 miles	As needed to serve the populace (ideally 5-30 acres)	1 facility per 10,000 people, <u>or</u> a minimum of 5 acres per 1,000 population

Location guidelines:

1. Should serve three to seven neighborhoods.
2. Should be located within walking distance of older children and adults.
3. Should be located with consideration for future expansion.
4. Should be located adjacent to a junior or senior high school whenever possible.

<b>Table V-6. Community Park Need Analysis</b>					
	<b>Supply (facilities)</b>	<b>Need (facilities)</b>	<b>Supply (acreage)</b>	<b>Need (acreage)</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>2016</b>	2 facilities ("Big Bend" <sup>23</sup> & Lions Pride)	0 facilities 1:10,000 pop.	37.9 acres	At least 11 acres (2,175 pop./1,000 x 5)	2 facilities + up to 26.9 acre surplus
<b>2025</b>	1 facility (Lions Pride)	0 facilities (2,421 pop./ 10,000 pop.)	7.9 acres	At least 12 acres (2,421 pop./1,000 x 5)	1 facility + up to 4.1 acre deficit

### ***Regional Parks***

The North County Sports Complex is the only Regional facility currently in Castle Rock; however, as the "Big Bend" property is developed, it is expected to evolve from a Community to a Regional facility. This accounts for its removal from the Community Park inventory shown in Table V-6 and its inclusion in Table V-8 below.

<b>Table V-7. Regional Park Service Measures</b>		
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Standard</b>
Extended	As needed to serve the populace (ideally 30+ acres)	Minimum 10 acres per 1,000 population; goal of 20 acres per 1,000 population

Location guidelines:

1. Should serve a broader region than the Local Service Area.
2. Should incorporate facilities serving all service populations.
3. Should be located with consideration for phased development and expansion.

<sup>23</sup> "Big Bend" includes the Bike Park and Skate Park, which are not individually counted as separate facilities but are a part of the whole.

<b>Table V-8. Regional Park Need Analysis</b>			
	<b>Supply</b>	<b>Need/Goal</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>2016</b>	65 acres (North County Sports Complex)	21.75 acres/43.5 acres (2,175 pop./1,000 x 10)	Minimum need & goal fulfilled
<b>2025</b>	95 acres (North County Sports Complex & “Big Bend” <sup>24</sup> )	24.21 acres/48.42 acres (2,421 pop./1,000 x 10)	Minimum need & goal fulfilled

### ***Bikeway and Pedestrian (Multi-Purpose) Trails***

Multi-use trails are designed as pathways that can be utilized by pedestrians, bicyclists, in-line skaters, and others. Trails can be comprised of segments of road, street, highway, railroad right-of-way, dike, and natural or developed pathways. In Castle Rock, the Riverfront Trail is a multi-use trail that has been constructed mostly on the dike along the Cowlitz River and connects various parks and recreational facilities. The Riverfront Trail will continue to be the focal of point of trail development, and there are several planned extensions.

Standard: N/A – there is no applicable standard for linear multi-user facilities

Location guidelines:

1. Should serve as links between neighborhoods, schools, and all neighborhood, community, urban area and regional parks.
2. If possible, they should emphasize the natural environment and be designed accordingly.
3. Allow for uninterrupted movement through the city and outlying area and protect users from vehicular traffic.
4. Assist in the formation of a cohesive and comprehensive park and recreation system.

### ***Special Use & Private Recreation Facilities***

Special use facilities may be located anywhere and are determined by design and use rather than dimensional standards. Special use facilities in Castle Rock include the fairground, City-owned east side dredge spoils (includes the Skate Park and Bike Park), the Castle Rock Library, the Visitors Center, and the Castle Rock Senior Center. The City is evaluating the future of the Exhibit Hall since a new Visitors’ Center is under construction.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid. Note 23. Considerable portions of “Big Bend” remain to be improved in order to transition from Community to Regional classification. Additionally, only a portion of the North County Sports Complex is currently improved so although the minimum acreage need is met, that does not consider development.

## **Subarea Analysis**

There are numerous physical or “hard” barriers within Castle Rock, including I-5, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad, SR 504, and the Cowlitz River, that can impede access to parks and recreational facilities. The BNSF line and I-5 divide northeast and southwest Castle Rock, while SR 504 is a barrier in northeast Castle Rock. Huntington Avenue and other higher traffic roads also serve as barriers, because pedestrians and cyclists are less likely to cross for reasons of safety or inconvenience.

Part of the analysis of park needs is not just the population, but the population distribution (by Census Blocks) and proximity to recreational facilities. The decennial census (2010) is the most current relevant demographic information for the current update. The Local Service Area is divided into the six subareas depicted in Figure V-2 based on physical barriers (e.g., roads, railroad line, etc.), and data is obtained by analyzing block-level data from the 2010 Census that is grouped according to the subareas. To illustrate distribution, the mini-parks and neighborhood parks included in the need analysis are shown.

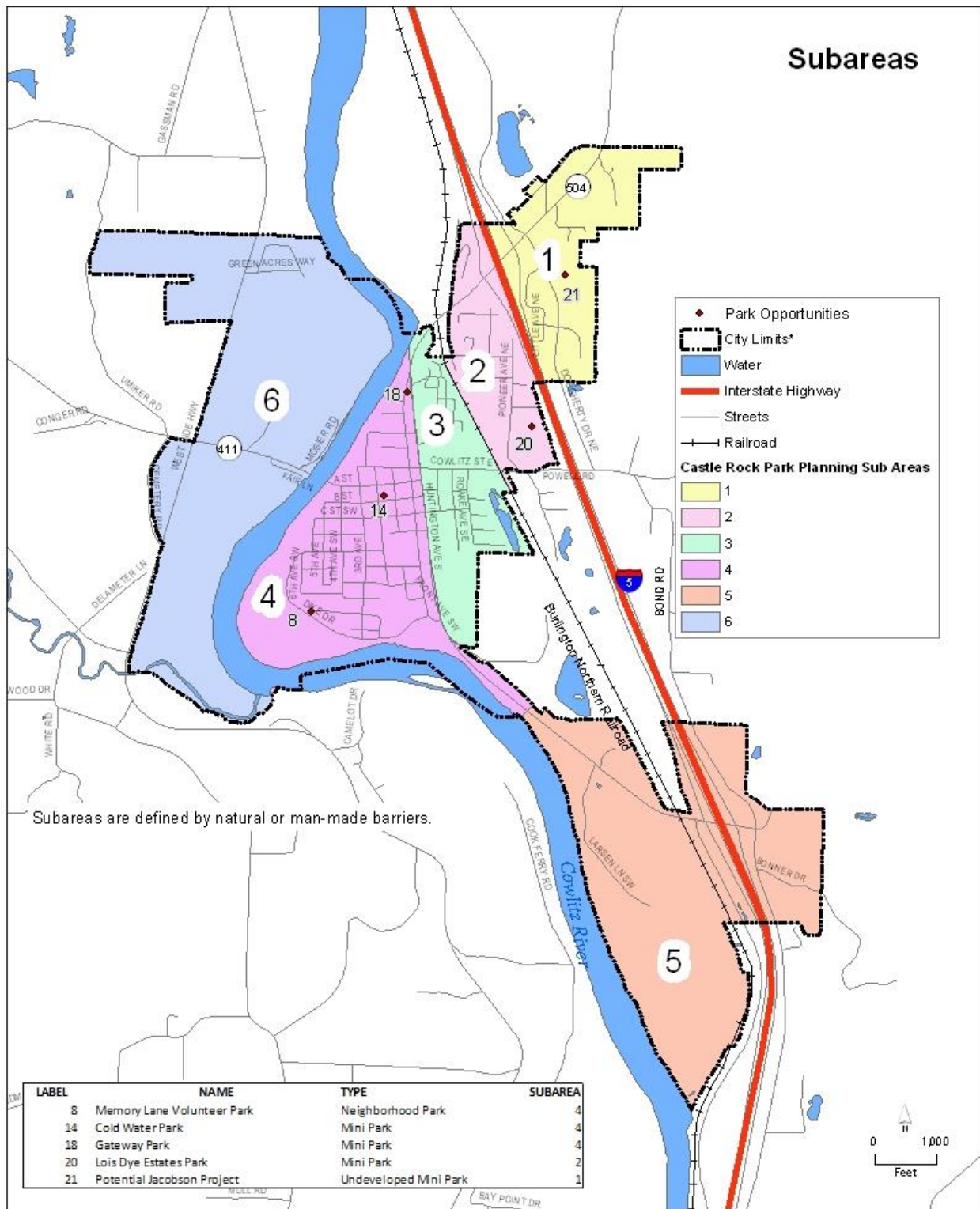
### ***Subarea Profiles***

The subareas are numbered from north to south. Subarea 1 is located east of I-5 and features mainly commercial development off of Exit 49. There is some land zoned for low-density residential development. The majority of the City’s urban growth area lies east of I-5 and is slated for future low-density residential growth. There are no existing parks in this area. By its nature, this area tends to support lower-income housing, which may increase demand for and on public parks. As it stands now, this area has a small residential population of 110 people (Table V-7) and does not warrant immediate park development. However, because this area will receive future growth, the City has implemented an exaction process for future subdivisions.

The lands east of Dougherty Drive are, for the most part, undeveloped or underdeveloped. Much of the housing in this area consists of apartment dwellings that are located between I-5 and Dougherty Drive. The Dougherty Drive area does not currently have a large population but has the potential for additional residential development. The City previously negotiated a park land dedication as part of a preliminary plat on Dougherty Drive, but the development stalled for economic reasons. At this point, it is unknown whether the dedication will be finalized. It continues to be represented in this plan but should be removed in the next update if it is not realized.



Figure V-2.



Subarea 2 is bordered by I-5 and the BNSF line to the east and west, the city limits to the north, and Cowlitz Street to the south. Two hundred sixty-five people (Table V-9) call this area home. The area is zoned for low-density residential and has grown significantly as a result the Lois Dye Estates subdivision, which was developed since the 2011 update. There are some scattered undeveloped lots and acreage, along with a few underdeveloped lots. The dedicated mini-park at Lois Dye Estates on Pioneer Avenue fulfills the recreational needs of this area.

<b>Table V-9. Subareas 1-3 by Age &amp; Gender</b>									
	<b>Subarea</b>								
<b>Age</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>2</b>			<b>3</b>		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0-9	7	7	14	18	19	37	31	44	75
10-19	7	7	14	14	18	32	37	31	68
20-34	12	12	24	23	26	49	46	45	91
35-49	7	8	15	25	29	54	39	43	82
50-64	9	13	22	33	28	61	40	52	92
65+	8	13	21	25	26	51	32	26	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>466</b>

Subarea 3 includes about 21 percent of the city's population (466 people – Table V-9) and is bounded by the railroad tracks on the east and Huntington Avenue to the west. The land uses within this area contain a mix of low and high residential, commercial, industrial, and public (e.g., school site, etc.) Future residential growth is likely limited because of the varied zoning and existing density, although some infill development is likely. Other than school facilities, there are no parks or recreational opportunities in the subarea; however, all portions of the area are within a quarter mile of other parks and facilities including the Riverfront Trail and Gateway Park. Overall, this subarea is not in need of significant park projects; however, if the opportunity presents itself, a mini-park or neighborhood play area might be pursued.

Subarea 4 is the largest in terms of population, with 1,040 people (Table V-10), 48 percent of the total city population. It includes the majority of parks and recreation facilities. Besides the downtown commercial area, most of the subarea consists of single-family residences, with some multi-family units north of B Street and sparsely scattered southward. This subarea is basically fully developed, save some limited infill development opportunities. Everyone living in this subarea is within very close proximity (easy walking distance for most) to some sort of park or recreation facility. The mostly undeveloped (except for the Skate Park and Bike Park) dredge spoils site is located within this area.

<b>Table V-10. Subareas 4-6 by Age &amp; Gender</b>									
	<b>Subarea</b>								
<b>Age</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>5</b>			<b>6</b>		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0-9	69	49	118	4	5	9	5	2	7
10-19	78	81	159	4	2	6	6	5	11
20-34	90	91	181	7	10	17	3	6	9
35-49	99	111	210	7	6	13	8	6	14
50-64	90	114	204	9	10	19	9	8	17
65+	63	105	168	8	9	17	8	9	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>1040</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>75</b>

Subarea 5 is located south of “The Rock” and extends eastward past I-5. The majority of land in this area is slated for heavy commercial/light manufacturing, industrial, and general commercial purposes and is expected to grow very little in terms of residential population. Currently, though, it has a rural feel, low densities, and some agricultural uses, reflected in its small population (81 people – Table V-10). Except for Lions Pride Park, which serves as a gateway to Castle Rock and access point for the Riverfront Trail, there are no parks or recreation facilities located within this subarea.

In 2011, Subarea 6 represented a new annexation for which prior census data was not available. This subarea has the lowest population of any yet hosts some of the largest facilities and activities; it contains the North County Sports Complex, the motorcycle club, the fairgrounds, and dredge spoils land. In 2011, the PROS zoning district was created that covers much of this area. The PROS zone recognizes and is tailored to these uses and complementary uses that can include such things as circus, carnival, and rodeo events; flea markets or other temporary sales/fundraisers; and community gatherings such as concerts or seminars.

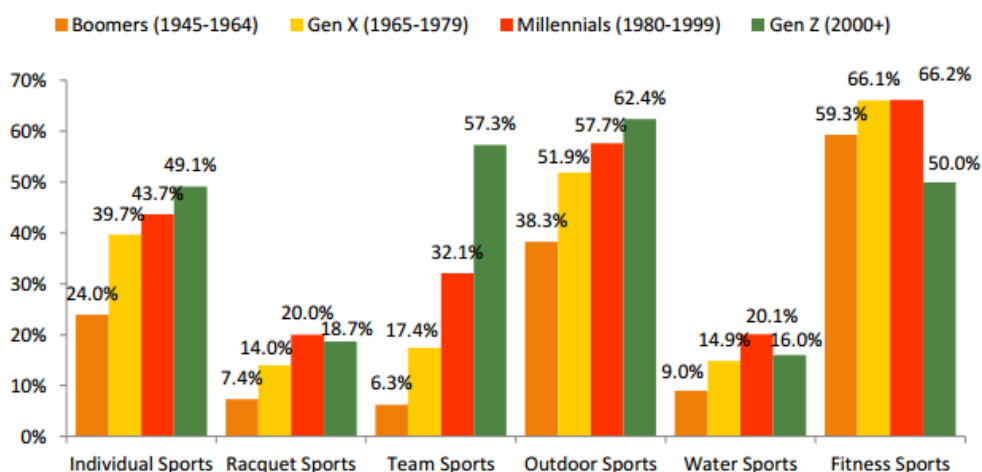
## Recreational Participation

Another important consideration with planning for park and recreation facilities is future changes in projected recreational participation.

In its 2015 Participation Report, the Physical Activity Council finds that inactivity in sports is growing and surmises that “Americans continue to struggle with physical activity commitment.

With the economy bouncing back and having more extreme weather conditions in 2014, more people choose other commitments than physical activity.” It notes, however, that “those who are active seem to be participating more often and in multiple activities.” Participation has increased in racquet, team, and water sports; outdoor sports declined slightly in 2014 while fitness sports remain flat. All age groups continue to look at swimming as a means for future fitness, followed heavily by outdoor activities. As shown in Figure V-3, fitness activities are more important for most adult age groups, while team sports are important for the younger age groups.

**Figure V-3. Physical Activity by Generation.**



(Source: 2015 Participation Report, Physical Activity Council, at <http://www.physicalactivitycouncil.com/pdfs/current.pdf>)

The Outdoor Foundation’s eighth annual Outdoor Participation Report<sup>25</sup> (2014) finds that participation in outdoor activities<sup>26</sup> has grown among teenage girls and young women, bringing their participation to the highest rate since 2006. Meanwhile, participation among male youth either fell or remained the same. Almost a quarter of outdoor enthusiasts take part in outdoor activities at least twice a week. The Pacific Region (Washington-Oregon-California) has the second-highest participation rate at 52 percent and second-highest percentage of participants

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.outdoorfoundation.org/pdf/ResearchParticipation2014.pdf>

<sup>26</sup> The Outdoor Foundation reports on these activity categories: adventure racing, backpacking, bicycling (BMX), bicycling (mountain/non-paved surface), bicycling (road/paved surface), birdwatching, boardsailing/windsurfing, car or backyard camping, RV camping, canoeing, climbing (sport/indoor/boulder), climbing (traditional/ice/mountaineering), fly fishing, freshwater fishing, saltwater fishing, hiking, hunting (rifle), hunting (shotgun), hunting (handgun), hunting (bow), kayak fishing, kayaking (recreational), kayaking (sea/touring), kayaking (white water), rafting, running/jogging, sailing, scuba diving, skateboarding, skiing (alpine/downhill), skiing (cross-country), skiing (freestyle), snorkeling, snowboarding, snowshoeing, stand up paddling, surfing, telemarking (downhill), trail running, triathlon (non-traditional/off road), triathlon (traditional/road), wakeboarding, and wildlife viewing.



at 17 percent of the population age 6+. Nationally, running, including jogging and trail running, is the most popular sport; followed by road and mountain biking/BMX and fishing.

Generally, these reports underpin the Washington State report, *Estimates of Future Participation in Outdoor Recreation in Washington State*<sup>27</sup>. Although it was published in 2003, these ongoing surveys indicate relevancy as a lens for examining future participation. Generally, the report found that trail-related activities (walking, running, bike riding, and similar activities) are expected to grow through the study horizon of 2023. It also noted that older communities typically value leisure activities and passive recreation, while younger age groups are looking for active recreation outlets.

Taking into account the older demographics of Castle Rock and the high use of existing trails (and support for additional trails), these projections provide further justification for the construction of more trails in and around the city, even if population growth in Castle Rock remains low.

Additionally, in 2011 the US Coast Guard<sup>28</sup> estimated that 19 percent of households in Washington State owned boats and that over 40 percent of households (15 percent of individuals) in Washington took part in recreational boating even if that meant just “hanging out” on a friend’s boat. Close to 15 percent used a canoe or kayak, and almost 37 percent owned either a kayak or inflatable/row boat. The Cowlitz County Auditor reports 13,627 registered boats in Cowlitz County. This number<sup>29</sup> includes jet skis and smaller vessels subject to licensing that might reasonably access the Cowlitz River, although some smaller and nonmotorized vessels are not represented. The stretch of the Cowlitz River is known for its river accessibility and fishing, and this suggests continued popularity of the boat launch for not just local use but recreational tourism, as explored further below.

## **Recreational Tourism**

As highlighted earlier in this document, Castle Rock’s relationship to Mount St. Helens and its proximity to I-5 spins off tourist demand for parks and recreation services. The city has drawn businesses such as motels, restaurants, convenience stores, and gas stations to serve tourist traffic. However, Castle Rock, with its many assets, can do more to attract tourism to the area and make it a tourist destination in its own right. The Cowlitz River is one of the premier steelhead and salmon fishing rivers in the region. It draws fisherman from outside the local

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<sup>27</sup> [http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/rec\\_trends/Est\\_Future\\_Participation\\_Outdoor\\_Rec\\_3-03.pdf](http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/rec_trends/Est_Future_Participation_Outdoor_Rec_3-03.pdf)

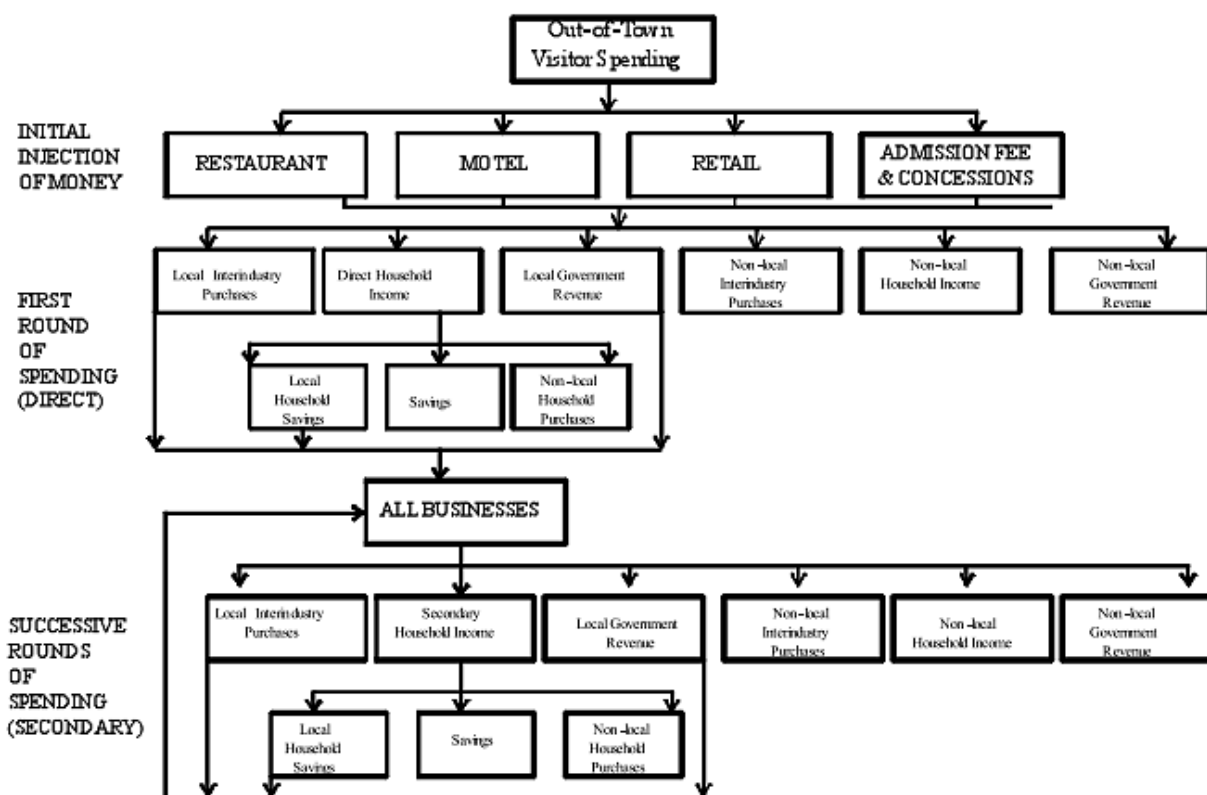
<sup>28</sup> [http://www.uscgboating.org/assets/1/workflow\\_staging/News/614.pdf](http://www.uscgboating.org/assets/1/workflow_staging/News/614.pdf)

<sup>29</sup> Includes *all* registered vessels subject to licensure, some of which would not be appropriate for use on the Cowlitz River.

area from Cowlitz County and other locales. Castle Rock is an enthusiastic sports town and has hosted and will continue to host sports tournaments. Castle Rock needs to capitalize on its existing assets and use the undeveloped lands to enhance existing facilities and provide a further draw for visitors. The NRPA encourages local communities to examine economic impacts stemming from park and recreation facilities and programming on the same footing as other economic development endeavors.

**Figure V-4.**

**The Multiplier Effect of Visitor Spending at a Park and Recreation Event**



(Source: Measuring the Economic Impact of Park and Recreation Services, NRPA (2010) at [http://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications\\_and\\_Research/Research/Papers/Crompton-Research-Paper.pdf](http://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications_and_Research/Research/Papers/Crompton-Research-Paper.pdf))

As with much of Southwest Washington, Castle Rock's economy developed around the timber and wood products industry. However, these jobs are no longer plentiful. Castle Rock has almost no industry to provide jobs and a tax base. Drawing more outside dollars from tourists and travelers will boost and, as illustrated in Figure V-4, offer a multiplier effect to the local economy.

The astonishing amount of debris associated with the 1980 Mount St. Helens eruption left local rivers clogged with debris that was dredged out as part of emergency response efforts, both at that time and in subsequent years. State and federal agencies acquired land along the river to place dredge spoils. Many of these lands have now been transferred to local governments, although DNR still holds some of them. As a condition of transfer, the dredge spoil lands must be maintained for public use. This is why much of the land along the Cowlitz River in the Castle Rock area is set aside for public use.

