

NEWPORT PARK SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

Open House #1 Meeting Summary

August 30th, 2018

Newport Recreation Center

Staff Present: Rachel Cotton, Sherri Marineau and Derrick Tokos, City of Newport Community Development Department

Consultants Present: Jennifer D'Avanzo, GreenWorks; Matt Hastie, Angelo Planning Group

The City of Newport, with assistance from a consulting team led by Angelo Planning Group and GreenWorks, is preparing an updated Park System Master Plan for the city. As part of this effort, the city and its team are conducting community workshops and other activities to solicit feedback on planning priorities and concepts. The first community workshop, conducted on August 30 from 5 to 7 pm at the Newport Recreation Center, focused on conditions, goals and objectives, and opportunities for future improvements to the park system.

The meeting was announced via the City's Website; emails distributed to several hundred people who have expressed an interest in parks and other planning projects; meeting flyers posted at various City facilities; and a press release that went out to local media outlets. About 35 people attended the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide community members with the opportunity to make comments and recommendations about park system goals and objectives, conditions, opportunities and challenges. In the meeting, the planning team presented information about these topics via a repeating PowerPoint presentation. Participants engaged in two interactive exercises to identify their support for draft park system goals and objectives and to comment on preliminary opportunities for future improvements to park and recreation facilities. Participants also completed a written comment form and were encouraged to participate in an online survey. Following is a summary of the results of the meeting.



Common Themes

Throughout the interactive exercises and discussions some common themes were prevalent, including the following:

- More Neighborhood Parks: Comments suggested more neighborhood parks at or near P-50 (SW 9th St. Property)
- More Connections: Comments requested more sidewalk and trail connectivity, both with Newport and between Newport and other cities.
- Flat Trails: Comments suggested more flat trails for exercise and non-motorized transportation.
- Environmentally Conscious: Many comments encouraged environmentally conscious practices for the park system. Suggestions included incorporating natural spaces, drought resistance plantings, landscaping for native pollinators, and stormwater management techniques.
- Maintenance: Several comments noted that maintenance of the current park system is important and that maintenance should be a consideration in the park system's growth.
- Engage the Community: Comments suggested engaging the community to assist with improvements to the park system. One comment suggested starting a "Friends of ..." group. Others suggested using community volunteers to assist with planting and other maintenance activities.
- Visitors: Comments suggested improving or creating more trails, parks, etc. to encourage tourists/visitors to explore all districts of Newport.

Opportunities Map

Participants reviewed and commented on two maps (North and South Newport) showing preliminary ideas for opportunities for park system improvements. People provided their suggestions using a combination of post-it notes and icons denoting specific types of improvements. Following is a summary of comments.

Opportunities Map (North) Comments

- P-50: Create neighborhood park in this area; potential for significant additional development
- T-6: This trail needs to be better maintained
- Area (South of SW Coast Hwy, E Olive St, and SE Moore Dr. to water): Neighborhood or destination park needed! P-13 is too far to safely walk for these residents
- Just south of S-07: Propose pocket park
- Engage ODOT in park designation of Ernest Block and Wayside
- Near P-35: Pollinator Corridor with native plants near
- Add trail to Jump Off Joe
- T-2 in P-15: Trail improvements*, management plan, improve signage, Big Creek improve bathrooms
- E Olive St: Hwy 20 underpass
- "Ralph Busby Park" (SE Moore & Hwy 20)
- Near T-6: Bay Trail connect to beach and bike path connecting north and south
- P-25 to SE Bay BV: Propose ocean to bay trail
- P-5, P-50: Neighborhood park needed
- Sidewalks along Coast Highway (needed)

- South of P-B: This is an unofficial dog park; would be great to have a real trail around the perimeter

Suggested Amenities:

