

SULTAN CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

ITEM NO: D-4
DATE: June 5, 2010
SUBJECT: Increasing Park Maintenance
CONTACT PERSON: Deborah Knight, City Administrator

ISSUE:

The issue for the council discussion is increasing park maintenance and security in 2011.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Attachment A outlines current park maintenance levels of service and cost estimates to increase levels of service. City staff are seeking direction from council on whether to budget addition funding to increase park maintenance and security in the 2011 budget.

Increasing park maintenance in 2011 would be part of a larger effort to bring attention to the city's park system and incorporate parks into the overall economic development plan. Park security is an important component needed to draw people back to city parks.

Staff would also like the council's feedback on a proposal to hold community picnic in Osprey Park in August or September of 2011 to reintroduce residents to their community parks. The vision is to host an old-fashioned family picnic with entertainment and activities for the whole family. The purpose is to re-build support for the city's park system. The cost would be staff time only to organize the event.

SUMMARY:

The city is in the process of updating the 2004 comprehensive plan and 2005 Park and Recreation Open Space Plan.

The City has hired PMC Consulting to lead development of the PROS Plan. PMC created an on-line survey in March to gather community comments on the city's parks. A complete copy of the parks survey conducted through SurveyMonkey.com is included at an attachment to Agenda Item D-1. The "verbatim" comments from the survey are included as Attachment B.

The park survey results reveal a strong desire by the Sultan community to increase maintenance and sense of security in the city's parks. The majority of survey responses mentioned lack of maintenance, transients and homeless, and drug activity in the parks as the key reasons for not visiting Sultan's parks.

Chief Brand is working with Mayor Eslick through the Block Watch group to form a sub-group of community park watch volunteers. The park watch volunteers met for the first time on May 26, 2010. Approximately 10 people have signed-up to patrol the city's parks.

The city council has an opportunity in 2011 to increase park maintenance and security patrols and reconnect residents with their parks.

DISCUSSION:

Survey Results:

Approximately 200 people completed the survey, largely based on the Planning Board's direct contact approach. The following characterizations can be drawn from the survey results received to date:

- 33.2% of all respondents stated that they have lived in Sultan for between 10 and 20 years
- 36% of respondents visit a park at least once per month
- 26% visit a park at least once per week
- Summer time use is overwhelmingly favored
- Weekday and weekend visits are not dramatically divergent
- 48% drive to parks when they visit
- Osprey Park is the most visited park by a wide margin with 64% giving Osprey as their most-often visited park
- Walking, hiking, bicycling, picnicking, and soccer were stated as the most often pursued activities
- Trails and Paths (47.4%) and Active Recreation (37.4%) ranked highest in importance as park amenities
- All amenities, except wildlife habitat, were stated to be under-supplied by at least 50% of respondents.
- Active recreation (sports fields, courts, multi-use trails) were stated to be under-supplied by 68% of respondents
- **61% stated that it is very important to increase resources for park maintenance.**

- Improved maintenance ranked highest (59%) in the “what would you like to see in Sultan Parks” question
- Park Maintenance (53.2%) and Park Safety (48.1%) ranked highest in importance of park characteristics
- 58.8 % favored or strongly favored a potential proposal for increased property tax to acquire and develop a new park in the north-east part of the city
- 80% of respondents stated that the city and developers share responsibility for new parks and park maintenance
- Additional development and expansion of the park system was rated as “Very Important” by a plurality of respondents for all eight categories sampled.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Park Maintenance

Attachment A summarizes the city’s current park system and levels of service for each park. Currently, the city’s parks receive minimal levels of service. Maintenance efforts are centered around mowing with occasional weed eating. The bathrooms are not maintained and are only opened by request for sports teams or groups that have reserved the fields.

The PROS Plan inventory analysis will include recommended maintenance levels. The preliminary recommendations are included in Attachment A and represent the highest level of maintenance (Level VI).

The 2010 parks budget is \$91,000 including \$30,000 for the PROS Plan update. City staff recommend at a minimum reallocating the \$30,000 to park maintenance in 2011 and increasing the employee allocation to the parks department from 1.19 FTE to 2.0 FTE. The city would add a .75 FTE part-time seasonal staff to focus solely on park maintenance during the spring, summer and fall months.

Current		Proposed
Salaries and Benefits (1.19FTE)	\$40,000	\$70,000 (2 FTE)
Operating Cost	\$21,000	\$30,000
PROS Plan	\$30,000	\$0
Total	\$91,000	\$100,000

Park Security

The city council may consider increasing park security using a combination of directive patrol through the contract with the Sheriff’s Office, contracting with the Snohomish

County Parks Department for park ranger services, park watch volunteers or a combination of the above.

Directive patrol can be set by the city council at a level of service necessary to meet the community's needs. The council may want to consider using directive patrol on a monthly basis during the spring, summer and fall months or on a quarterly basis throughout the year. The council will need to budget between \$20,000 and \$40,000 to have a meaningful impact. \$20,000 will provide approximately 350 hours of patrol. The benefit of directive patrol is that the funds can be used for on-going an emerging issues such as increased drug activity. Sheriff's officers have the ability to issue citations and arrest offenders.