Dredge spoil lands owned by the City and DNR south (down river) from the fairgrounds and motorcycle club are undeveloped but are currently used by fishermen and others. Unfortunately, they have also drawn unsafe firearms use, garbage dumping, reckless and destructive all-terrain vehicle driving, and transient camping. Efforts are ongoing to manage vehicle access to the area. Currently, the City is working with DNR to acquire additional dredge spoil land on the west side of the Cowlitz, between Westside Highway and the river. A state appropriation (Vol. 3, Ch. 3, Laws of 2015, Sec. 1040) is helping to fund this acquisition.

The DNR and City lands have a much greater recreational potential beyond walk-in fishing and shoreline access. The City's *Strategic Marketing Plan* includes a strategy for siting an RV park/campground on the dredge spoil property on the west side of the Cowlitz River (Figure V-5). Facilities would include improved access to the river, including a day-use area. The campground could also provide accommodation opportunities for local, regional, and major-draw events as well as providing RV sites for visiting fishermen or leisure visitors. The City could contract with a private firm to build, operate, and maintain RV facilities, with lease structure that supports parks and other public services. With the forthcoming conclusion to the DNR land transfer, the City moves one major step closer to being able to realize this goal.

Figure V-5. Strategic Marketing Plan for RV Park

Strategic Initiative 3: Target Best Opportunities	
RV Park Developer Recruitment	
<b>Action 3.6</b>	Carry out a targeted plan to recruit a developer and company to operate a Recreational Vehicle Park along the Cowlitz River.
<b>Lead:</b>	City
<b>Overview:</b>	In order to increase visitor traffic in Castle Rock, the development of the designated site for a recreational vehicle park would contribute to the city's tourism business development strategy. This action outlines specific steps for raising awareness of this site with developers and park operators.
<b>Specific Steps:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare a marketing piece that outlines the compelling factors for the site and the community as a prime location for a recreational park. A sample brochure can be found in the appendix.<sup>11</sup></li> <li>2. Research RV park developers and develop a target list.<sup>12</sup> Check out the National Association of RV Parks &amp; Campgrounds and a helpful website on park development: <a href="http://www.rversonline.org">www.rversonline.org</a>. Refer to materials in appendix for building an RV Park.<sup>13</sup></li> <li>3. Send brochure to contacts on target list. Be sure to include a cover letter stating why you are contacting them and summarizing Castle Rock's advantages.</li> <li>4. Research targets on your list – background information will help you to be impressive on the calls because you understand and know more about their company.</li> <li>5. Make calls to follow up on mailing.<sup>14</sup> Invite to visit Castle Rock for a tour. If they agree to the tour, work with the Castle Rock Business Team to organize a welcoming visit that showcases your advantages.</li> <li>6. Make regular prospecting calls – at least every 6 months, based on the feedback you receive.</li> </ol>
<b>Outcome:</b>	Increased awareness of Castle Rock in the mind of targeted developers.
<b>Partners or Collaborators:</b>	Castle Rock Business Team, Cowlitz County
<b>Timeline:</b>	Initiate 1Q 2006 and make calls ongoing until success is achieved
<b>Budget:</b>	\$100-1,000 to print marketing brochure and conduct mailings as needed

<sup>11</sup> Sample Marketing Brochure for RV Park Developers

<sup>12</sup> RV Park Developers Target list

<sup>13</sup> Considerations in Building an RV Park

<sup>14</sup> Tips for Prospect Calls to RV Park Developers

Prepared by: Chabin Concepts & Marketek • May 12, 2005



Recreational facilities inside the city limits will be primarily designed to meet the needs of the Local Service Area, with notable exceptions that have a broader variety of users: larger community parks; the Riverfront Trail, which is located partially inside and outside of the city; and the boat launch. The fairgrounds already hold events that draw from a wider geographic area. The motorcycle racing facilities feature nationally sanctioned races, drawing racers and spectators from throughout the state and beyond. Chapter III additionally reviews numerous special events and activities held throughout the year.

The facilities on the west side of the river should be fully linked with the Riverfront Trail. A pedestrian bridge crossing of the Cowlitz River would connect west and east side trail users. In the more distant future, the trail should be extended southward to the lands owned by Cowlitz County. The Cook Ferry property is mostly undeveloped and was given to the County on the condition that it be maintained for public use.

Appendix B includes the riverfront plan, which details conceptual plans (with preliminary cost estimates) for the large dredge spoil sites on both sides of the Cowlitz River. It has not been updated since its 2003 publication so prospectively discusses certain projects or aspects of projects that are already complete. It continues to guide riverfront development on public properties.

## **Conclusions**

Balancing the mathematical analysis with the survey results and the City's economic development goals, it is clear there is continued support to maintain, improve, and expand upon existing facilities. There also appears to be a strong need and desire for a broad-based large community park that could house a variety of facilities and features not currently available, or not available in one place.

The community is well-positioned in terms of its supply of Mini-Parks, except that their distribution doesn't serve all who might want to use them. If the park associated with the Jacobson plat doesn't materialize, residents in Subarea 1 would be best served by identifying another mini-park site in their area; they are otherwise cut off by the freeway.

The City has a current acreage deficit in Neighborhood Parks which, lacking new development, is expected to grow to not only an acreage deficit but also a facility deficit within the current planning horizon. In terms of Regional Parks, the demand analysis indicates the need is met; however, as noted in the analysis the acreage is largely unimproved. While the City may not seek additional acreage, it will seek to develop the existing acreage in a way that maintains the regional appeal.

Although, at first blush, Castle Rock appears to be overserved in terms of Community Parks, they are of limited size and have targeted functions. Lions Pride provides great access to the Riverfront Trail along with some picnic opportunities, its other recreational offerings are limited, and its location makes it more suitable for visitors to the area than local residents. Residents note the need for a broader multi-use community park that could include a community center, playgrounds, additional community gardens, and other facilities. A community center has been planned for in the riverfront plan, and the City-owned dredge spoil site west of Dike Drive provides an excellent opportunity for such a facility. A community park on the large dredge spoil site also offers an opportunity for the construction of a community center that could potentially house a swimming pool and other amenities.

Other than the Eagles Club and numerous churches, there is currently only one “community center” type organization in Castle Rock, the Senior Center. The Castle Rock Senior Center functions as a non-profit organization and is directed toward serving seniors. The current club space is limited, and the organization does not have the room or functionality that would be needed to serve other age brackets. A centrally located community center could serve all ages, providing indoor facilities, entertainment, and recreational opportunities including nighttime and rainy-day activities. It could provide meeting rooms for continuing education classes, clubs, and other organizations, and would provide a safe place for all ages to meet.

Additional multi-use trails and extensions and/or connections of the Riverfront Trail are also needed. The trail enjoys heavy use by not only the Local and Extended Service Areas, but also visitors to the community. There are “missing links” that could connect it to the Cowlitz County trail beyond the city limits and across the river via a pedestrian bridge.

## CHAPTER VI

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM & FUNDING OPTIONS

Put not your trust in money,  
but put your money in trust.  
~Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

Table VI-1 sets out the City's parks and recreation development and funding priorities during the 2016-2021 planning period.

Table VI-6.1 Funding Key:

ALEA	Aquatic Land Enhancement Account	POL	Port of Longview
CC	Cowlitz County	P	Private
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant	RCO	Recreation & Conservation Office
CV	Civic Organizations	SD	Castle Rock School District #401
CY	City	SR	Salmon Recovery
DFW	Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	TIB	Transportation Improvement Board
GF	Gates Foundation	WF	Weyerhaeuser Foundation
H&M	Hotel & Motel Tax	WSDOT	Washington State Dept. of Transportation
LWC	Land & Water Conservation Fund		

Table VI-6.1 Facilities Key:

BL	Boat Launch
CP	Community Park
NP	Neighborhood Park
RP	Regional Park
SC	Sports Complex
SP	Sports Fields
SU	Special Use
T	Trail



**Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2016 – 2021 (page 1 of 5)**

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Potential Funding Source</b>	<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
1	Extend the Riverfront Trail on the east and west sides of the Cowlitz River & link to the Castle Rock-to-Lexington Trail Loop & Seaquest State Park on SR 504	RCO, ALEA, CY, CV, P, CC, LWC, WSDOT	T	\$590,000 SR 504	\$300,000 Eastside, N. Huntington to Exit 49	\$300,000 Westside from Arkansas Creek to Cook Ferry			
2	Make further improvements to the Bike Park	RCO, CY, P, CV, LWC	SU		\$125,000 Restrooms, parking, lighting, & skills structures				
3	Add more equipment to Skate Park	RCO, CY, P, CV	SU				\$10,000 skate equipment		
4	Construct a restroom at the N. trailhead on the east side trail	RCO, ALEA, CV, CY, P, LWC	T					\$85,000	
5	Incorporate entrance features welcoming residents and visitors at all entrances into the city	CC, CY, P, CV, H&M, WF	N/A	\$50,000 S. & N. Huntington & Exit 48		\$25,000 Four Corners			



**Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2016 – 2021 (page 2 of 5)**

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Potential Funding Source</b>	<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
6	Complete with the land swap with DNR for the “High Banks” property on the west side of river	CY, CC, DNR, P	N/A	\$14,000					
7	Improve & market the “High Banks” site for an RV resort	CY, CC, H&M, P	N/A		\$75,000				
8	Continue planning & design work on a community center, including a swimming pool &/or large community park	CDBG, CY, CC, P, CV, WF	CP						\$30,000
9	Provide outdoor kitchen areas at the Lion’s Pride Park, the “Rock” Community Park, or at a large community park that is yet to be built	RCO, CY, P, CV, WF	CP			\$15,000			
10	Add more features to the sports complex	RCO, CV, CY, P, CC, WF	CP, SC	\$500,000 Lighting, irrigation, & access issues	\$50,000 Babe Ruth field \$10,000 garden/orchard imps.	\$10,000 batting cages \$20,000 basketball courts	\$35,000 playground equipment	\$75,000 minor & softball fields	\$5,000 sand lot volleyball courts

**Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2016 – 2021 (page 3 of 5)**

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Potential Funding Source</b>	<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
11	Improve “The Rock” community park by rebuilding the scenic lookouts & adding historical markers & trails along the river side	RCO, ALEA, CY, CV, CC, P, LWC, WF	CP			\$45,000			
12	Develop a safe crossing over the Cowlitz River linking the west & east side segments of the Riverfront Trail system	WSDOT, RCO, CC, CY	T	\$100,000 survey & prelim. design	\$200,000 engr. spec. & permits	\$750,000 construction			
13	Publish a guide listing the available park and recreational opportunities in and around Castle Rock for distribution to the public	H&M, CY, CC, P	N/A		\$4,000				
14	Continue habitat enhancement opportunities on the Whittle, Arkansas, and other nearby creeks by partnering with the schools and other organizations	RCO, ALEA, DFW, SR, CY, CC, CV, P, WF	SU			\$100,000 Arkansas Creek			

**Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2016 – 2021 (page 4 of 5)**

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Potential Funding Source</b>	<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
15	Continue to collaborate with the Castle Rock School District and other interested groups on bicycle routes and safety information	WSDOT, CY	T					\$10,000	
16	Explore existing owned facilities for property to improve for sports practice fields	RCO, SD, CY, CV	SP, RP		\$5,000		\$5,000		
17	Make improvements to the “Jail” Park and Gateway Park	CY, H&M, CV, P	NP	\$2,000 New sign	\$2,000 Jail- historical signage				
18	Continue to add amenities to Coldwater Park	CV, CY, P, WF	NP	\$5,000		\$5,000			

**Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2016 – 2021 (page 5 of 5)**

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Potential Funding Source</b>	<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
19	Promote and assist with the development of the school/community garden opportunities	CY, SD, CV, P, WF	CP, SC, SU	\$10,000	\$5,000				
20	Complete Phase 3 of the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch	RCO, CV, CY, P, CC, POL, WF	BL, SU, SC		\$650,000				
21	Update the Riverfront Master Plan	RCO, CY	Multiple			\$6,500			

## Funding Options

Table VI-1 above identifies possible sources of funding for capital projects. A brief discussion is warranted so that alternative funding sources can be identified as specific projects are implemented and other sources of funding are required. Although there are other methods of funding specific projects, the possibilities listed below represent the most common sources of funding. Funding options include all levels and types of funding sources except those that do not appear to apply to facilities that might be found or located in Castle Rock. Of course, these opportunities are pending continued funding by the applicable government or other funder.

### Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/alea.shtml>

Funding to buy, protect, and restore aquatic lands habitat and to provide public access to waterfronts on navigable waters of the state.

### Boating Facilities Program

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/bfp.shtml>

Funding to acquire, design, build, and renovate facilities for recreational, motorized boats less than 26 feet in length.

### Boating Infrastructure Grant

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/big.shtml>

Funding to develop and renovate boating facilities targeting guest recreational boats 26 feet and larger, and also for boater education.

### Community Development Block Grants

<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Programs/Infrastructure/CDBG-Program-Overview/Pages/default.aspx>

Parks and recreational facilities are eligible activities under Section 570.201(c) - Public Facilities and Improvements. CDBG funding may be used for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or installation of such improvements or facilities. HUD emphasizes<sup>30</sup> that parks and recreational facilities assisted with CDBG funds must be open and available to the general public; they cannot be reserved exclusively or primarily for specific leagues or locked and available only by reservation for specific organizations.

### Community Economic Revitalization Board

<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/commissions/CommunityEconomicRevitalizationBoard/Pages/Planning-Program.aspx>

Limited funding for studies that evaluate high-priority economic development projects targeting job growth and long-term economic prosperity. Work can include site-specific plans, studies, and analyses that address environmental impacts, capital facilities, land use,

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<sup>30</sup> <http://www.hud.gov/local/wi/working/localpo/cpd/parks.pdf>



permitting, feasibility, marketing, project engineering, design, site planning, and project debt and revenue impacts.

#### Federal Transportation Funding

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/index.cfm>

Federal acts, goals, contents, and appropriations may vary during the life of a local planning document such as this. Since the last park plan update, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) replaced separate Transportation Enhancements, Recreational Trails, and Safe Routes to School programs included in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) that was discussed in the previous plan. In December 2015, new federal legislation, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, replaced MAP-21. The FAST Act repealed the TAP and folded it into the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP), funded as a set-aside at over \$800 million per year<sup>31</sup>. FAST Act authorizations run through 2020, so this program will undoubtedly be replaced by something else by the time of the next update.

#### Land and Water Conservation Fund<sup>32</sup>

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/lwcf.shtml>

Funding to buy or develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities for public use. Grants support both acquisition and development of active and passive recreation areas and conservation lands.

#### No Child Left Inside

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/ncli.shtml>

Funding for outdoor environmental, ecological, agricultural, or other natural resource-based education and recreation programs serving youth.

#### Salmon Recovery

[http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/sal\\_rec\\_grants.shtml](http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/sal_rec_grants.shtml)

Funding to buy, protect, and restore aquatic lands habitat and to provide public access to waterfronts on navigable waters of the state.

#### Transportation Improvement Board

<http://www.tib.wa.gov/grants/smallcity/SmallCityOverview.cfm>

Some transportation improvements funded by TIB programs, such as street lights and sidewalks, may complement recreational projects such as trails.

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<sup>31</sup> <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/factsheets/>

<sup>32</sup> Congress allowed the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, which provides pass-down funding to states for local matching grants, to expire in late 2015. It was reinstated as part of an omnibus appropriations bill on December 16, 2015, but only for a three-year period. There is a high degree of support nationwide for permanent reauthorization, but lacking some such action, the funding could expire during this planning period.

### Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/wwrp.shtml>

#### Local Parks

Funding to acquire, develop, or renovate outdoor recreation facilities for neighborhood, community, and regional parks. At least half of the funding in this grant category is dedicated to acquisition.

#### Trails

Funding to acquire, develop, or renovate pedestrian, equestrian, bicycle, or cross-country ski trails that are non-motorized and provide connections to neighborhoods, communities, or regional trails.

#### Water Access

Funding to create physical access to shorelines for non-motorized, water-related recreation activities such as boating and fishing. At least 75 percent of funding is dedicated to acquisition.

### Youth Athletic Facilities

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/yaf.shtml>

Funding to buy land and renovate outdoor athletic facilities that serve youth.

Other funding sources can include:

- Bonds and levies (public debt)
- Community groups
- Concessionaire agreements
- Donations (funds, labor, gift catalogs, memorials, etc. from individuals or groups)
- Park and recreation district
- Park foundation
- Planned giving (legacy/estate gifts)
- Private foundations or other funders
- User fees (including scholarship funds)

The Municipal Research and Services Center<sup>33</sup> additionally offers these approaches for park and open space acquisition:

Monetary:

Development rights acquisition program  
Real estate excise tax  
General obligation bonds  
Fee in lieu of dedication

Non-monetary:

Parks/open space dedication requirement (subdivisions)  
Density bonus or transfer program  
Development agreement  
Transfer of development rights program

Thanks to its staff and deeply committed community volunteers, the City has proven more adept than many small communities with limited resources at leveraging resources to carry out its parks and recreation goals. This is expected to perpetuate into the future as work under this plan moves forward.

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<sup>33</sup> <http://mrsc.org/getdoc/ff42c575-667c-41fb-8c1b-1a5cf6158610/Request-for-information-on-funding-sources-for-the.aspx>



## CHAPTER VII

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & PLAN ADOPTION

Public narrative is a leadership art  
through which we translate  
values into action,  
engaging heart, head, and hands.  
~Marshall Ganz

By their nature and very often by statute, community planning efforts incorporate a public process that is designed to involve the general public in the decision-making process. In terms of park planning, the RCO emphasizes the importance of public participation – not just public involvement and support, but documentation as well. “You’ll need the documentation to defend your plan and the decisions you make because of the plan.” That documentation becomes part of the City’s submittal to the RCO.

The Park Board is the body charged with developing this plan. The public involvement process consisted of numerous public outreach efforts. Castle Rock School District #401, via its superintendent, actively participated in the planning process and reviewed its goals and objectives specific to School facilities and property. In addition to regular monthly Park Board meetings, special meetings were held to consider individual chapters and review plan content. Of course, Park Board meetings are open to the public and noticed under the state Open Public Meetings Act; however, as with many other local government meetings, they experience limited public attendance.

One notable exception was Nancy Chennault, volunteer coordinator for Castle Rock Blooms, an active project of the non-profit Castle Rock Community Development Alliance’s Marketing Action Team. The City and Chamber of Commerce help support Castle Rock Blooms’ annual participation in the national America in Bloom® competition. While Castle Rock Blooms isn’t an official City endeavor, it demonstrates a strong collaboration between community organizations and individual and business volunteers whose product certainly draws visitors to Castle Rock parks. Castle Rock Blooms won



Nancy Chennault received the 2014 John R. Holmes III  
Community Champion Award from America in Bloom

(Source: <http://www.americainbloom.org/Awards-Program/Community-Champion-Award.aspx>)



2015 recognition for its video<sup>34</sup>, in which its beautification efforts can be seen in several of the parks depicted in Chapter IV, as well as other public spaces. Nancy sat in on several of the early Park Board discussions as the plan was under review.

As detailed in Chapter V, a broadly distributed public survey solicited public input to get input on community needs and park users' desires and concerns. Surveys were distributed both in hard copy form and using SurveyMonkey® to residents, students, businesses, and community groups. Downtown businesses distributed them to customers, and Castle Rock students took part as a school assignment. Social media was employed to share the survey via the Facebook® pages of local businesses, community groups, and the media. The Park Board reviewed a tabulation of the 674 responses to gain user perspectives on their use of existing facilities and possible improvements to those facilities, where and what type of new parks/features should be developed, and the overall level of service provided.

Following a recommendation of adoption by the Park Board on January 13, 2016, a determination of non-significance was issued under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) on January 15, 2016 (Appendix C). A public hearing was held by the City Council to consider the draft plan on February 8, 2016. The draft plan was made available on the City's website and at City Hall and the Castle Rock Library prior to the hearing, and notice was posted in local newspapers and on the City's website and Facebook. The final plan was adopted by the Castle Rock City Council on February 22, 2016, and by the School Board on February 23, 2016. Adoption materials, including the self-checklist required by RCO, are included in Appendix D.

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<sup>34</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZiZjIUQUTbg>. See more information on the final page of this document.

## APPENDICES

I am turned into a sort of machine for  
observing facts and grinding out  
conclusions.

~Charles Darwin

- A. Castle Rock Park & Recreation Community Survey
- B. Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan
- C. SEPA Documentation
- D. Adoption Materials



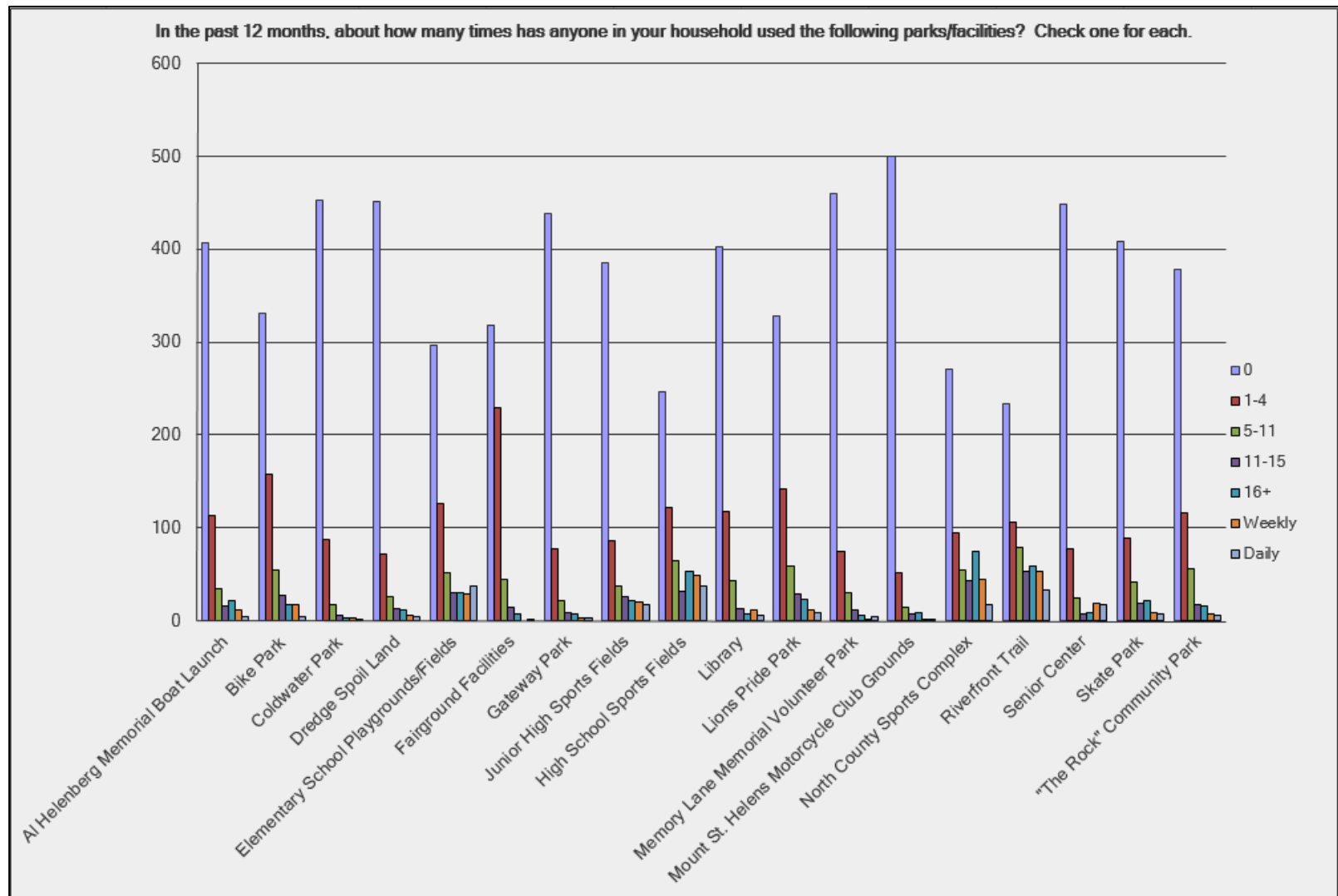
# **Castle Rock Park & Recreation Community Survey**

