SULTAN CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

ITEM NO: C-3

DATE: December 16, 2010

SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 1099-10 Adopting the 2010 Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan AND amending the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan.

CONTACT PERSON: Deborah Knight, City Administrator

ISSUE:

The issue before the city council is to have Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1099-10 adopting the 2010 Park, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan and amending the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Have Second Reading Ordinance No. 1099-10 repealing the 2004 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan and replacing it in its entirety with the 2010 Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan; amending the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan to incorporate by reference sections of the newly adopted 2010 Park Recreation and Open Space Plan into Chapter 3.3 Park and Recreation Facilities, Chapter 3.4 Capital Facilities Plan; Appendix D --Park and Recreation Needs of the City of Sultan; and Appendix E – Fiscal Capacity.

Attachment A is the adopting ordinance. The adopting ordinance includes two exhibits. Exhibit A –2010 PROS Plan and Exhibit B – Proposed amendments to the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan. The pages of the exhibits are condensed for the council agenda packet to save paper and copy expenses. The full size versions will be included with the signed ordinance and available for public review.

SUMMARY:

The city council held a public hearing and had First Reading of Ordinance No. 1099-10 on December 2, 2010. There were no public comments submitted regarding the 2010 PROS Plan or proposed comprehensive plan amendments.

The PROS Plan is a component of the city's comprehensive plan and is required to be updated every 6 years to remain current with the needs of the community, to comply

with the Growth Management Act (GMA) requirements, and to remain eligible for grant programs through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).

The current plan was adopted by the City Council in 2004. The updated plan is anticipated to be adopted in 2010 and will remain valid until 2016.

The city should adopt the 2010 PROS Plan and comprehensive plan amendments concurrently because the 2004 PROS Plan is an appendix to the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- In 2004, the City of Sultan adopted a Park, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan compliant with the Growth Management Act and State Department of Recreation and Conservation Office.

- The Sultan City Council adopted Ordinance No. 996-08, adopting the City's Growth Management Act compliant Comprehensive Plan on September 25, 2008.

- Sections of the 2004 PROS Plan were adopted by reference into the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan.

- The City of Sultan 2004 PROS Plan must be updated every six years and accepted by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for the City of Sultan to be eligible for future park, recreation and open space grants offered by the State of Washington.

- In 2010 the City of Sultan undertook to revise the 2004 PROS Plan.

- Park classifications, acreage of City-owned parklands and the number and location of park facilities has changed since the adoption of the 2004 PROS Plan and the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan.

- The park facility changes have resulted in changes to the capital facilities needs.

- The revisions to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan change the 2008 Comprehensive Plan's Capital Facilities Element and are scheduled concurrently with an amendment to the City's budget pursuant to RCW 36.70A.130(2)(a)(iv).

- The Sultan City Council has reviewed the 2010 PROS Plan and proposed amendments to the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan and makes the following findings of fact:

    1. The proposed 2010 PROS Plan and proposed amendments are consistent with the Growth Management Act and other applicable State laws;

2. The proposed 2010 PROS Plan and amendments are consistent with applicable Countywide Planning Policies;

3. The proposed 2010 PROS Plan and amendments are consistent with the Goals and Policies of the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan; and

4. The proposed 2010 PROS Plan and amendments are beneficial to the city as a whole, and to the health, safety and welfare of its resident.

- Numerous public participation opportunities were provide by the City of Sultan Planning Board from March 2010 through October 2010 to take public input and review proposed changes to the 2004 PROS Plan.

- A public hearing was held by the City of Sultan Planning Board on October 5, 2010 to take public comment on the proposed 2010 PROS Plan.

- A public hearing was held by the Sultan City Council on December 2, 2010 to take public comment on the proposed 2010 PROS Plan and proposed comprehensive plan amendments. The city council did not receive any public comments regarding the plan.

- The requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) RCW 43.21C have been met.

DISCUSSION:

The PROS Plan will provide an updated parks inventory, project the future needs, and prioritize future projects through a capital improvement plan.

Changes to the 2010 PROS Plan will be incorporated into the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan. Amends are proposed to Chapter 3.3 Park and Recreation Facilities; Chapter 3.4 Capital Facilities Plan; Appendix D – Needs Assessment; and Appendix E-1 – Fiscal Capacity. Specific changes to the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan are outlined in Agenda Item PH-2.

PROS Plan - Highlights of Proposed Changes

Planning for Park, Recreation and Open Space

- Park and recreation facilities are defined as those facilities which are under city ownership, readily accessible by the public and provide opportunities for active and passive recreation.
- The city has 168 acres of parks and open space including school properties within the city limits. The 5 acres surrounding the water treatment plant on 124th Avenue have been removed from the park inventory.

- Sultan will continue to plan for a projected population of 11,119 people by 2025 to be consistent with the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan.
- Demographic data indicates Sultan's population has slightly more young families than the state average. Sultan attracts young families seeking affordable housing and a community with small town character.
- Surveys indicate Sultan residents assign a high level of importance to acquiring land for parks and recreation facilities; increased education about park space for young people; increased parks and open space volunteer opportunities; improved access for parking and park facilities; and acquiring land for the preservation of open space and natural resources.
- Park users are an important asset to the city's park system. The city will continue to work closely with park users to maintain and develop a park system that meets the city's current and future needs.
- The city owns and operates various recreational facilities that have both passive and active amenities. Youth leagues and sports programs use the city's park facilities for practicing and league games. School teachers use parks as a part of their teaching curriculum. Dog owners' exercise and bond with their animals. Families spend quality time together enjoying Sultan's varied landscape and scenic beauty.
- Local private organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club and VOA offer various recreation programs to the community.
- Recreation and tourism have the potential to draw customers to the region and support the local economy.
- The city council and the community view the city's recreation resources as an economic development tool.
- One of the city's goals is to develop a park system to attract visitors from outside the area.
- The city will work cooperatively with other regional partners including the cities of Gold Bar, Monroe and Index, Snohomish County Parks, the State Parks Department and State Department of Natural Resources to enhance park and recreation opportunities in the Sky Valley.
- Regional parks such as Wallace Falls and Reiter Foothills are important community resources for recreation.
- Future parks including the Olney Creek Shoot Range and Sky View Fisherman's Park and Campground could further support economic development

Park Classifications and Proposed Levels of Service

- The city has reclassified Reese Park and River Park from neighborhood parks to community parks to match the park classifications adopted by the National Park and Recreation Association.

- The overall level of service for combined parks acreage is 3.3 acres of community parks per 1,000 residents.
- The needs analysis includes mini-parks, special use parks and combined school parks; however these types of parks are not included in the level of service or future needs calculations.
- Based on 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 residents, a 10.7 acre community park will be needed in 2025 to maintain the adopted level of service.
- The city's park impact fee will remain unchanged at $3,172 per single-family residence.
- The city envisions the construction of one 10-15 acre community park in the northern area of the city between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road south of US 2.
- The estimated cost to purchase and construct a community park is estimated at $7.49 million.