- P-35: Bicycle parking, garden/landscaping, trails/path
- S-01: Signs, parking, bench, restroom, shelter
- Between P-44, P-46: Beach access
- P-47: Restrooms
- Just west of S-07: Open space-undeveloped
- P-42: Bicycle Parking (at northwest corner of park, at SW Naterlin Dr park entrance, and near T-6)
- P-15/T-2: Water fountain
- NW Coast St and E Olive St: Bicycle Parking
- SW Elizabeth St and SW Falls St: Bicycle Parking
- NW 6th and 101: Garden/landscaping
- NW 20th and NW Oceanview Dr: Trails/path
- NW 15th and NW Oceanview Dr: Trails/path, garden/landscaping, bicycle parking
- Open space west of NW Oceanview Dr between NW 20th St and NW 16th St: Pier and beach access
- Yaquina Bay Bridge: Bicycle Parking

Opportunities Map (South) Comments

- S-03: Future Park Need
- P-40: Cooper Ridge Trail – from frisbee golf to P-14 (proposed by OPRD?)
- Between P-51 and P-10: Funds budgeted for Chestnut Street extension Trail

Vision Statement Dot Exercise

The vision statement dot exercise asked what elements of the vision statement community members support or do not support. All dot votes were in support of the various elements of the vision statement. The number of dot votes for support each element is listed below priority order.

- Incorporate and develop a system of multi-use trails (and sidewalks) offering opportunities for a full range of activities and ability levels, including walking, running, rolling, cycling, and mountain biking. - 8
- Maintain public access to the beach and improve recreational access to the Bay, including enhancements for people with limited mobility. – 6
- Focus City and other local resources on meeting the needs of residents while also appealing to visitors, including leveraging visitor revenues to help fund development and maintenance of park and recreation facilities. – 6
- Enhance wayfinding signage and create and improve non-motorized connections to better facilitate walking and bicycling between neighborhoods and parks, trails, open spaces, recreational facilities, and visitor destinations. – 6
- Provide amenities within facilities to meet users’ basic needs such as drinking fountains, restrooms, benches, shelters, and flexible open lawn areas. - 5
- Promote beautification and enhanced stormwater management through the use of climate-appropriate, ocean friendly design and landscaping. - 5

- Sustain and enhance partnerships with local community groups and other public agencies, including Lincoln County, the Lincoln County School District, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, the Port of Newport and others to integrate and manage recreational resources in a collaborative and cost-effective manner. - 4
- Meet a full range of indoor and outdoor recreational needs for all ages by including opportunities for active and passive recreation, sports, socializing, environmental, and cultural education, and enjoyment of nature. - 4
- Be visually attractive and well-maintained and can continue to be maintained and improved in a financially and environmentally sustainable manner over time. - 4
- Serve all areas of the city in an equitable and effective manner. -3
- Ensure that facilities are planned, designed, constructed, and maintained to promote improved physical health and safety for all community members. - 3
- Develop and maintain accessible, all-weather facilities to accommodate small and large group gatherings throughout the year, including picnic shelters, plazas, and other public gathering spaces. - 3

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Exercise Results: All numbers in red represent number of dot votes. All red text are written comments.

Elements of the Vision Statement	Support	Do Not Support
<i>The City of Newport will collaborate with community partners to create a park and recreation system that will:</i>		
Be visually attractive and well-maintained and can continue to be maintained and improved in a financially and environmentally sustainable manner over time.	4	0
Promote beautification and enhanced stormwater management through the use of climate-appropriate, ocean friendly design and landscaping.	5	0
Incorporate and develop a system of multi-use trails (and sidewalks) offering opportunities for a full range of activities and ability levels, including walking, running, rolling, cycling, and mountain biking.	8	0
Enhance wayfinding signage and create and improve non-motorized connections to better facilitate walking and bicycling between neighborhoods and parks, trails, open spaces, recreational facilities, and visitor destinations. (Tourist trolley to parks, bayfront, etc. to ease traffic congestion)	6	0
Meet a full range of indoor and outdoor recreational needs for all ages by including opportunities for active and passive recreation, sports, socializing, environmental, (historical,) and cultural education, and enjoyment of nature. (flat spaces)	4	0
Serve all areas of the city in an equitable and effective manner.	3	0
Maintain (and improve) public access to the beach and improve recreational access to the Bay, including enhancements for people with limited mobility. (Water-based activities)	6	0
Focus City and other local resources on meeting the needs of residents while also appealing to visitors, including leveraging visitor revenues to help fund development and maintenance of park and recreation facilities.	6	0
Sustain and enhance partnerships with local community groups and other public agencies, including Lincoln County, the Lincoln County School District, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, the Port of Newport and others to integrate and manage recreational resources in a collaborative and cost-effective manner.	4	0
Provide amenities within facilities to meet users' basic needs such as drinking fountains, restrooms, benches, shelters, and flexible open lawn areas.	5	0
Develop and maintain accessible, all-weather facilities to accommodate small and large group gatherings throughout the year, including picnic shelters, plazas, and other public gathering spaces.	3	0
Ensure that facilities are planned, designed, constructed, and maintained to promote improved physical health and safety for all community members.	3	0