**Final Compilation  
December 10, 2015**

**1. In the past 12 months, about how many times has anyone in your household used the following parks/facilities? Check one for each.**

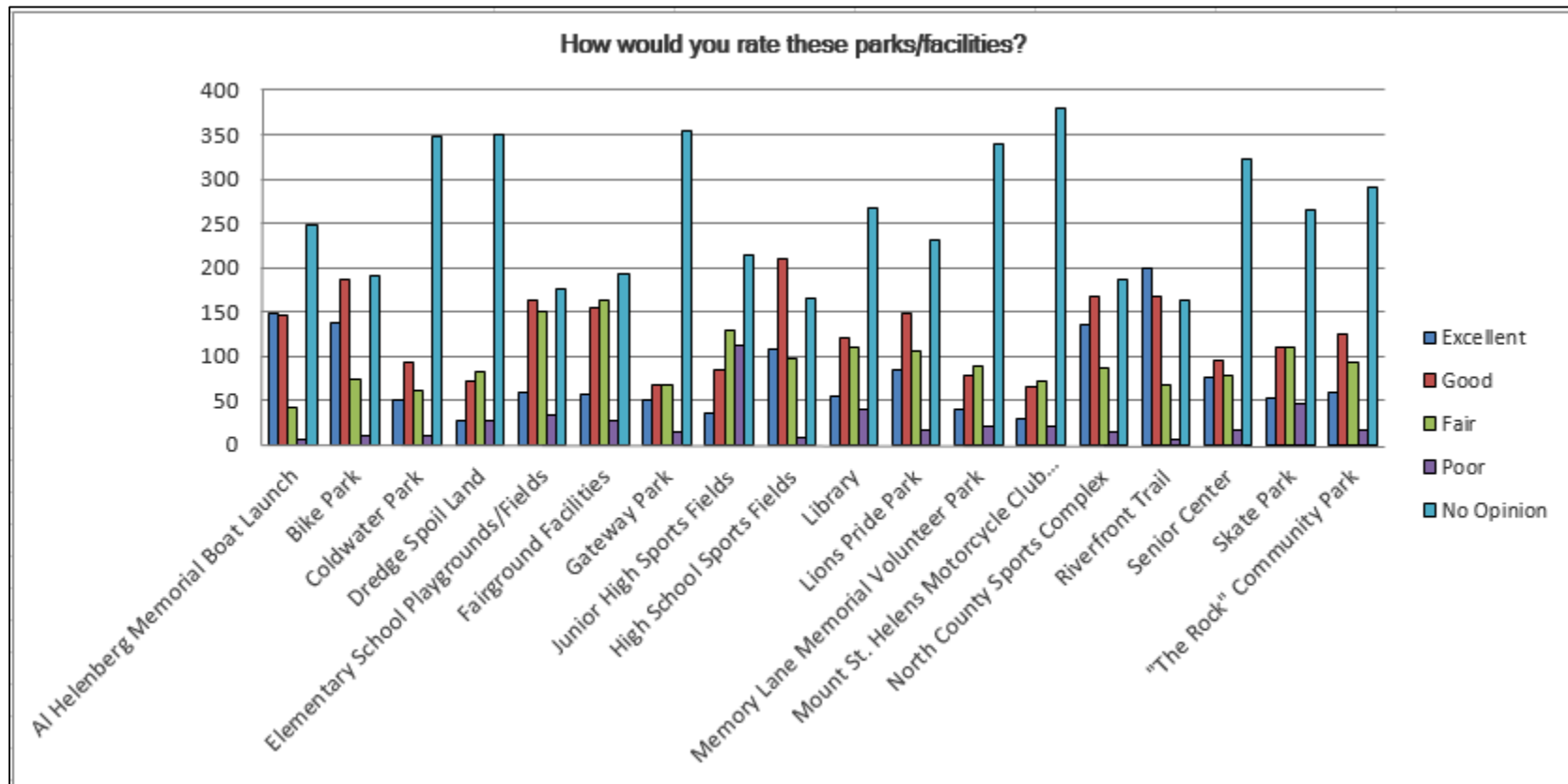
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1-4</b>	<b>5-10</b>	<b>11-15</b>	<b>16+</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Daily</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch	407	114	35	16	21	11	5	609
Bike Park	331	158	54	27	18	18	4	610
Coldwater Park	453	88	18	6	3	3	1	572
Dredge Spoil Land	451	72	26	13	11	6	4	583
Elementary School Playgrounds/Fields	296	126	52	30	30	29	38	601
Fairground Facilities	318	230	45	14	7	0	1	615
Gateway Park	438	77	22	9	7	3	3	559
Junior High Sports Fields	385	86	37	26	21	20	17	592
High School Sports Fields	247	122	64	32	53	49	37	604
Library	402	118	43	13	7	12	6	601
Lions Pride Park	328	142	59	29	23	12	9	602
Memory Lane Memorial Volunteer Park	460	74	30	11	6	2	4	587
Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club Grounds	500	51	15	7	9	1	2	585
North County Sports Complex	271	95	55	43	75	44	17	600
Riverfront Trail	233	106	79	53	59	53	33	616
Senior Center	449	78	25	8	9	19	17	605
Skate Park	409	89	41	19	22	9	7	596
"The Rock" Community Park	379	116	56	17	16	8	6	598
<i>answered question</i>							<b>669</b>	<b>669</b>
<i>skipped question</i>							<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>





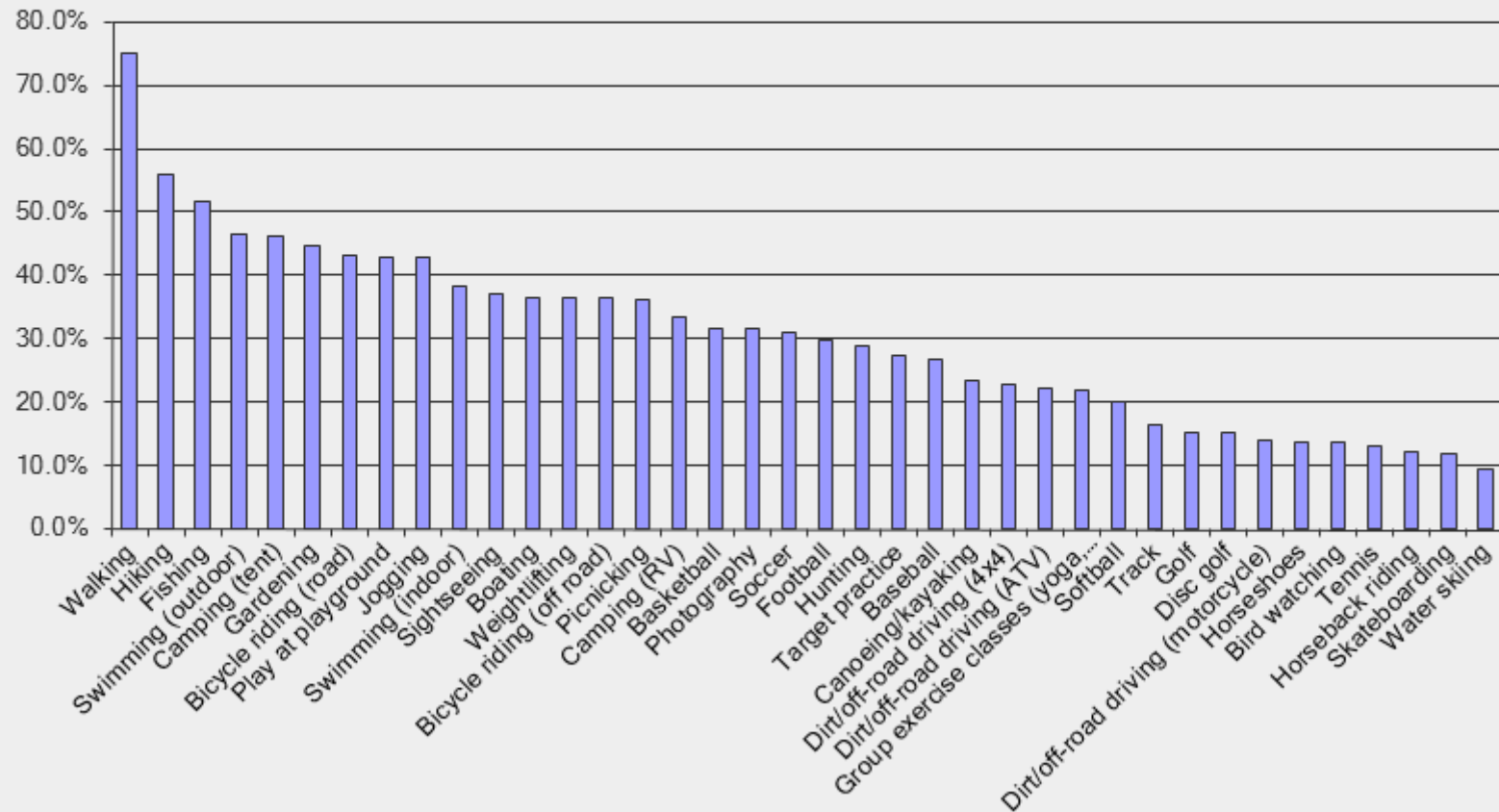
**2. How would you rate these parks/facilities? Check one for each.**

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch	149	146	43	5	248	591
Bike Park	137	187	74	11	191	600
Coldwater Park	50	93	62	10	347	562
Dredge Spoil Land	27	72	83	28	349	559
Elementary School Playgrounds/Fields	60	164	150	33	176	583
Fairground Facilities	56	154	164	28	193	595
Gateway Park	51	68	68	14	355	556
Junior High Sports Fields	36	84	130	112	214	576
High School Sports Fields	107	209	98	8	166	588
Library	54	120	110	40	268	592
Lions Pride Park	84	148	105	16	230	583
Memory Lane Memorial Volunteer Park	39	78	88	21	339	565
Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club Grounds	30	66	72	20	380	568
North County Sports Complex	136	167	87	15	187	592
Riverfront Trail	200	167	67	7	163	604
Senior Center	77	96	78	16	323	590
Skate Park	53	109	111	47	265	585
"The Rock" Community Park	59	125	94	16	290	584
<i>answered question</i>						<b>643</b>
<i>skipped question</i>						<b>31</b>



<b>3. Which of these activities do you participate in at least once a year? Check all that apply.</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Walking	75.1%	471
Hiking	55.8%	350
Fishing	51.7%	324
Swimming (outdoor)	46.6%	292
Camping (tent)	46.3%	290
Gardening	44.7%	280
Bicycle riding (road)	43.1%	270
Play at playground	42.9%	269
Jogging	42.7%	268
Swimming (indoor)	38.4%	241
Sightseeing	37.2%	233
Boating	36.5%	229
Weightlifting	36.5%	229
Bicycle riding (off road)	36.4%	228
Picnicking	36.0%	226
Camping (RV)	33.3%	209
Basketball	31.6%	198
Photography	31.6%	198
Soccer	30.9%	194
Football	29.8%	187
Hunting	28.9%	181
Target practice	27.3%	171
Baseball	26.8%	168
Canoeing/kayaking	23.4%	147
Dirt/off-road driving (4x4)	22.8%	143
Dirt/off-road driving (ATV)	22.3%	140
Group exercise classes (yoga, Zumba, etc.)	21.9%	137
Softball	19.9%	125
Track	16.3%	102
Golf	15.2%	95
Disc golf	15.2%	95
Dirt/off-road driving (motorcycle)	13.9%	87
Horseshoes	13.7%	86
Bird watching	13.6%	85
Tennis	13.1%	82
Horseback riding	12.0%	75
Skateboarding	11.8%	74
Water skiing	9.4%	59
<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>627</b>	<b>627</b>
<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>

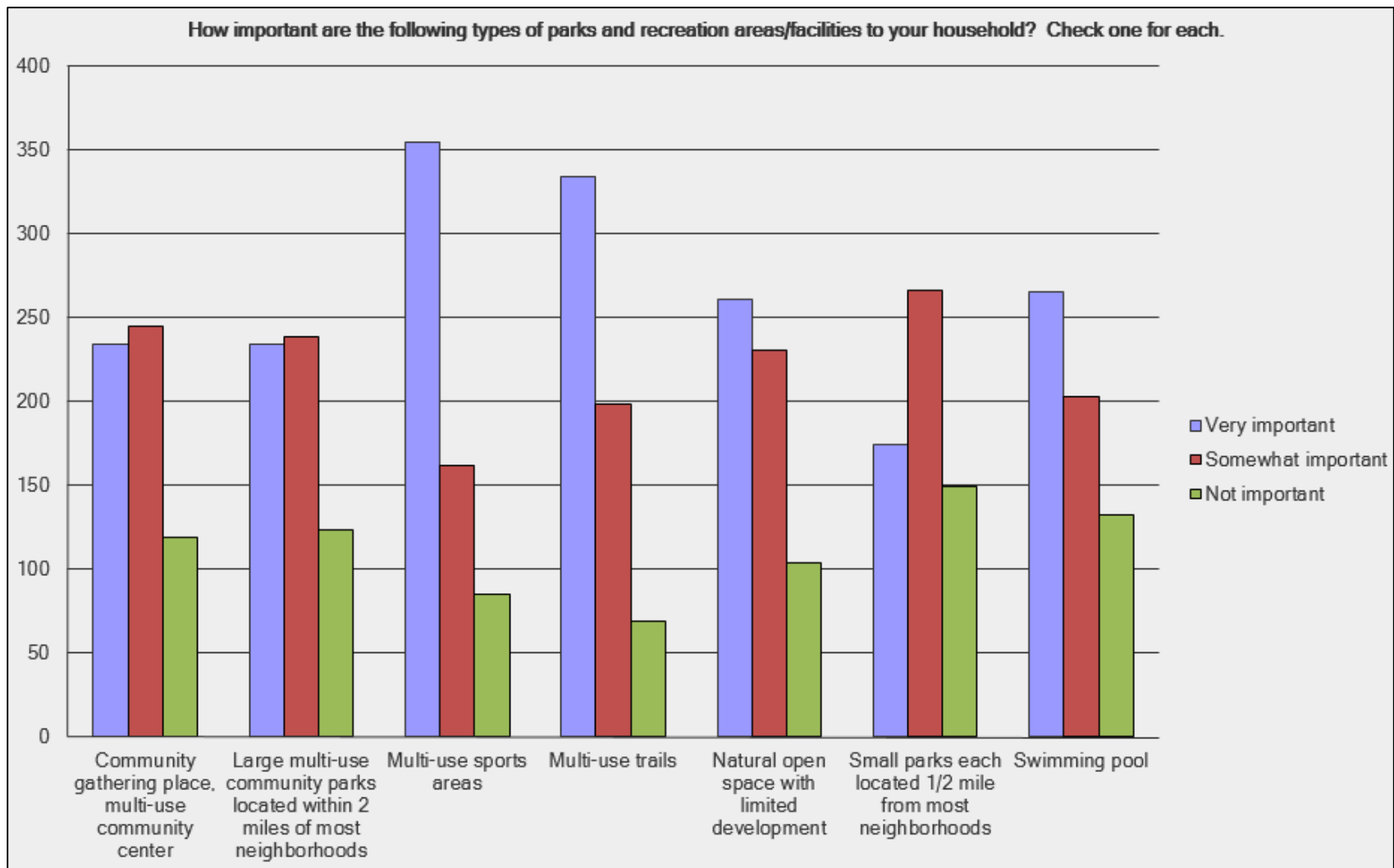
Which of these activities do you participate in at least once a year? Check all that apply.





**4. How important are the following types of parks and recreation areas/facilities to your household? Check one for each.**

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat Important</b>	<b>Not Important</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Community gathering place, multi-use community center	234	245	119	598
Large multi-use community parks located within 2 miles of most neighborhoods	234	239	123	596
Multi-use sports areas	355	162	85	602
Multi-use trails	334	198	69	601
Natural open space with limited development	261	231	104	596
Small parks each located 1/2 mile from most neighborhoods	174	266	149	589
Swimming pool	265	203	132	600
<i>answered question</i>			<b>627</b>	<b>627</b>
<i>skipped question</i>			<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>

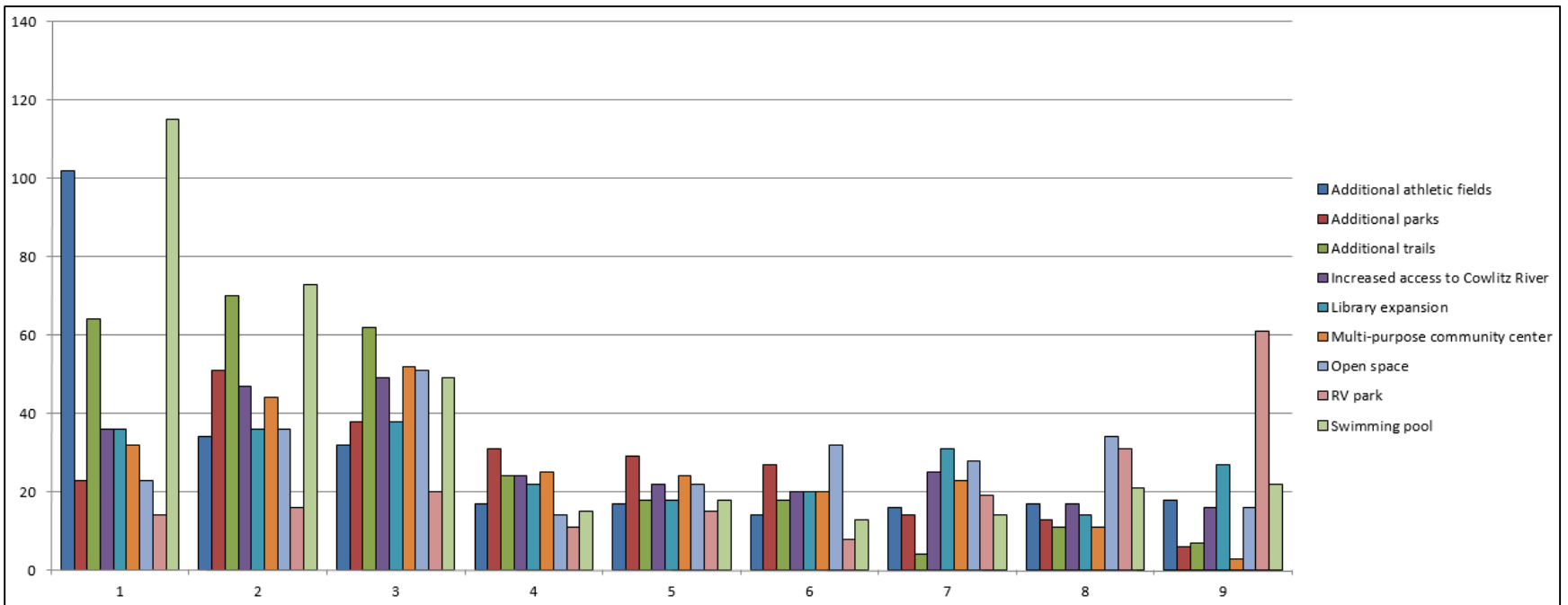


For Question 4, there was a fill-in portion where participants could record other areas/facilities that were important to them. There were 57 responses. The responses have not been edited for grammar or spelling.

- library-very important; swimming beach on the Cowlitz w/ changing room and minimum portajohns
- safe pedestrian bridge to cross river
- shooting range
- dog park
- sidewalks from neighborhood to parks
- would like to see swimming pool residents could use year round
- soccer feilds
- fishing area
- hang out for kids
- public hunting areas
- golf course
- obstical course
- skate park
- sports feilds
- public library
- fairgrounds
- state land undeveloped
- gym
- arcades
- rec rooms!
- dog park- fenced
- golf course
- yoder trails
- yodes trails
- ice skating
- hiking trails nearby
- horse shoe pits
- 4x4 trails
- golf course
- skatepark
- concert vasility
- bike park
- ATV area at dredge spoils
- large gym space with hardwood floors for multiple sport use.
- spray park
- multi-use gym for all youth sports to use. Also, a water sprayer park
- batting cages
- Playground equipment along river front trail desperately needs updated
- Inside Roller skating rink
- Soccer field improments, lighting seating
- The playgrounds are in desperate need of updates, they do not seem safe.
- bathrooms
- somewhere to ride motorcycles/dirt bikes
- a swimming/water park area is much needed
- fishing area for handicap persons
- Animal raising area
- Sure was nice when there was a pool in town ---- shame it was paved over
- I would like a swimming pool in our area because it would mean less trips to Longview (I am a senior)
- We need restrooms at the middle school field and the high school football practice field. At the high school for youth cheerleading and youth football we have to walk kids up the hill to the baseball field outhouse.
- recreatrional trails for hiking, biking, running sightseeing and birdwatching are highly favored.
- somewhere to ride motorcycles
- pool is desperately needed
- Garden, edible plants.
- artificial turf field
- raquet ball/wallyball court
- outdoor volleyball courts
- A boys&whirls club/ community center and swimming pool/ athletic club would be wonderful for our community!!

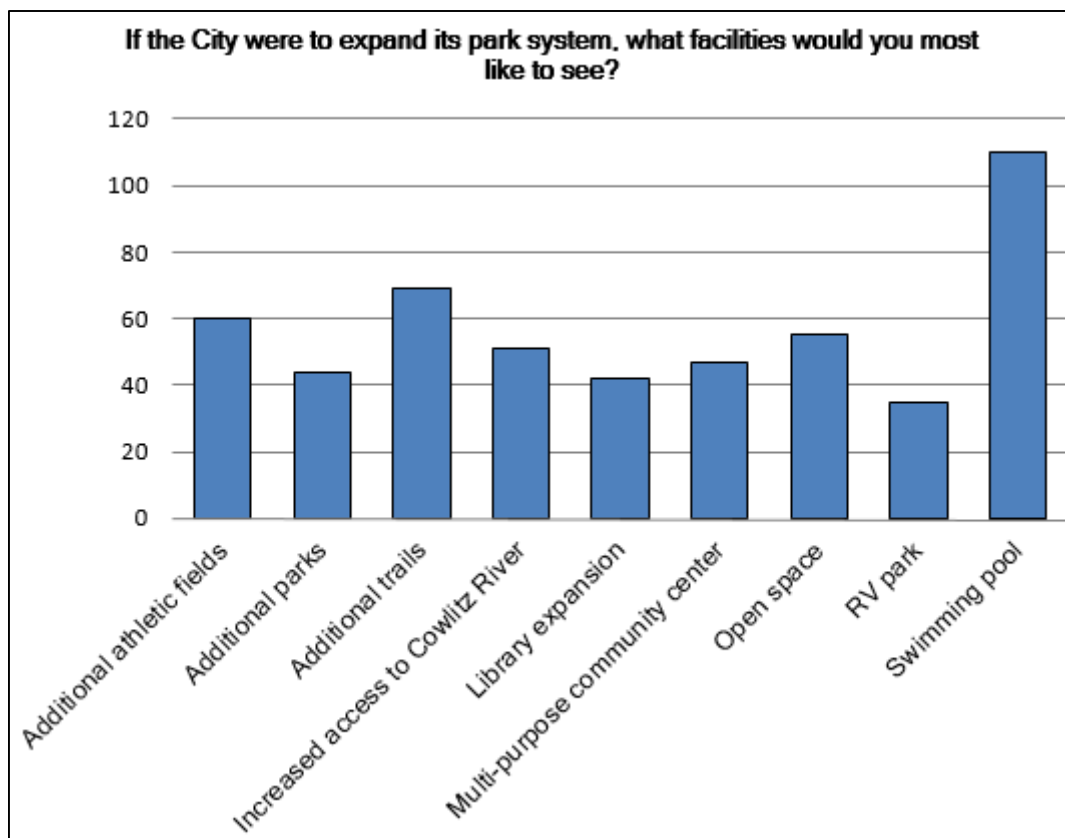
5. If the City were to expand its park system, what facilities would you most like to see? Put your choices in order from highest to lowest preference by clicking and dragging or using the drop down box available.

