

**PARKS & RECREATION
ELEMENT**

DRAFT

PARKS & RECREATION ELEMENT

I. Introduction

The Parks and Recreation Element is an inventory of recreational facilities, activities, parks, and forecast of needs. Public recreation is a needed service and benefit to the people of Leavenworth and surrounding populations. The Parks and Recreation Element articulates the needs, and level of service, and outlines resources required to facilitate recreation opportunities and administer parks and recreation programs.

As stated in the Growth Management Act (GMA), the element must implement and be consistent with the parks and recreation facilities identified in the Capital Facilities Element. The element must also include three components:

- Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a 10 - year period;
- An evaluation of facilities and service needs;
- An evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand.

The City of Leavenworth recognizes the following as open space corridors: Barn Beach Reserve (a part of the Wenatchee River Institute), Waterfront Park (City Park), Enchantment Park (City Park), Blackbird Island (City Park) and the Leavenworth Municipal Golf Course. The city parks and trails system along the Wenatchee River offers numerous environmental benefits to the area, including: greater habitat, green belt, trail enjoyment, and public exposure to and awareness for wildlife protection and habitat.

~~Public recreation is a needed service and benefit to the people of Leavenworth and surrounding populations. This plan articulates the needs, level of service, and resources required to facilitate recreation opportunities and administer parks and recreation programs. In 2011, the City identified the need to update its current Parks & Recreation Plan for the facilitation of the continued development of parks and establishment of recreation opportunities for the residents and visiting populations of Leavenworth.~~

~~As a primary recreation service provider in the Leavenworth area, the City recognizes the continued importance of parks and recreation services for the health, social, and economic benefits of the resident population, and for the enjoyment derived by visitors to the City throughout all four seasons of the year.~~

~~The Parks & Recreation Plan is organized to address the following objectives:~~

- ~~1. — Evaluate and further define the appropriate organizational structure to manage parks and recreation services.~~
- ~~2. — Inventory and evaluation of existing recreation facilities and activities.~~
- ~~3. — Establish new, and revise current, policies to guide future decisions and implementation of parks and recreation services.~~
- ~~4. — Solicit public input to forecast the demand for parks and recreation and identify future park and recreation service needs.~~

- ~~5. Identify a six-year capital improvement program and the long-range (20-year) objectives for land acquisition and facilities improvement.~~
- ~~6. Identify costs and related funding programs for recreation services, capital improvements, and maintenance.~~

II. Population, Demographics, & Growth

The use of parks, school facilities, and natural resources for recreation purposes by residents and visitors alike has long been an established part of Leavenworth's lifestyle and business interests. Since its socio-economic resurgence beginning in 1963, with the Autumn Leaf Festival and subsequent adoption of the Bavarian theme, the City of Leavenworth has become nationally and internationally recognized as a destination or stopover for special events, festivals, and year-around outdoor recreation.

~~In the 20 years between 1990 and 2010, the population of Leavenworth increased approximately 16%, from 1,692 to 1,965.~~ Estimating similar growth patterns for the next 20 years would take the City of Leavenworth to a population of approximately 2,280,624 in 2035. Including the UGA and surrounding areas, the population in the Upper Valley Parks and Recreation Service Area (PRSA) is expected to reach approximately 2,9700.

For the purposes of projecting park and recreation needs and establishing levels of service, the City ~~should~~ utilize both the 20170 population estimates and the 20350 population projections. Because of the importance of park and recreation services to Leavenworth's community, the City ~~should~~ also add an additional five (5) percent to the projections-projected needs in order to ensure adequate park facilities. ~~This would equate to approximately 2,400 people in the City Limits by the year 2030 and approximately 2,800 people including the UGA and surrounding areas.~~ In addition, festivals and events, combined with the area's natural resources and recreational opportunities, currently bring approximately 2.2 million visitors to the Leavenworth annually.

Demographics data indicates that visitor populations will continue to grow in terms of total annual numbers and extended seasons. This visitor population has resulted in a higher demand on existing recreation resources, including parks, schools, and natural outdoor recreation features, such as the Wenatchee River, Blackbird Island, Waterfront Park, the Ski Hill area, Fish Hatchery, and surrounding mountains and streams.

III. Organizational Structure

Maintaining an appropriate organizational structure to administer the development, operation, and maintenance of park and recreation services is a matter that requires continuous attention. Currently, the City of Leavenworth maintains park facilities through its Public Works Department. Most park facilities are funded through the City's operating budget. These monies are mostly derived from retail sales tax. Monies for the City's swimming pool are generally derived from the Upper Valley Park and Recreation Service Area (the PRSA), which is a district that utilizes monies from property taxes for the operation and maintenance of the pool. ~~However, the pool has been receiving \$25,000-40,000 per year from the City's general fund to meet expenses.~~

~~There are three (3) examples of organizational structures for the operation and maintenance of park and recreation services found within Washington State's RCWs. Those three (3) organizational structures are: 1) A Special District for Parks & Recreation, managed by a separate body; 2) A Parks & Recreation Service Area, managed by the City; and, 3) A City Department of Parks & Recreation, or a combination.~~

~~The City of Leavenworth has chosen to operate under a combination of the above choices. First, the City's Public Works department utilizes a parks division for the on-going maintenance and operations of park facilities. The parks division also undertakes certain renovation and new park facilities projects. A parks subcommittee of the Leavenworth City Council oversees these projects. Second, †The City has entered into an interlocal agreement with Chelan County, the Peshastin Community Council, the Chumstick Community Council, and the Cascade School District to form the Upper Valley PRSA, to build, maintain, and operate an aquatic center, which houses the City's swimming pool.~~

City of Leavenworth Public Works Department – Parks Division

The projects are focused on neighborhood requirements or needs in community and neighborhood parks with school sites. Multi-purpose park development through interlocal agreements with the School District and other agencies has proven benefits for the entire community.

The City's Public Works Department is responsible for maintenance throughout the City, the maintenance and operation of the City's water plant and wastewater plant, and all park facilities. The parks division typically consists of ~~three (3) eight-month employees and three (3) six-month employees. Along with the seasonal employees, the City employs a full-time, year-around field supervisor, who oversees the field operations for the entire Public Works Department~~one supervisor, two fulltime employees and four seasonal employees.