The Mayor and Snohomish County Parks Director, Tom Tiegen briefly discussed the idea of contracting with the Snohomish County Parks Department for park ranger services. A park ranger is about 75% of the cost of a sheriff's deputy.

The city's park watch volunteer program has just started. It seems like there is interest from the community to participate in the program. Park watch volunteers are the lowest cost alternative, but also provide the lowest level of service.

ALTERNATIVES:

It is clear from the survey result, Sultan residents want improved park maintenance and security. The question for the city council is whether or not parks should be a priority in the 2011 budget.

For a minimum investment of \$30,000 - \$50,000, the city council has an opportunity to address two community concerns - park maintenance and public safety. The benefit of focusing on the parks system is the chance to improve the community's perception of its park system and lay the framework for using the city's park system to attract tourists and recreation users. The city has a fabulous network of parks. The question is whether this is the right time to focus staff time and resources in this area.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Discuss increasing park maintenance and security in 2011. Provide direction to staff.
2. Discuss the idea of hosting a family picnic in Osprey Park in August or September of 2011 to reintroduce the Sultan community to its park system.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - Park level of service alternatives
Attachment B - Park survey verbatim responses

**Park Level of Service Alternatives
Sultan Council Budget Retreat**

***LOM – LEVELS OF MAINTENANCE CURRENTLY RECEIVED:**

- Level IV (IV) Weed eat bi-monthly, mow weekly, edge around structures, fertilize, tree /plant maint. maintain facilities and clean restrooms
- Level III (III) Weed eat monthly, mow weekly, fertilize ball fields, prune trees, maintain facilities and clean restrooms daily.
- Level II (II) Weed eat twice a year, mow weekly
- Level I (I) Weed eat when time permits, mow weekly or bi-monthly and prune trees if time permits

Parks	Acres	LOM Current	LOM Proposed	LOM Proposed PROS Plan	Employee Hrs			
					Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Osprey Park	85.41	II	IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment maintenance • Pressure wash restrooms • Trail maintenance – gravel and cutting back bushes • Fertilize the park – field 2X per year • Maintain the irrigation system including source • Top dress field annually • Better maintain play equipment • Weed eat weekly 	4/wk	8/wk	20/wk	30/wk
Sultan River Park	7.21	II	IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gazebo maintenance and repair • Sculpture repair • Gopher control • Invasive plant removal • Flag pavillion maintenance • Skate park cleaning, maintenance and repair • Electrical system maintenance • Ground leveling • Edging around structures including sidewalk • Weed eat weekly. 	6/wk	12/wk	30/wk	40/wk

**Park Level of Service Alternatives
Sultan Council Budget Retreat**

Parks	Acres	LOM Current	LOM Proposed	LOM Proposed PROS Plan	Employee Hrs			
					Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Sportsmans Park	4.00	II	III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground leveling • Pruning of trees • Fertilize the park • Pressure wash the gazebo • Grade and maintain the parking lot • Weed eat weekly 	WWTP Maintains 4/wk	WWTP Maintains 8/wk	WWTP Maintains 12/wk	WWTP Maintains 15/wk
Reese Park	32.00	II Focus is on ball fields	III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving swing set from wetland to restroom area • Gopher control • Top dress the field • Irrigation system maintenance • Fertilize the grass • Weed eat every time grass is mowed • Pressure wash and paint restrooms 	8/wk	12/wk	20/wk	30/wk
Garden Club Park	1.00	I	III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilizing • Gopher Control • Pruning • Weed eat weekly • Park Features maintained 	2/wk	6/wk	10/wk	15/wk
Roadside Park	1.50	I	III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilizing • Gopher Control • Pruning • Weed eat weekly • Park Features maintained 	3/wk	8/wk	18/wk	30/wk

**Park Level of Service Alternatives
Sultan Council Budget Retreat**

Parks	Acres	LOM Current	LOM Proposed	LOM Proposed PROS Plan	Employee Hrs			
					Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Cemetery Ballfield	1.50	I	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gopher Control • Level the field • Weed control • Fertilize • Weed eat monthly • Mow weekly 	2/wk	5/wk	8/wk	12/wk

COST OF INCREASED LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE:

Staff LOM	Current	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Full Time Employee	1.19	.75	1.19	2	3
Cost/Salaries + benefits	\$40,000	\$25,000	\$40,000	\$70,000	\$100,800
Operating Cost	\$21,000	\$15,000	\$21,000	\$30,000	\$40,000

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

What way do you usually travel to and from the park?