Written Comments:

- Create/preserve open space and natural areas (1)
- Amenities for pets
- Tool to leverage funding sources
- Consider areas beyond city for opportunities

Comment Form and Other Suggestions

Participants were asked to complete a comment form that included questions about recommended types and locations of needed park system improvements and other comments related to the park system. Twelve (12) comment forms were submitted. Attendees also wrote additional comments on a large tablet. A summary of comments from these exercises follows.

Comment Form Responses

- 1) What types of future improvements to Newport's park and recreation system do you think are most needed?
 - Open Space – athletic fields other than baseball
 - Good ideas for adding in north part of town
 - Artificial turn at Betty Wheeler to improve year-round use
 - Maintenance, trash receptacles, address safety concerns brought about by the increasing homeless
 - Connect the sidewalks
 - Provide places and amenities for kids with many outdoor interests.
 - Improve access to bathrooms where accessible
 - Clean up and spruce up what we have and involve the community
 - Some park areas are too old and not used *
 - Consider more tables and sitting areas
 - Run off at Agate Beach
 - Define the term "maintenance" what are the various levels of maintenance and what level will be acceptable to us.
 - More neighborhood parks, more nature play areas
 - Something accessible for Jump off Joe – a huge crack has opened up below where the garbage can is, is it safe?
 - More activities in the neighborhood parks. Don't know most exist.
 - Native plants for native pollinators every ¼ mile through City of Newport territory N to S. Community gardens so organic. Save historical beach access city and county better bike paths to get off Hwy 101 as much as possible. Agate Beach to Yaquina Bridge to South City to Ona Beach
 - Playgrounds need to be updated
 - Complete the ocean to bay trail. Also, the bridges are very slick when it rains.
 - The commons (fairgrounds) turned into a park and/or fields.
 - Trail T-6 is very rocky after you cross under the bridge, an actual trail in that section is most wanted
 - I was disappointed to not see more "connections" marked on the map. I think this is dearly needed for residents, renters, and visitors to easily connect all of Newport via walking or biking.
 - Flat paved or permeable trails that allow for exercise and transportation (non-motorized)
 - A large open space where multiple groups can gather and not feel crowded. Possible large enough for multiple teams to practice and allow for creation at the same time and dog (pet) friendly!
 - Connect Newport to South Beach with a better foot path along the bridge
 - Flat trails that aren't adjacent to a road
 - Are there identified park deficient areas? If so, first effort should be aimed at readdressing this
 - More natural spaces – wild places

- More connected hiking trails, e.g. Port Townsend WA did a great job of encouraging citizens/neighborhood groups to clear trails, pull ivy, and maintain trails
- Very interested in a tie in from Idaho Point, the Barter property, and the Aquarium for kayak.

2) Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the park system or this master planning process?