Upper Valley Park and Recreation Service Area (PRSA)

In April of 1998, the City of Leavenworth, Chelan County, the Peshastin Community Council, the Chumstick Community Council, and the Cascade School District entered into an interlocal agreement, ~~pursuant to RCW 39.34~~, for the construction of a new ~~aquatic center~~City pool that would benefit the residents within the City of Leavenworth and the surrounding areas. This interlocal agreement established the ~~Upper Valley Park and Recreation Service Area~~PRSA Board of Directors, ~~pursuant to RCW 36.68.400~~. The Board consists of:

1. One Chelan County Commissioner;
2. Two elected officials of the City of Leavenworth;
3. One member of the Cascade School District Board of Directors;
4. One representative of the Peshastin Community Council; and,
5. One representative of the Chumstick Community Council.

The PRSA may initiate park and recreation services utilizing all authorized taxing authority and funding program eligibility as provided under local, State, and Federal programs. Levies may

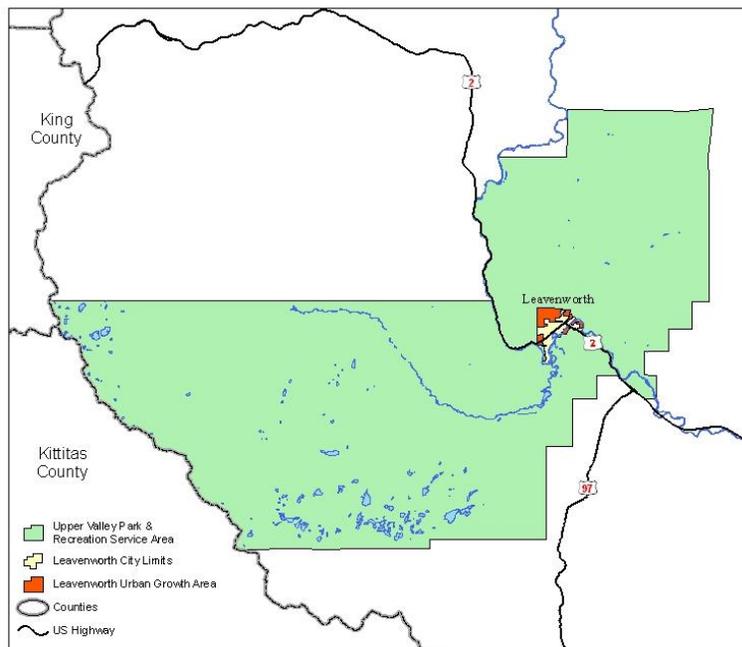
be solicited for either capital or operating funds and/ or for a cumulative reserve fund. General obligation bonds, for capital purposes only, may be brought before the voters at a special election.

~~The City, as facilitator of the PRSA, may enter into concession agreements, charge user fees and admission fees, and create enterprise activities or lease agreements for commercial recreation as additional revenue sources to support funding requirements of the Department (PRSA).~~

Revenue sources to support the development and operations of the PRSA include annual levy, tax levies, and bond issues. General fund (City and County), hotel and motel tax, special use tax, user fees, admission charges, concession contracts, and lease revenues may also be used. In addition, the PRSA is eligible for State and Federal funding programs as provided through grants, loans, and equipment purchase programs. ~~More detail is available in RCW's 36.68, paragraphs 490, 500, 510, 520, 550, and 560.~~

Legal boundaries for a PRSA were established at the time of its creation in 1998. ~~The criteria used for establishing the boundaries include identifiable recreation assets in terms of land, facilities, and recreation opportunities that exist, and/or may be created, within the City Limits and Urban Growth Area, and geographic areas beyond the Urban Growth Area where populations and recreation opportunities exist.~~

The ~~Recreation Service Area~~PRSA includes all lands within the City of Leavenworth and the Urban Growth Boundary (UGA); the Ski Hill area to the north, including Chumstick Road; and the Leavenworth Hatchery to the south, continuing to the Stuart Range with Mountain Home Road on the east, Icicle Ridge and Tumwater Mountains to the west and north, and the community of Peshastin. Precise boundaries of the PRSA are identified within the interlocal agreement. ~~Map 2 generally indicates the service area boundaries.~~



IV. Inventory

The four distinct seasons of the year are substantial drivers for the uses and types of recreational activities within the City of Leavenworth and the surrounding recreational areas.

The location, size, and amenities of each park are important factors to consider when understanding, establishing, and redefining the levels of use by residents and visitors.

The following table identifies existing parks, school sites, and outdoor resources that are available for recreation activities to the people of Leavenworth, surrounding populations, and visitor/tourist populations:

Existing Facilities

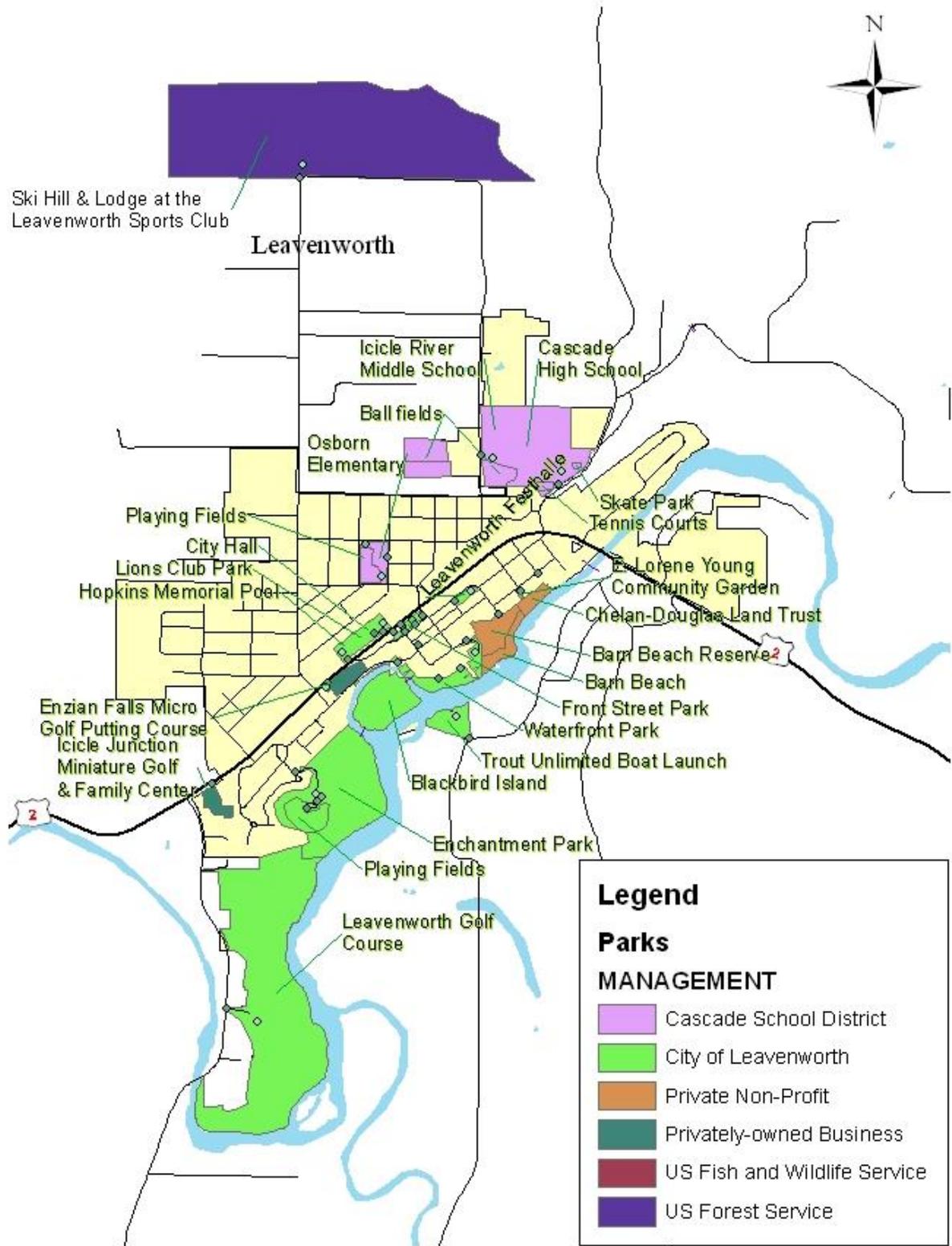
Name	Size	Facilities	Management
Lion's Club Park / Swimming Pool	1.76 acres	Picnic shelter, picnic tables, Lion's Club equipment building with public restrooms , swimming pool with bath house , parking area, and landscaping	City of Leavenworth
Enchantment Park	39.46 acres	Two softball fields, little league field, park building with restrooms, changing rooms BBQ stands, and equipment storage, parking area, picnic tables, children's play equipment, and trails. Wildlife habitat, trails, raft launching, beaches, interpretive signs, groomed ski trails, pump track, and skate park	City of Leavenworth and Kiwanis Club
NAME	SIZE	FACILITIES	MANAGEMENT
Front Street Park	1.75 acres	Gazebo, restrooms, benches, arbor terrace, plaza, maintenance storage, interpretive kiosk, <u>and</u> maypole	City of Leavenworth
Waterfront Park	15.12 acres	Beaches, trails, interpretive signs, playground, amphitheater, overlooks, restrooms, picnic tables, parking, and groomed ski trails, <u>and</u> wildlife viewing	City of Leavenworth
Blackbird Island	14.12 acres	Trails, interpretive signs, overlooks, and groomed ski trails, <u>and</u> wildlife viewing	City of Leavenworth
Trout Unlimited Park (City Boat Launch)	1.6 acres	Boat launch and parking, trails, wildlife viewing	City of Leavenworth
Icicle River Middle School & Cascade High School	36.09 acres	Athletic fields: softball, soccer, and football, tennis courts , basketball courts, and parking	Cascade School District

Osborn Elementary	5.5 acres	Little league Ball fields, play equipment, <u>covered basketball courts, tennis courts</u> , tetherball stands, swings, and children's play equipment	Cascade School District
<u>Alpine Lakes Elementary</u>	<u>16.4 acres</u>	<u>Ball fields and children's play equipment</u>	<u>Cascade School District</u>
NAME	SIZE	FACILITIES	MANAGEMENT
Ski Hill & Lodge at Leavenworth Winter Sports Club	142.0 acres	Alpine and cross-country skiing, trails, lodge, and parking area	U.S. Forest Service
Fish Hatchery	157.69 acres	Hatchery tours, Icicle River Nature Trail, wildlife viewing, benches, snowshoe tours, special activities: horseback rides, Leavenworth Summer Theatre, rafting, winter horse-drawn sleigh rides, cross-country skiing, and special events	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Barn Beach Reserve	5.63 acres	Nature, cultural history, arts and outdoor education opportunities, Upper Valley Museum, trails, and signage, community garden	Private Non-profit
Kid's Fishing Pond		Kids fishing area near trails	Trout Unlimited
Leavenworth Golf Course	102.52 acres	18-hole public golf course with restaurant, shop, and storage facilities, <u>and</u> groomed ski trails during the winter season	City of Leavenworth
Icicle Junction — <u>Miniature Golf & Family Entertainment Center</u>	2.66 acres	Family theme park, including m Miniature golf, arcade games, movie theatre, swimming pool , and other amenities	Icicle Junction: Privately-owned Business <u>Private</u>
NAME	SIZE	FACILITIES	MANAGEMENT
Enzian Falls – Micro-golf Putting Course	3.15 acres	Professional putting course	Enzian Falls: (Private)

Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	3.34 acres	Nature, cultural history, and arts outdoor education opportunities and exhibits, Lorene Young Audubon Center, trails, <u>community garden</u> and interpretive signage	Private Non-profit
<u>Frankie's wayside</u>	<u>.5 acres</u>	<u>Rest area with benches, shade trees, and water fountain.</u>	<u>City of Leavenworth</u>
All	532.43 <u>249.6</u> acres	Total Recreational Space Currently Available	