#	Response Date	Other (please specify)
1	Mar 13, 2010 1:31 AM	Bike in summer
2	Mar 15, 2010 4:06 PM	would like to walk but too dangerous on Hwy 2!
3	Mar 16, 2010 11:50 PM	I wouldn't have to drive if there were a large park in my neighborhood
4	Mar 18, 2010 8:11 PM	run
5	Mar 22, 2010 6:49 PM	In Summer I sometimes ride bicycle to work in town
6	Mar 24, 2010 12:39 AM	skateboard or walk or jog
7	Mar 24, 2010 12:39 AM	4x4
8	Apr 5, 2010 7:47 PM	Keep parks free
9	Apr 8, 2010 1:57 PM	depends on the weather
10	Apr 28, 2010 9:50 PM	Also Walk/Jog
11	Apr 28, 2010 9:57 PM	Also walk/jog
12	Apr 28, 2010 10:07 PM	also walk/jog and skateboard
13	Apr 28, 2010 10:53 PM	also walk/jog
14	Apr 29, 2010 3:49 PM	also drive
15	Apr 29, 2010 3:52 PM	also drive
16	Apr 29, 2010 4:02 PM	also bicycle
17	Apr 29, 2010 4:16 PM	Also drive
18	Apr 30, 2010 2:22 PM	Bicycle
19	Apr 30, 2010 3:42 PM	and drive
20	Apr 30, 2010 4:10 PM	I also drive and bicycle
21	Apr 30, 2010 6:28 PM	also drive
22	Apr 30, 2010 7:05 PM	also drive and bicycle
23	May 4, 2010 2:37 PM	I also drive and bicycle
24	May 9, 2010 2:13 AM	ride my horse

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

What changes, if any, would you and members of your household like to see in Sultan parks? (check up to three (3) choices)

#	Response Date	Other (please specify)
1	Mar 13, 2010 1:31 AM	Increase (occasional) police presence/supervision at Osprey
2	Mar 15, 2010 3:33 PM	paved trails and paths would be great, similar to Green Lake in Seattle or Lake Tye in Monroe as examples.
3	Mar 16, 2010 5:31 PM	The city of Sultan simply needs to crack down on the homeless vagrants in our area
4	Mar 20, 2010 3:37 AM	Get a designated Parks dept and director, it would pay for itself
5	Mar 20, 2010 5:25 PM	bathrooms
6	Mar 22, 2010 2:08 PM	Do something about the homeless people.
7	Mar 22, 2010 2:33 PM	BATHROOMS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
8	Mar 22, 2010 3:16 PM	Restrooms need major improvements.
9	Mar 24, 2010 6:16 PM	would love to see a walking trail from Sportsmans park to Osprey
10	Mar 25, 2010 11:18 PM	Public safety improved, too
11	Mar 27, 2010 12:50 AM	make safer by removing homeless camps
12	Mar 29, 2010 8:51 PM	get rid of the homeless drunks
13	Mar 30, 2010 9:25 PM	open up the bathrooms, to many people are pooping in the park
14	Mar 31, 2010 12:24 AM	Communication about parks - what they offer.
15	Apr 5, 2010 3:29 PM	I think that most park activities should be put on hold in today's economic climate. With so many of our city residents out of work, anything we do extra could put an unfair burden on those economically impacted with no job.
16	Apr 5, 2010 6:19 PM	Parking @ Reese for Sporting events is not adequate
17	Apr 6, 2010 9:59 PM	The trails and parks need "doggie stations" that provide bags for cleaning up after dogs and trash can for disposal. I love dogs but am absolutely disgusted when watching out for poop on the ground distracts me and my family from enjoying our time at the park or trail
18	Apr 8, 2010 4:40 AM	volunteer patrol for vandalism - replace info signs
19	Apr 28, 2010 10:44 PM	Soccer Fields
20	Apr 29, 2010 4:10 PM	More biking trails
21	May 9, 2010 2:13 AM	more horse trails

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

#	Response Date	Response Text
1	Mar 11, 2010 12:44 AM	Sultan could greatly benefit from a downtown walking mall/park area.
2	Mar 12, 2010 10:14 PM	DO NOT SPEND ANY MONEY (TAXES) ON THIS.
3	Mar 13, 2010 1:31 AM	Any park built in NE sultan will be utilized by the incredible number of new homes being built in that area, therefore the majority of the cost (not all) should be fairly placed on the builders that are being allowed to put in high volumes of houses in that area. If they are not willing to provide suitable park areas for their subdivisions, then they should not be allowed to build there.
4	Mar 13, 2010 4:13 AM	The parks feel unsafe. The homeless population has taken control of too many areas and I do not feel comfortable or safe taking my family to them.
5	Mar 13, 2010 4:03 PM	there needs to be more patrols of the parks to disperse the punks that hang out doing drugs and intimidade the people that go there either control it or lose people (like me) that will go to or support our parks..I fear for my life each time I go to any area just to enjoy quiet time and enjoy the beauty of this area
6	Mar 14, 2010 5:16 PM	Promote the parks. A lot of people in sultan aren't even aware of the parks we have.
7	Mar 15, 2010 3:06 AM	Park maintance and up keep have fallen considerably in the past 10 years.
8	Mar 15, 2010 11:56 PM	I work here, but live in a nearby town.
9	Mar 16, 2010 5:31 PM	Sultan is a beautiful city but the downtown area by the bridge is simply ugly. Not just the homeless element but the way the businesses look. With so many pretty views, this could be one of the best small towns around. In short, it should clean itself up and have a look/feel similar to North Bend. Family friendly and safe with a sense of community.
10	Mar 16, 2010 11:50 PM	Please build a large park in the NE part of the city (somewhere off of Sultan Basin Road). Also, please be more responsible in the future about requiring developers to foot the bill for such improvements, instead of allowing them to merely set aside "green space" as a recreational opportunity.
11	Mar 18, 2010 11:51 AM	Litter and destruction of amenities in the trails along the Sultan River are very disturbing
12	Mar 18, 2010 8:01 PM	need to work on clean up the parks of garbage.
13	Mar 18, 2010 8:03 PM	im 16 and i love using the parks. i would love for there to possibly be more hiking trails, or things fro me to bicycle on
14	Mar 19, 2010 12:36 AM	I think funding for fields and maintenance should come from field users. Perhaps the City should build a soccer or baseball facility and then lease the facility to one of these private leagues.
15	Mar 19, 2010 3:39 AM	Sultan has some very nice parks, diverse to all citizens. They need to be maintained and updated though. With the huge homeless population in Sultan and the obnoxious kids through out the town Osprey can be intimidating. However I have seen Motorcyle police through the trails once or twice. Thank you for what you have done already and I look forward to seeing continued improvement to the community that I grew up in and LOVE!!!