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Rating Average	Response Count
Additional athletic fields	102	34	32	17	17	14	16	17	18	3.42	267
Additional parks	23	51	38	31	29	27	14	13	6	3.99	232
Additional trails	64	70	62	24	18	18	4	11	7	3.10	278
Increased access to Cowlitz River	36	47	49	24	22	20	25	17	16	4.13	256
Library expansion	36	36	38	22	18	20	31	14	27	4.51	242
Multi-purpose community center	32	44	52	25	24	20	23	11	3	3.81	234
Open space	23	36	51	14	22	32	28	34	16	4.76	256
RV park	14	16	20	11	15	8	19	31	61	6.17	195
Swimming pool	115	73	49	15	18	13	14	21	22	3.24	340
<b>answered question</b>											<b>456</b>
<b>skipped question</b>											<b>218</b>



The following information reflects participant data where the respondent did not rank the items they would most like to see expanded, but rather checked the items they would like to see in no particular order.

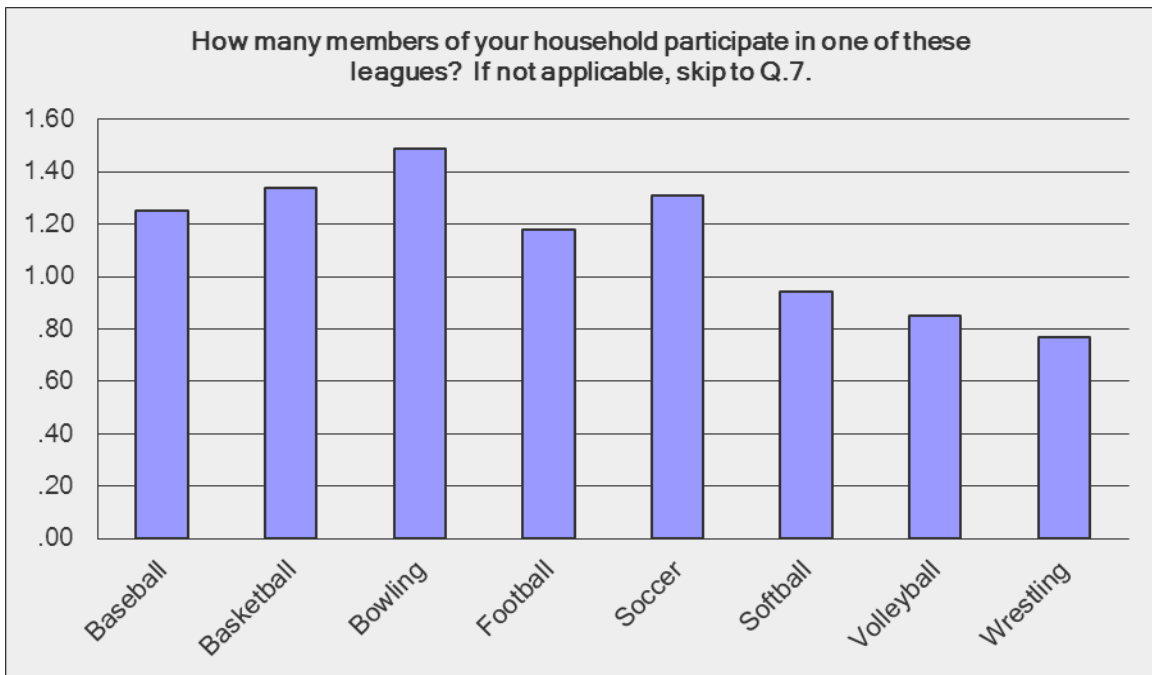
<b>5. If the City were to expand its park system, what facilities would you most like to see?</b>	
Total Participants	140
<b>Recreational Opportunity</b>	<b># of Participants</b>
Additional athletic fields	60
Additional parks	44
Additional trails	69
Increased access to Cowlitz River	51
Library expansion	42
Multi-purpose community center	47
Open space	55
RV park	35
Swimming pool	110





6. How many members of your household participate in one of these leagues? If not applicable, skip to Q.7.

Answer Options	Response Average	Response Total	Response Count
Baseball	1.25	273	219
Basketball	1.34	336	251
Bowling	1.49	241	162
Football	1.18	275	233
Soccer	1.31	328	250
Softball	.94	180	192
Volleyball	.85	162	190
Wrestling	.77	152	198
<i>answered question</i>			<b>380</b>
<i>skipped question</i>			<b>294</b>



7. What is the ONE park or recreational facility you use most frequently?	
Answer Options	Response Count
	321
<i>answered question</i>	321
<i>skipped question</i>	353

For Question 7, there was a fill-in portion where participants could record which facility they used the most. There were 321 responses. The responses have not been edited for grammar or spelling. The results begin on the next page.

- Memory Lane Volunteer Park
- elementary play area
- riverfront trail
- bathrooms @ dike- last few times my kids and I walked the dike and had to pee the bathrooms were either locked or so nasty we had to hold it.
- none
- North County
- shooting range
- North County
- bike park
- boatlaunch
- North County
- North County
- skate park
- Everywhere
- North County
- none
- North County
- North County
- high school sports feild
- skate park
- skate park
- bike park
- dike
- bike park
- high school
- Toutal Lake Trailer Park
- riverfront trail
- Mt. St. Helens Motorcycle Club
- High School Sports Fields
- North County
- bike park
- skate park
- riverside trail
- tennis court
- bike park
- track/football field
- North County
- soccer field
- soccer field
- soccer field
- fairgrounds
- riverfront trail
- school gym
- High School Fields
- High School Fields
- bike park
- bike park
- hrsa school
- high school football practice field
- North County
- a park
- Pacific
- HS Softball Fields
- High School Fields
- football field and practice field
- DownTown- Public Restroom
- North County
- Lion's Park
- North County
- Lions Park
- North County
- basketball court
- school parking
- school parking
- Lions Pride Park
- riverfront trail
- bike park
- North County
- skate park
- riverfront trail
- Castle Rock Elementary Playground
- North County
- North County
- North County Sports Complex
- Lion's Pride Park
- High School Fields
- Lions Pride Park- Huntington Avenue
- boat launch
- riverfront trail
- riverfront trail
- riverfront trail
- riverfront trail
- high school
- Elementary school playground
- high school
- ?
- High School football stadium
- Cold water park
- middle school basketball hoops out back
- Elementary school playground/fields
- football field
- North County
- skatepark
- High school football feild
- dike
- The Rock
- High Schoo Fields
- the dik
- baseball feilds
- Gateway Park
- Coldwater Park
- playground @ ES
- Elementary playground
- Dredge Spoil Land
- North county
- North County
- Sports complex
- Dike path
- North County Recreation
- North County
- HS sports fields
- River tail
- Sports complex
- Tam o shanter
- Soccer field
- Bike park
- Riverwalk
- Walking trails
- Riverfront trail
- Trailhead
- Mint valley
- Swimming Pool
- SOCCER FIELDS
- DIKE TRAIL
- North County Sports Complex
- Multi sport complex
- my kids use the soccer fields
- Riverfront trail
- North County
- 7 th ave fields Longview
- Nw Complex
- YMCA
- Soccer fields

- Bike Park
- North County
- dont know name
- Soccer field next to high school
- Riverfront Trail
- Bike park
- Waterfront Trail
- North County
- Soccer park
- river
- riverfront trail
- North County
- Lion's Pride Park
- The play grounds
- Memorial Park
- Athletic field
- Soccer fields
- Northgate
- multi-sport complex
- 7th Avenue Parks
- Sports Complex
- North County
- Sports complex
- The one by the boat launch
- North County
- Soccer fields - sports complex
- sports complex
- Castle Rock baseball fields...north county..
- North county sports park
- Riverfront
- SOCCER Fields at North County Park
- North County Sports Complex
- North County Sports Complex
- Elementary school playground
- North County Sports
- motorcycle track
- riverfront trail/bike park
- riverfront trail
- trails
- CR Middle School
- walking trail
- LIBRARY
- Playground
- Lions Pride Park
- Mt. St. Helens M/C Park
- lion's park
- walking path
- Lions Park
- River Front Trail
- north county
- lions
- bike park
- riverfront trail
- riverfront trail
- North County
- North County Sports Complex
- bike Park
- Bike Park
- North County rec area-- Grandchildren participation
- mtb trails
- Mountain bike trails
- Bike Park
- Trail
- Bike park
- High School Sports Fields.
- North County sports complex
- North County
- sports complex
- NCRA
- North county
- Walking Trail
- Elementary school
- bike park
- Lion's Pride
- Walking trail
- Lions Pride Park
- Dike Walking Trail
- Castle rock boat launch
- lions park
- North County
- North County
- elementary playground
- Boatlaunch/North County Recreation Complex
- boat launch
- Bike park
- North County
- Gateway Park
- Riverfront trail
- north county
- North County
- Riverfront Trail
- Elementary School
- River front Trail
- Walking Trail
- Riverfront Trail, High School fields
- Walking trails along the river
- Trail walking
- Nth Co.or
- Currently the high school practice field
- Riverfront Trail
- None
- Riverfront Trial
- Lions Park
- Riverfront Trail
- School Playground
- Riverfront Trail
- Riverfront walk
- Running trails
- River Front Trail
- Dredge Spoils
- Sports complex
- North county athletic fields
- Mt st Helens motorcycle club
- riverfront trails
- North County Sports Complex
- high school fields
- North county trails
- North County Recreational Complex
- Walking Trail
- North County
- North County
- North County Complex
- North County Complex
- riverfront trail
- north county
- north county
- Sports park
- NCRA
- Baseball Fields
- North County
- North county
- North county sports complex
- N.C. R.A

- north county
- Mt St Helens  
Motorcycle park
- Lions park
- North County  
Recreation Complex
- Baseball feilds
- North County Sports  
Complex
- North County
- walking trails
- walking trails
- Baseball softball fields
- Boat launch
- North county
- river front trail
- north county sports  
complex
- North Complex
- NCRA fields
- Riverfront trail
- Lions Park
- North County Sports  
Complex
- NCRA Complex
- North County Softball  
fields
- Riverfront Trail
- North county sports  
complex
- Riverfront trail
- Bike/Walking Trail
- Riverfront Trail
- Riverfront trail
- Riverfront Trail
- Riverfront trail
- Lions Pride
- Trail
- North County Sports  
Complex
- North County
- Riverfront Trail
- Lions Park
- Walking trail
- North County and Boat  
Launch
- Riverfront Trail
- Riverfront Trail
- North County Sports  
Complex
- Coldwater
- North County

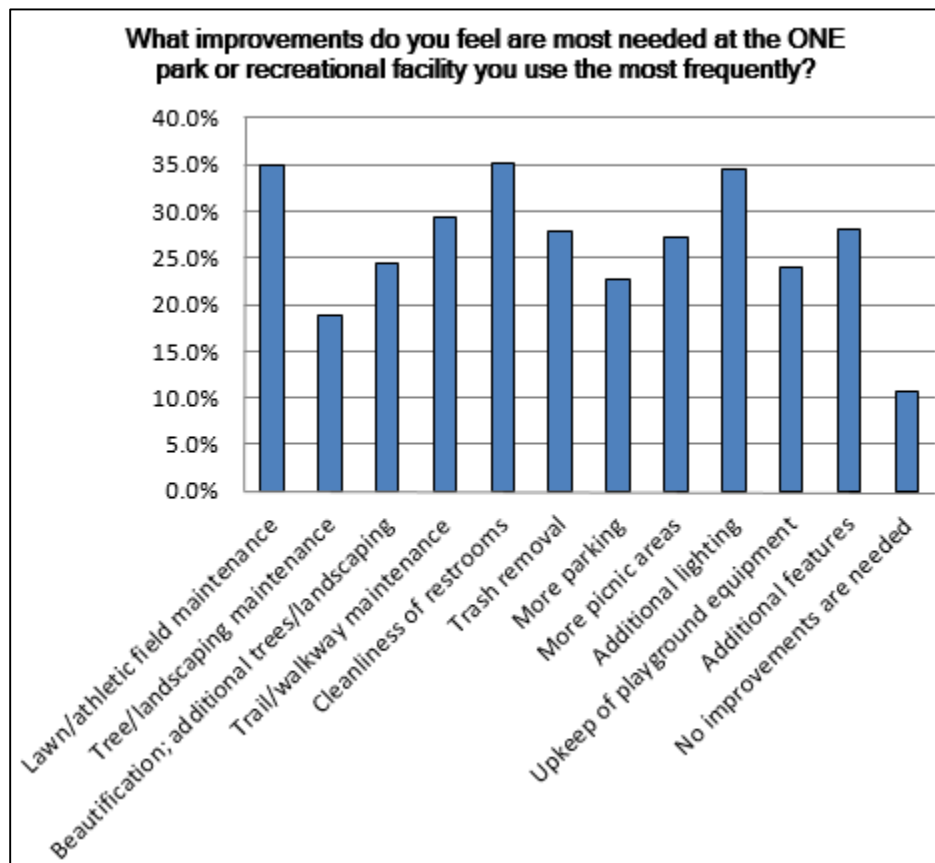
- North County  
Recreation  
Center/Garden
- playground equipment
- Trail
- North County
- Walking trail
- Lions club park for  
fishing
- As you come in town  
by the river
- Lions Pride
- Bike park
- North county athletic  
park
- Riverfront trail
- Elementary school  
playground
- NCRA



**8. What improvements do you feel are most needed at the ONE park or recreational facility you use most frequently? Check all that apply.**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Lawn/athletic field maintenance	34.9%	187
Tree/landscaping maintenance	18.8%	101
Beautification; additional trees/landscaping	24.4%	131
Trail/walkway maintenance	29.3%	157
Cleanliness of restrooms	35.1%	188
Trash removal	27.8%	149
More parking	22.8%	122
More picnic areas	27.2%	146
Additional lighting	34.5%	185
Upkeep of playground equipment	24.1%	129
Additional features	28.0%	150
No improvements are needed	10.6%	57
Other (please specify)		99
<b>answered question</b>		<b>536</b>
<b>skipped question</b>		<b>138</b>

All individual answers collected in the “other” portion are compiled on the following two pages.



- restrooms
- restrooms
- pedestrian bridge to cross river
- neighborhoods need sidewalks and lighting
- longer distance
- more bathrooms
- silver lake
- turf football field
- place you can ride horses
- wrestling room!!!
- baseball batting cage
- new practice gear
- respect of land
- better parking lot
- more bathrooms @ sports complex
- yoder things
- yodes trail
- new grave
- less expensive
- need restrooms
- put north county in city
- basketball court
- better skate park
- add a walking trail
- Swampy soccer fields
- Make the path into a loop through town
- more playground equipment
- Playground equipment near spectator area would be great
- New updated playground equipment
- We need an aquatic center such as the one in Chehalis.
- REPLACE BURNED OUT LIGHTS
- Park / playground. Add'l restrooms
- Need restrooms
- More space for soccer fields is needed.
- a few more benches
- bathroom at both ends of Riverfront trail
- The play ground is very old and I do not feel it is safe, the metal slide

- gets very hot in the summer. A new playground would be wonderful so we don't have to drive to Longview to play.
- Restroom facilities open during practice and game hours
- Drainage for fields so they don't turn into unplayable lakes.
- paving of parking lot is needed
- make it half-mile oval
- more restrooms by bike park
- removal of silt from boat launch
- needs a decent playground
- REVISED SHELF SPACE FOR NEWER FORMS OF BOOKS/DISCS/ETC
- Available restrooms
- playground
- building maintenance
- handicap use
- Less flowers which need continual maintenance at the tax payer's expense. The tax payers are paying for staff and water to maintain flowers around town which are really not needed to expand the city. Our taxes could be better spent on trimming our trees around town which would beautify our city.
- Coverings block wind, rain, and sun for the crowd.
- rest rooms
- more doggie bags for cleanup after pets
- The parking lot would be great if it had more lighting in the baseball complex and parking. Also a better walk way

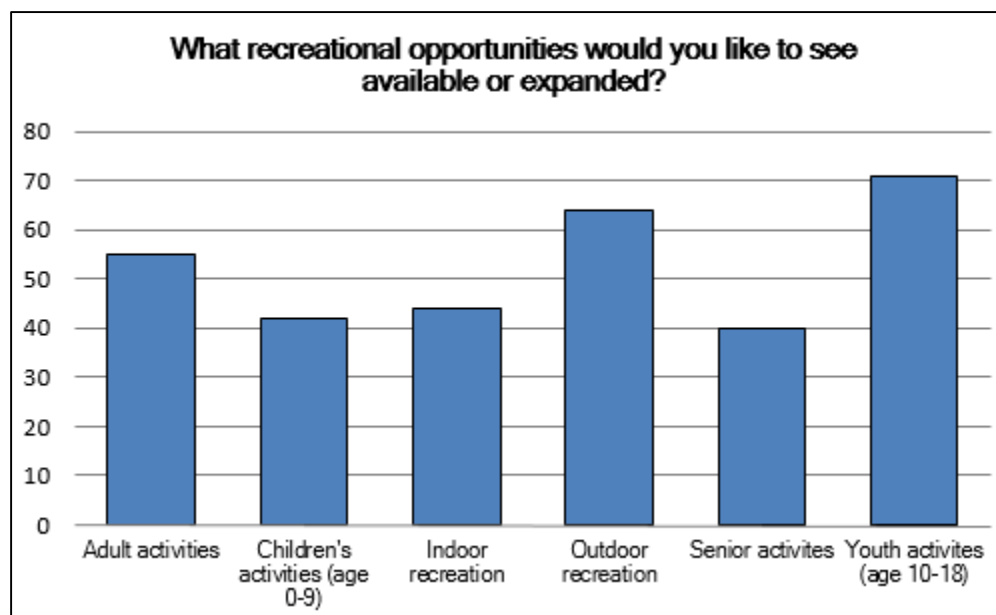
- and bleachers down at the lower soccer fields and additional drainage to help the fields.
- Restrooms are needed
- Restrooms possibly
- More playground equipment
- Need to put in some type of restroom facility at the bike park
- ADS Compliance
- Swimming
- public restrooms
- Restrooms
- Playground equipment
- Better parking ---
- More restrooms
- younger/ toddler play park
- Restrooms needed as well as lighting for late practices
- Lighting lighting lighting. Safety of high importance and the winter day light hours are short.
- Improved parking/paved. Additional restrooms
- Expansion to the north
- Playground would be great!
- lighting, grand stands, field maintenance, fencing for off road racing is needed. this facility stimulates the economy when motorcycle racing happens
- Love to see a playground
- Finish the pavement and install lighting at the sports fields
- Another restroom closer to the soccer fields would be great, as would additional seating. One of the smaller playgrounds in downtown could be moved to North County

where they would see more use / better use of space.

- Paving of parking lot
- Paving of parking lot
- Play Ground, Covered Picnic Area
- Paved parking lot
- Paved Parking Lot
- I would like to see a spray park go in for our kids
- Take care of the old soccer field behind elementary school. Install a gate to keep people from tearing up the fields with vehicles.
- Softball/baseball field lights and drainage.
- It would be great if they had a playground facility on sight
- Paving the parking at North county
- artificial sports turf
- Repave the parking lot and remark parking spaces.
- Would love to have the walking area paved to the softball dugouts!
- Fencing maintenance needed
- It would be nice to have a few more benches accessible along the trail for those needing to rest.
- I would like to see more garbage cans along the Riverfront trail
- RIDICULOUS that a car has to pay the \$5 fee to park by the boat launch. Total JOKE!!!
- Add a playground
- Add a play ground at North County Recreation Center
- Dogie bags for clean up on trails or reminders to dog owners to pick up after their dogs.
- Paved driveway
- Great venue. Wish there was a playground there - and a large covered area.
- Restrooms and lighting
- More playground equipment. There is a large field on either side of the playground, plenty of room to do so. My daughter says the big kids don't get to play on the equipment very much. They are elementary students. Put more equipment in and let them be kids

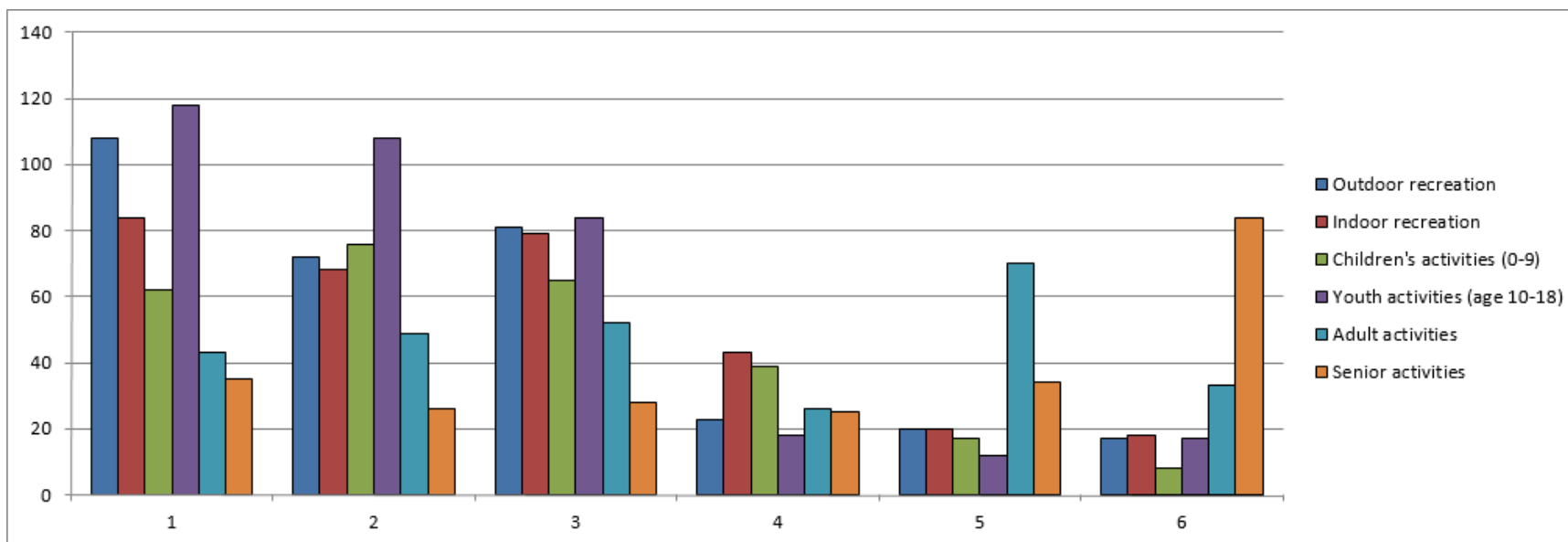
For question 8, participants were asked to rank which opportunities they would like to see expanded. Many placed checkmarks beside the opportunity rather than rank them. The following charts show results from those participants.

<b>8. What Recreational opportunities would you like to see available or expanded?</b>	
Total Participants	99
Activity Title	# of Participants
Adult activities	55
Children's activities (age 0-9)	42
Indoor recreation	44
Outdoor recreation	64
Senior activities	40
Youth activities (age 10-18)	71



9. What recreational opportunities would you like to see available or expanded? Put your choices in order from highest to lowest preference by clicking and dragging or using the drop down box available.

