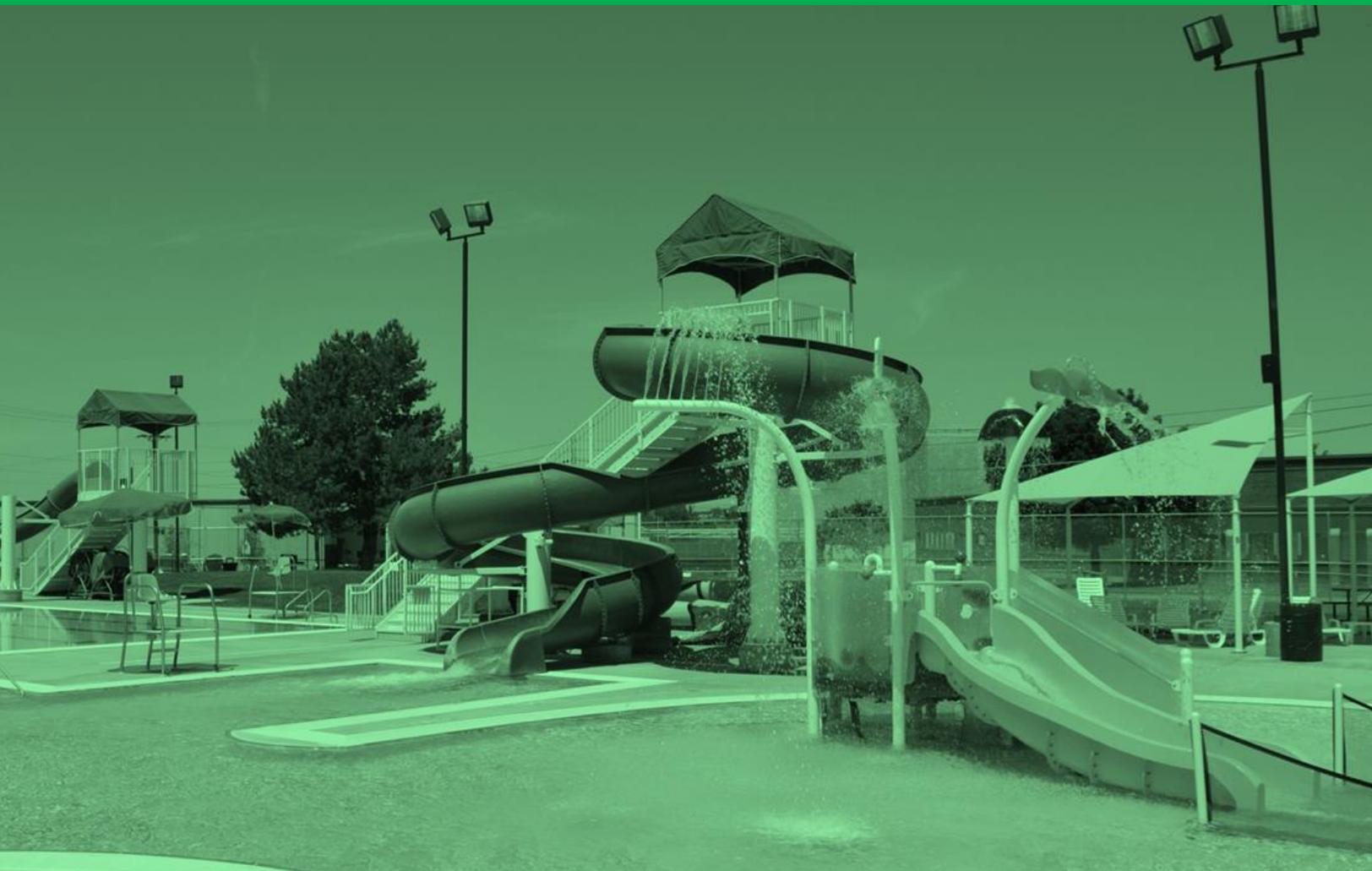


CHAPTER 8

PARKS & RECREATION



CHAPTER 8 PARKS & RECREATION

INTRODUCTION

Quality parks and recreation services foster economic benefits and promote tourism. Environmentally, they provide green infrastructure and help manage climate change. Socially, they revitalize communities, create safer neighborhoods, help children learn and grow, improve public and environmental health, and support smart growth. Culturally, open space and program services can nurture a sense of place in the community, and provide opportunities to engage the public of diverse backgrounds. The City of Prosser manages 21.15 acres of parks and over 140 acres of open space. Parks and natural areas give life and beauty to the city and are essential assets that connect people to place, self and others. The following policies ensure this legacy is preserved for all of Prosser's citizens and future generations and that the City will adequately plan for and strive to increase parks and recreational facilities as the City grows.