City of Sultan Park Survey Verbatim Responses

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

#	Response Date	Response Text
16	Mar 19, 2010 3:34 PM	NEED MORE SPORTS COURTS
17	Mar 19, 2010 3:38 PM	More Basketball events. Indoor/outdoor.
18	Mar 19, 2010 3:38 PM	lots of indoor and outdoor basketball stuff...
19	Mar 19, 2010 5:38 PM	dangerous
20	Mar 19, 2010 8:15 PM	If Sultan is thinking of parks, they should first look at the ones they already have. They need to clean and maintain both Osprey and the riverside parks. Osprey is on the cusp of negligence and that needs to be solved first and foremost. In the storm drain(the one with a bridge going over it by the field) needs to be cleaned out and somewhat weeded. The play ground itself is okay, as is the basketball court and the soccer/ baseball field. BUT, our main concern out there is the amount of litter. Animals will eat the nastiest stuff WE humans leave out, and they don't know any better! But we know better, and it could harm them drastically. In the trails behind said playground and field we know there is a large community of animals and insects who reside there and yet, our trails are unkempt, there are no trash cans to hold litter, the benches are decimated and information boards shattered. These are my honest feelings as a student attending our Sultan High School. I would love to be a volunteer if you plan on cleaning parks up, but please! Do not leave Osprey and parks how they are. They make me sad when I go by to see how their glory has faded....
21	Mar 19, 2010 8:21 PM	The need to maintain the parks should be improved.... I know soccer players would benefit from the soccer goals not breaking, and having a field with holes in it.
22	Mar 19, 2010 9:07 PM	I think a new park with lots of trails through the woods would be great.
23	Mar 19, 2010 9:12 PM	LONG LINES AT THE DMV! 8==D
24	Mar 20, 2010 3:37 AM	Su;tan is already one of the costliest cities to live in, in all of Snohomish County. The City has little to offer prospective residants and business owners. An active parks dept. could make a lot of difference in the growth of this beautiful City. The people here are wonderful but we are taxed enough already.
25	Mar 20, 2010 3:15 PM	A nice baseball, soccer field would be a benefit to the youth of the community.
26	Mar 22, 2010 2:19 AM	More active recreation for kids is sorely needed in Sultan. There are no city tennis courts, few softball/baseball fields with no little league or parks and rec teams to use them, and one field for soccer or flag football at Osprey that needs better maintenance. Hopefully, with more areas for active recreation, more programs and opportunities will develop for our kids to keep them healthy and out of trouble.
27	Mar 22, 2010 2:08 PM	The homeless/transient population creates a serious problem for those living in the area.
28	Mar 22, 2010 2:19 PM	13. Where would the park be? If it is one that I would use I would pay for it however if it is on the Basin then NO I don't live near there.