Proposed Capital Improvements and Financing Strategy

- The city's proposed capital improvements are focused on serving families.
- Acquiring property for a future sports field complex and multi-purpose community park near the city's future residential areas is a top priority.
- Master planning kid- and family-friendly elements such as picnic facilities and play structures is another top priority.
- The proposed capital improvement plan includes projects to maintain and improve existing park facilities.
- The park capital facilities plan identifies $17.7 million in proposed park improvements: Renovations and maintenance of existing park facilities ($2.1 million); Master planning and development of existing parks ($6.6 million); Development of a 10-15 acre community park ($7.7 million); and trail development ($1.3 million).
- Citizen initiatives and referendums have taken a toll on several of the major traditional funding sources available to local governments since the Growth Management Act was adopted in 1990.
- Sultan will need to supplement limited funds with some creative approaches to park finance such as the creation of a metropolitan park district or voter approved maintenance and operations levy.
- A statistically valid survey conducted by the city in November 2009 indicated voter support for a new sports park in the area between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road with a construction of the park funded by an increase in property taxes of $.15 per $1,000 assessed value (approximately $40/year). More than 50% survey supported this proposal.

- Sultan will need to develop new funding sources to support park renovation, maintenance and development during the 15-year planning period.
- The city council may consider voter approved maintenance and operations levies; formation of a metropolitan parks district; and general obligation debt as future sources of revenues needed to support the vibrant park system envisioned by Sultan residents.

Goals and Policies

- The goals and policies are divided into five topic headings: 1) Coordination of public and private resources; 2) Joint venture opportunities; 3) Preservation; 4) Design, maintenance, safety and access standards; 5) trails.
- The city will strive to create a comprehensive, balanced park and recreation system that integrates with other public and private park and recreational lands to provide a greater variety of recreational facilities to the Sultan community
- The city will strive to develop a comprehensive, high quality system of multi-purpose recreational trails and corridors that access significant environmental features, public facilities and developed urban neighborhoods.
- The city will seek to preserve and protect significant environmental features for park and open space.
- The city will support the development of a high quality, diversified recreation system.
- The city will investigate new, innovative methods of financing facility development, maintenance and operating needs to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match user benefits and interests and increase facility services.

Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments

The city must amend the Parks Element and Capital Facilities Element of the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan in order to incorporate changes to parks classifications; levels of service; capital improvements; and goals and policies.

The proposed comprehensive plan amendments are provided in Attachment B in "legislative" mark-up. Deleted text is shown in ~~strikethrough~~. New text is show as <u>underline</u>.

The following sections are included in the proposed amendment. New text is copied from the 2010 PROS Plan:

- 3.3 Park and Recreation Facilities
    - Existing facilities (Inventory)
    - Level of service standards

    - Future needs (Park improvements)
    - Goals and policies
- 3.4 Capital Facilities Plan
    - Unconstrained public facilities needs - Table VIII-4
    - Park facility needs
        - Table CFP-8 parks unconstrained needs list
    - Strategic considerations for parks
    - Parks capital facilities financing strategy
        - Park Financial Strategy Table VIII-9
        - Total recommended financial strategy Table CFP 18
        - Parks 2011-2016 CIP Expenditures Table CFP 19C
- Appendix D Needs Assessment
    - Existing facilities and park classifications
    - Level of service standards
    - Future needs
    - Cost assumptions and capital improvement program
    - Goals and policies
- Appendix E-1 Fiscal Capacity
    - Unconstrained public facilities needs – Figure 33
    - Strategic considerations for parks
    - Parks financial strategy
        - Park Financial Strategy Figure 34
        - 2025 Financial Strategy Figure 43

Demographics

The City will continue to plan for 11,119 residents by the year 2025. The 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan will be amended to include information on Sultan's population and growth trends. This information is important in determining the type of park system the city should consider to serve future residents. Because Sultan has a large majority of young families, the focus is on developing a community park between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road where new housing units are planned.

Regional Recreation and Tourism

Regional parks and recreation tourism are future economic drivers. Since this is a growing part of the park system serving residents and visitors, the comprehensive plan will include additional information on efforts the city is already undertaking and planned future investments in support of regional park projects.

Survey Results and Stakeholder Groups

The city did extensive outreach for the 2010 PROS Plan. Information on the outreach program and survey findings are included in the proposed amendments. Stakeholder groups identified during the PROS Plan outreach program such as youth athletic leagues, equestrians, and dog owners are also recognized in the proposed amendment.

Recreation Resources

A summary of the recreation resources available in Sultan including programs provided by the Boys and Girls Club and Volunteers of America are summarized.

Park Inventory

The 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan identified 142.2 acres of parks including 5 acres of park land surrounding the city's water treatment plant. The water treatment plant will be removed from the park inventory.

Regional park facilities including Wallace Falls, Reiter Foothills, and Spada Lake have been added as a resource although not included in the park inventory.

Park Classifications and Level of Service

The city has changed Reese and River Parks from neighborhood parks to community parks to match the classification system adopted by the National Park and Recreation Association.

The city has maintained one 10-acre community park as the level of service standard.

Park Improvements/Capital Plan

The 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan identified $20,729,950 in park improvements.

The 2010 PROS Plan identifies $17,673,600 in capital improvements - $7.49 million is to purchase and develop a community park between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road; $9.46 million is to renovate and improve existing parks; and $680,000 for a new trail between River Park and Osprey Park.

Mini-parks have been removed from the "needs list". They are still identified in the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan as incorporated into the design of new subdivisions.

Funding sources identified in the PROS Plan include the General Fund, Park Impact Fees, Grants, Debt Service, and new levies. The 2010 PROS Plan includes forming a Metropolitan Parks District (MPD) as a new funding source that could be used to support Sultan Parks. The MPD is added as a funding source to the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan

Goals and Policies

The city council and planning board reviewed changes to the Park Element goals and policies these changes have been incorporated into the 2010 PROS Plan and included in the proposed amendments to the comprehensive plan.

The goals and policies are divided into five topic headings:

1. Coordination of public and private resources
2. Joint venture opportunities
3. Preservation
4. Design, maintenance, safety and access standards
5. Trails

Design, maintenance and safety standards are new policies to the comprehensive plan. In the future the city will use low maintenance materials and settings to reduce maintenance. The city's adopt-a-park effort has been recognized as way to partner with community members to stretch limited tax dollars where appropriate.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with adopting the Park and Recreation Open Space Plan or amending the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan. The fiscal impacts are based on specific decisions regarding annual budgets and capital investments. The city council will consider the priorities and level of service policies in 2010 PROS Plan and the 2008 Comprehensive Plan when making decisions regarding investment priorities and levels.