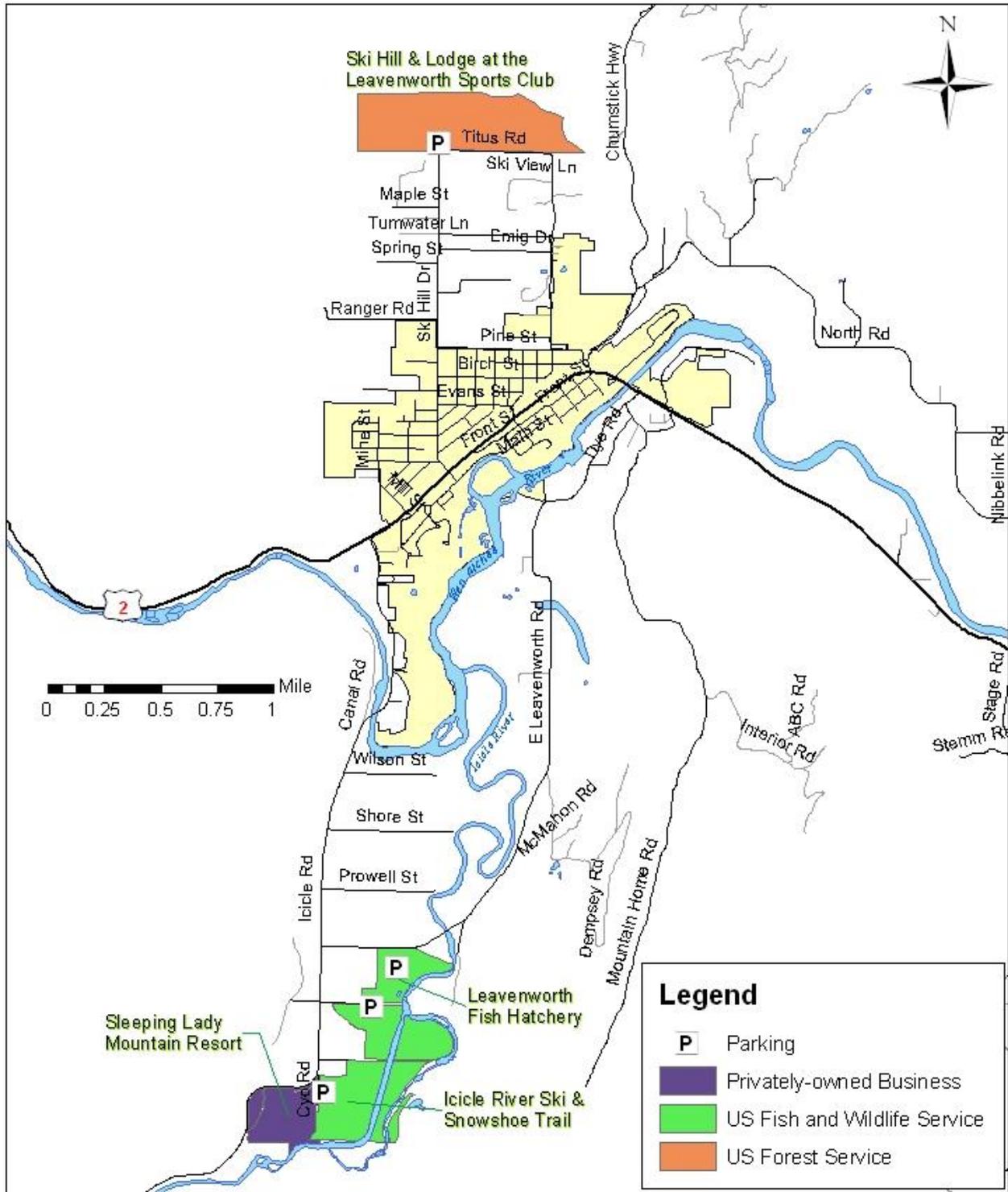
~~Maps 3-5 show locations of Leavenworth area park and recreation facilities. Map 3 identifies facilities in the City of Leavenworth, Map 4 identifies facilities in the outlying area, and Map 5 depicts the layout of area trails.~~

**EXISTING PARKS & RECREATIONAL FACILITIES
IN THE CITY OF LEAVENWORTH**



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**EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES
ADJACENT TO THE CITY OF LEAVENWORTH**



Appendices – Survey and more

Recreation Activities & Events

Presently, the City of Leavenworth provides swimming pool programs and ball field schedule coordination. Individuals and groups who utilize park facilities for activities, such as reunions, organized picnics, and weddings, may reserve facilities through City Hall. There are a number of user groups who utilize the parks and school sites for recreation activities. In addition, the Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce coordinates special events and produces or promotes certain festivals and outdoor recreation activities. Private businesses, non-profit entities, and other government agencies also provide recreation opportunities, guided tours, and events within the City of Leavenworth and surrounding area.

The categories and types of recreation activities available to resident and visitor populations within the Leavenworth ~~Urban Growth Boundary~~ UGA and contiguous area are described in the following table. The information listed was derived from a series of user group workshops and input from the Chamber of Commerce. The list does not necessarily reflect a comprehensive list of currently offered activities:

Existing Recreation Activities & Events

Recreation / Event Category	Type of Activity	Sponsor
Individual Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rafting . Swimming . Bicycling . Hiking . Skiing / Cross-country Skiing . Jogging . Snowshoeing . Golf . Walking . Sledding . Skateboarding . Fishing . <u>and</u> Tennis 	None
Organized Sports	Competition Swim	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volks Marcher • Soccer • Basketball • Wrestling • Trap Shooting Competitions • Boy Scout Activities • Indoor Volleyball • 4-H Club Activities • Golf • Football • Little League • Track & Field • Cross-country Ski Team • Tennis • Girl Scout Activities • Uni-cycle, Roller derby/blading • and Cross-country Running Teams 	
Passive Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picnics • Wildlife Observation • Relaxing in a Park • Art in the Park • Wildflower Observation • Mushroom Hunting • Walking • and Bird Watching 	None
Special Events / Festivals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maifest • Kinderfest • 4-H Breakfast • Kids Safety Day • Accordion Festival • Amber Leaf Theatre 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ._ Autumn Leaf Festival ._ Bon Appetite* ._ CChristkindlemarkt ._ Rotary Bicycle Race ._ Icicle Creek Concert ._ Walk, Run, & Roll ._ Icicle Creek Music* ._ Fasching ._ Craft Fair ._ International Folk Dance ._ Easter Egg Hunt ._ Gold Wing Rally ._ Leavenworth Summer Theater ._ Sleeping Lady Festival ._ Salmon Festival ._ Christmas Lighting Festival ._ Mary Bridges Road Race ._ Car Club Rallies ._ Bronn Journey Concert* ._ Bandstand Music ._ Ice Fest ._ Oktoberfest ._ Wine Walks, <u>Music in the Meadows, Vox Dox,</u> <u>Bavarian Boon Dockers, Banff, Mt Film Festival, Leavenworth Film Festival, Bike and Juice, Carriage Classic Bike, Bird Fest, Bike and Brew, Ale Fest, Timburrr, Summer Theatre, and,</u> *Indoor Activities / Events 	
Historical / Cultural	<p>Autumn Heritage Walk</p> <p><u>and</u> North Cemetery Tours</p>	
Recreation Classes	<p>Martial Arts Yoga</p> <p>._ Hatchery Society</p> <p>._ Interpretive Walks</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Arts & Crafts • <u>and</u> Interpretive <u>Walks / Trails</u> 	
Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife Viewing, Whitewater Rafting • Horseback Riding • Hiking / Walking • Mountain Biking • Kayaking • Sleigh Rides • Snowmobiling • Wild Berry Picking • Astronomy • Hayrides • Fishing • Mountain Climbing • Bicycling • Canoeing • Floating Trips / <u>Tubing, Stand-up Paddle Boarding</u> • Nordic Skiing • Alpine Skiing • <u>and</u> Camping 	None
Senior Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Card Games • Bazaars • Chili Feed / <u>Senior Lunch</u> • Movies, <u>Billiards, Quilt / Knitting</u> • Exercise Program • Spaghetti Feed • <u>and</u> Nutritional Program 	

V. Goals and Policies

Coordination and Compliance with Existing Plans

The City's Comprehensive Plan will incorporate portions of this plan and will reference the following plans. It is important for each plan to not only reference one another, but to work together and maintain consistent policies.

- ~~Transportation Plan: The City developed a transportation plan to replace the transportation element in the Comprehensive Plan. The plan was adopted in October 2009, and provides the planning guidelines and policies for all transportation related facilities and activities, including those for the accommodation of non-motorized activities, such as bike paths, sidewalks, street access to recreation facilities, etc.~~
- ~~Upper Valley Regional Trails Plan: An associated planning effort formally adopted by the City Council in October 2009, was the Upper Valley Regional Trails Plan. This plan focuses on creating non-motorized trail opportunities for the residents of the City of Leavenworth, residents within a five (5) mile radius outside the City, and visitor populations. The plan incorporates multi-modal trail opportunities for pedestrians, bicyclists, equestrians, and skiers. The plan also focuses on creating connectivity between existing trails throughout the planning area.~~
- ~~Downtown Master Plan: The Downtown Master Plan is another plan that the City adopted in October 2009. The plan included extensive public outreach and input throughout the City. The plan focuses on the revitalization of the downtown area, which includes several park facilities.~~

~~Leavenworth Comprehensive Plan~~

~~Land Use Element~~

~~Open Space/Recreation Goal 1: Conserve open space and encourage open space consideration in future development.~~

~~Rationale: Providing for open space will help to maintain the natural beauty of the planning area.~~

~~Open Space/Recreation Goal 2: Enhance public recreational opportunities by providing a variety of year-round active and passive recreational activities for both residents and visitors.~~

~~Rationale: Enhancing the recreational opportunities would provide an added attraction for visitors, thereby directly benefitting the area's tourist industry as well as providing recreational opportunities for residents.~~

~~Open Space/Recreation Goal 3: Recreational areas should have their own land-use designation.~~

~~Rationale: Parks such as Enchantment Park should be designated specifically as recreational since residential or commercial designations would not be appropriate. In addition, land use activities such as parks tend to be long-term activities that merit their own designation that allows outright expansion and uses appurtenant to the main use.~~

~~Capital Facilities Element~~

~~General Goal 3: Develop and maintain parks and recreational facilities capable of serving the anticipated needs of Leavenworth, including the urban growth area.~~

Rationale: Parks and recreational facilities provide an added attraction to the area, thereby providing recreational opportunities for residents, as well as directly benefitting the area's tourist industry.

The Upper Valley Regional Trails Plan

Goal 1: Connectivity

Facilitate the development of an interconnected trail system for the Upper Valley of Chelan County, consisting of sidewalks, bike lanes, and non-motorized shared-use paths for a variety of trail users including bicyclists, equestrians, cross-country skiers, and pedestrians of all ages and skill levels.

Objectives:

1. Combine different types of non-motorized routes in areas such as road rights-of-way, along rivers, utility corridors, and other natural corridors to create an interconnected system
2. Provide accessible routes to connect both residents and visitors to neighborhoods, schools, commercial areas, recreation facilities, community centers, attractions, and natural areas
3. Incorporate multiple modes of travel through all seasons including but not limited to pedestrians, bicyclists, equestrians, and cross-country skiers

Goal 3: Safety

Enable users to travel safely from their homes to community destinations and recreational facilities without using a motor vehicle.

Objectives:

1. Minimize conflicts between pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles
2. Eliminate obstacles to non-motorized travel
3. Improve the safety of the existing non-motorized system
4. Increase the awareness and use of ADA design requirements
5. Provide signs and/or signals for at-grade street crossings
6. Create design standards to promote safety and minimize conflicts between trail uses

Goal 4: Recreational Opportunities

Increase access to local and regional recreational opportunities for people of all ages and levels of mobility. Provide a variety of trail experiences by locating trails of varying lengths and difficulty through diverse terrain, scenery, and points of attraction to draw users and maintain their interest.

Objectives:

1. Improve existing facilities to make them more useable and easier to find
2. Improve opportunities for exercise by residents

3. ——— Encourage use of trails, parks, and natural areas to promote active living
4. ——— Expand on-site environmental education and interpretation of natural resources
5. ——— Develop trail design standards to blend trails into the natural environment with as little environmental disruption as possible

Goal 5: Implementation

Provide trail advocates and agencies with the resources and knowledge needed to implement the regional trails plan. Raise awareness and encourage trail partnerships.