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

#	Response Date	Response Text
29	Mar 22, 2010 2:33 PM	Along with more parks, comes responsibilities, garbage, dog poo, maintenance. Who pays? Our kids need more to do, in safe places to do them. Paved bike trails, out of the way of cars. jogging/walking trails "safe" areas.
30	Mar 22, 2010 3:19 PM	More space is needed for future parks to serve a growing population. Acquiring the land is the immediate need, development can take place over time.
31	Mar 23, 2010 6:24 PM	parks need to be FUN and visually inviting, not just cleaned up, and safe and secure from the homeless.
32	Mar 24, 2010 12:39 AM	raise some money to make a bigger and better skate park, because its always crowded there and me and my friends dont really have room to skate
35	Mar 25, 2010 4:18 AM	I really enjoy Osprey park however there needs to be more maintenance/repairs to existing equipment and sports areas as well as regular access to restroom facilities.
36	Mar 25, 2010 5:04 AM	The existing parks and/or new parks need to be connected by trails that allow residents to go between parks or to get from their home to the park without driving.
37	Mar 25, 2010 5:57 PM	I believe that sultan could use another large park such as osprey. It would be great if it was more sports orientated.
38	Mar 25, 2010 10:07 PM	We feel that repair, maintenance and public safety in the existing parks is very important. If Reese park is not able to be funded to update the facilities, then perhaps it is time to sell it and build a new park. Developers need to build and provide new park areas for the new people that move into the development and impact the community.
39	Mar 25, 2010 11:18 PM	Brian Boehm from the Watershed Task Force describes the territory surrounding the Skykomish, Sultan and Wallace Rivers as an underappreciated "gold mine" and my opinion is that Sultan is a jewel just needs a bit of polish and promotion. Sultan's parks that offer stunning mountain and river views within walking distance of town are underutilized gems that I believe with improved development and access will sparkle and act to draw in citizens from urban areas seeking a unique country experience many that could arrive by bus alleviating parking/carbon emission challenges. Incorporating a vibrant and viable trail system from River Park to Osprey Park by improving/promoting the existing trail I believe could serve as a catalyst for many positive changes to the economy of Sultan. This trail would be a bridge from the urban/business district to finding a connection to nature while enjoying physical exercise and interacting with friends, family and nature all at once or if seeking solitude I believe that could also be found in many areas of the trail system proposed. Just like a river charts a new course I would urge Sultan powers that be to consider a new course of promotion: not just attempting to lure driver's off Hwy. 2 but to make Sultan a destination city offering wild scenic vistas, natural resources and recreation possibilities all from a bus, bicycle or car ride. Improving parking and access to the parks is a must! Prior to moving here I stopped once to visit River Park curious about it from a Hwy. 2 view but finding no

City of Sultan Park Survey Verbatim Responses

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

#	Response Date	Response Text
		adjacent parking assumed it was for locals only, left and never returned. A trail system from River Park to Osprey would offer many possible loop/distance opportunities as well as multiple use opportunities. I envision walking/biking/fishing/bird watching/horse riding/picnicking/natural science education all occurring within the boundary of this linked park/trail system which encompasses river and stream beds, a beaver pond, wetland, Sitka Spruce stands, fern grove, marsh, remnants from the logging industry, wildlife and bird viewing (birds sighted: pileated woodpeckers, grouse, grebe, mallards, Canadian geese, chickadees) all within easy & level walking for school children, visitors and residents. Reconfiguration of traffic flow (one way along River Park) to provide additional parking (perhaps even RV with hookups to provide funding for ongoing park maintenance) and utilization of undeveloped city lots nearby for added parking would be advantageous and also recommended for consideration. Also would love to see a "regional" sports facility offering tennis, field sports, etc. opportunities for our youth. Two tennis courts do not even allow for local high school teams which were a huge benefit during the teen years.
40	Mar 27, 2010 12:50 AM	The homeless (drunks) going thru the park to their campsite scare the heck out of me.
41	Mar 29, 2010 8:51 PM	we avoid the parks due to the large homeless population drinking openly and being aggressive and using the restroom in the open
42	Mar 29, 2010 11:06 PM	The issue we are seeing with the Sultan parks is we do not have visible law enforcement to deter younger people (12-18) from going in the woods and causing trouble. Another troubling issue is the amount of homeless people who are using these facilities as their dumping grounds (both garbage and bodily!). I think we should put more money towards cleaning up Sultan before we put money into building more parks for people to abuse. It is discouraging as a parent to bring your children to the park when on any given day at any given time they are able to witness a drunk homeless person walking out of the woods!
43	Mar 30, 2010 9:25 PM	monroe parks has timmers on their bathrooms so that they lock at dusk, is that something we could do here.
44	Mar 31, 2010 12:27 AM	I'd like to see canoe and kayak rentals in the area.
45	Mar 31, 2010 12:27 AM	I'd like to see canoe and kayak rentals in the area.
46	Mar 31, 2010 1:15 AM	Would love to see loop trail from River Park all the way to Osprey Park along existing small trail along river and through woods.
47	Mar 31, 2010 1:34 AM	We need more facilities for our youth sports complexes rather than have them travel to Monroe or Snohomish.
48	Mar 31, 2010 1:47 AM	Suggest a Program such as Adopt a Street for Trails.
49	Mar 31, 2010 3:27 AM	Please try to reserve some park paths/trails as soft surfaces (gravel / fibar) for running and dogs. We love Osprey park - I wish there was something we could do