RECOMMENDEDATION:

Have Second Reading to adopt Ordinance No. 1099-10 repealing the 2004 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan and replacing it in its entirety with the 2010 Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan; amending the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan to incorporate by reference sections of the newly adopted 2010 Park Recreation and Open Space Plan into Chapter 3.3 Park and Recreation Facilities, Chapter 3.4 Capital Facilities Plan; Appendix D-Park and Recreation Needs of the City of Sultan; and Appendix E – Fiscal Capacity.

ATTACHMENTS:

A – Ordinance No. 1099-10 Adopting the 2010 PROS Plan and Amending the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan

CITY OF SULTAN
WASHINGTON
ORDINANCE NO. 1099-10

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SULTAN, WASHINGTON, REPEALING THE 2004 PARK, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN AND REPLACING IT IN ITS ENTIRETY WITH THE 2010 PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN; AMENDING THE 2008 REVISED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO INCORPORATE BY REFERENCE SECTIONS OF THE NEWLY ADOPTED 2010 PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN INTO CHAPTER 3.3 PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES, SECTION 3.4 CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN; APPENDIX D --PARK AND RECREATION NEEDS OF THE CITY OF SULTAN; AND APPENDIX E – FISCAL CAPACITY; ADOPTING FINDINGS IN SUPPORT OF SAID ACTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, in 2004 the City of Sultan adopted a Park, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan compliant with the Growth Management Act and State Department of Recreation and Conservation Office;

WHEREAS, the Sultan City Council adopted Ordinance No. 996-08, adopting the City's Growth Management Act compliant Comprehensive Plan Update on September 25, 2008; and

WHEREAS, sections of the 2004 PROS Plan were adopted by reference into the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sultan 2004 PROS Plan must be updated every six years and accepted by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for the City of Sultan to be eligible for future park, recreation and open space grants offered by the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the City of Sultan undertook to revise the 2004 PROS Plan; and

WHEREAS, park classifications, acreage of City-owned parklands and the number and location of park facilities has changed since the adoption of the 2004 PROS Plan and the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the park facility changes have resulted in changes to the capital facilities needs; and

WHEREAS, the revisions to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan effectuated hereunder change the 2008 Comprehensive Plan's Capital Facilities Element and are scheduled concurrently with an amendment to the City's budget pursuant to RCW 36.70A.130(2)(a)(iv); and

WHEREAS, the Sultan City Council has reviewed the 2010 PROS Plan and proposed amendments to the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan and makes the following findings of fact:

5. The proposed 2010 PROS Plan and proposed amendments are consistent with the Growth Management Act and other applicable State laws;

6. The proposed 2010 PROS Plan and amendments are consistent with applicable Countywide Planning Policies;

7. The proposed 2010 PROS Plan and amendments are consistent with the Goals and Policies of the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan; and

8. The proposed 2010 PROS Plan and amendments are beneficial to the city as a whole, and to the health, safety and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, numerous public participation opportunities were provide by the City of Sultan Planning Board from March 2010 through October 2010 to take public input and review proposed changes to the 2005 PROS Plan; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by the City of Sultan Planning Board on October 5, 2010 to take public comment on the proposed 2010 PROS Plan; and

WHEREAS, the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) RCW 43.21C have been met;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULTAN, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings. The above recitals are specifically adopted as if fully set forth herein by the Sultan City Council in support of the legislative action taken in this ordinance.

Section 2. Adoption of the 2010 Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan. The 2004 Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan is hereby repealed and replaced in its entirety by the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and by reference incorporated herein.

Section 3. Amendment of the 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan. The 2008 Revised Comprehensive Plan and associated Capital Facilities Needs and Improvements in Section 3.3 Park Facility Needs; Section 3.4 Capital Facilities Plan; Appendix D – Park and Recreation Needs; and Appendix E – Fiscal Capacity of the City of Sultan 2008 Revised Comprehensive

Plan are hereby amended to incorporate revised goals and policies, park inventories, classifications, level of service, capital facility needs, cost estimates and revenue sources, and goals, policies and objectives as set forth in Exhibit B, attached hereto and by reference incorporated herein.

Section 4. Severability. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, or should any portion of this Ordinance be pre-empted by state or federal law or regulation, such decision or pre-emption shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or its application to other persons or circumstances.

Section 5. Copy to the Department of Commerce. Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106(3), the City Clerk is directed to send a copy of the amendments to the State Department of Commerce for its files within ten (10) days after adoption of this Ordinance.

Section 6. Effective Date. The adoption of this Ordinance, which is a power specifically delegated to the City legislative body, is not subject to referendum. This Ordinance or a summary thereof shall be published in the official newspaper of the City, and shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after the date of publication.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF ON THE _____DAY OF _____, 2010.

CITY OF SULTAN

_____
Carolyn Eslick, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

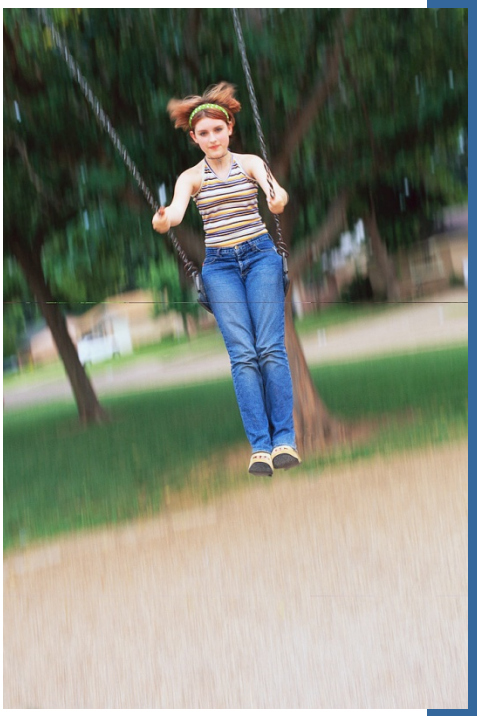
_____
Laura Koenig, City Clerk

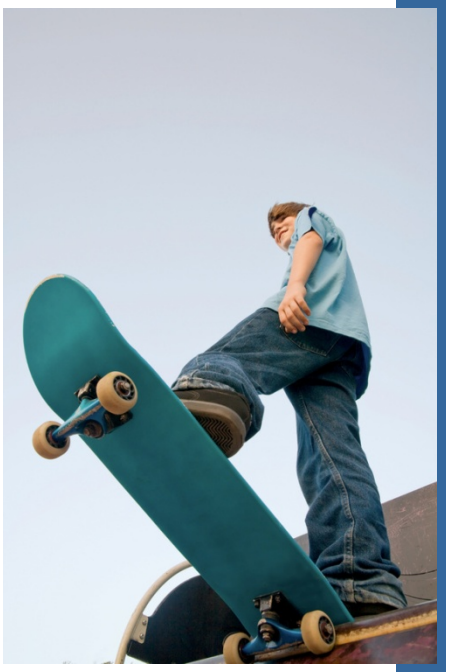
Approved as to form:

_____
Margaret J. King, City Attorney

Passed by the City Council:
Date of Publication:
Effective Date:

CITY OF SULTAN PROS PLAN





ADOPTED DECEMBER 16, 2010

CITY OF SULTAN
PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

City Officials

Mayor Carolyn Eslick

Councilmember Jeffrey Beeler

Councilmember Kristina Blair

Councilmember Jim Flower (Resigned)

Councilmember Joe Neigel

Councilmember Sarah Davenport-Smith

Councilmember Ron Weidiger (Resigned)

Councilmember Steven Slawson

Councilmember Sam Pinson

City Planning Board

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CITY OF SULTAN PROS PLAN

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CITY OF SULTAN
PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sultan is a city of 4,500 people nestled below the Cascade Range along U.S. 2 next to the Sultan and Skykomish rivers. The city has abundant local and regional recreational opportunities and a wide range of diverse housing choices. Over the next 15 years, Sultan is expected to grow to over 11,000 residents.

A. THE LANDSCAPE

The city has over 168 acres of parks, open spaces and trails. This provides a high level of service as measured in acres/1,000 residents. The majority of the city's park system is located near the city's historic town center and adjacent to the Sultan River. The challenge in the coming years will be to operate and maintain existing park properties while acquiring land for a future community park east of the town center on the plateau above the valley floor formed by the Skykomish and Sultan Rivers. This is the city's future growth area where more than 6,000 new residents are expected to live by the year 2025. There is a strong community preference for adding a community park with sports fields in this area to serve young families and their children.

B. PARTNERSHIPS

During the public outreach effort conducted to update the PROS Plan, the city formed a number of partnerships with individuals and groups who are actively working to improve Sultan's parks. Efforts by Sultan residents to improve the city's parks were already underway before the PROS Plan update started. A Sultan resident and his wife were managing an informal adopt-a-park program with over 10 volunteers. Several neighbors joined together regularly to remove blackberries, Japanese knotweed and other non-native vegetation to provide access to the Skykomish and Sultan Rivers. A full-day clean up event was organized by community volunteers in the spring of 2010. The successful event in River Park and Sportsman's Park was marketed to high-school students as a way to complete community volunteer hours. People care about Sultan Parks.

The outreach efforts also spurred new stakeholders to get involved. More than a dozen members of Sultan's equestrian community attended the Open House in June and shared their desire to reestablish equestrian trails in Osprey Park. As a result of their efforts, the City Council considered a pilot project in 2011 to allow joint use of some trails within the park.

The city also strengthened its partnerships with other government agencies. The City has been working for a number of years with Snohomish County and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to reconvey DNR land outside the City limits to the County for a regional shooting range. The City and DNR are working with community volunteers to reopen the Reiter Foothills ORV Park outside of Gold Bar. The City has supported the State Parks Department in its efforts to keep Wallace Falls State Park open despite declining state revenues.

Snohomish County is working to acquire properties within the floodplain adjacent to the City limits on the south side of the Skykomish River. The long-range plan is to develop a recreational vehicle campground and boat launch on the site. The City's interest in these projects is to promote recreation and tourism in the Sky Valley. The City's plan is to take advantage of its natural resources as a way to spur economic development. The City Council views regional partnerships and investment in the city's own park system as one more economic development tool.

C. PARK IMPROVEMENTS

In 1999 and 2000 Washington voters approved two ballot measure I-695 and Proposition 747. Both measures reduced general fund revenues which pay for parks and other services including public safety, community development and building inspection. The park inventory shows the city's existing parks, trails and opens spaces have suffered from the sustained decade loss of revenue. There is an estimated $2.1 million dollars in renovation costs to existing parks the city should address over the life of the Plan if the community wants to preserve and enjoy the park system Sultan has in place today.

As a part of the effort to update the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan the city reviewed the parks classifications adopted in 2008 Comprehensive Plan. The City Council and the Planning Board met together at a joint meeting in April 2010 and reviewed several proposed changes to both parks classifications and levels of service. These alternatives were presented to the public at an Open House in June 2010. The City Council made a decision to change the classification of Reese Park and River Park from neighborhood parks to community parks to match the classification system developed by the National Park and Recreation Association (NPRA). The city also changed Cemetery Park from a neighborhood park to a special use park to reflect its primary function as a baseball field. The water treatment plant and surrounding property are removed from the park system as a part of this plan update.

The city council discussed and ultimately decided to continue to maintain a minimum level of service standard that would allow the city to add one community park to the area east of historic town center. The current park impact fee of $3,172 will ensure adequate revenues would be generated from new development park impact fees to service future residents.

However, these revenues alone will not be enough to address the maintenance, operations and acquisition needs to serve both current and future residents. The parks inventory and capital improvement program indicate there are over $17.6 million dollars needed to achieve the community's unconstrained needs for Sultan's parks, trails and open spaces. The City Council, Planning Board and members of the public will need to consider new sources of revenue such as a parks maintenance and operations levy or the formation of a metropolitan tax district.

D. THE FUTURE

The city's park system is at a cross-road. Increasing population, declining revenues and deferred maintenance are being balanced by strong partnerships and renewed interest in the preserving the City's park system.

The Sultan Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan identifies the park system's strengths and weaknesses and provides a framework for moving forward. It is now up to the City's elected and appointed officials and residents to use this information and implement the Plan.

I. INTRODUCTION

The planning area for this Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan includes the City's existing incorporated area and the City's Urban Growth Area as defined in the Comprehensive Plan. Implementation of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan will focus on the City's incorporated area, where the City has jurisdiction, with an eye toward serving the residents of the Urban Growth Area as annexations occur over the next 15 years.

Much has happened in Sultan since the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted in 2004. Sultan's population growth has resulted in an increased use of community parks and recreational

facilities, which will likely continue over the foreseeable future. Increased demand means new challenges and opportunities. The city has also struggled with declining per capita property tax revenues following adoption of state-wide initiatives in 1999 and 2000 which reduced general fund revenues used to operate and maintain the city's park system.

In an effort to provide quality parks and recreational opportunities for today's residents as well as for future generations, the City initiated a planning process in conjunction with the overall update of the City's 2011 Comprehensive Plan.

This Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is a stand alone document meeting the requirements of the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office guidelines. It is also compliant with the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). Parts of the PROS Plan will be incorporated into the Sultan Comprehensive Plan. The planning horizon for both plans is 2025, consistent with buildable lands projections for Snohomish County and under the GMA requirements for long range planning.

The GMA requires a park and recreation element within the Comprehensive Plan that implements, and is consistent with, the capital facilities plan element as it relates to park and recreation facilities. This element includes estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a fifteen-year period; an evaluation of facilities and service needs; and an evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand.[1]

During the PROS Plan public outreach effort, the community expressed many ideas for improving parks and recreational opportunities in Sultan including:

- Providing a balance of active and passive activities within the city's parks: Seeking dedicated funding to support park management and maintenance responsibilities and costs:
- Providing trail connectivity between parks and connecting residential and commercial neighborhoods to the city's park system:
- Providing a park system that offers something for all ages and types of users :

This update considers today's and tomorrow's needs and is a community-driven Plan that has broad-based support and is implementable over the 15 year plan horizon. This update:

- Identifies the anticipated types of activities and the population that the City's parks and recreation facilities will serve,
- Defines the City's vision of the future of the City's park and recreational facilities,
- Identifies the estimated cost to achieve the community's vision, and
- Provides goals and policies to act as a guide for getting there.

[1] RCW 36.70A.070 (8) GMA

A. PURPOSE

The City's Comprehensive Plan can be described as the "blueprint" for future development. It represents the community's view of Sultan's future; a constitution made up of the goals and policies upon which the City Council and Planning Board will base their land use decisions. To illustrate its importance, all sub-area plans, Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plans, subdivisions, public works projects, and zoning decisions must be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. If inconsistent, they must not be approved. The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is a planning tool which provides a coordinated program of recreational facility development and management carrying out the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

A Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan serves as a long-range vision for future development and programming of community parks and recreation facilities. The plan is conceptual in nature and not intended to address detailed issues related to engineered site design or park operations. Items addressed in this PROS Plan include planning park elements, determining suitable levels of service (LOS) for current and anticipated populations, identifying appropriate recreational facilities, general design concerns, and planning-level cost estimates for capital improvements and maintenance.

A city park survey conducted in the spring of 2010 shows Sultan residents value their parks and recreational facilities. Like Sultan's population, the community's parks and recreation needs are growing. The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update will provide the public a way to help determine where parks are needed, how many parks are needed, and what types (passive/active) of amenities to incorporate into the park system. The Plan will also help City staff to best manage the City's parks resources by providing estimates of the costs to implement and maintain the future park system. This plan combines public input with analyses of current and future parks and recreational facilities needed to create a strategy for Sultan's parks over the next 15 years.

B. THE BENEFITS OF PARKS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACES

Every park user knows the benefits of green space, but the benefits of our parks, trails, and green spaces extend far beyond users. The benefits of parks are endless. Parks improve our physical and psychological health, strengthen our communities, and make our cities and neighborhoods more attractive places to live and work. Below is an overview of the tangible and intangible benefits provided by parks and public open spaces; together these benefits provide very real reasons for us to invest in community parks and facilities.

Benefits to Individuals

Parks offer opportunities to enrich the quality of life for persons of all ages and abilities. Studies[2] show that when people have access to parks, they exercise more. Regular physical activity has been shown to increase health and reduce the risk of a wide range of diseases, including heart disease, hypertension, colon cancer, and diabetes. Physical activity also relieves symptoms of depression and anxiety, improves mood, and enhances psychological well-being. Beyond the benefits of exercise, a growing body of research shows that contact with the natural world improves physical and psychological health. Older adults who participate in a variety of social and recreational opportunities benefit from the social connections and interactions that are fundamental to their well-being.

[2] http://www.healthywv.com/shared/content/page_objects/content_objects/pdf_documents/youth_pa_recs.pdf

Benefits to Communities

Parks have long been recognized as key factors to the aesthetic and physical quality of neighborhoods. Today, we realize that parks are more than recreation and visual assets to communities; they are valuable assets to larger community policy objectives, such as public health, youth development, job opportunities, social and cultural exchange, and community building.

Parks play a special role in shaping communities. They have something to offer everyone, from young children and teens, to families, adults and the elderly; their presence can also be a cohesive force. A park can be a community focal point, a symbol of its strength and character, adding to its overall health, well-being and quality of life.

Benefits to the Economy[3]

Parks and related open spaces increase the value of neighboring property, and improve academic performance among teens. Studies have also shown that crime is lower in the neighborhoods where parks exist and visits to hospitals and emergency rooms are reduced when kids are given a safe alternative to playing in streets and parking lots. The availability of recreation opportunities and park amenities such as off road vehicle use and fishing is an important quality-of-life factor for businesses choosing where to locate and for individuals choosing a place to live.

In Sultan, parks and open space are particularly important. Sultan is surrounded by natural amenities. People come from all around to fish and recreate in the Skykomish River. Off road vehicle use in national forests and hiking, biking and day use in nearby state parks bring many annual visitors to Sultan. Sultan is also the gateway to the Steven's Pass Ski Areas and the abundance of recreational activities along U.S. 2. Sultan's ability to take advantage of this traffic and to build on it within its own parks and open space system benefits our economy.

Benefits to the Environment

Community parks, gardens, greenways and other types of public open spaces also benefit the environment. Whether lands are in ball fields, trails, trees or public open space, they serve critical environmental functions that contribute to many of life's essentials - making water clean and safe for drinking, cleaning the air and returning oxygen to the atmosphere, and providing habitat for wildlife, biodiversity and ecological integrity. In fact, conserving land for people where they live, work and play is often the most cost efficient and effective way to achieving a host of environmental health objectives.

C. PLANNING CONTEXT

Growth Management Act

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires the City to consider parks in the Land Use Element of their Comprehensive Plans[4]. Parks and recreational facilities planning must also comply with the Capital Facilities Plan[5]. Recreational, conservation and open space issues are optional elements under the GMA[6]. Cities must consider the provision of a range of public facilities including open space, parks and recreation, and playgrounds as part of the subdivision process.[7] Additionally, the

[3] The Economic Value of Open Space – Implications for Land Use Decisions (2005). http://www.embraceopenspace.org

[4] RCW 36.70A.070 (1)

[5] RCW 36.70A.070 (8)

[6] RCW 36.70A.080 (1)

[7] RCW 58.17.060 and RCW 58.17.110

GMA requires cities to include greenbelt and open space areas within their urban growth areas[8] as well as to identify open space corridors within and between urban growth areas including land useful for recreation, wildlife habitats, trails and the connection of critical areas[9].