Objectives:

1. ——— Create a planning document to pursue state, federal, and private grants to help construct non-motorized trails
2. ——— Help build relationships between local agencies and foster multi-jurisdictional planning for trails and sharing of resources for recreational and transportation systems
3. ——— Prioritize sections of trail for funding
4. ——— Use existing rights-of-way, public land, and utility and rail corridors where possible to minimize cost of implementation

~~Parks and Recreation Plan Goals and Objectives~~

~~The following goals were developed for this plan, consistent with existing goals of other adopted City of Leavenworth documents. Goals are not in priority order.~~

Goal 1: _____ Enhance public recreational opportunities by providing a variety of year-round active and passive recreational activities for all park and facility users.

Rationale: Parks and recreation provide many benefits to a community and its citizens, including economic, health, environmental, social, and overall quality of life.

Policy 1: _____ Provide and maintain support facilities, including restrooms, parking, paths, trails, lighting, and security measures for safe and accessible use of the system.

Rationale: Parks are not just the land, but the buildings and structures that make a park accessible, varied, and safe.

Goal 2: _____ Support the development of shared - and multi-use facilities that host athletic events, performing arts, community meetings, and other community events on a year-round basis.

Rationale: Diversity and flexibility to address changing needs in the park system is critical for long-term use and enjoyment. As trends and needs of recreation change with, for example aging population, so should the park system. Open and varied use of the park system keeps it vibrant and active.

Policy 1: Objective: Set development and improvement priorities to ensure that facilities for each season and user group are balanced within funding availability.

Rationale: Park systems need projections to plan to future needs. Limiting the park system to short term operating funds is not good practice for expansion and/or improvement. Funding strategies should look to all season use of parks. Vacancy of a park is not efficient use of public lands.

Goal 23: Increase access to local and regional recreational opportunities for people of all ages and levels of mobility.

Rationale: Access to parks is critical to allow use and enjoyment.

Policy 1: Objective: Create new facilities and/or expand existing facilities with consideration for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility, diverse user-ship, and specialty user groups.

Rationale: At a minimum, the Forestry Access specifications may be used for access standards.

Policy 2: Objective: Provide multiple opportunities, as not all facilities will be appropriate for all user groups.

Rationale: A large range of demographic use parks, and parks that include varied levels and opportunities for all user groups foster better living.

Goal 34: Encourage use of trails, parks, and natural areas to promote active living.

Rationale: As destinations for play and recreation, parks have long served as community gathering places and locales for activity and fun. Playgrounds, athletic fields, swimming pools and gardens within parks provide tangible benefits during residents' leisure times. Parks create healthy and easy choices that invite and encourage many and varied recreational opportunities.

Policy 1: ~~Objective:~~ Create signage, access points, parking, and other amenities that make facilities easy to find and inviting.

Rationale: Clear direction and access helps full use of public lands and activities.

Goal 45: Develop new and maintain existing parks and recreational facilities capable of serving the anticipated needs of Leavenworth, including the ~~urban-growth area~~UGA.

Rationale: In cities, good infrastructure is critical to the systems that support citizens living together in densely populated areas. Open, natural and recreational spaces is critical for higher density living.

Policy 1: Pursue additional land acquisition to expand existing recreation facilities.

Rationale: Park level of service needs to reflect population projections.

Policy 2: Identify and acquire additional undeveloped lands for parks, trails and open space within the city and UGA.

Rationale: Park level of service needs to reflect population projections

Policy 3: Consider funding parks and recreation facilities through a variety of funding sources described in this Element, including grants, tax levies, and a GMA-based park impact fee

Rationale: Short term operations and long-term expansion and improvements need cost recovery and funding sources to ensure a lasting park system.

Policy 4: Update the Capital Facilities Plan on a regular (annual or bi - annual) basis in order to identify and budget for park, trail, and open space projects.

Rationale: Capital Facilities Plan is the City's priority list of infrastructure development, and parks need to be reflected as a component of the plan.

Policy 5: Cooperate and coordinate with federal, State, County, School District and City agencies and with private landowners in the region to expand and implement trail projects of local and regional significance

Rationale: Connecting regional and local (private and public) areas with trails allows for greater mobility and connection with surrounding areas.

Policy 6: Consider the community residents and ~~regional service area~~ PRSA as well as the tourist population when planning park and recreation projects.

Rationale: Efficient use of limited resources should include as many as possible participants for park and recreational planning.

Policy 7: Cooperate with other public and private agencies and landowners to acquire and preserve additional waterfront access for recreational activities.

Rationale: Public access to the Wenatchee River and Chumstick Creek is consistent with the adopted 2012 Shoreline Master Program.

Goal 56: Develop sustainable facilities that are affordable to create and maintain.

Rationale: Long-term stewardship and use of park and recreational facilities need to be financially feasible for development and continued operations. Maintenance prevents disrepair and added costs for expensive removal and/or repair.

Policy 1: Encourage sustainable, low-impact, high-quality design and development techniques.

Rationale: Longevity of parks and recreational facilities begin with sustainable, low-impact, high-quality design and development techniques.

Policy 2: Consider and address ongoing maintenance costs prior to the development of new park facilities or expansion of existing facilities

Rationale: To achieve sustainability, cost evaluation must be considered prior to construction.

Policy 3: ~~Objective:~~ *Consider initial cost and long-term maintenance and improvement needs when prioritizing projects. Focus funding on projects that are cost-effective over the long-term.*

Rationale: Maintenance and preservation of facilities is more cost effective than replacement costs.

Goal 67: Conserve open space and encourage open space consideration in future development.

Rationale: Providing for open space will help to maintain the natural beauty of Leavenworth. Leavenworth is framed within a beautiful natural setting, including the agricultural and rural lands surrounding the City. Within the community, undeveloped green spaces and parks have continued to be an important part of defining Leavenworth's physical appearance. The Comprehensive Plan is designed to protect the quality of the natural environment and retain open natural areas while accommodating anticipated levels of growth.

Policy 1: Preserve and protect sensitive areas, including wetlands, open space, woodlands, streams and their corridors, steep slopes, shorelines, and other unique natural features

Rationale: This is consistent with the GMA requirements to protect critical areas, allows for environmentally friendly aspects that can be available for future generations. Preservation will help maintain the scenic beauty and character of Leavenworth.

Policy 2: Encourage the preservation and restoration of native vegetation in natural areas and open spaces throughout the city, and control the spread of noxious weeds.