City of Sultan Park Survey Verbatim Responses

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

#	Response Date	Response Text
		as a community to fight the problems of vandalism and trash in the park.
50	Apr 3, 2010 11:41 PM	We live up Sultan Basin Road and currently, I don't feel like there are any parks in town that are safe to take our baby or where I would want to hang out on a nice sunny day. We usually drive to Monroe or the eastside. The homeless people deter regular families from wanting to hang out at the parks. It just doesn't feel safe. The "tot lot" in our neighborhood (eagle ridge) is pretty run down, small, and not somewhere you can hang out for very long since it's in the blaring hot sun all summer (no trees/greenery or shade). It would be so wonderful to have a large park with more to do (think marymoor) - trails, dog area, playground, soccer, pea patch, etc. :)
51	Apr 5, 2010 3:29 PM	I'm not opposed to funding parks. I am opposed to funding parks in today's climate. Unless there is some federal grants via the stimulus programs, I can't see financially burdening those that are already impacted by our poor economy.
52	Apr 5, 2010 4:37 PM	I think we need to evaluate the usage and potential of expanded usage of existing parks first before adding others.
53	Apr 5, 2010 6:19 PM	Improve the quality of the parks that you have rather than quantity. Maintenance & Safety should be a priority.
54	Apr 5, 2010 7:10 PM	I would like to see Osprey park upgraded (soccer, baseball field) as well as abandoned lots near the schools turned into Tot Parks. I am 100% in favor of paying higher prop. taxes to give the town of Sultan a new face lift. However, I am afraid that loose dogs, homeless, and thugs will over take them. We need to include security costs (walking patrol, drive by security checks) into the price of each new park development.
55	Apr 5, 2010 7:47 PM	Keep the parks and parking free so that I can take grand kids there.
56	Apr 6, 2010 4:36 PM	There are enough parks for Sultan, I rather like to see improvement in the existing parks than new spaces, it would be less expensive and city efforts would be more specific.
57	Apr 6, 2010 9:59 PM	Sultan has a LOT to offer, we just need the people to come together to make all of Sultan's natural beauty and wilderness useful, fun, safe, and adventurous!
58	Apr 19, 2010 8:52 PM	In regards to question 12. I highly support more football /baseball / soccer facilities.
59	Apr 29, 2010 4:00 PM	I think that down by the river, people doing illegal things or loitering shouldn't be there. Also, when I drive by the library, I see adults and dropouts and I don't like that.
60	Apr 29, 2010 4:16 PM	You should improve the safety at the parks because it's not somewhere I would go on my own anymore. There are too many nameless and gangs now!
61	Apr 30, 2010 2:22 PM	With a more maintained larger park, more people would see these parks as great and get together at spots or places to BBQ, fish, bicycle. More trails would be

City of Sultan Park Survey Verbatim Responses

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

#	Response Date	Response Text
		another great addition.
62	Apr 30, 2010 3:46 PM	I don't enjoy feeling unsafe because of homeless people and gangs.
63	Apr 30, 2010 3:51 PM	I hate not feeling safe because of homeless people and gangs
64	Apr 30, 2010 4:46 PM	I wish there was a way t limit the destruction and negative use of parks by drugged out teens. I feel that the parks now have a negative reputation because of drug users.
65	Apr 30, 2010 6:28 PM	I really dont' have any problems with any of the parks. I pretty much like th eway they are. I've lived in Gold Bar my whole life
66	May 3, 2010 2:50 PM	Please increae town security, please it is the most important thing you can do is protect the youth!
67	May 4, 2010 2:34 PM	I love to hike and wish there was more places to hike and not get in danger. No drugs no weapons
68	May 4, 2010 2:37 PM	Need more adventurous trails! More hiking areas! I don't live in Sultan, I live in Gold Bar
69	May 4, 2010 2:39 PM	I live in Startup
70	May 9, 2010 2:13 AM	this town used to be more friendly to horse people now it is not

What is the most important reason for not visiting Sultan parks more often?

#	Response Date	Other (please specify)
1	Mar 11, 2010 12:44 AM	Poor conditions
2	Mar 11, 2010 5:01 AM	Fear of the people on drugs and alcohol and the indigent
3	Mar 12, 2010 7:43 PM	I don't always feel safe at the parks - kids/homeless/etc.
4	Mar 13, 2010 4:03 PM	don't like the punks and homeless that hang out there
5	Mar 15, 2010 3:06 AM	parks not in good shape
6	Mar 15, 2010 3:33 PM	Park equipment is outdated, criminal element in the area is too obvious to allow my kids to play in the area.
7	Mar 15, 2010 4:06 PM	homeless people on trails are scary so we only go to the ones we can easily access
8	Mar 16, 2010 5:31 PM	Too many homeless / vagrants everywhere in Sultan
9	Mar 16, 2010 7:18 PM	Parks are not safe and kept up in Sultan so we go elsewhere - need a place for children to ride bikes