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)[10] provides public funds to finance recreation and conservation projects throughout the state. To access state grant funds through the RCO, cities must prepare an approved parks, recreation, and opens space plan. An approved plan must comply with both the RCO funding guidelines and the Growth Management Act (GMA) requirements.

Regional Planning Policies

Sultan's Comprehensive Plan must be compliant with the Snohomish County Countywide Planning Policies (CPP) as well as the Puget Sound Regional Council's long range land use plan, *Vision 2040*. Neither the Snohomish County CPP nor *Vision 2040* specifically address parks and open space policies; however there are environmental policies within the CPP and the multi-county planning policies that relate to parks and open space. This PROS plan is internally consistent with the land use, capital facilities and environmental elements of the Sultan Comprehensive Plan as well as the Snohomish County CPP and the multi-county planning policies within *Vision 2040*.

D. THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan process relied on and added to the planning and public participation processes for the 2011 Comprehensive Plan update. The City hired a team of consultants, PMC and R.W. Droll and Associates, to prepare the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan with guidance from the City's project team. The project team consisted of staff from the City Administrator's office as well as the Public Works and Community Development departments.

Preparation of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan included the following tasks:

- Assessment of the existing conditions of the City's parks and recreation system
- Identification of key trends and desired outcomes
- Analysis of existing park classifications, parks and recreation facilities, programs, and policies
- Preparation of needs assessment for existing and future needs
- Revisions to classifications, standards, and guidelines
- Preparation of goals, policies, and actions to achieve desired outcomes
- Evaluation of costs, including operations and maintenance
- Development of an implementation plan to guide future park development and capital improvements

[8] RCW 36.70A.110 (2)

[9] RCW 36.70A.160

[10] Formerly the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation

The following questions, and others, were considered by the project team through the development of this Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

- What are Sultan's recreational facilities and programs?
- Who uses Sultan facilities and programs?
- What role do parks, green spaces, and recreation have in the lives of Sultan residents?
- What types of facilities and programs do we need?
- Where will new parks, facilities, and programs be placed?
- How will new facilities and programs be funded and maintained?
- How many staff are needed to operate and maintain the city's park system?

E. WHO WILL USE THE PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN?

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan will serve as a tool for various stakeholders. City staff is the expected primary user group; however, other users are likely to include City Council, City advisory bodies, developers/project applicants, community partners, and citizens.

City Staff from multiple departments may use the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to:

- Plan workload and resource needs
- Develop capital improvement programs
- Guide daily decisions
- Promote benefits of parks and recreation
- Plan for ways to fill services gaps
- Consult the existing park and facility inventory
- Serve as a baseline to measure success

City Council may use the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to:

- Implement the Comprehensive Plan
- Direct priorities for parks and recreation services
- Guide review and approval of development plans and projects
- Assist with long-range planning priorities
- Understand the public's issues and desires

- Identify funding gaps

City Advisory Bodies, such as the Planning Board, may use the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to:

- Promote parks and recreation in the City
- Advocate for priorities
- Assist with long-range planning priorities
- Guide review and recommendation of development policies
- Serve as a baseline to measure success

Developers may use the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to:

- Serve as a baseline to measure success
- Understand the City's park planning and development process
- Provide guidance for park and recreation facility planning and design
- Understand the public's issues and desires

Community Partners may use the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to:

- Identify how they can partner with the City to meet community needs
- Provide a framework for partnerships with the City
- Compare services to avoid duplication
- Understand the public's issues and desires
- Advocate for priorities

Citizens may use the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to:

- Learn about parks, recreation facilities, and community services
- Learn about the park planning and development process
- Understand the decisions the City makes
- Understand benefits of services
- Serve as a baseline to measure success

II. PUBLIC OUTREACH

A. SULTAN'S COMMUNITY

When planning for the future of local parks and recreation opportunities, as well as both passive and active recreation space, it is important to consider demographic and socioeconomic trends. Demographics make a difference in the type of facilities that will be most used and appreciated in a community. A community with a high percentage of children and young families is likely to benefit from play structures and organized sporting facilities. This type of community might also benefit from smaller, more numerous parks. A community with a high percentage of senior citizens may need a senior center and a greater percentage of at-grade facilities, amenities and trails.

During the 2000 census 38.8% of the city's population was under 24 years old. This is slightly higher than the state and national averages of approximately 34%. Approximately 52.5% of Sultan residents were between the ages of 25 and 64. 8.7% of Sultan's population was over 65 at the time of the 2000 census.

In 2000, 71% of Sultan's residents lived in two or more person family households. According to the 2000 Census, 72% of Sultan's residents owned their homes. About 30% of Sultan's residents lived in married couple households with children. Another 24% of residents were married couples without children.

Given the number of households and the population estimates from the Office of Financial Management, the City estimates there are approximately 2.74 persons per household. Together with the demographic information, it appears Sultan's population has slightly more young families than the state average.

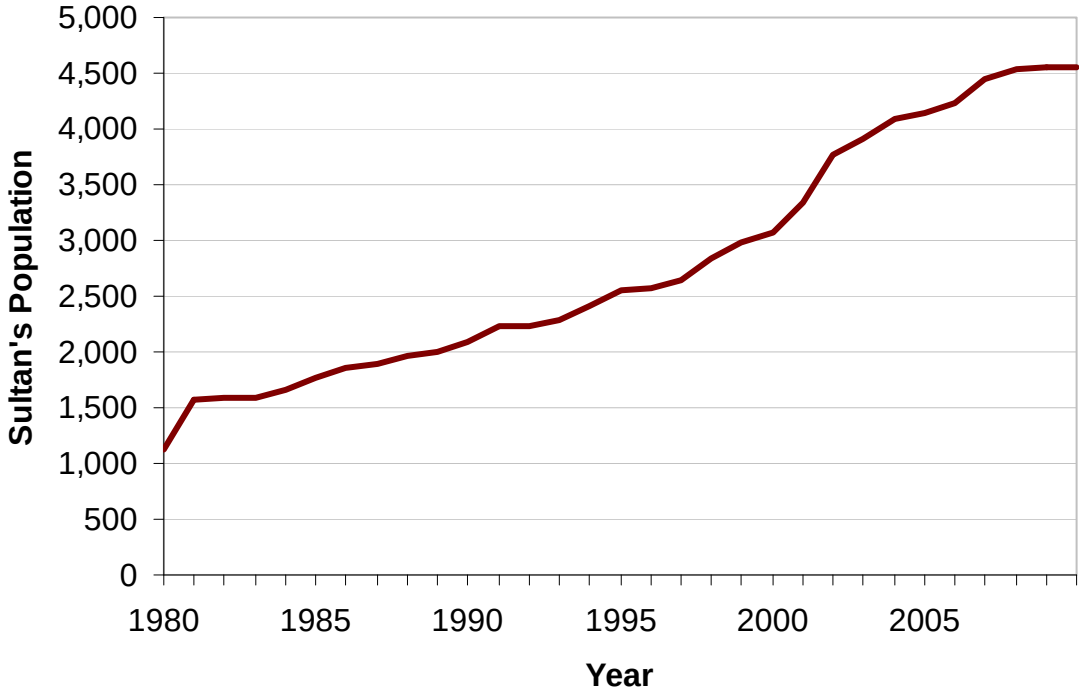
As an outlying suburban area, Sultan tends to attract young families seeking to purchase their first affordable home. As a result, the City's overall strategy is to focus on maintaining and developing recreation opportunities for young families.