Rationale: Noxious weed control is required.

Policy 3: ~~Objective:~~ *Maintain and expand valuable open space areas for wildlife viewing, hiking, cross-country skiing, and conservation.*

Rationale: Open space allows for connection to nature and improves the well-being of the community. In addition, open space allows for light, better night sky's, and air circulation

Policy 4: Encourage interpretive trails.

Rationale: Educating trail users adds value to the trail use experience.

Policy 5: Encourage the use of planned developments which provide for open space and recreational opportunities. Encourage clustering on property designated to protect environmentally critical areas. Allow density bonuses provided conditions in the Code are met, including but not limited to maintenance of view corridors; provision of small-lot, detached single-family dwellings; dedication of open space; and protection of environmentally critical areas.

Rationale: Planned development regulations may provide for density bonuses when the developer provides for open space and recreational opportunities.

Policy 6: Examine the feasibility of purchasing recreational easements on lands which will be beneficial to the community at-large if maintained in an open character but which need not be in an outright public ownership.

Rationale: This policy will adequately compensate the property owner for development rights and ensure maintenance of open space.

Policy 7: Open space, which will typically include landscaping features, and which also may include active and/or passive recreational activities, should be located to buffer proposed development from neighboring areas, especially where there is a significant contrast in type or intensity of land use.

Rationale: Open space allows for connection to nature and improves the well-being of the community. In addition, open space allows for light, better night sky's, and air circulation.

Goal 78: Provide a variety of trail experiences by locating trails of varying lengths and difficulty through diverse terrain, scenery, and points of attraction to draw users and maintain their interest.

Rationale: The trail system should be available for all levels of users. Trails can add interest and challenge from seniors to young adults; and varied options encourage healthy living.

Policy 1: Support the inclusion of public art in parks throughout the city

Rationale: Stimulating the mind with a blend of culture and nature should be available with park facilities.

Policy 2: Implement the Upper Valley Regional Trail Plan.

Rationale: Clear direction and expectations for the development of connectivity throughout the region benefits both City residents and our neighbors.

Goal 89: Improve non-motorized connectivity between parks and recreational facilities.

Rationale: Non-motorized options for travel reduces carbon emissions, reduces vehicle congestion, and is environmentally friendly.

Policy 1: Coordinate park planning with infrastructure and transportation planning for new trails, bike routes, walkways, and safe street crossings

Rationale: Construction planning for recreational and pedestrian access reduces cost by timing improvements at the same time and reduces conflicts for use of the same space.

Policy 2: Connect residential neighborhoods to each other as well as to nearby schools, parks, regional trails, and community facilities via a trail network

Rationale: Connectivity and ease of travel fosters a sense of community.

Policy 3: Integrate City parks, facilities, trails and open spaces with other local, state, federal and private park and recreational lands and facilities to best serve recreation users

Rationale: The health benefits with many and varied recreational opportunities have been studied, and such betters the social fabric and overall health of our residents, guests and neighbors.

Policy 4: ~~Objective:~~ Provide connecting trails, paths, and sidewalks between existing and proposed facilities to allow for directed walking and/or biking access.

Rationale: The number of residents walking and cycling increases every year, and a connected walking and bicycling network allows for ease of use, safety and enjoyment of users.

Goal 10: Encourage the development of a Parks and Recreation Program.

Rationale: As needs and services change, the City may prepare and develop a recreational program. This augmentation to the existing private, public and semi-private recreational programs can foster areas of recreation not already being or continue to be served by these other groups and organizations (organized sports). Such program can foster the sense of community involvement for residents.

Policy 1: Encourage the development of a Community Center.

Rationale: A community center provides a greater recreational opportunity for recreation users within a central facility / building.

Coordination and Compliance with Existing Plans

It is important for each Element and Plan to work together and maintain consistent policies.

- Upper Valley Regional Trails Plan.
- Downtown Master Plan.

~~VI.~~ Needs Assessment/Level of Service

Level of service (LOS) standards are measures of the amount and quality of park and recreation sites and facilities that must be provided to meet a community's basic needs and expectations. Standards provide specific targets that help measure progress toward meeting community open space objectives. Typically, LOS measures are expressed as ratios of facility capacity relative to demand by park/facility users. Other LOS measures may include a classification system for parks, which indicates size, features, and proximity within a service area. Classifications may include mini-parks, neighborhood parks, school-parks, community parks, large urban parks, natural resource areas, greenways, sports complexes, private parks/recreation facilities, walking/hiking trails, connector trails, on-street bikeways, all-terrain bike trails, cross-country ski trails, and equestrian trails. At present, the City of Leavenworth operates about 73.85 acres of land that is developed and used for active and passive recreation purposes, including individual and organized sports. In addition, the Cascade School District has about 4454.59 acres of land, which houses acreage set aside for various types of outdoor recreation, including individual and organized sports, along with other types of activities.

The unique qualities of the Leavenworth area, including geography, rivers, seasons, and population interests imply a high-value on the use of natural resource lands and other recreation assets in the vicinity, including Ski Hill, Icicle Creek, and the Fish Hatchery. These factors

combine to have a modifying effect on any LOS standard that may be expressed by acres of land per 1,000 population. If, for example, a level of service standard of 6.5 acres per 1,000 population is used, the total land area, at a Leavenworth community build-out population of ~~2,624,800~~ within the City Limits and UGA, would be ~~18,217~~ acres. At present, there are about ~~176,331~~28,41 acres of park land in the City that are considered developed and usable. ~~Combined with other facilities within the service area, the total available park and recreation space is over 532 acres.~~ Thus, the need for additional land by the year 2035~~0~~ would appear to be unsubstantiated.

However, the population of Leavenworth is increased by approximately 2.2 million tourists per year. These tourists utilize the parks, trails, and recreational facilities in the area, reducing the availability for residents. Because the Leavenworth area offers year-around recreational activities, the total can conservatively be divided equally over a 12-month period. Using that calculation, the City of Leavenworth hosts over 183,000 tourists per month. At 6.5 acres per 1,000 people, this population group would require 1,190 acres of park and recreation land.