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

#	Response Date	Response Text
10	Mar 18, 2010 8:03 PM	when it rains , and u cant go outside. oh and i visit the skatepark alot too.
11	Mar 18, 2010 8:55 PM	facilities in disrepair
12	Mar 19, 2010 8:15 PM	the park is filled with litter
13	Mar 19, 2010 9:04 PM	its not fun
14	Mar 19, 2010 9:06 PM	they arent night club
15	Mar 19, 2010 9:07 PM	They aren't nightclubs for teens
16	Mar 19, 2010 9:11 PM	not very clean
17	Mar 20, 2010 5:25 PM	lack of restrooms
18	Mar 22, 2010 2:08 PM	Dirty conditions. Homeless people.
19	Mar 22, 2010 2:33 PM	No bathroom facilities for grand children
20	Mar 22, 2010 3:16 PM	When I'm off work it's dark.
21	Mar 22, 2010 3:19 PM	Do not spend that much time in Sultan
22	Mar 23, 2010 6:24 PM	did not know there was so maun, dont know where they are at
23	Mar 24, 2010 12:39 AM	skate park is fun to
24	Mar 24, 2010 12:39 AM	skate park
25	Mar 24, 2010 6:16 PM	do not feel safe around the homeless and the trash around River park and Sportsman park
26	Mar 25, 2010 5:04 AM	Monroe, where I work
27	Mar 25, 2010 4:17 PM	aging father was living with us
28	Mar 25, 2010 10:07 PM	Homeless people living by river at Osprey and groups of unruly teens. Restrooms not open.
29	Mar 25, 2010 11:18 PM	Not looking or feeling safe enough
30	Mar 29, 2010 8:51 PM	to many homeless drunk people
31	Mar 29, 2010 11:06 PM	Too many juveniles and homeless people in the woods- it feels unsafe.
32	Mar 30, 2010 11:51 PM	Don't orient in that direction
33	Mar 30, 2010 11:58 PM	One I used was quite littered with garbage.
34	Mar 31, 2010 12:11 AM	Work outside at home.
35	Mar 31, 2010 12:24 AM	Use parks in Monroe

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

#	Response Date	Response Text
36	Mar 31, 2010 12:50 AM	Use USFS trails up valley.
37	Mar 31, 2010 1:15 AM	Too isolated. Didn't feel safe.
38	Mar 31, 2010 1:27 AM	Live in Goldbar.
39	Mar 31, 2010 1:51 AM	Live outside of Sultan. Walk on our own land.
40	Mar 31, 2010 8:03 PM	afraid to go on trail near river because of homeless.
41	Apr 3, 2010 11:41 PM	We don't feel like the parks are very safe and there really isn't a nice park for kids that has good open space, play toys, etc. Honestly, "cemetery park" ? Not a place to go hang with the kiddos.
42	Apr 4, 2010 5:56 AM	they don't feel safe - too many kids hanging around
43	Apr 5, 2010 3:29 PM	Afraid to go to the parks. The restrooms are scary
44	Apr 5, 2010 6:19 PM	Safety
45	Apr 5, 2010 7:10 PM	lack of picnic areas, homeless people near Reese park
46	Apr 5, 2010 7:47 PM	Take grand children when visitation
47	Apr 6, 2010 9:59 PM	I no longer live in Sultan but visit family often.
48	Apr 8, 2010 1:57 PM	homeless crap around the town and parks
49	Apr 28, 2010 9:50 PM	Homeless
50	Apr 28, 2010 9:57 PM	Drugs
51	Apr 28, 2010 10:07 PM	I also use the skatepark (for question 3, there was check for that)
52	Apr 28, 2010 10:31 PM	Not in good shape
53	Apr 28, 2010 10:34 PM	No swings
54	Apr 28, 2010 10:53 PM	Bums
55	Apr 29, 2010 3:52 PM	Too many people
56	Apr 29, 2010 3:54 PM	Don't live in Sultan
57	Apr 29, 2010 3:56 PM	Everything is too far from where I live in Goldbar
58	Apr 29, 2010 4:00 PM	Hoodlems roaming around
59	Apr 30, 2010 2:22 PM	Trails not maintained or too muddy to walk
60	Apr 30, 2010 2:31 PM	Weather
61	Apr 30, 2010 3:42 PM	Hobos
62	Apr 30, 2010 3:45 PM	people drinking and smoking

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

IN YOUR OWN WORDS. Please feel free to use the following space to provide additional thoughts, comments, or further explanations. If responding to a specific question, please reference the question number.

#	Response Date	Response Text
63	Apr 30, 2010 3:51 PM	Bad people
64	Apr 30, 2010 4:10 PM	I also don't go because I use parks outside of Sultan
65	Apr 30, 2010 4:30 PM	Hobos
66	Apr 30, 2010 4:52 PM	I live in Monroe
67	Apr 30, 2010 5:00 PM	Not fun enough
68	Apr 30, 2010 5:04 PM	Don't live in Sultan
69	Apr 30, 2010 6:32 PM	not nice
70	Apr 30, 2010 6:34 PM	There really isn't much to do at the park
71	May 9, 2010 2:13 AM	punks and homeless people and vandalism

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

From the following list of park amenities, please state whether you think Sultan has too few, just the right amount, or too many of each to meet the needs of the community.