Table 1. 2000 Sultan Demographics

SULTAN 2000 Census		
	Number	Pct
Male	1,683	50.3
Female	1,661	49.7
	Number	Pct
15 or younger	894	26.7
16-24	403	12.1
25-44	1,154	34.5
45-64	603	18.0
65+	290	8.7
		Number
Average age (years)		32.67

The Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) estimates the Sultan population in April 2010 was 4,570. Snohomish County has a population over 700,000. Sultan represents less than 1% of the total county population.

Figure 1. Population growth, City of Sultan, 1980 to 2009



Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/cociseries/default.asp

Since 2000, Sultan's population has grown by 37%. In the last several years, Sultan's growth rate has been nearly flat as a result of the economic downturn that started in 2007 As the economy and housing market recover, future residential development of the areas north and east of the historic town center between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road may increase the population.

The GMA requires the OFM to periodically produce population estimates by county. Counties must then further subdivide and allocate these population estimates to each of their cities and the unincorporated county. The purpose of this exercise is to determine if the Sultan urban growth area is sufficient to meet the residential and employment needs of future residents. Snohomish County allocated 11,119 residents to Sultan in 2025, an increase of 132% over the 2006 population.

An additional population allocation above the 11,119 people during the 10-year comprehensive plan update in 2015 will require a review of the level of service for parks recommended in this PROS Plan. One additional community park as proposed in this plan may not be sufficient to serve a higher population allocation.

Table 2. Population forecast, Sultan UGA, 2006 to 2025

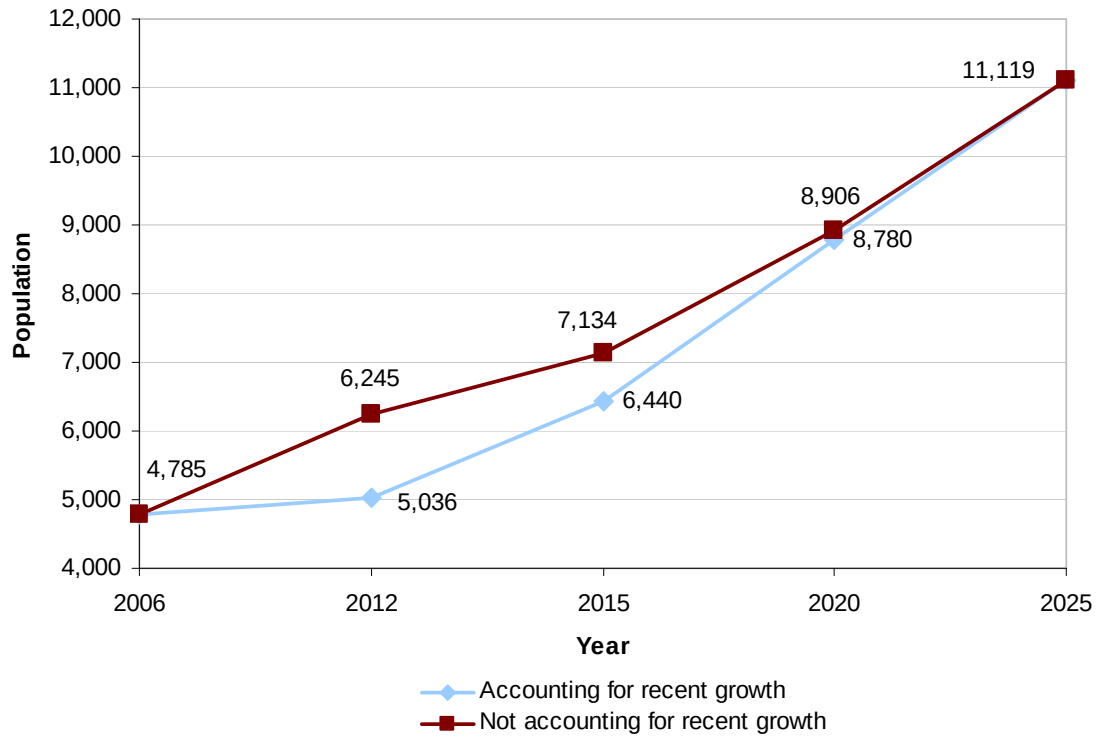
	2006	2025 Target	Change 2006 to 2025	Percent	AAGR
Sultan UGA	4,785	11,119	6,334	132%	4.5%
Sultan City	4,440	8,190	3,750	84%	3.3%
Unincorporated	345	2,929	2,584	749%	11.9%

Source: Snohomish County 2007 Buildable Lands Report, Table 1
Note: AAGR is average annual growth rate
http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/PDS/Divisions/LR_Planning/Information/Demographics/Buildable_Lands/

Sultan's population has not grown at the forecast rate during the 2006 to 2009 period. Rather than growing at an average of 4.5% annually, Sultan grew at 0.9% between 2006 and 2009. Sultan's population will need to grow at a higher rate in the future to reach the projected growth of 11,119 people by 2025.

Figure 2 shows an illustration of Sultan's potential growth curve to reach the target population. **Figure 2** assumes that Sultan continues to grow at 0.9% through 2012, based on the slow recovery from the current recession. By 2012, Sultan would have about 5,036 people, about 1,200 people fewer than the forecast of 6,245 people. Sultan would need to grow faster (7.2% average annual growth) during the 2012 to 2020 period to "catch up" to meet the population target in 2025.

Figure 2. Potential growth based on existing population forecast to 2025, City of Sultan



Source: ECONorthwest

Sultan will continue to plan for a population of 11,119 people in 2025 as required under the Growth Management Act. The city will carefully monitor growth trends and work with Snohomish County to reconsider the population allocation when the County next updates its buildable lands report beginning in 2013.

Regardless of the size of the city's population, it is clear the Sultan attracts young families seeking affordable housing and a community with small town character. 68% of park survey participants indicated the city had too few active recreation opportunities.

Figure 3. Park Needs Survey Response

6. 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.