When tourists are utilizing the available recreation lands, residents are often crowded out. It is important for the City to determine how to meet the needs of residents while accommodating the tourists that drive the community's economic engine. ~~Specific areas may need to be created for local use only, while other facilities may be expanded to allow for shared use.~~

With input from the community, the City continues to look at new opportunities to expand the park system, create more recreational opportunities, and find ways to redevelop existing facilities to be more compatible with the community's needs. New projects may include, utilizing the Upper Valley Regional Trails Plan along with this planelement to expand non-motorized transportation opportunities; especially those that create safer and more sustainable options for a variety of users.

Input from the Leavenworth community defined two distinct areas of need/request within the parks and recreation system. The first is a clearly identified need to upgrade and improve existing facilities. These facilities include several elements of Enchantment Park, multiple trail facilities and their access points, and the community swimming pool. The second area of need relates to requests for new facilities such as ~~an ice rink~~, additional playgrounds, and regulation sized baseball and soccer fields. The below tables depict the community-identified needs/requests/improvements.

Facility Improvements Needs

Park or Facility	Existing Condition	Improvements <u>Need/Request</u>
<u>Enchantment Park</u>	<u>Skate Park</u>	<u>Enhancements and/or shading</u>
Enchantment Park	Shelter <u>Unshaded play area</u>	Improve and/or expand Shelter <u>Grass and shade in and around play area</u>
<u>Enchantment Park</u>	<u>Pump Track</u>	<u>Shade Trees</u>

Enchantment Park	Small Ball fields with steep slopes on sides and no bleachers	Improve Expand Athletic Fields one ball field , add tall fences, terrace hillsides for safety and seating, improve drainage, turf and add lighting.
Enchantment Park (Wenatchee River)	Difficult to find access point	Signage and map identifier
Riverfront <u>Waterfront Park</u> Trails (Wenatchee River)	Difficult to find access points, washing out	Signage and map identifiers; maintenance
<u>Waterfront Park</u> Riverfront (Wenatchee River)	Minimal parking and no basketball court	Additional Parking and basketball court. Add a play structure
Swimming Pool	Seasonal	Cover or enclose for year-round use
Soccer Fields	Undersized Excepting school district, formal soccer fields do not exist	Expand or create new
Hiking/biking/cross-country trails	Difficult to find, no connectivity	Mapping, signage, connecting segments, maintenance
Golf Course	Golf cart paths are narrow and unkempt	Expand and maintain golf cart paths
Kid's Fishing Pond	Difficult to find and lots of trash	Signage, Mapping, directions, and publish open and close schedule by Trout Unlimited and regular clean-up
<u>Waterfront Park</u>	Limited fixed equipment	Install callisthenic stations on trail
<u>Waterfront Park</u>	Limited viewing platforms	Develop lookout at 3rd and Commercial
<u>Front Street</u>	Downtown Master Plan includes Park Plazas	Construct <u>Royal Lady / Park Plaza</u>

New or Expanded Community-Identified Facility Needs Improvements

Desired Use	Expected Usage	Facility <u>Need/Request Improvements</u>
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Additional Playgrounds	Children's play areas	One north of Highway and one in downtown
Ball Fields	League Use	Two new regulation size fields
Soccer Fields	League Use	Two new regulation size fields
<u>Basketball Courts</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>One covered or open basketball court</u>
<u>Community Center</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>Undetermined</u>

The below table provides a proposed Level of Service enhancements based on the community-identified needs.

Proposed Level of Service Enhancements

Item	Proposed <u>LOSE Enhancements</u>	Existing Facilities	Proposed <u>Facilities Improvements</u>
Playgrounds	Five – evenly dispersed throughout community	One at Enchantment Park; One at Waterfront Park; One at school	One at Lion's Club Park One north of Highway 2 Improve area at <u>Enchantment Waterfront (add play structures)</u>
League size sport fields	Two Baseball Two Soccer Football Fields	<u>One league sized field</u> One soccer field at school for school use Football field at High School	Four <u>Three</u> sport fields <u>Three</u> Two new if one at Enchantment can be expanded. <u>Improvements to existing fields (add tall fences, terrace hillsides for safety and seating, improve drainage, turf and add lighting).</u>
Swimming Pool	One year-round pool	One seasonal pool	New pool or enclosure to make it usable year-round
Trails	See Upper Valley Regional Trails Plan 2009		Complete system as defined in Leavenworth Upper Valley Regional Trails Plan 2009
Trail Access	Clear signage at every trail access point – public map of trails for entire system. Parking	Minimal signage and no <u>limited</u> public maps available. Minimal	Map brochures with trails, access points and parking clearly identified. Better signage and parking at:

	for up to 50-100 vehicles at Wenatchee riverfront trails.	parking at river area not clearly designated.	Waterfront Park, Enchantment Park, Barn Beach, Blackbird Island, and Boat Launch
Skate Park	One complete skate park	Phase 1: Intermediate to Advanced	Phase 2: Beginner to Intermediate; shade trees
Public Restrooms	Needed at all major public gathering areas	Front Street; Enchantment Park; Swimming Pool; Lions Club Park ; Waterfront Park	Expand women's restrooms at Front St.; Add restrooms at Lion's Club Park, Barn Beach , parking area at Waterfront Park, and Boat Launch
Golf Facilities	Varied golfing opportunities	One 18-hole course; One mini-golf course; One putting course	No new facilities needed
Boat Launch	One on Wenatchee River	One on Wenatchee River	No new facilities needed
Picnic areas	Provide varied opportunities for picnic areas in community	Multiple picnic areas throughout community and parks/trails system	<u>Additional</u> BBQ facilities, shade/shelter at Enchantment Park
Rearing Pond and kids fishing area	One	One on Wenatchee River	Signage, <u>mapping, directions, and open / close schedule from Trout Unlimited.</u>
Natural areas, educational opportunities	Provide multiple opportunities for nature exploration and education, guided and unguided	<u>Wenatchee River Institute</u> (Barn Beach Reserve), USFWS Fish Hatchery , Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	Multiple opportunities available through other entities. City may desire to create a wetland park area for viewing and preservation near Ski Hill <u>Poplar Street.</u>
Snow Sport Areas	Cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, tubing/sledding, snowshoeing, ski jump	Ski area at Ski Hill Lodge, e Cross-county and snowshoe areas along trail system, tubing and sledding at Front Street Park.	Improved grooming of trail system for cross-country skiing. Possible tubing/sledding area at other parks.

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