#	Response Date	Other (please specify)
1	Mar 13, 2010 4:03 PM	bathrooms..none
2	Mar 15, 2010 3:33 PM	family friendly areas would be greatly appreciated, no vagrants or bums please.
3	Mar 16, 2010 7:18 PM	Need biking area
4	Mar 19, 2010 12:36 AM	Play equipment with the daughter!
5	Mar 22, 2010 2:19 PM	More seating
6	Mar 22, 2010 2:33 PM	Bike Riding/walking street Like centeniel trail sno.
7	Mar 22, 2010 3:19 PM	Sultan has a nice mix of parks for the size of the community.
8	Mar 23, 2010 6:24 PM	rest areas for travelers
9	Mar 25, 2010 4:18 AM	Not enough Bathrooms at Parks
10	Mar 25, 2010 10:07 PM	Need more baseball diamonds & soccer fields specifically.
11	Mar 25, 2010 11:18 PM	Need more tennis courts
12	Mar 31, 2010 12:03 AM	I am unimformed about Sultan parks.
13	Mar 31, 2010 1:15 AM	Tennis Courts!
14	Mar 31, 2010 1:54 AM	Tennis Courts
15	Apr 6, 2010 9:59 PM	Usable bathroom facilities
16	Apr 29, 2010 3:45 PM	JOSHA
17	Apr 29, 2010 3:52 PM	Also use parks on the weekends and hot days
18	Apr 29, 2010 4:10 PM	Also use Roadside, Reese River & Sportsman's Park. Also use the parks on the weekends and in the fall and spring.
19	Apr 29, 2010 4:16 PM	Bad people there; I also use Reese and River Parks. I also use the parks in the Spring
20	Apr 30, 2010 2:22 PM	I also use Roadside and River Parks, and I use them also in the fall, winter and spring.
21	Apr 30, 2010 2:31 PM	I also use the park in the fall, winter & spring and on the weekends.
22	Apr 30, 2010 2:39 PM	I also use the park on the weekends
23	Apr 30, 2010 2:40 PM	Wait....what? I also use Osprey Park, and I also use it in the spring and on the weekends.
24	Apr 30, 2010 3:36 PM	Also use Osprey Park
25	Apr 30, 2010 3:42 PM	I also use the Water Treatment and Cemetery Parks and use them in the Spring also.

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

From the following list of park amenities, please state whether you think Sultan has too few, just the right amount, or too many of each to meet the needs of the community.

#	Response Date	Other (please specify)
26	Apr 30, 2010 3:45 PM	I also use the park in the Spring
27	Apr 30, 2010 3:51 PM	I also use River and Osprey parks and I use them alos in the fall and spring
28	Apr 30, 2010 4:10 PM	I also use Sportsman Park and use the parks in the spring
29	Apr 30, 2010 4:14 PM	I also use Sportsman Park and also in the spring and on the weekends
30	Apr 30, 2010 4:16 PM	Don't know about the wetland/wilflife habitat
31	Apr 30, 2010 4:30 PM	I also use River and Osprey parks and ust them in the fall, winter, and spring.
32	Apr 30, 2010 4:56 PM	I also use the skatepark and use them in the spring
33	Apr 30, 2010 4:59 PM	I also use Osprey Park and also use it in the Spring
34	Apr 30, 2010 5:04 PM	I use the parks in all the seasons
35	Apr 30, 2010 5:06 PM	I also use the park in the spring
36	Apr 30, 2010 6:34 PM	I also use the parks in the fall and spring
37	Apr 30, 2010 7:05 PM	I also use the parks on the weekends
38	May 4, 2010 2:37 PM	I also use Osprey park and use it also in the fall and spring.
39	May 4, 2010 2:39 PM	I also use the park in fall and spring
40	May 9, 2010 2:13 AM	not enough/any horse trails

**City of Sultan
Park Survey Verbatim Responses**

Following is a list of outdoor activities. For each, please identify whether the activity is something you always, often, sometimes, or never do.

#	Response Date	Other (please specify)
1	Mar 11, 2010 12:44 AM	disc golf
2	Mar 13, 2010 1:31 AM	Fishing
3	Mar 18, 2010 8:11 PM	running
4	Mar 19, 2010 3:38 PM	Play Basketball
5	Mar 19, 2010 3:44 PM	jogging/always
6	Mar 22, 2010 2:19 AM	Basketball
7	Mar 25, 2010 10:07 PM	Quiet place to sit alone, especially by the river.
8	Mar 25, 2010 11:18 PM	Tennis, lots & lots of tennis
9	Mar 31, 2010 12:11 AM	Gardening
10	Mar 31, 2010 1:03 AM	I am new to the area and not knowledgeable about the facilities.
11	Mar 31, 2010 3:27 AM	running
12	Apr 28, 2010 10:53 PM	Swimming
13	Apr 29, 2010 4:16 PM	Go for a run or to swim
14	Apr 30, 2010 2:40 PM	yes
15	Apr 30, 2010 3:51 PM	Race Cars
16	Apr 30, 2010 4:16 PM	Basketball (outdoor)
17	Apr 30, 2010 4:46 PM	Ultimate Frisbee
18	May 9, 2010 2:13 AM	horse back riding/trail riding