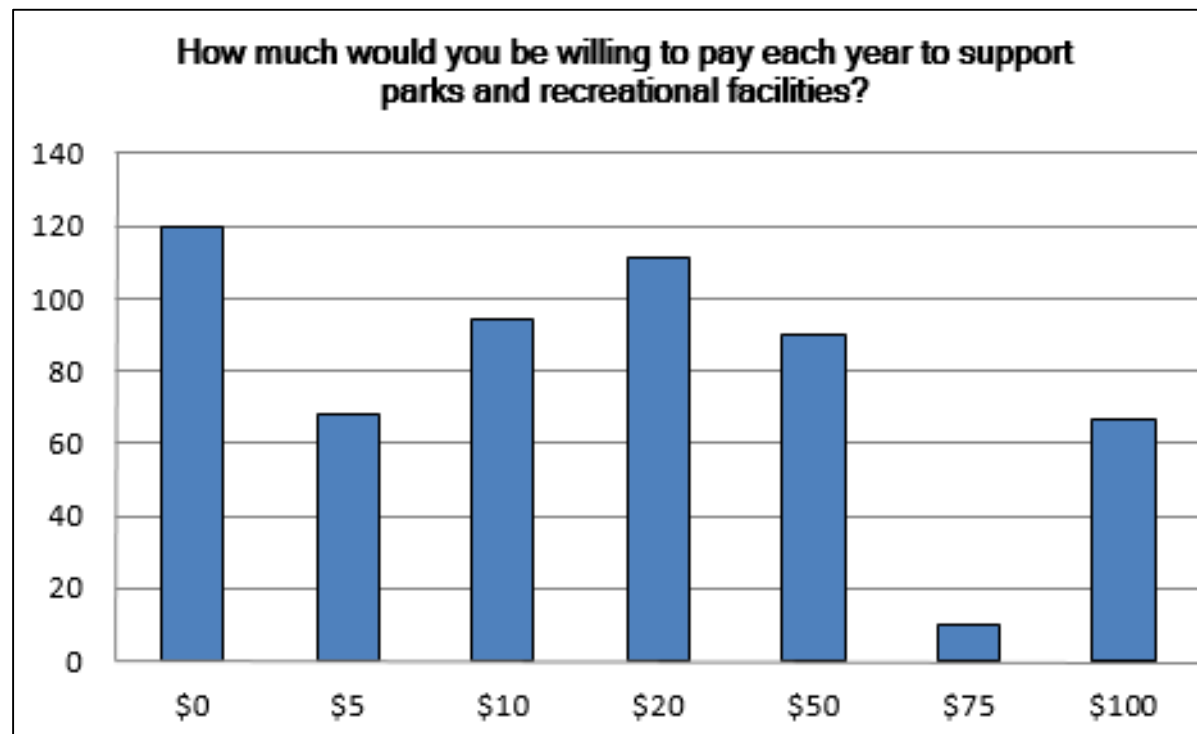
Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	Rating Average	Response Count
Outdoor recreation	108	72	81	23	20	17	2.46	321
Indoor recreation	84	68	79	43	20	18	2.68	312
Children's activities (0-9)	62	76	65	39	17	8	2.61	267
Youth activities (age 10-18)	118	108	84	18	12	17	2.30	357
Adult activities	43	49	52	26	70	33	3.48	273
Senior activities	35	26	28	25	34	84	4.07	232
<b>answered question</b>								<b>465</b>
<b>skipped question</b>								<b>209</b>



d

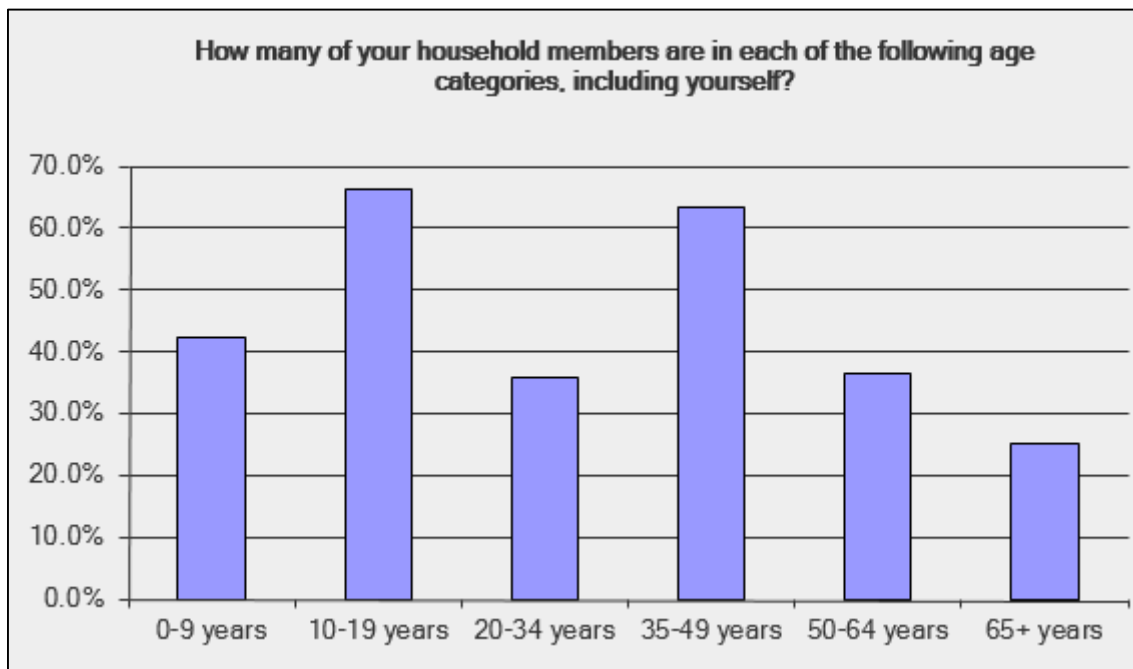


10. How much would you be willing to pay each year to support parks and recreational facilities?								
Answer Options	\$0	\$5	\$10	\$20	\$50	\$75	\$100	Rating Average Response Count
	120	68	94	111	90	10	67	1.00 560
<i>answered question</i>								560
<i>skipped question</i>								114

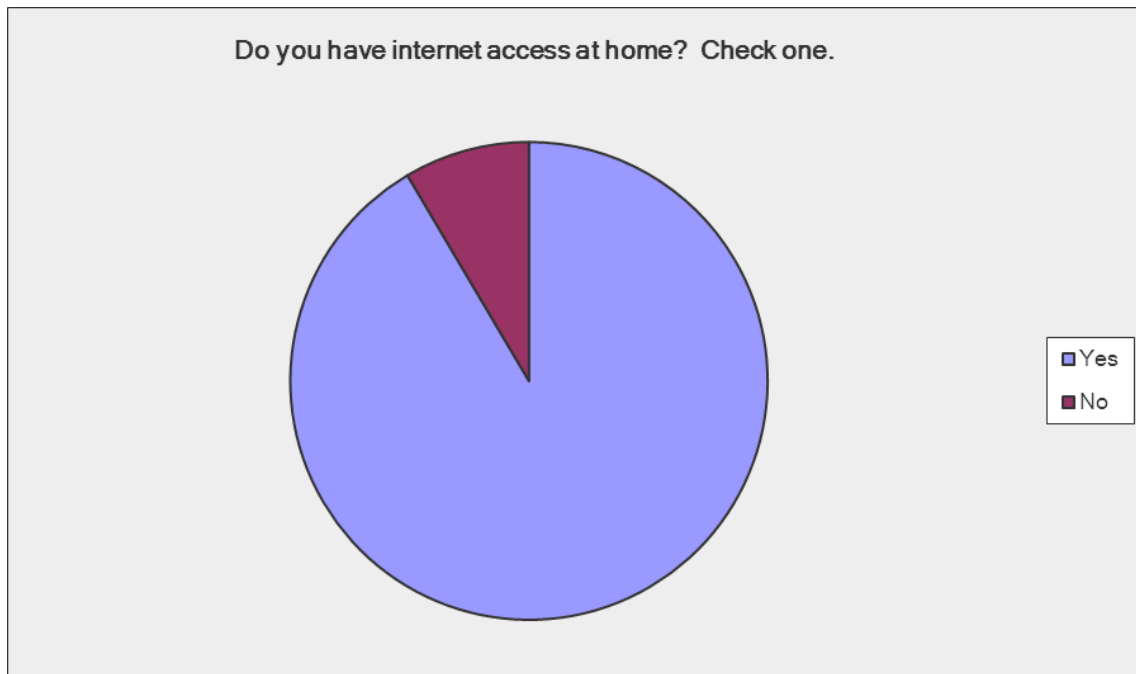


**11. How many of your household members are in each of the following age categories, including yourself?**

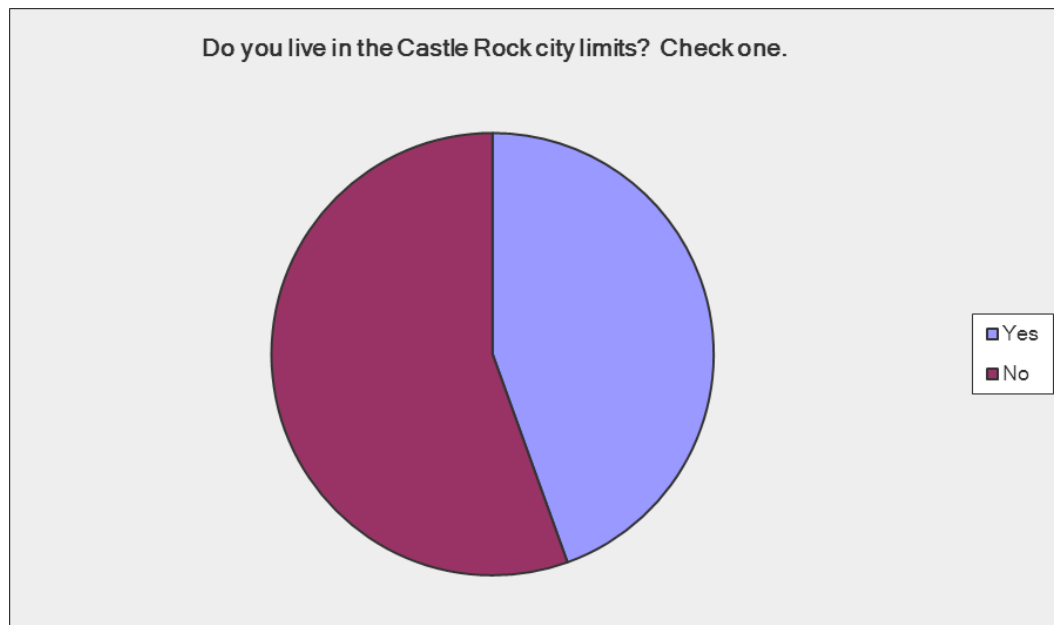
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
0-9 years	42.3%	238
10-19 years	66.2%	372
20-34 years	35.9%	202
35-49 years	63.2%	355
50-64 years	36.5%	205
65+ years	25.1%	141
<i>answered question</i>		<b>562</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>112</b>



12. Do you have internet access at home?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	91.5%	560
No	8.5%	52
<i>answered question</i>		<b>612</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>62</b>



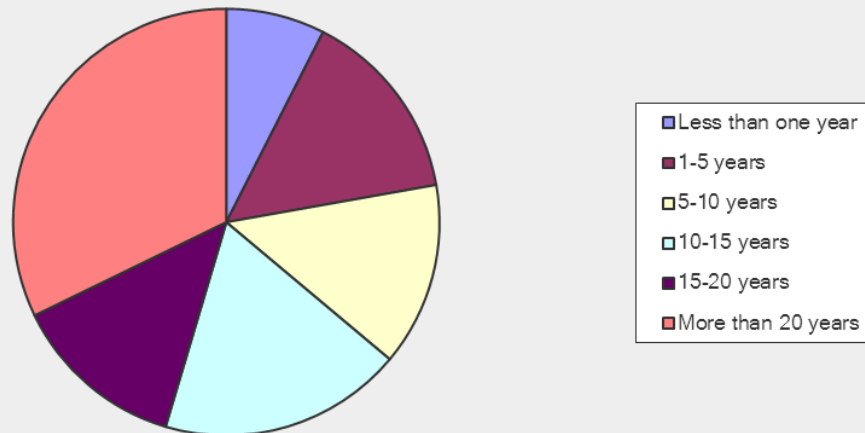
13. Do you live in the Castle Rock city limits?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	44.5%	273
No	55.5%	340
<i>answered question</i>		<b>613</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>61</b>



**14. How many years have you lived in the Castle Rock area?**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than one year	7.5%	41
1-5 years	14.7%	80
5-10 years	13.9%	76
10-15 years	18.5%	101
15-20 years	13.2%	72
More than 20 years	32.2%	176
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>546</b>
<b><i>skipped question</i></b>		<b>128</b>

How many years have you lived in the Castle Rock area? If not applicable, skip to Q. 15.

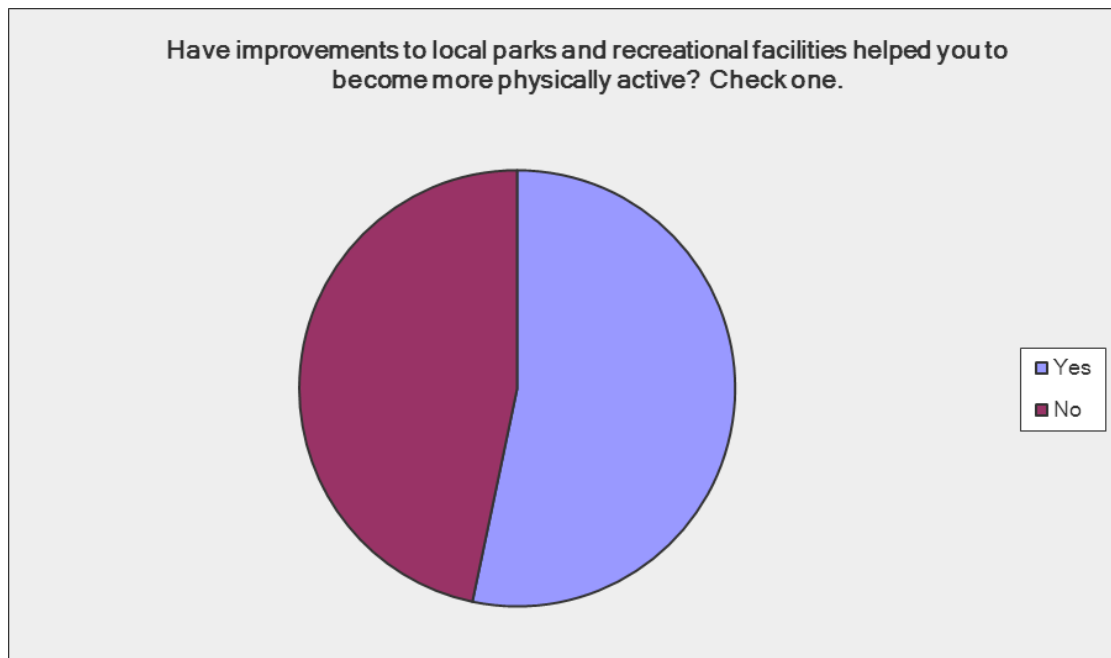


15. What is your ZIP Code?		
	10022	1
	88611	1
	97212	1
	97217	1
	98204	1
	98533	1
	98591	2
	98593	15
	98596	4
	98611	471
	98621	1
	98625	5
	98626	31
	98629	1
	98632	27
	98645	14
	98649	7
	98674	2
	98911	1
<i>answered question</i>		593
<i>skipped question</i>		81



16. Have improvements to local parks and recreational facilities helped you to become more physically active?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	53.3%	303
No	46.7%	266
If yes, briefly describe:		219
<i>answered question</i>		<b>569</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>105</b>

Responses to the section “briefly describe” are contained in the following pages. There were 219 responses. They have not been edited for spelling or grammar.



- The riverfront trail is great for a walk w/ the family. My kids enjoy walking along the river and we get some fresh air and exercise.
- The river trail is incredible! Thank you. I also enjoy the interval training equipment at the high school park.
- fantastic river front trail and trail around North County
- The new Cowlitz Public Shoot Range is the best addition to area in years
- Walking the trail along dike, kids to skate/bike park daily in summer. Sports complex and community garden + boat launch are wonderful!
- I walk more
- walking trails- wonderful
- Had stroke learning to walk again. It is pretty downtown now- thanks.
- Utilize waterfront trail multiple times per week
- walking paths, bicycling
- During fall, crews clean up leaves which makes it easier to walk with kids and pets.
- Riverfront Trail at north county park has helped us walk more frequently
- I've gone to bike park, skate park, and the rock a lot,
- I go on runs and walks to see all sights.
- Newly paved roads help me bike and run smoother.
- The dikes fun to run and the bike park is cool.
- Because I lived ere 2 months.
- yes becar schools participate in them sometime.
- Yes, because I'll have more places to practice softball
- It gives me a place to go to workout. (A nice place)
- yeah when my family go's walking
- the skate park basketball courts
- Nothing will make me more active.
- Because I like to walk on the trails and look at the secerex.
- Yes there are more things to do.
- I ride bikes at the bike park more
- As the improvements occured it was a more pleasant sight and I would like to go out more.
- I sometimes ran on trails for volleyball.
- If there are more available activities then I will try them out when I'm available unless it doesnt interest me
- family and I like to go to the park to play basketball or softball.
- not sure I recently moved here
- With the track being better I go running more often and play soccer.
- it would help me and others get out more and play with friends, instead of being on our electronics all day.
- to atless to walk thats getting physically.
- A swimming pool would be pimp
- The exercise machines at North County are fun
- The walking trail has helped me and my family become more active in walking and bike riding.
- I enjoy walking the Rivertrail. We use the boat ramp a lot.
- They are more welcoming, with all of the flowers and such.
- Yes, my nephew always wants me to bring him there.
- I don't go that often.

- I exercise more because of North County.
- more fun things to do.
- The bike park used to be small but now its big
- I work out on the north county loop.
- I walk north county every weekend
- Because people love to use new stuff and not old worn down stuff.
- They are nice to get out and see and be healthy.
- need a place with weights
- I've done more outside activities.
- I camp, swim, and hike in the summer especially but they all include exercise.
- they help
- The football field being so nice has interested me in playing other sports.
- I use the river trail more
- yes because if they don't keep up on maintenance then nobody will want to use it
- gives us more Activities
- More activities for teenagers and children.
- It makes it nicer to go out and do things.
- Makes you want to go out and do things.
- I feel safer + cleaner in the areas
- We walk + bike the river trail. I kayak the cowlitz.
- Parks with playground equipment a safe place to take children. Trails for walking- the sports complex for grandchildren to participate- adults to walk.
- I'm trying to get out more + do more walking + such.
- especially the riverfront trail
- Trail at North County provides a close and good place to walk.
- use the walking paths
- I love the trail on the dike. I walk and ride my bike.
- bike path- walking
- When I was still able, I liked to walk the Riverwalk Trail
- They allow us to stay fit and active
- I don't leave my house
- I don't care
- I walk the riverfront trail with my grandma + dogs all the time.
- yeah I would like to get out more and do more outdoor activities
- been going to the bike park more often.
- I feel like a golf course would be great to keep elders and other golfers.
- I play sports all the time and become more fit.
- Nice to have a place to go for walks-feel safe-beautiful scenery-away from traffic and hustle bustle noise.
- more appealing
- The paved trail has made access to walking, jogging, + biking much more available to me. Also, with the trail having lights, you are able to use it even right after dusk.
- walk more
- playing sports
- I play sports.
- stuff today

- walking the trail
- If there is good, close by parks, you will use them.
- The paved trail made it easier to walk and lighting and benches made it safer.
- trail walking more
- Riverfront trail is very nice place for walking,
- The riverfront path has given me many opportunity to walk on an even surfaced walk.
- The middle school basketball hoops in the back all summer me and my friends played every game Please make it Better!
- I use the trails more often. Running, walking, biking.
- more easy bike rides
- Bike park
- the bike park
- To stay in shape
- The Castle Rock bike park has helped me get physically active.
- Riverfront Trail, Al Helenberg Launch
- The bike park is nice.
- I take my grandkids to them.
- walking, playing on bike trail
- Walk a lot more then when I lived in Longview.
- I don't think this would help me get more active. But maybe, cleaner bathrooms + water fountains would make me more comfy to use + wanna go.
- The trail made my family be able to walk + ride successfully with out worrying about predators or other things. The sports indoor facilities are lacking though.
- The out door walking trails are very nice + safe. The track @ the HS allows us to walk safely as well.
- Sometimes we use the track on the weekends to walk. The softball fields are very nice to practice @.
- bike rides or walks w/friends who live in Castle Rock
- Playing sports is easier
- Paths to run/walk on
- trails, North County Complex
- It helped my dad recover from hip surgery and heart surgery by walking the dike path and south river circuit.
- Nice walking trails
- The trails are awesome
- Love love love all of the walking trails!
- Cleaner environment
- Walk more on trails
- More walking
- Love walking/running the trail
- walking
- Walk , run..
- My kids use the soccer fields for some of their games and we have ridden at the bike park together.
- Riverfront trail
- Better opportunities create better overall environment.

- Started running on trails
- take more walks
- My family uses the improved facility to play soccer
- Walking more.
- Riverfront trail
- If parks and rec facilities are kept up then they are safer places to be
- They are safer and more readily accessible
- River trail-beautiful/ safe, near water, refreshing, encouraging. good length.
- We get a lot of physical activity on the river front trail and bike park
- Riverfront Trails for walking w/ lighting has helped a lot.
- 98626
- I like to walk around and check it out
- helps keep my child active and healthy
- the trails, sports, and disc golf
- better recreational facilities to go to with minimal risk of injury - go more often
- We walk Riverfront Trail often. Kids to bike park.
- Easy accessed walking routes
- We love the walking trail and bike park.
- The riverfront walk gives us a great place to stroll/jog.
- walking keeps me fit
- The walk and bike paths are great and a lot of people use them.
- River walking and bike trails (both sides of the river)
- the walking trail itself is great
- More to and go fun exploring new area
- close place to go for walks
- walk the trail often. had no place to do that before
- CH High School sports annex, outdoor garden at the high school, river walking and bike paths
- safer places to walk/run
- Access to trails is a great place to walk, run, bike ride ect.
- I love the riverfront trail. Motivates me to walk!
- use trails and walk to facilities and go with grandchildren to facilities
- I walk more because of easier access to trails. I'm learning up disc golf.
- Dike walking trail
- improve my bike skills
- our family walks the dike weekly and use the bike park
- Walking trails safe place to walk
- I love walking on the trail
- Walking the River Front Trail
- we walk more often having the river trail nearby, instead of having to drive to longview to walk the lake
- Love the paved dike walking trail, and the safe closed off side walk all the way up North Huntington
- Walking trails
- walking the dike for exercise is convenient. I have started walking more since improvements were made
- The bike park gives my family a place to spend hours a day, sometimes on a daily basis.