- Great goal – we need this, but concern that leveling and draining area near wastewater plant will be prohibitively expensive for development of large fields. Is this realistic?
- Is the city working w/ County and Port to look at their properties in overall plan? Consider acquiring port property for flat field space?
- First take better care to maintain. Provide more funding for public works and landscaping professionals. Appropriate plantings for various sites. Focus on lower maintenance plants if possible.
- Did not see any mention of:
 - Pocket Park at Hurbert St & 101
 - Corvallis to Coast trail
- Safety/ security not concerned or addressed, CPTED? Crime prevention through environmental design
- Not exclusively for parks, but a trolley system for summer to tourist sites similar to the Conch train in Key West Florida
- Stormwater management, trap and utilize storm to mitigate
- Plant vegetation that is low maintenance and designed to discourage the homeless people from establishing camp
- Graffiti: an aggressive abatement program
- Concrete vs wood etc.
- We need more money dedicated to this.
- An overall system of trails/sidewalks around the city.
- Collaborations with Community groups and citizens for common goals. Plan water conservations for city parks by using native drought resistant plants for landscaping for native pollinators provide next boxes for a variety of pollinators with year around pollinator food species.
- Trail to connect SE Marine Science Dr. area with Wilder and community college
- Trail to connect Deco district areas with Agate Beach
- Trail needed to connect T-02 to proposed connection trail near P-32
- Safe, aesthetically pleasing connectors (via bike/walking) to all districts north at the bridge → this could be something like the paved path along SE Marine Science Dr. It's be a great way for tourists to be pulled easily to visit all districts of Newport
- Under or over pass on E Olive St (to connect S-07 to P-24)
- Neighborhood parks of 101 and south of W Olive St and west of NE Eads St
- Current parks are not well maintained e.g. landscaping, etc.
- Consider encouraging "Friends of ..." community members who will help with cleanups and maintenance.
- From Big Creek to Old Pool, OCCFA, and LCSD and parks area managing Forest Park Trail

Other Comments

- Make sure people can access parks via sidewalks and pathways.
- More indoor options for winter

- Native plants for native pollinators citywide
- Get state parks to establish Oregon Coast Trail beach access/egress and trail markers (directions)
- Add “borrow a book” boxes to park sites
- Create more flat trails for jogging/biking/walking
- Create opportunities to highlight Newport’s history
- Note in inventory and/or maps that Ernest Block Place is a distinct area within EB Wayside
- Create designated nature play area for kids (e.g. at San Bay area)

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Use red dot to indicate your support for these same or other parks

Elements of the Vision Statement	Support	Do Not Support
The City of Newport will collaborate with community partners to create a park and recreation system that will:		
Be Visually attractive and well-maintained and can continue to be maintained and improved financially and environmentally sustainable manner.	●●●●●	
Promote beautification and enhanced resource management through the use of creative, appropriate, scenic, creative design and landscaping.	●●●●●	
Incorporate and develop a system of multi-use trails and opportunities for a full range of activities and quality levels, including walking, running, rolling, cycling, and recreational biking.	●●●●●	
Increase wayfinding signage and create and improve non-motorized connections to facilitate walking and bicycling between residential areas and parks, trails, open spaces, recreational facilities, and transportation services.	●●●●●	
Meet a full range of indoor and outdoor recreational needs for all ages by providing opportunities for active and passive recreation, socializing, environments and cultural, educational, and enjoyment of nature.	●●●●●	
Serve all areas of the city in an equitable and effective manner.	●●●●●	
Maintain public access to the beach and improve recreational access to the Bay, including enhancements for people with limited mobility.	●●●●●	
Focus City and other local resources on meeting the needs of residents who are appealing to visitors, including leveraging state resources to fund development and maintenance of park and recreation facilities.	●●●●●	
Sustain and enhance partnerships with local community groups and other public agencies, including Oregon Coast Trail, Oregon Coast Trail and Board of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, the Port of Newport and others to manage recreational resources in a collaborative and sustainable manner.	●●●●●	
Provide amenities within parks to meet user's basic recreation and dining demands, including restrooms, benches, shade, and trash receptacles.	●●●●●	
Develop and maintain accessible, all-ages facilities to accommodate all types of recreation throughout the year, including picnic shelters, gazebos, and other public gathering spaces.	●●●●●	
Ensure that facilities are planned, designed, constructed, and maintained to protect personal health and safety for all community members.	●●●●●	

Classify these open space and natural areas: **Accessories for parks**
Tool for leverage funding sources **Central area beyond city limits**



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