



## CHAPTER 3 GOALS AND POLICIES

This chapter describes the goals and policies that create a framework for future decisions in regard to parks and recreation in Shoreline. These goals and policies give the community a sense of direction and establish a method for achieving long term visions for parks and recreation within the City of Shoreline. These goals and policies have evolved based on community values, and are incorporated into the *Shoreline Comprehensive Plan: Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Element*.

Goals described in this chapter are the City's aspirations, and are intended to remain constant over time. The policies are more precise statements that describe how elements of the overarching goal can be achieved.

The following goals and policies encourage:

- Providing a range of parks, recreational programs, cultural experiences, and trail networks;
- Maintenance of existing facilities including parks, open space and community recreation programs and services;
- Increasing opportunities for all residents of Shoreline to enjoy the park system;
- Coordination with various facility and program providers;
- Public involvement; and
- Recreation programs that meet the needs of the community.



## GOALS 1

Enrich the quality of life for all Shoreline residents by ensuring that a broad range of high quality parks, recreation and cultural opportunities are readily available, by preserving open spaces and maintaining a quality parks and recreation system.

**Policy 1 (PR1):** Monitor changes in both existing and planned population and evaluate how the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department can adapt to the changing population and varying needs.

**Policy 2 (PR2):** Preserve, protect and enhance areas with critical or unique natural features - such as stream corridors, wildlife habitats, shorelines and wetlands - especially if endangered by development, and educate the public on the importance of stewardship through a variety of mechanisms.

**Policy 3 (PR3):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

**Policy 4 (PR4):** Proactively seek opportunities to preserve and protect existing open space, and acquire open space properties.

**Policy 5 (PR5):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

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## NEW GOAL

Monitor and evaluate maintenance of parks and recreational facilities and develop measurable standards for enhancing maintenance efficiency and effectiveness.

**Policy 6 (PR6):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

**Policy 7 (PR7):** Investigate alternative methods, including seeking outside funding, for the financing of acquisition, facility development and renovation, maintenance and operating needs to reduce costs.

**Policy 8 (PR8):** Coordinate park planning and land acquisitions with those of other agencies providing similar services and with City plans for streets, utilities, and development in order to maximize the benefits from public lands for parks and programs.

**Policy 9 (PR9):** Ensure that water bodies owned by the City in park settings are protected from degradation of water quality and that water quality remains a priority.

**New Policy A (PRA):** Utilize sound maintenance practices and design and development guidelines to ensure the careful stewardship of natural resources and habitat in the park system.



**Policy 10 (PR10):** Retain and develop underdeveloped public rights of way for public access and passive recreation where appropriate.

**Policy 11 (PR11):** Develop and distribute multi-use neighborhood, community and regional park facilities throughout the City to satisfy varying levels of citizen needs.

**Policy 12 (PR12):** Enhance the park system so that it continues to provide a variety of recreation opportunities serving a wide range of interests and age groups.

**Policy 13 (PR13):** Work to improve the accessibility of park and recreation facilities to all individuals and groups of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age, income, and activity interests and seek compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act standards.

**Policy 14 (PR14):** Establish mechanisms to help ensure that parks, recreation and cultural services facilities and programs have high awareness levels within the community.

**Policy 15 (PR15):** Seek to improve and expand indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities to reflect the diverse and changing needs and desires of the community.

**New Policy B (PRB):** Upgrade active recreation and sports facilities to maximize public use by utilizing designs that meet current industry standards and attempt to incorporate innovative, low-impact development design and techniques.

**Policy 16 (PR16):** Seek to offer an expansive mix of passive and active recreation opportunities through both facilities and program offerings.

**Policy 17 (PR17):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

## GOAL 2

**Seek increased opportunities for Shoreline citizens to enjoy parks, recreation, and cultural resources through improving accessibility and usability of existing facilities and pursue opportunities and partnerships for new indoor and outdoor facilities for year round programming.**



### GOAL 3

Seek alliances and coordination with facility and program providers to strive for the efficient and equitable distribution of community and regional resources, and to maximize the use of parks, recreation and cultural resources by Shoreline residents.