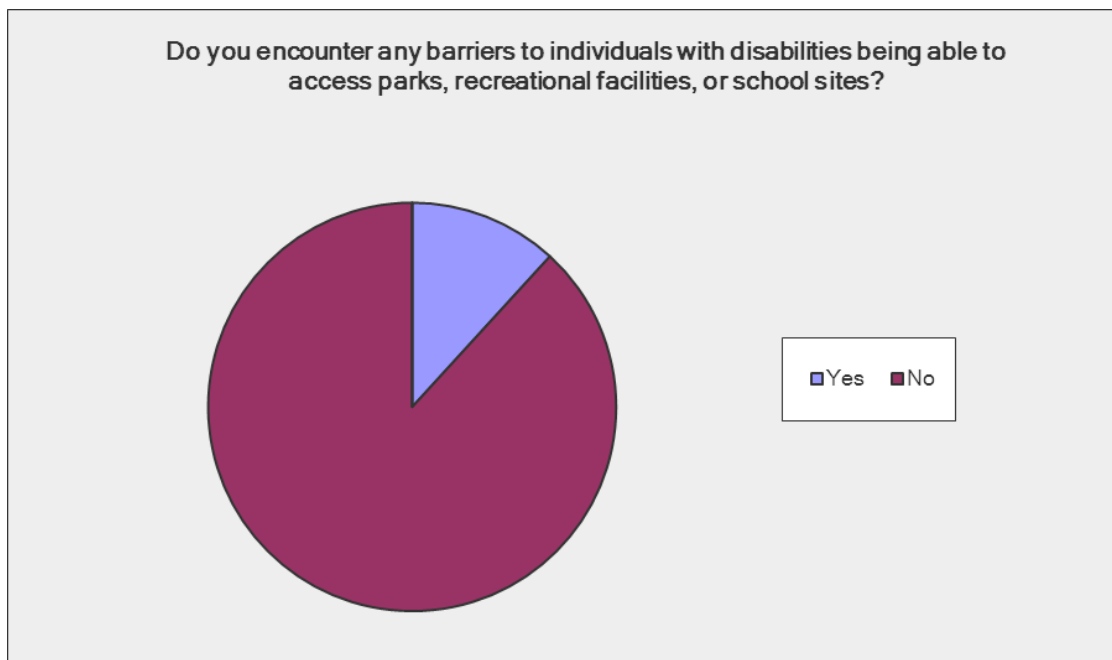
- Safe walking/bicycling options
- Mostly walking
- walk daily
- walking trail has increased my ability / desire to walk
- Walking trail along the river.
- More comfortable to walk in or take children to an aesthetically pleasing, safe environment.
- Riverfront trail for running
- Using the walking trail daily for walks
- I now use the walking trails almost daily to walk on my Lunch break
- I walk more and ride bikes with my kids to the parks. We love to throw a baseball or football in the fields too
- Waterfront trail is great for running and cycling. Good physical exercise is very important to my family.
- Easy access to safe paved running / walking trail
- The Riverfront Trail has been a huge hit, nice place to walk, run and bike.
- Having an easily accessible, safe and lovely area to walk plus parks to entertain grandchildren is wonderful.
- Running trails make it easy to run any time of day
- Running at night on lighted trails, coaching at North County
- Trail has helped me lose weight and be more active
- Riding my bike on the new dike trails.
- Improvements with waterfront trail and the bike park has made me and my family use it a lot more. which in turn made me become more active.
- I like having a safe place to walk
- I'm spending more time at the ball park with my kids. While they're practicing, I can walk and get some exercise in.
- I jog or walk several times a week on the Riverfront Trail.
- Walking trail and North County
- North County Walking Trail
- The Riverfront Trail is wonderful!
- Walking the trail. Watching all the games at the north county facilities
- walking more at north county
- Walking trails, coaching and playing softball, fishing
- Riverfront trail lights help see better
- Easier to use
- The trails make it fun and easy to get out
- a well maintained facility will be used, a poorly maintained or old rundown facility will keep our family away
- River front trail much more inviting and useful
- Easy access
- Easier to get out
- We walk the dike all the time as a family
- We often walk the trail around North County fields while our daughter is at softball practice.
- Love the walking trail!
- I have safe place to run. the sport complex provides a great place for the kids to be active.
- There are more places to be active



- Use of Riverfront Trail
- I've enjoyed walking more on the Riverfront Trail.
- I enjoy walking/jogging the trails on both sides of the river.
- It is much easier to exercise when a beautiful, lit trail is available
- Walking or biking the river path
- Trails on waterfront and North County
- Get out and play/walk.
- walking the trail
- easy access to the areas.
- I use the walking trail from Lion's Club park to the new park by Red Canoe and back.
- Riverfront trail.
- We have used the bike park as well as the walk down around the soccer fields since they have been improved
- Me and my kids love to use the dike trail to ride are bike to the bike patk

17. Do you encounter any barriers to individuals with disabilities being able to access parks, recreational facilities, or school sites?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	11.8%	66
No	88.2%	495
If yes, briefly describe:		57
<i>answered question</i>		<b>561</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>113</b>

Responses to the section “briefly describe” are contained in the following pages. There were 57 responses. They have not been edited for spelling or grammar.



- Need safe pedestrian bridge to cross river from one side to other for students that walk to/from school etc. and for access to North County and in town. Napavine has an amazing pedestrian bridge that crosses over railroad tracks that leads to either side of town for them. Would love to see this access in CR!
- There's usually curbs so wheelchairs and walkers are difficult to get up.
- My grandmother is in a wheel chair and cannot sit in the stadium without blocking people.
- The disabled seem to get in and out easier.
- I don't think so but I wouldn't recognize it as much as a disabled person.
- No I don't
- transportation
- because of gravel.
- Adding swings in parks for the disabled would be a large improvement.
- you must pay to do certain things.
- because it's good to go out and not be at the house so much.
- not sure I recently moved here
- Paths are sometimes rough for people in wheel chair.
- The old soccer fields are not accessible,
- There's not many wheelchair activities. I nominate an annual crutches/cripple race.
- because it's mostly mud to the trails and someone in a wheelchair couldn't access it
- Move wheel chair accessibility.
- Wheelchair access can be tough
- Lack of lighting at night for the crutches at high school.
- maybe more restrooms- also lighting
- too far to walk for elderly people and disabled people- more disabled parking spaces
- not smooth or clear paths, dogs on dike annoying poop
- I don't care
- Some are not paved or have uneven surfaces making it a hazard to them.
- CR High School locks the gates to enter the back of the school to the tracks/
- parking
- parking, people
- yes tweekers
- bathroom access
- no handicap at the high school
- I believe the school district should apply an automatic door system for those who are disabled.
- The Rock Park
- better accessibility
- School play structure is not accessible for many students w/ disabilities. Either are the swings.
- The playground is not equipped for children w/ disabilities.
- There is nothing other than walking that is safe for the severely disabled. No water exercise unless they go to the YMCA in Longview.
- Hard for wheelchair access
- There is not a way for individuals with disabilities to easily access the soccer fields.
- Need all streets paved with handicap street ends for side walks
- Fields for watching when you're disabled
- having grandparents who are in wheelchairs and use walkers trying to get to fields and bleachers through gravel and mud

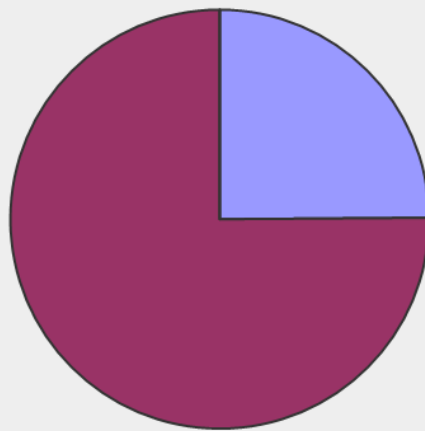
- uneven, unpaved parking lots are a hazard
- would like better access to Cowlitz for handicap fishing!!
- could be more wheelchair access or electric cart access to riverfront trail --- don't need it perfect -- but now very limited
- Not enough handicap parking
- Homeless people
- river access
- I can not walk very far because of limited access to rest rooms.
- the peak of the rock has no access for the disabled
- Improved parking in Bike Skills Park
- The parking lot at NC is rough
- Gravel is hard on those who use wheel chairs, walkers, etc
- It's hard to get wheel chairs and walkers to the softball fields because it is gravel and not paved.
- parking access at schools
- Wheelchair access to playground swings.
- rest benches needed for people to sit.
- difficulty getting around...see it is being fixed

**18. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the parks and recreation facilities offered by the City of Castle Rock, the Castle Rock School District, or other providers?**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	24.9%	139
No	75.1%	419
If yes, briefly describe:		138
<i>answered question</i>		<b>558</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>116</b>

Responses to the section “briefly describe” are contained in the following pages. There were 138 responses. They have not been edited for spelling or grammar.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the parks and recreation facilities offered by the City of Castle Rock, the Castle Rock School District, or other providers?



■ Yes ■ No

- Swimming pool would be awesome
- Indoor/outdoor multicomplex similar to YMCA w/ pool would be great. Kids + seniors need places to keep active all year round.
- I have quite a few mother I know who enjoy meeting at local parks and trails with our kids. I always drive to Longview to do those types of things w/ my kids + friends. Castle Rock's parks are totally lacking in every aspect. outdated & dangerous playground equipment and lack of bathrooms. The fact that I'm willing to load two small children into the car and drive almost 20 minutes should tell you exactly how bad I feel the parks are here. I sincerely hope as much effort & care that goes into those hanging flower baskets is put into bettering Castle Rock's parks.
- The parks and floral presentations have increased the ambience of the city. We need to increase the visibility and notice of local events with an updated large community board and announcements on the most frequently traveled streets.
- I believe large shade trees around the play equipment at the playgrounds would increase their use during summer time.
- Continue Community garden! more organize/cheap or free activities needed for CR youth. I see too many unsupervised kids wandering around town especially in summer with no positive-structured activity to do; is a recipe for trouble. City Center and flower baskets are beautiful!
- End of streets that are dead ends by trail. Like Cherry Street.
- Smile and say hello!
- An indoor walking trail would help us walk more frequently especially during cold and rainy weather. We now have to drive to the Kelso Mall or large stores in Longview when weather is bad.
- Swimming pool and more sports facilities.
- I would like to see more public hunting and fishing.
- they are pretty good.. but I think there should be more stuff to do here.
- no I don't
- I want a swimming pool.
- I need a swimming pool.
- swimming pool
- A Gym would be really nice
- Most of the places in castle rock just need to be kept up and made to look better.
- Care for more of the fields
- You need to take care of all sports fields
- A pool would be greatly appreciated!
- I find the place's not very interthining
- not sure I recently moved here
- get us a pool
- Get a TURF football feild and new stadium
- There should be more entertainment in Castle Rock. Bowling Alley? Community pool? Ice cream shop? Something to do in town!
- Add a pay grownd to the high school
- I think you should improve the city library.
- we need a drive in movie theater!!!
- a indoor pool/gym would be cool! where a family pays like \$25 a month per person or something like an gym and pool membership



- I want a nice creation center where people can swim, work out and play basketball. Sort of like a YMCA.
- I think parks are great to have. i am busy and don't use them much but I know alot of people do. Our out of town friends think our city is very pretty.
- We need a better practice field for football. Our game field is nice but could be improved a little bit.
- the bike park, riverfront trail, and the Al Helenberg memorioal boat launch park are all excellent recreational facilitys and are very well used.
- If we don't have a park, it would be nice to see one.
- need more ideas or places to go have fun
- not everyone is worried or highly cares about this stuff
- The school district needs to budget for year around athletic field maintenance! Take some pride in appearances!
- Get the baseball fields out of the hands of school district
- More restrooms and lighting. Very proud of the look of our town. Beautiful flowers + shrubs, the streets are clean and make a great place for the flowers + baskets. Thankful that our youth are involved.
- Love Lions Pride Park- meet my sister and we walk when weather is good. It is so convenient. Thank you C of CR.
- excellent job- especially how good our streets look- and how clean the appearance
- Castle needs to have city clean up the side walks- they planted the trees and either cut them down or rack leaves away lot of us are to old to take care of these problems
- more bathrooms at sports complex, especially soccer fields
- NEED SWIMMING POOL, KEEP THE KIDS OUT OF THE RIVER!
- I don't care
- Too many drug addicts
- put a water fountain at the bike park and fix the jumps
- Great job!
- The Lions Pride Park on S. Huntington- it would be nice if it could be updated with plans, etc. like the little area at the north end of Huntington
- There is no hiking nearby, at all. Also the riverfront trail is a little ugly with old growth scotchbroom/napweeds everywhere.
- How much more facilities do we really need? It's more about keeping up with the maintenance of all these facilities.
- put north county in city parks build gym on end of high school
- Clean and safe playground equipment for children at location other than school property would be welcome. Comunity swimming pool could help reduce the risk of drownding in the river during summer time cool down.
- make an indoor community basketball court
- The skate park needs improvement.
- have improved greatly in the past decade
- At night time I want to run the dike at night, the light don't work on the trail???
- Well improve on the town and cleanup but that should be the peopls responsibility.
- I've seen big improvements with the visual beauty at our town, and I'm please that the community is working together to improve it.

- To add more activities to it/stuff to do
- Turn some of the Dredge spoil areas into a ATV Park
- Emily EMILY
- It would be nice if there was another park besides the ES playground to play @ and picnic @. People are not taking care of the ES playground. We desperately need a indoor facility for basketball + volleyball to be able to access. Only 1 hour practice times are given at the middle + ES +sometimes it takes part of your time to set up. Would be nice to have indoor + be able to schedule longer times. =)
- It would be very beneficial to offer a spray park, or pool for the kids. Swimming lessons would be helpful for our local youth as we live by a river. Also, it would be nice to have an additional inside gym multiple usage space for youth sports.
- A park that has picnic tables + a spray park like Longview would be safe for kids and could be a family gathering if a pool is not able. We would love a pool.
- I would like to see maybe a tennis court, a volleyball court, and maybe a golf course that is also kid friendly so we all have more options for getting out and learning new sports. I am totally against the new visitors center being buildt @ the park and ride. TOTAL WASTE OF MONEY! This should have been made into a restroom so when people are walking the dike there is a bathroom @ both ends. =(
- They need batting cages at North County
- I really would like to see local running races such as Mountain Mania run and Top the Rock- I'd like to see more throughout the year as well.
- I discussed this on another page but I really feel Castle Rock should not expand its sports center, the funds could be used for better resources.
- Please have a railfan park and 2 train steam ride at NW side of the railroad crossing and a train depot small one.
- Not willing to drive to Toutle for soccer practice, so my kids are signed up thru Longview/Kelso, but do play games at out soccer fields. My son played baseball for 3 years prior to soccer.
- I do think the school district and the city can come together to build an inside pool that facilitates not only new swimming activities but also opens up a way for elderly people to get exercise. A roller skating rink would draw people from Longview/ Kelso also. We also would like anything other than Satellite offered for Internet and Television outside the city limits. This inability to get cable creates a hardship on many that are barely out of city limits.
- THE SOCCER FIELDS COULD USE BETTER DRAINAGE
- Would like to see playground updated and swimming pool added :)
- The School District needs to evaluate the corrupte system they have in place. The superintendent and elementary principal both need to be removed from their positions.
- Current facilities are amazing!
- range and boat launch fees are too high
- Our youth really need safe places of entertainment esspecially in rainy weather.
- Keep expanding facilities- improving. Think of all ages and needs. Safety. Thank you- great job you have done so far.
- I love the flowers- the best asset we've got going. They are so inviting I can hardly wait to take my many visitors to see them and the wonderful paved trail we have in Castle Rock with benches (we could use a few more on the the trail)
- Dredge Spoil land would be magnificent RV park- easy to control- a huge draw to/from Washington for visitors. Friends tell me this area has superb bike trails-off road-on road, cycling

puts CR at half-way point on Seattle to PDX tour. More should be done for cycling- improve protected bike lanes leading into and out of city: signage, way stops for bikes. Water, air protection, directions, lodging.

- It would be nice to have more trails and a new play ground
- Indoor sports is extremely limited. Gym time at schools in CR is hard to get and there are no other options.
- It's been a slow process but people have been very dedicated and persistent in their efforts and it has paid off. Castle Rock is looking better all the time and we thank everyone for their effort.
- I would love to have updated parks. I have many play dates and outings with fellow mothers with kids ranging newborn to 5. We always get together at a park but never in Castle Rock. I drive to Longview because the parks provided there are amazing. Newer equipment and restrooms are very important with small children.
- would be nice to have a paved bike trail from bottom of hill to at least the first visitors center.
- it would be nice if the parking lot was paved and that all sports (softball/baseball/soccer/etc) were given equal importance
- Coldwater park is pathetic. That should be a priority. Also we need to make learning to swim a value again.
- make the motorcycle track a half mile oval
- It would be nice to have more picnic tables and restrooms by bike park. Sometimes we spend a whole afternoon there. But I really love that we have so many great things to do here in CR.
- Dome how they need to get permits to clean the silt out of the boat launch area after each high water/ If not the launch is unusable and will be another Bearheart Garden launch.
- CR really needs a decent children's playground. The current playgrounds are sad and depressing. There's nowhere good to take children to play besides letting them run along the bmx park. Tapiola park in Astoria, Clatskanie City park, and Westmorland park are great examples of fun engaging playgrounds. Please do something about the lack of good playgrounds and about the messy and neglected library.
- I believe there is adequate walking trails in area, far too costly and a waste of money to build more than have to be maintained. Additionally we need to either lower the tax on travelers or be able to use the funds for more than the limits available today, a legislative thing I think.
- would like to see a bathroom facility at the north end of the river trail, drinking fountains and more trash cans along the way.
- like to fish but access is hard to fish in Castle Rock.
- I feel we have nice parks, that for the most part are well maintained, but we do need to keep our trees trimmed
- need restrooms in all neighborhood parks
- we appreciate what we've been able to do the past 10 years or so in developing --- thanks to all who helped
- Doing a great job ! all greatly improved over years--lot more volunteering in various areas
- I was very surprised and impressed that such a small community would have such a nice bike park! Way to go!
- I appreciate the availability of the facilities and the open access and usability.
- Administrate/create more or make known to community existing volunteer opportunities.
- Think of the possibility to construct a city owned camping area on the dredge spoils near the river. 2. apply for a grant to construct a foot bridge/fishing bridge over the Cowlitz (thus also making a looped trail.) 3. Bring back some of the community sponsored runs. 4. maybe construct

some physical fitness stations on the east side of the river (maybe parkour type course). 5. I guess some neighborhood parks around Kirby St or North st.

- Spot by NCRA needs to be cleaned Need swimming pool
- City needs to take over North County
- There are no areas provided for radio control activities of model cars, boats or aircraft.
- if the playground equipment were updated by the dike and the senior center we would use those playground more.
- need a pool!!
- They have been doing a great job.
- Additional baseball/softball facilities with lighting
- Castle Rock does pretty well for a community of our size. Good job!
- Our schools look very poor and run down. A paint job might help them look like the community cares about where their children go every day to learn!
- Castle Rock's parks for children are old run down and boring.
- Need a bathroom at the bike park
- It would be nice if more restrooms were provided on the walking trail.
- Thank you so much for all of the improvements so far with our city and parks. Things have improved a lot since I was little living here. Our streets and businesses are even looking good. : )
- NCRA should be a city park
- The bike park, angling trail, and north end riverfront have been great running/ cycling/hiking locations and will advocate there usage by students and youth for activities, team building, outdoor recreation and health. Please make this possible.
- Need options for equestrian activities. Possibly connection of trail on west side of river to County Park just below Camelot.
- Middle school gym needs serious improvements!!
- I love how beautiful our little town looks! I would love to have a bike trail and walking path on a few of the more country roads like PH#10 and maybe West Side Hwy.
- We have come along way with our town's improvements and by adding lighting and pavement at the youth sports complex would greatly enhance it.
- The senior center park is unsightly and in an awkward location, it could be relocated to North County soccer fields to make better use of both spaces. The memory lane park at the end of Michner has should have parking off the dike road. I dont believe I've seen any street signs directing folks to any of the parks. How about an adopt a park program to help with maintenance?
- So far the two agencies are doing a very good job.
- I think they should put in a srprayprk at lionspride park with a nice playground
- We need a separate wrestling facility.
- this little town has a nice tradition of taking care it's residents. let's keep that alive! It's why my family lives here
- We love the north complex for both soccer and softball. Hard to get space for practice, and CR Elem and Middle School is not well set up for practice or bathroom access.
- North county needs more improvements as in batting cages and a playground!
- I'd love access to more group exercise- like a YMCA or similar.
- I enjoy working out at Studio 117! Have you considered holding classes through them?
- Additional Gym access - Basketball / Volleyball. More/Better Gyms. Batting Cages.

- Parking a car at the boat launch for \$5 is a joke. Needs to go away.
- The city has done a beautiful job with downtown Castle Rock! It's wonderful to walk through town now.
- Great improvements over the last 5 years or so!
- They are beautiful, you do a great job maintaining them.
- Additional community classes offered at the schools or sr center ( such as parks and rec offer in Longview) taught by various community members would be great. Even if a seasonal paper book was not put out an online link could be put up on the city website





## Appendix B

### Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan





# Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan

City of Castle Rock, Washington

November 12, 2003

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## *Transmittal*

November 12, 2003

David Vorse, Public Works Director  
City of Castle Rock  
Public Works Department  
P.O. Box 370  
360 "A" Street SW  
Castle Rock, Washington 98611

Dear Mr. Vorse,

We are pleased to transmit the final draft of the *Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan* for review.

This document addresses the development of recreational facilities on both sides of the Cowlitz River, a riverfront trail system, which links the facilities together and an athletic campus on Castle Rock School District property at the high school.

This plan will be implemented through a collaborative effort between the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District. The Master Plan establishes a parks and recreation system which will meet the public need for recreation at a level of service that can be facilitated by the City and the School District over the years to come.

We look forward to your comments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert W. Droll, ASLA  
Principal

## Acknowledgements

### City Council

Barbara Larsen, Honorable Mayor  
Greg Marcil  
Glen Pingree  
Jeff Skeie  
Ed Smith  
Khember Yund

### City Council (Past Members)

Jim Eychaner  
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### School District Personnel

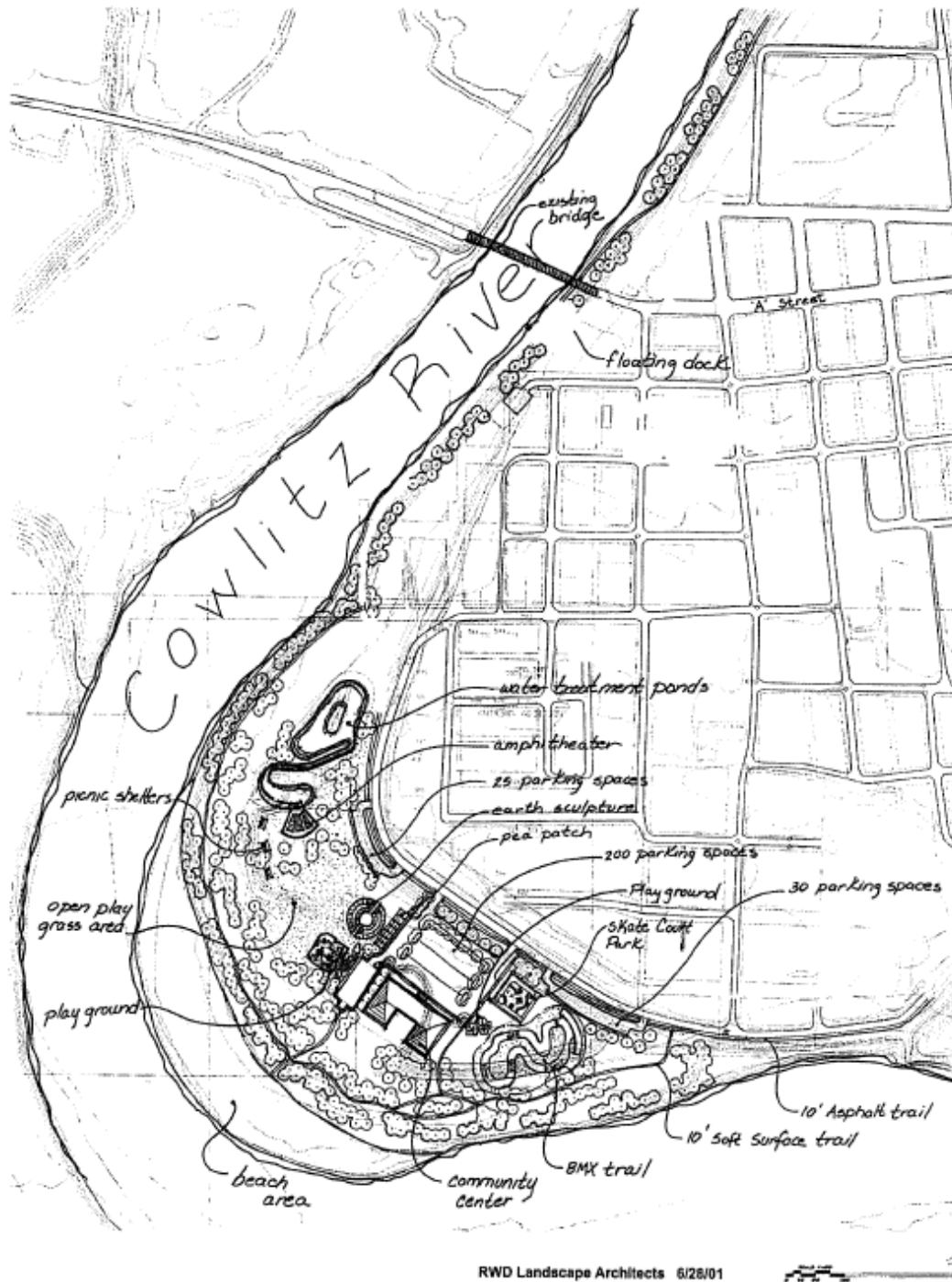
Terry Werner, Superintendent  
Henry Karnofski

### School District Personnel (Past)

Dr. Ben Acker, Superintendent  
Melissa Taylor



City of Castle Rock  
**Cowlitz Riverfront  
 Master Plan**



## Project Summary

The proposed Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan is a result of a planning process guided by citizen input and participation, the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District, and sound park planning principles. Through the course of Park Board and School Board review meetings as well as active citizen participation a preferred Master Plan emerged.