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PARKS AND RECREATION GOALS AND POLICIES

Goal PR-1: Provide safe, convenient, and equitable access to high-quality parks, natural areas, trails, and recreational opportunities and contribute to the health and well-being of all residents.

Policy PR-1.1. Provide a range of programs and facilities for year-round recreational choices.

Policy PR-1.2. Consider the varied cultural and demographic needs of the community in park and recreational facility design and promote public involvement in all aspects of park and recreation planning.



Policy PR-1.3. Plan and develop new parks and recreation programs based on current and anticipated community needs.

Policy PR-1.4. Plan for adequate neighborhood parks to serve future residents of the planned residential areas north of the river.

Policy PR-1.5. Plan a new, fully-developed regional park that provides a variety of sporting and event space for festivals and other community and tourist related events.

Policy PR-1.6. Initiate studies to determine the feasibility of using the Spray Fields for a community park that would both serve the recreational needs of the community and provide economic development opportunities.



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Policy PR-1.7.

Plan for the expansion of the Prosser Aquatic Center to include additional pools and amenities.



Policy PR-1.8. Co-locate recreational programming and services in existing facilities in order maximize efficient use of the space.

Policy PR-1.9. Seek funding for new parks and recreation facilities through a variety of sources and consider innovative strategies for the provision of new facilities.

Policy PR-1.10.

Provide recreational amenities and equipment that accommodate the unique needs of physically challenged individuals.

Goal PR-2: Develop a system of trails and paths that interconnects local and regional destinations.

Policy PR-2.1.

Coordinate the planning and improvement of trails with corridor improvements.

Policy PR-2.2.

Site new recreational facilities near residential developments or along trail systems to ensure the facilities are easily accessible to its users.

Policy PR-2.3.

Consider opportunities for pedestrian and trail connections in any future subdivision of land and require appropriate dedication of such trails and pedestrian connections.

Policy PR-2.4.

Prioritize trail access and connections in site plan review.

Policy PR-2.5.

Pursue easements that would improve public access to the Yakima riverfront.

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Policy PR-2.6. Continue to pursue the development of riverfront trails, especially the potential trail extending west of Farrand Park.

Goal PR-3: Utilize Prosser's unique topographical and ecological environments to offer citizens the opportunity to connect with nature.

Policy PR-3.1. Plan for the acquisition of the undeveloped ridgeline and hillside surrounding the City of Prosser to preserve them from development and provide for active recreational uses.



Policy PR-3.2. Encourage dedications to the City of hillside parcels in exchange for development bonuses.

Policy PR-3.3. Hillside areas shall be given special consideration in site design by both the developer and local regulations.

Policy PR-3.4. Enhance existing riverfront facilities to allow for increased access to the river.

Goal PR-4: Preserve and expand parklands and facilities to ensure the long-term viability of the park system.

Policy PR-4.1. Identify a process and criteria for the prioritization of park improvement projects and emphasizes creative and flexible financing strategies.

Policy PR-4.2. Evaluate opportunities to acquire and/or develop lands declared as surplus by other public agencies, or offered as donation by private owners.



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Policy PR-4.3. Promote public-private partnerships that expand community recreational programs, provide open space, and enhance the quality of life for residents.

Policy PR-4.4. Consider developing zoning incentives or fee-in-lieu programs that allow development to contribute towards creating open space, parks, and recreational opportunities.



FIGURE PR-1. CITY OF PROSSER PARKS.

PARK NAME	SIZE (ACRES)
City Park	4.18
EJ Miller Park	6.03
Grant Street Park	0.728
Crawford Park	4.88
Farrand Park	1.16
Market Street Park	2.25
6 th and Sherman Park	0.48
Rotary Park	0.17
Depot Square	1.27
TOTAL	21.148 Acres

CITY OF PROSSER

FIGURE PR-2. PARKS LEVEL OF SERVICE

Parks	
Local	4.5 Acres per 1,000 residents
Open Space/Wildlife Habitat	250 Acres per 1,000 residents