**Policy 18 (PR18):** Continue to develop and coordinate, with both public and private school districts, the use of school facilities for park and recreational purposes after school hours in order to maximize the public benefit from existing resources.

**Policy 19 (PR19):** Develop alliances with other public and private agencies and organizations in order to avoid duplication and reduce costs through joint planning and development of facilities and programs.

**Policy 20 (PR20):** Actively involve stakeholders, users, and the community in the development and management of parks, recreation, and cultural services.

**Policy 21 (PR21):** Coordinate maintenance operations with other agencies such as the Shoreline School District, Shoreline Community College, private schools, churches and athletic field users.

**Policy 22 (PR22):** Seek to develop alliances and mechanisms for communication and coordination among leisure service providers in the Shoreline area.

**Policy 23 (PR23):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

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### GOAL 4

Seek to develop a diverse Citywide trail system linking key community elements such as parks, greenways, open spaces, regional trail systems, transportation nodes, neighborhoods, churches, and community businesses.

**Policy 24 (PR24):** Identify opportunities to develop pedestrian and bicycle connections in and around the City to expand connectivity of community amenities with a specific focus on linking neighborhoods with parks.

**Policy 25 (PR25):** Develop trail systems within parks and in the Interurban right-of-way focusing on linking these systems with existing, planned and future local and regional trails through coordination with Planning and Public Works and where possible enhancing historic watersheds.



**Policy 26 (PR26):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

**Policy 27 (PR27):** Support the Transportation Plan efforts to implement the City “green street program” which would provide a network of pedestrian and bicycle trails that would create access between parks and other public facilities.

**Policy 28 (PR28):** Encourage, record, and track citizen responses to specific programs, facilities, and policies.

**Policy 29 (PR29):** Monitor park, recreation and cultural service preferences, needs, trends and citizen satisfaction through various community outreach methods.

**Policy 30 (PR30):** Provide public review opportunities in park, recreation and cultural services planning decisions.

**Policy 31 (PR31):** Monitor, evaluate and adjust public relations and publicity efforts to inform citizens of the park, recreation and cultural opportunities available citywide and in neighborhoods.

**Policy 32 (PR32):** Encourage citizen involvement and participation in assuring the quality of park development and maintenance through various volunteer opportunities.

**Policy 33 (PR33):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

## GOAL 5

**Encourage consistent and effective public involvement in the short and long-range park, recreation and cultural services planning process.**



## GOAL 6

Seek to provide a broad, diverse, flexible and challenging program of recreation and cultural services to meet the leisure needs of diverse populations, age groups and interests.

**Policy 34 (PR34):** Take a leadership role in satisfying the recreation and cultural needs of Shoreline residents, while limiting duplication, by fostering communication and coordination between the City and other organizations.

**Policy 35 (PR35):** Align existing and new program and service offerings with core mission while remaining flexible, filling service gaps, and adjusting to trends in order to serve a variety of ages, interests, abilities and the diversity of cultures represented in our City.

**Policy 36 (PR36):** Monitor, evaluate and adjust recreation and cultural offerings on a routine basis to correspond with needs assessment findings and respond to changes in citizen needs and desires.

**Policy 37 (PR37):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

**Policy 38 (PR38):** Provide a diversity of program options for middle and high school youth, and build alliances with other service providers to implement Council priorities related to youth services.

**Policy 39 (PR39):** Monitor, evaluate and adjust offerings to address service gaps in specialized recreation programs for City residents with developmental disabilities.

**Policy 40 (PR40):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

**Policy 41 (PR41):** Removed from Comprehensive Plan.

**Policy 42 (PR42):** Support senior adult, arts, and cultural history programs through alliances and joint planning with service organizations.

**Policy 43 (PR43):** Develop recreation and cultural offerings that reflect the diversity of cultures represented in our City.