The master plan presented herein provides the framework to accomplish the following.

- Creates a recreational and interpretive trail system along the Cowlitz River dike,
- Provides a safe connection for pedestrians, joggers and bicyclists from Lions Pride Park, along the Cowlitz River through the city to the west side of the river,
- Creates a significant entrance to the city at Lion's Pride park and "The Rock",
- Develops 30 acres of city owned dredge spoils site between the dike and Cowlitz River into a multi-purpose recreational park and community center,
- Develops 72 acres of open space at Castle Rock High School into an athletic campus which includes baseball and soccer fields, basketball, volleyball, picnicking and trail systems,
- Creates a recreational vehicle/camping ground on the east side of the Cowlitz River south of Whittle Creek on State DNR land and city owned dredge spoils,
- Provides a day use area on the east side of the Cowlitz River within the Arkansas Creek peninsula,
- Provides a trail connection between Arkansas Creek, the proposed high school athletic campus and the existing fairgrounds,
- Provides a range of family-based recreational experiences and opportunities for all age groups

The net result of this master planning effort is a redevelopment plan that balances city-wide recreation demand, and environmental conservation and protection. Improvements include the following.

- Lion's Pride Park – Gateway to the City
  - Landscaping and Entrance Features
  - Restroom Facilities
  - RV Waste Disposal Site
  - Renovated Parking Facilities
  - Additional Picnic Shelters

## Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan

- The “Rock” Community Park
  - Picnic Area
  - Hiking Trails
  - Riverside Scenic Trail w/ Lookouts and Benches
  
- East Side River Corridor Trail
  - 13,300 + Lineal Feet Multi-Modal Trail System
  - 10’ Wide Asphalt Trail and/or Boardwalk
  - Trail Lighting
  - ADA access ramps
  - Restrooms
  - Interpretive and Directional Signage
  - Benches and Trash Receptacles
  - Underpass at “A” Street Bridge
  - River Access Points
  
- Community Park
  - Community Center Building
  - Parking Facilities
  - Skate Court Park
  - BMX Trail
  - Play Structures (2)
  - Pea Patch
  - Earth Sculpture
  - Amphitheater
  - Picnic Shelters
  - Open Grass Play Fields
  - Soft Surface Trails
  - Beach Access
  
- Castle Rock High School Athletic Campus
  - 10’ Wide Asphalt Connecting Trails
  - 22’ Wide Asphalt Entrance and Access Roads
  - Parking Facilities
  - Baseball Fields (5)
  - Concession and Restroom Facility
  - Soccer Fields (2)
  - Volleyball Courts (2)
  - Basketball Courts (2)
  - Picnic Shelters (3)

#### Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan

- Picnic Tables
- Group Picnic Shelter and Restroom Facility
- Play Structures (2)
- Open Grass Play Fields
- Storm Water Management Pond
  
- West Side River Corridor Trail
  - “A” Street Pedestrian Bridge
  - 10’ Wide Asphalt Path
  - 10’ Wide Gravel Path
  - Lighting
  - Benches and Trash Receptacles
  
- City of Castle Rock and State DNR Land West of the Cowlitz River
  - Recreational Vehicle/Camping Grounds
  - 100+ Camp Sites
  - Washrooms (2)
  - Entrance Facility and Store
  - Recreational Vehicle Waste Disposal Site
  - Whittle Creek Habitat Restoration
  - Arkansas Creek Peninsula Day Use Area



## Introduction

In 1998, a Park and Recreation Plan was created for the City of Castle Rock with the assistance of the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments. The document outlines the current condition of the city's recreational facilities, a demands and needs analysis as well as the future goals and objectives for the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District. As a result of this document, the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District required the formation of a master plan for the development of a riverfront trail and the corresponding recreational facilities. The goal of this collaborative effort was to obtain a vision of how recreational facilities could be developed and linked together by a riverfront trail along the Cowlitz River. The master plan was to include a concept plan, which consisted of the entire recreation corridor consisting of, Lions Pride Park, the dredge spoils area, Arkansas Creek/DNR area and the Castle Rock High School Athletic Complex. To assist in this endeavor, Robert W. Droll, Landscape Architect, PS was selected to perform consulting services for the master plan effort.

The Castle Rock River Front Park Master Plan represents a commitment by the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District to improve the quality of recreational experiences both city-wide and along the Cowlitz River through a continued effort of upgrading and modernization of its recreational facilities. The Master Plan is intended to describe the public input process, the planning process, the preferred master plan and the implementation plan.

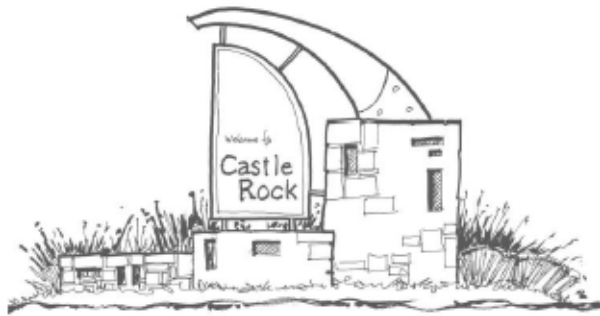


## Master Plan

### Lions Pride Park

#### Park Character

Lions Pride Park is located on Huntington Avenue along the Cowlitz River immediately south of the "Rock". The park is located at the entrance to the city along the main thoroughfare and is currently used as a picnicking and viewing site of the river. It is the objective of the city as well as the public to develop the 7.9 acre park as the Castle Rock "Gateway". Several park improvements will be implemented with the goal of creating strong entrance features, developing a safe and aesthetic day use picnicking area as well as drawing tourism into the city.



#### Entrance Improvements

The stretch of Huntington Avenue, which runs along the park will be heavily landscaped on the east and west side. A series of rock entrance features, signs and banners will be located along both sides of the avenue to create a dramatic "Gateway" to the city. Vehicular entrances to the park will be modified and renovated to improve the safety, visibility and access.

#### Vehicular Access/Parking

The park's road and parking system is in poor condition. In consideration of additional recreation facilities and tourist traffic, the park entrances shall be modified to meet standard engineering guidelines, the road surfaces shall be paved and the quantity of parking stalls shall be increased. Special attention shall be given to maintaining a separation between the pedestrian and vehicular traffic within the park.

#### Facilities

In the interest of attracting more tourists and upgrading the park for the community, the following features will be added; permanent restroom facilities, a recreational vehicle waste disposal site, additional picnic shelters and a hiking trail for access to the river .

### The "Rock" Community Park

#### Park Improvements

The hazardous structures (water tank remnants) have already been removed from the existing three acres park site. The hiking trail to the crest of the rock shall be cleared and the emergency vehicle access improved. The plateau area shall be leveled and seeded with low maintenance grass or ground cover. Picnic tables shall be placed on the leveled plateau area. Necessary signage addressing environmental sensitivity, historical significance and user safety shall be added to the trail as well as the picnicking area. Other improvements include a riverside scenic trail with lookouts and benches. The portion of the corridor trail that travels around the narrow curve at the rock will be constructed in one of three ways; 1) it will be built as a boardwalk along "The Rock" slope, 2) it will be constructed on fill and Dike Drive will be widened to the north, or



3) along "The Rock" Dike Drive will become one way eastbound and the westbound lane will be utilized as the corridor trail.

### **East Side River Corridor Trail**

#### **Corridor/Trail Character**

The proposed 13,000+ lineal feet multi-modal trail system will be located mainly along the Cowlitz River dike. The corridor will be developed as a recreational and interpretive trail system providing a separated pathway connecting the residential area to the community parks, commercial district, school grounds and fairgrounds. The trail system will be enhanced by historical interpretation of the Castle Rock area, the Cowlitz River and the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. The lighted ten feet wide paved corridor will provide a safe mode of travel for bicyclists, pedestrians and joggers especially with access around the narrow curve at "The Rock". The trail shall be designed for all members of the community by following safety standards for street crossings and including ADA accessible ramps where appropriate. Opportunities will be provided along the trail system for the location of trees and benches donated by members of the Castle Rock community. The trail will begin at Lion's Pride Park and terminate where the trail meets North Huntington Avenue (SR 411).



#### **Interpretive and Directional Signage**

The signage shall be designed to enhance the character of the corridor and to lend to the historical interpretation of the site. This can be done through the use of various materials, structures, shapes, lettering and colors.

#### **Trail Lighting**

Trail lighting will be provided for safety purposes along the paved trail.

#### **Restrooms**

Restrooms will be provided at Lions Pride Park and the Community Center along the corridor.

## Community Park – 30 Acres Dredge Spoil Site

### Park Character

The 30 Acres dredge spoil site is located between the dike and the Cowlitz River. After Mount Saint Helens erupted, the site was utilized for dredge spoils when the Cowlitz river channel was deepened. The city owned property is located along the inside of a sweeping bend in the river with a shoreline that has a gradual slope to the water. The park will be developed to accommodate a wide range of recreational uses. The park will provide both active and passive recreation facilities linked by the corridor trail system as well as narrower, soft surface connecting trails. A portion of the parkland will be utilized for the construction of a community center and necessary parking facilities.

### Community Center

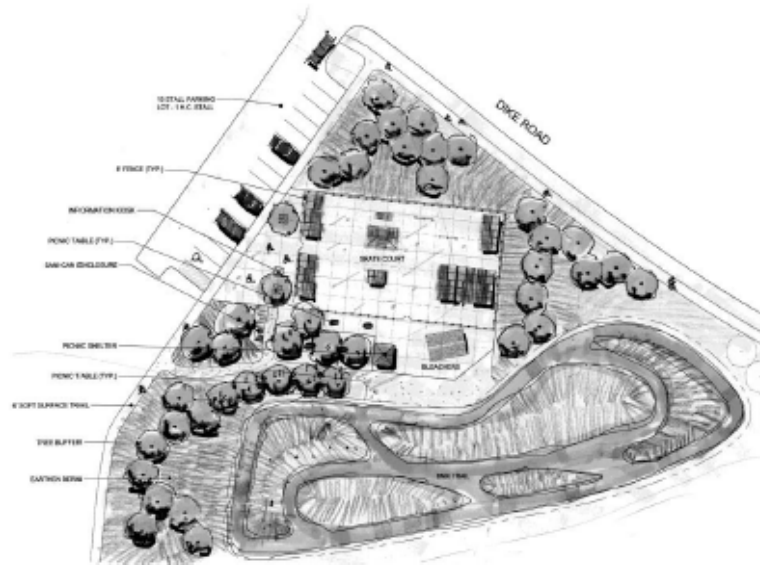
One large community center located within the park would be developed as a multi-purpose facility. The community center could provide a new location for the senior center and youth center while creating a safe place, which could serve all ages with a variety of indoor recreational facilities. The center would also be utilized as a meeting and special functions facility for various organizations, clubs and educational classes.

### Skate Court Park

An area of approximately 5600 SF located at the southeast end of the Community Park is the location for the skate court facility. The skate facility will be constructed of concrete or a combination of prefabricated ramps and concrete or asphalt. Parking and high pressure sodium lighting will be provided for the skate park which will have direct access to the corridor trail system.

### BMX Trail

The BMX Trail will be located directly south of the Skate Court Park. The trail area will consist of approximately 20,000 SF. Parking for the BMX Trail system will be the same facility provided for the Skate Court Park



### Play Structures

Two separate play structure areas have been included within the Community Park. One is located within the Skate Court and BMX Trail section to provide play opportunities for children not old enough for the trail and skate facilities. The other is larger and located on the northwest side of the Community Center, which could possibly be utilized in conjunction with Community Center daycare activities. Both areas shall have separate structures for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds that are IPEMA certified.

### Open Grass Play Fields

The open play fields are located adjacent the picnic areas and amphitheater. These fields shall be fairly level and suitable for a wide variety of uses including; baseball, softball, football, Frisbee, soccer and volleyball.

### Pea Patch

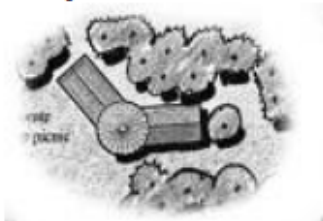
Pea patches are community garden plots typically rented by members of the community for a nominal annual fee to grow and harvest flowers, herbs, fruits and vegetables. Typically water is provided at the site and organic gardening is the method of growing. The Community Park Pea Patch site is located on the northwest side of the Community Center parking area. The patch will be able to accommodate approximately 21 garden plots each measuring 15' X 20'.

### Earth Sculpture

An earth sculpture created out of dredge spoils will be located on the northwest side of the Pea Patch area. The sculpture will be a creative, artistic form which can be experienced by physical exploration or by viewing.

### Amphitheater

A small amphitheater shall be located on the south side of the water treatment ponds. The tiers of seating shall take full advantage of a river view while accommodating approximately 150 to 200 patrons.



### Picnic Areas/Picnic Shelters

Picnic Shelters and individual picnic tables on paved pads shall be strategically placed to provide views of the river where possible as well as to provide safe access from trail and parking facilities. At least one group picnic shelter shall be provided to accommodate events such as reunions, office parties and weddings.

### Trails

Two types of trails are envisioned for the Community Park; the paved perimeter trail and the soft surface connecting trails. The perimeter trail (10 foot wide) is part of the Recreation Corridor/Trail System which will connect to secondary soft surface trails and concrete walks linking other park areas. Connecting trails (4 foot to 8 foot wide), some existing and some new, will provide linkages to all park areas including beach access. Interpretation placards will be strategically located providing the opportunity to learn of the natural and cultural history of the Cowlitz River area.

### Revegetation

With the beach improvements focusing human activity into a defined zone, the opportunity to revegetate the remaining shoreline is present. Shoreline revegetation will include aeration and loosening the soil by hand and selective, non-intrusive mechanical equipment, defining narrow pathways, and ample revegetation. Installation of split rail fence along all revegetation areas and pathways will discourage access and further the park's character. Signage informing the public of revegetation efforts will help in self-policing of the "No Trespass, Revegetation in Progress" policy. Revegetation efforts can be a source of community activism by organizing community revegetation days. City purchases materials. Volunteers supply the labor. Park volunteer program provides a catalyst for a sustained park stewardship programs and pride.



#### **Parking Facilities**

Four separate paved parking facilities are included in the plans for the Community Park. The main parking facility located at the Community Center will accommodate a minimum of 200 stalls. The parking lot shared by the Skate court park and the BMX Trail will provide 30 parking spaces. There will be 25 parking stalls located near the amphitheater and the picnicking areas. At the beach access trailhead, there will be a parking facility, which will provide spaces for at least 40 vehicles.

### **Castle Rock High School Athletic Campus**

#### **Athletic Campus Character**

The Castle Rock School District has approximately 72 Acres of undeveloped open space located east of the high school grounds adjacent to the Cowlitz River. The site currently consists of dredge spoils and poor sandy soils along a river shoreline. The School District intends on developing the site for public use by creating an athletic campus, which includes various ball fields, trails and picnic facilities. The site will be connected to the rest of cities recreational facilities through a paved trail system.

#### **Roads**

The access road to the Athletic Campus is a 22' wide paved drive connecting to Westside Highway. The entrance off of Westside Highway shall be lit and clearly marked for safety and visibility purposes.

#### **Parking Facilities**

The parking facilities shall be located at the end of the access road off of a traffic circle to the west. The asphalt paved parking facility shall accommodate approximately 275 spaces and shall be directly linked to the recreational facilities by paved asphalt paths.

#### **Trails**

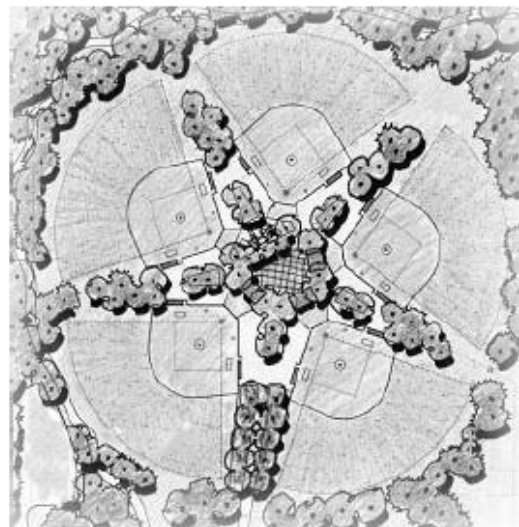
A 10' wide paved asphalt trail will follow the perimeter of the athletic campus connecting to the main corridor trail system at Mosier Road. 10' wide paved internal trails will connect the ball fields and picnic areas with the parking facilities.

#### **Baseball fields**

5 full size little league baseball/ fast pitch softball fields with skinned infields and sub-drainage systems are located in a concentric formation. The baseball fields are one of the high priorities for the athletic campus since the city currently has over 50 teams with very few fields to practice and play on. The fields are accessible by paved paths from the parking facilities and the perimeter trails. A concession stand, restroom facility and play area will be located at the center of the field area.

#### **Concession and Restroom Facility**

The Concession and Restroom facility shall be located in one permanent building structure surrounded by a paved area.

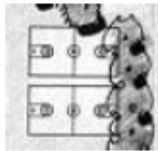
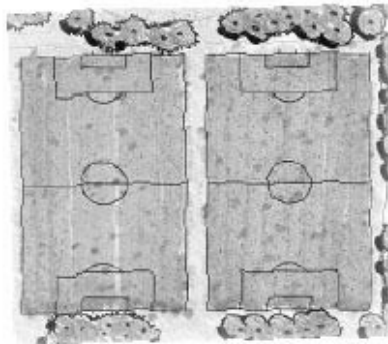


### Soccer Fields

The soccer facilities will include two full size soccer fields (360'x225') with a sub-drainage system to allow for all season play. Each soccer field can accommodate three (225'x120') little league soccer fields.

### Volleyball Courts

The plan provides for two sand surface volleyball courts each 60'x25'.



### Basketball Courts

Two basketball courts each 94'x50' will be located adjacent to the parking facilities and the volleyball courts.

### Picnic Shelters and Tables

Picnic Shelters and individual picnic tables on paved pads shall be strategically placed to provide views of the river where possible as well as to provide safe access from trail and parking facilities.

### Group Picnic Shelter and Restroom Facility

One group picnic shelter with attached restroom facilities shall be located adjacent to the parking lot, basketball courts and open grass play fields. The shelter shall be large enough to accommodate approximately 75 to 100 people.

### Play Structures

Two separate play structure areas have been included within the Athletic Campus Master Plan. One is located within the Baseball Arena Court the second is located adjacent to the group picnic shelter, open grass play fields and the soccer facilities. Both areas shall have separate structures for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds that are IPEMA certified.

### Open Grass Play Fields

The open grass play fields are located on the south end of the property adjacent to the perimeter path and several other recreation facilities. These fields shall be fairly level and suitable for a wide variety of uses including; baseball, softball, football, Frisbee, soccer and volleyball. The grass play fields can accommodate two full size softball fields each with a foul line of 320'.

### Storm Water Management Pond

A storm water management pond shall be provided on the southwest corner of the property. The facility shall be designed to accommodate the water runoff and drainage from the parking facility, baseball and soccer field sub-drainage systems and miscellaneous paved surfaces.

### Lighting

Lighting shall be provided for security purposes at the parking lot and the baseball arena center court area.

## West Side River Corridor Trail

### Corridor/Trail Character

The trail connecting to the East side of the Cowlitz River across the "A" Street bridge to the Athletic Campus on the North side of State Route 411 shall be a 10' wide asphalt paved path. South of Route 411 the trail shall be a 10' wide gravel path. The corridor will be developed as a recreational and interpretive trail system providing a separated pathway connecting the residential area to the school grounds, fairgrounds, campgrounds, Whittle Creek and Arkansas Creek. The trail system will be enhanced by historical interpretation of the Castle Rock area, the Cowlitz River and the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. The ten feet wide corridor will provide a safe mode of travel for bicyclists, pedestrians and joggers especially with access under the crossing at State Route 411. The trail shall be designed for all members of the community by following safety standards for street crossings and including ADA accessible ramps where appropriate. Opportunities will be provided along the trail system for the location of trees and benches donated by members of the Castle Rock community. The trail will begin on the north side of the "A" Street Bridge and terminate on the south side near Arkansas Creek and the West Side Highway.



### "A" Street Pedestrian Bridge

Existing pedestrian and bicyclist conditions on the "A" Street bridge are inadequate and unsafe. The bridge shall be widened by a minimum of 8' to provide for a 10' to 12' separate paved path or a separate pedestrian bridge should be installed for the pedestrians and bicyclists. The City should work closely with the School District, the Department of Transportation and Cowlitz County to pursue the improvement of this high priority connection.

### Interpretive and Directional Signage

The signage shall be designed to enhance the character of the corridor and to lend to the historical interpretation of the site. This can be done through the use of various materials, structures, shapes, lettering and colors.

### Trail Lighting

Trail lighting will be provided for safety purposes along the paved trail.



**Boat Launch Discussions**

Though there is no set site on where a boat launch should go, the need for one in the north end of Cowlitz County is evident for safety as well as recreation. Evaluation of potential sites should be completed and the process to develop one is a priority. The westside corridor appears to have better opportunities for such a development.

## City of Castle Rock and DNR Land West of the Cowlitz River

### West Development Character

The Department of Natural Resources and the City of Castle Rock own the property on the west side of the Cowlitz River south of the fairgrounds. The area proposed for development is located between Whittle Creek and Arkansas Creek. The Cowlitz River bounds the east side of the property and the West Side Highway borders the west side. The proposed facilities will be accessible from an entrance road off of the West Side Highway as well as a 10' gravel trail located along the river. The DNR property is going to be developed as a regional recreational vehicle/camping facility while the City owned property should be utilized as a passive recreation day use area.

### Recreational Vehicle/Camping Grounds

The recreational vehicle/campgrounds are designed to accommodate 100+ campsites. Two washroom facilities shall be provided as well as a campground entrance facility and store. A recreational vehicle waste disposal site shall be located near the campground entrance facility. A 10' gravel trail shall extend through the campgrounds connecting the two washrooms and the store.

### Whittle Creek Area

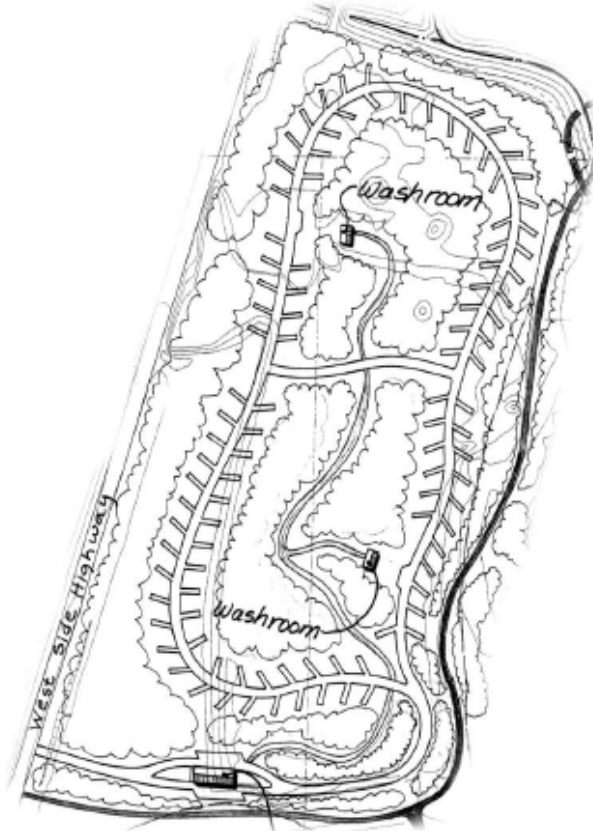
A Habitat Restoration Area is slated for development at the mouth of Whittle Creek as well as a pedestrian bridge over the creek to connect to the trail system.

### Arkansas Creek Peninsula Day Use Area

A passive recreation day use area shall be provided on the city owned property within the Arkansas Creek area. This area shall be accessible by a 10' gravel path connecting it to the campground facilities and the Cowlitz River trail.

### Trails

A 10' gravel trail designed to follow the Cowlitz River from the State Route 411 under crossing, over Whittle Creek and past the proposed campgrounds shall terminate at the Day Use Area and West Side Highway.



<b>Cowlitz Riverfront Master Plan</b>	
<b>City of Castle Rock</b>	
<b>Estimate of Probable Project Development Cost</b>	
<b>Cost Item</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Lions Pride Park</b>	
Landscaping	\$50,000.00
Castle Rock Gateway Features	\$20,000.00
Trail Head Interpretive Signage	\$18,000.00
Renovated Parking Facilities	\$65,000.00
Picnic Shelters	\$60,000.00
Hiking Trails	\$8,000.00
Recreation Vehicle Waste Disposal	\$40,000.00
Restroom Facilities	\$120,000.00
Asphalt Paths	\$45,000.00
<b>East Side River Corridor Trail</b>	
Asphalt Path	\$375,000.00
Boardwalk Path	\$70,000.00
"A" Street Bridge Pedestrian Underpass	\$100,000.00
Interpretive Signage	\$25,000.00
Lighting	\$150,000.00
Benches	\$20,000.00
Trash Receptacles	\$8,000.00
<b>The Rock</b>	
Riverside Trail with Lookouts and Benches	\$30,000.00
Dirt Trails	\$5,000.00
Picnic Area / Tables	\$10,000.00
Interpretive Plaque	\$4,000.00
<b>Community Park</b>	
Community Center	\$1,100,000.00
Parking Facilities	\$260,000.00
Skate Park	\$275,000.00
BMX Trail Park	\$35,000.00
Play Structures (2)	\$85,000.00
Pea Patch	\$10,000.00
Earth Sculpture	\$30,000.00
Amphitheater	\$55,000.00
Picnic Shelters	\$75,000.00
Picnic Tables	\$35,000.00
Open Grass Play Fields	\$10,000.00
Paved Access Trails	\$28,000.00
Soft Surface Trails	\$15,000.00
Benches	\$12,000.00
Trash Cans	\$5,000.00
Beach Area	\$6,000.00
Miscellaneous Trees & Shrubs	\$50,000.00

Robert W. Droll, Landscape Architect, PS

Table 1

<b>Cowlitz Riverfront Master Plan</b>	
City of Castle Rock	
<b>Estimate of Probable Project Development Cost</b>	
<b>Cost Item</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>West Side River Corridor Trail</b>	
"A" Street Pedestrian Bridge	\$250,000.00
Asphalt Path	\$230,000.00
Gravel Path	\$100,000.00
Lighting	\$95,000.00
Benches	\$10,000.00
Trash Receptacles	\$5,000.00
<b>Campground Facilities</b>	
Roads and Utilities	\$800,000.00
Washrooms	\$220,000.00
Entrance Facility and Store	\$70,000.00
Recreational Vehicle Waste Disposal Site	\$40,000.00
Gravel Paths	\$15,000.00
Whittle Creek Pedestrian Bridge	\$25,000.00
Whittle Creek Habitat Restoration	\$20,000.00
Arkansas Creek Peninsula Day Use Area	\$30,000.00
<b>Base Bid Subtotals</b>	<b>\$5,219,000.00</b>
supervision/overhead/profit @ 10%	\$521,900.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$5,740,900.00</b>
taxes @ 8.0%	\$459,272.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$6,200,172.00</b>
contingency @ 10%	\$620,017.20
<b>Construction Estimate of Probable Costs Total</b>	<b>\$6,820,189.20</b>
<b>Design &amp; Administration @ 15%</b>	<b>\$930,025.80</b>
<b>Project Development Total</b>	<b>\$7,750,215.00</b>

Robert W. Droll, Landscape Architect, PS

Table 1

<b>Athletic Campus Master Plan</b>	
Castle Rock School District	
<b>Estimate of Probable Project Development Cost</b>	
<b>Cost Item</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Baseball Complex</b>	
Baseball/Softball fields	\$760,000.00
Concession/Office/RestRoom	\$120,000.00
Storage Area & Restrooms	\$60,000.00
Group Picnic Shelter	\$42,000.00
Picnic Shelters	\$70,000.00
Picnic Tables	\$17,000.00
Soccer Fields	\$240,000.00
Basketball Courts	\$35,000.00
Volleyball Courts	\$15,000.00
Perimeter Asphalt Paths	\$230,000.00
Interior Asphalt Paths	\$47,000.00
Interior Gravel Paths	\$9,000.00
Open Play Field	\$95,000.00
Maintenance Building	\$42,000.00
Access Road	\$240,000.00
Parking Facilities	\$260,000.00
Landscape Buffer	\$50,000.00
Infrastructure(water & sewer)	\$85,000.00
SWM Facility	\$50,000.00
Miscellaneous. Trees and Shrubs	\$60,000.00
<b>Base Bid Subtotals</b>	<b>\$2,527,000.00</b>

Robert W. Droll, Landscape Architect, PS

Table 2



## Appendix C

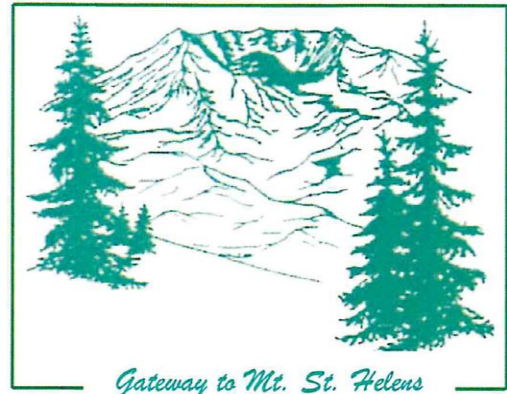
### SEPA Documentation





# City of Castle Rock

P.O. Box 370  
CASTLE ROCK, WA 98611  
(360) 274-8181



## DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE & HEARING NOTICE WAC 197-11-340 & -502(6)(a)

<b>Description of proposal:</b>	City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401 Park and Recreation Plan (2016 update)
<b>Proponent:</b>	City of Castle Rock (David Vorse, Public Works Director)
<b>Location of proposal, including street address, if any:</b>	Citywide
<b>Lead agency:</b>	City of Castle Rock
<b>Responsible Official:</b>	Deborah Johnson, City Planner
<b>Address:</b>	c/o Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments 207 Fourth Avenue North Kelso, Washington 98626-4195
<b>E-mail:</b>	djohnson@cwccog.org
<b>Phone:</b>	360.577.3041

The Responsible Official for the City of Castle Rock hereby makes the following findings and conclusions based upon a review of the environmental checklist; other information on file with the City of Castle Rock and other public agencies; and the policies, plans, and regulations designated by the City of Castle Rock as a basis for the exercise of substantive authority under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) pursuant to Chapter 43.21C WAC.

### Findings of Fact:

General. The proposal, adoption of a planning document directing future public investment in parks and recreation facilities and programming, constitutes a nonproject action as described in WAC 197-11-704. The City is updating its plan to comply with state funding requirements. The plan includes facilities owned and operated by Castle Rock School District #401. Future project actions as described in the above-referenced WAC will be directed by the plan once it is adopted.

Lead Agency. The planning document is a joint product of the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401. The City of Castle Rock is acting as lead agency as described in WAC 197-11-758 and pursuant to WAC 197-11-926 for the purposes of complying with SEPA. As such, it will be unnecessary for Castle Rock School District #401 to issue its own threshold determination prior to acting on the proposal. Any subsequent development actions initiated by the school district under the plan are subject to project-level review at that time.

Applicability of Part B. The Responsible Official considered whether Part B of the environmental checklist is applicable to this nonproject action and finds that it is reasonable and appropriate to exclude Part B, as allowed by WAC 197-11-315(1)(e). Environmental review related to individual project actions will address the environmental elements included under Part B at the time those projects are being undertaken. Therefore, evaluation of individual elements of the environment is not included in this determination.

Part D. The Responsible Official finds that the nonproject analysis in Part D is adequate and appropriate in terms of environmental protection. The planning document is intended to direct land use and potentially shoreline actions, as well as public services, as related to parks and recreation development and programming. As noted above, project-level review will occur with individual developments.

### **Hearing Notice**

The Castle Rock City Council will hold a public hearing on the plan's adoption as part of its regular meeting scheduled to begin at 7pm on February 8, 2016, in the Council Chambers located in Castle Rock Senior Center, 222 Second Avenue SW, Castle Rock, Washington. Persons wishing to speak on this topic may do so at the public hearing. Any testimony will be taken into consideration when the City Council discusses the plan's adoption, tentatively scheduled for February 22, 2016. In keeping with WAC 197-11-535, the Council will also consider environmental documentation. If special accommodations are needed, please contact City Clerk/Treasurer Ryana Covington at 360.274.8181 before 4pm on Friday, February 5, 2016.

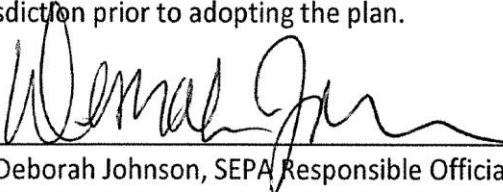
### **Conclusion of the Responsible Official**

The Responsible Official determines that this proposal does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement is not required. This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency, which is available to the public upon request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340. The City of Castle Rock will not act on this proposal until after 14 days from date of issue. Comments must be received by 5:00 pm on January 29, 2016.

There is no administrative appeal opportunity for this determination. Appeals must be filed in accordance with WAC 197-11-680.

The issuance of this DNS does not constitute final project approval. The plan cannot be adopted until the comment deadline has expired. The City must comply with any applicable requirements of DOE, WAC, and all other agencies with jurisdiction prior to adopting the plan.

Date 01-15-16 Signature   
Deborah Johnson, SEPA Responsible Official

Published/posted/mailed: January 15, 2015

to: Applicant (David Vorse)

Castle Rock School District #401, Susan Barker, sbarker@crschools.org

Washington State Department of Ecology, SEPA Register, separegister@ecy.wa.gov

Recreation & Conservation Office, Lorinda Anderson, lorinda.anderson@rco.wa.gov

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Justin Rogers, justin.rogers@k12.wa.us

Washington State Department of Health, kelly.cooper@doh.wa.gov

Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, Lisa Wood, SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov

Cowlitz Tribe, Natural Resources Department, PO Box 2547, Longview 98632

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Southwest Regulatory Field Office, 2108 Grand Blvd., Vancouver 98661



## SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

### A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District Park and Recreation Plan (2016 update)
2. Name of applicant: City of Castle Rock
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: David Vorse, Public Works Director, PO Box 370, Castle Rock, WA 98611; 360.274.7478
4. Date checklist prepared: January 5, 2016
5. Agency requesting checklist: City of Castle Rock
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): Adoption of plan update by end of February 2016
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. Yes. Periodic updates of the plan are required by the state Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to continue to qualify for state funding administered through the RCO. Additionally, the plan is adopted by reference in the City's comprehensive plan. Future project actions will result from the capital priorities established in the plan update.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. Review under SEPA has been completed for the original plan adoption and subsequent updates, as well as for projects developed thereunder.
9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. Yes. The City has been awarded funding in the amount of \$250,000 through the RCO for playing field upgrades at the North County Sports Complex. Documentation is pending.

The City is also engaged in negotiation with the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a "land swap" of a specific site that is discussed in the plan. This action is exempt under WAC 197-11-800(5) and (10) (the latter as an extension of an appropriation in the capital budget).

Additionally, the City is working with DNR, the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Army Corps of Engineers to identify a resolution to siltation build-up affecting the boat launch site (Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch). There is a pending application related to this, but the allowable work window was eclipsed for 2015.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. Adoption is needed by both the Castle Rock City Council and the Castle Rock School Board. The RCO will review the plan update against its planning guidance but does not have a formal approval role.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. This is a nonproject action to adopt an update to the City's existing park and recreation plan, including demographic information, facilities and services, public priorities, and goals and policies. The plan will subsequently be submitted to the RCO to establish continued eligibility for funding administered through the RCO; and will inform the City's future priorities related to funding and development of parks and recreation.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. Citywide

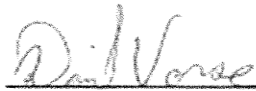
#### **B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

This portion is not included as allowed by WAC 197-11-315(1)(e). The lead agency has determined that the questions in this section do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of this nonproject proposal. As required, the supplemental nonproject information is included below.

#### **C. SIGNATURE**

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:



Name:

David Vorse, Public Works Director  
City of Castle Rock

Date

Submitted:

January 6, 2016

#### **D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS**

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise? The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, result in increased discharges to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are: Any impacts to water or air or in terms of hazardous substances or noise that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life? The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are: Any impacts to plants, animals, fish, or marine life that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources? The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, deplete energy or natural resources.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are: Any impacts to energy or natural resources that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands? The plan update relates directly to park development and use, which may include environmentally sensitive areas, floodplains, habitat, or other areas considered under this section. The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, use or affect these areas. Implementation of the plan is intended to result in increased and enhanced park and recreation opportunities in the future, which may offer the opportunity for more passive use and conservation of environmentally sensitive and other listed areas.

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are: Any impacts to environmentally sensitive areas, including habitat, wetlands, or floodplains, or other such areas that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans? The plan update relates directly to land and, in some cases, shoreline use, which will be guided by implementation of the plan. The adoption of the plan update will have a future effect on publicly owned land and shoreline recreation uses in terms of their placement, acquisition, development, funding, and related factors.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are: Any impacts to land or shorelines that may occur as a result of projects developed under the



plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities? The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, increase demands on transportation or public utilities. Implementation of the plan is intended to service current and future projected demand for public services specific to parks and recreation.

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are: Any impacts to transportation, public utilities, or public services that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment. The adoption of the plan update will not conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for environmental protection. Implementation of the plan will consider and apply such requirements as appropriate.



## Appendix D

### Adoption Materials



RESOLUTION NO. 2016-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE 2016 UPDATE TO THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK AND CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT #410 PARK AND RECREATION PLAN AND AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO SUBMIT THE PLAN TO THE WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE IN FULFILLMENT OF FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) requires that an updated plan for park and recreation facilities be adopted every six years in order for grantees to remain eligible for grants-in-aid, necessitating that the City of Castle Rock submit such an update to the RCO by March 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, between September 2015 and January 2016, the City of Castle Rock Board of Park Commissioners undertook efforts to review and update the Park and Recreation Plan adopted in 2011 for the Castle Rock area, working in conjunction with the Castle Rock School District superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2016 plan update has been prepared to meet the requirements of the RCO with an updated inventory of parks and recreation resources, refinements to the goals and objectives, and an updated capital facilities program for park and recreation facilities responsive to a thorough public outreach effort, and

WHEREAS, the park and recreation plan is adopted by reference as a part of the existing City of Castle Rock Comprehensive Plan, thus serving to comply with planning requirements under RCW 36.70A.070(8); and

WHEREAS, the City was advised by Washington State Department of Commerce staff that as a document of reference in the comprehensive plan, the 2016 plan update does not require 60-day notice to the state under RCW 36.70A.106; and

WHEREAS, via open public meetings, social media, and a community survey, the general public and any interested groups or organizations have had ample opportunity to give input to the process; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners voted on January 13, 2016, to recommend that the City Council approve the 2016 update, incorporating amendments identified at that meeting; and

WHEREAS, a determination of non-significance was issued under the State Environmental Policy Act on January 15, 2016, about which no comments were received; and

WHEREAS, the Castle Rock City Council conducted a public hearing on the 2016 plan update on February 8, 2016, and duly considered all comments made at or received in writing timely to that hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

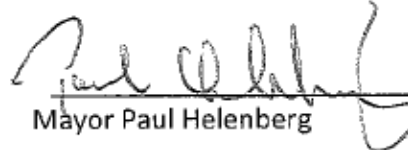
Section 1. The City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401 Park and Recreation Plan dated February 2016 is hereby adopted.

Section 2. The adopted update replaces and supersedes the 2011 plan update and is recognized for long-range planning purposes as the document of reference in the City's adopted comprehensive plan.

Section 3. City staff is directed to incorporate a copy of this fully executed resolution into Appendix D of the adopted plan update as proof of adoption required by the RCO. It is to replace the City "placeholder" page and, when proof of adoption is received from the School District, it is to replace the School District "placeholder" page without further action from this body.

Section 3. City staff is authorized to submit the adopted 2016 plan update to the RCO at such time as necessary to support City funding application(s).

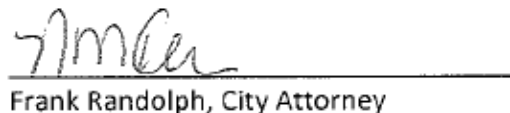
Adopted by the City Council and signed by the Mayor on this 22nd day of February, 2016.

  
Mayor Paul Helenberg

ATTEST:

  
Ryana Covington, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Frank Randolph, City Attorney





# CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT #401

Susan Barker, Superintendent  
600 Huntington Ave. S • Castle Rock, WA 98611 • T: 360.501.2940 • F: 360.501.3140  
www.castlerockschools.org

## STATEMENT OF ACTION

This letter certifies the Castle Rock School District Board of Directors adopted by unanimous vote, the portions of the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School Districts Park and Recreation Plan dated February 2016, relating to school facilities.

The School Board adopted these goals and objectives in an open public meeting and a record of this action can be found in the Castle Rock School District Board meeting minutes dated February 23, 2016. Members of the Board present and voting were:

- Harold Erdebrock, Chair
- Vilas Sundberg
- Andy Odgen
- David Dangleis
- Val Tinney

Let it be known by approving and adopting this document, the Board has approved the concepts within and no authority has been given thereby to expend funds for the subject property and facilities named in the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District Park and Recreation Plan.

This document is to be used as a tool to guide the District in the future and may be modified as time passes by future boards.

  
Susan Barker, Superintendent

2/24/16  
Date

The Castle Rock School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, families with children, marital status, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability and will provide equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the district's Title IX/RCW 26A.640 officer Susan Barker and/or Section 504/ADA coordinator Veronica Heller at (360) 501.2940.



## Planning Process Self Certification Form (Form #222)

Use this form to certify that the need for your projects has been determined through an appropriate planning process. Provide the completed form with the subject plans (on CD-ROM) and adoption documentation to RCO.

**Name and adoption date of documents submitted in fulfillment of this requirement:**

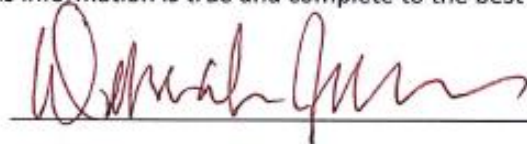
**City of Castle Rock & Castle Rock School District #401  
Park & Recreation Plan**

Check or Initial Each to Certify Completion	Plan Element Certification	Document and Page Number Location of Information
✓	<b>1. Goals, objectives:</b> The attached plan supports our project with broad statements of intent (goals) <i>and</i> measures that describe when these intents will be attained (objectives). Goals may include a higher level of service.	Ch. II pp. 5-10
✓	<b>2. Inventory:</b> The plan includes a description of the service area's facilities, lands, programs, and their condition. <i>(This may be done in a quantitative format, or in a qualitative/narrative format.)</i>	Ch. IV pp. 25-56
✓	<b>3. Public involvement:</b> The planning process gave the public ample opportunity to be involved in plan development and adoption.	Ch. II (portion) pp. 57-60  Ch. VIII pp. 89-90  Appendix A pp. 93-137
✓	<b>4.a. Demand and need analysis:</b> In the plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An analysis defines priorities, as appropriate, for acquisition, development, preservation, enhancement, management, etc., and explains why these actions are needed.</li><li>• The process used in developing the analysis assessed community desires for parks, recreation, open space, and/or habitat, as appropriate, in a manner appropriate for the service area (personal observation, informal talks, formal survey(s), workshops, etc.)</li></ul>	Ch. V pp. 57-75
✓	<b>4.b. Level of Service assessment (optional):</b> An assessment of the criterion appropriate to your community. Possibly establish a higher level of service as a plan goal (above).	Ch. V (portion) pp. 60-65

Planning Process Self Certification Form (continued)		
Check or Initial Each to Certify Completion	Plan Element Certification	Document and Page Number Location of Information
✓	<b>5. Capital Improvement Program:</b> The plans include a capital improvement/facilities program that lists land acquisition, development, and renovation projects by year of anticipated implementation; including funding source. The program includes any capital project submitted to RCFB for funding.	Ch. VI pp. 77-87
✓	<b>6. Adoption:</b> The plans and process have received formal governing body approval (that is, city/county department head, district ranger, regional manager/supervisor, etc., as appropriate). Attach resolution, letter, or other adoption instrument.	Ch. VII (portion) p. 90  Appendix D pp. 175-176

I certify that this information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:



**Deborah Johnson, City Planner**

Date:

01-28-16



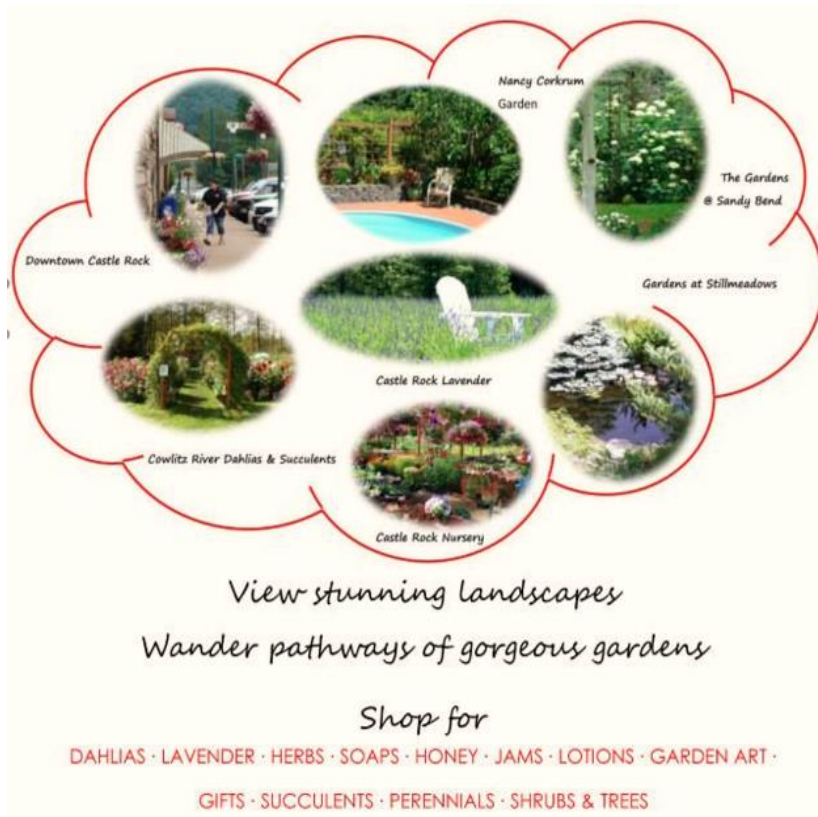


**2012** Special Mention – Floral Displays  
Special Award – Best Hanging Baskets

**2013** Special Mention – Landscaped Areas

**2014** Special Mention – Floral Displays  
Special Award – Best Hanging Baskets  
John R. Holmes III Community Champion Award – Nancy Chennault

**2015** Special Mention – Floral Displays  
Special Award – Best Program for Engaging Youth in the Community  
Winner – America in Bloom YouTube Contest



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**2016 Castle Rock Bloomin' Tour** tentatively set for August 4-6.

More information at  
<https://www.facebook.com/Castle-Rock-Bloomin-Tour-318956764928556/>



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