	Too Few	Just the Right Amount	Too Many	Rating Average	Response Count
Passive Recreation (walking trails, open space)	61.5% (131)	37.1% (79)	1.4% (3)	1.00	213
Active Recreation (sports courts/fields, multi-use trails)	68.2% (144)	30.8% (65)	0.9% (2)	1.00	211
Picnic Facilities	61.4% (127)	37.7% (78)	1.0% (2)	1.00	207
Boat Launches/River Access	50.0% (102)	44.1% (90)	5.9% (12)	1.00	204
Wetland/Wildlife Habitat Reserves	48.0% (96)	41.0% (82)	11.0% (22)	1.00	200
				Other (please specify)	40
				answered question	218
				skipped question	16

The city's proposed capital improvements are therefore focused on serving families. Acquiring property for a future sports field complex and a multi-purpose community park near the city's future residential areas is a top priority. Master planning existing parks to incorporate more kid and family friendly elements such as picnic facilities is another top priority.

B. REGIONAL RECREATION AND TOURISM

The City of Sultan is located at the confluence of the Sultan and Skykomish Rivers in what is regionally known as the Sky Valley. Sky Valley has unique historical, cultural and natural resources. The Sultan and Skykomish Rivers are world-class salmon and steelhead waters. The Sky Valley attracts fishermen, hunters, and other outdoor enthusiasts from across the United States and beyond.

Past economic drivers such as logging have declined over the past 20 years. Future urban development will be focused on the 1-5 corridor not US 2[11]. Home-based residential growth will not provide sufficient demand to support local business alone. Recreation and tourism have the potential to draw customers to the region and support the local economy. One of the city's goals is to develop a park

[11] Puget Sound Regional Council Vision 2040

system that will attract visitors from outside the area. The city council and community view the city's recreation resources as an economic development tool.

Although the Sky Valley is made up of separate communities, these communities are connected by US 2 and the Skykomish River. The Sky Valley communities are starting to work together to attract visitors to come, stay and spend their money. There are a number of separate planning efforts underway to enhance and advance recreation and tourism in the Sky Valley. Projects include Reiter Foothills ORV Park, Olney Creek Shooting Range, and camping facilities. There are also efforts at the federal, state and county level to restrict current recreation activities. Regional cooperation will provide the legal framework for advancing a cohesive vision and protect current and future recreation resources. More specific information on regional recreation opportunities and partnerships is provided in Section III - Inventory

C. PUBLIC WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

At the time the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan project started, the City had already been engaged in a lengthy public participation process related to the update of the Comprehensive Plan. Public outreach efforts for this plan were part of and in addition to the larger Comprehensive Plan Update process. Appendix B includes samples of the outreach materials used to solicit feedback for the 2010 Park and Recreation Open Space Plan.

Planning Board Takes the Lead. The City of Sultan's Planning Board decided to take on many of the public involvement tasks. On February 16, 2010, the Planning Board met to discuss the PROS Plan public involvement strategy as presented by the City's consultant, PMC. On March 2nd, the Planning Board discussed the PROS Plan and assigned public outreach tasks to each member.

PMC provided the Planning Board with outreach materials including a Project Background Report, a Project Fact Sheet and a Project Questionnaire as well as a PowerPoint presentation. During the month of March, members of the Planning Board presented information on the PROS Plan and solicited comments from the:

- Sky Valley Soccer league
- Crosswater Community Church
- Sultan School Board
- Monroe/Sky Valley YMCA
- Friends of the Sultan Library
- Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Early Words Toastmasters
- Sky Valley Eagles (#4149)
- Sultan Boys and Girls Club
- Hillcrest Baptist Church
- Mountain View Christian Fellowship
- Sky Valley Little League
- SCCYFA Pirates Cascade Football Association

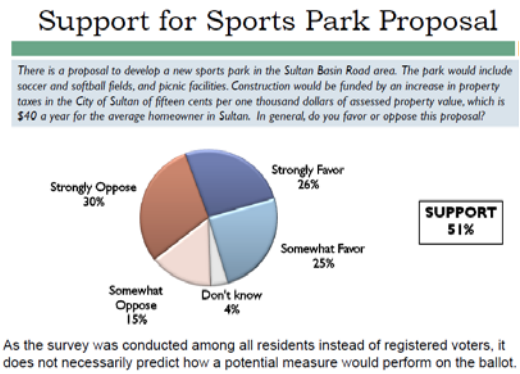
Public Meetings

The Planning Board also held a small group discussion on the PROS Plan on March 9th. In April, the Planning Board discussed the PROS Plan at its April 6th meeting and at a joint meeting with the City Council on April 27th. Members of the Planning Board met again with the Sultan School Board on May 17th.

On June 29th, the City held an Open House for the PROS Plan as another joint meeting of the Planning Board and City Council. A public hearing was held at the Planning Board meeting on Tuesday, October 5, 2010. A draft of the PROS plan was presented to the Planning Board on October 19 2010 with a recommendation to forward the plan to the City Council for adoption. The City Council discussed the draft plan on October 28 and November 18, 2010 respectively. The City Council adopted the PROS Plan December 16, 2010 by Ordinance No. 1099-10.

D. PUBLIC INPUT SURVEYS

In November 2009, the city conducted a statistically valid phone survey of 300 sultan residents. The survey included a question about whether residents favored or opposed the development of a new sports park in the Sultan Basin Road area with construction of the park funded by an increase in property taxes of $.15 per $1,000 dollars of assessed property value (approximately $40/year). More than 50% of the those surveyed supported this proposal.



In order to reach as many people as possible, the City directed PMC to create a project survey specifically for the PROS Plan. The survey was launched in both a paper questionnaire and as a digital survey hosted on surveymonkey.com and listed on the City's website. The paper survey was created for use by the Planning Board and asked a brief list of questions related to how Sultan's parks are used and by whom. The Project Questionnaire included 17 questions. Project Questionnaires were distributed to the public at various community venues. An extended digital survey with three additional questions was also available on the City's web page (www.ci.sultan.wa.us).

Paper copies of the survey were available beginning the last week of February. The digital survey was launched in late February and closed on April 1, 2010. The City received 28 paper copy responses and 120 web-based responses (Appendix A). While the questionnaire results are not statistically valid (not representative of all Sultan residents), they did provide insight to the community's opinions that were considered, discussed, and ultimately influenced changes to the PROS Plan.

Survey Results

Park Use.

Sultan's parks are well used. About half of the survey respondents reported visiting Sultan's parks at least once per month. About one in six respondents reported visiting Sultan parks more than twice per week. Respondents said the reason they don't visit more often is not inherent to Sultan's parks themselves, but instead related to a lack of time. Some respondents reported a preference for parks outside Sultan.

Figure 4. Park Visits Survey Results

1. Which of the following describes how often you personally visited any of Sultan's parks during the last year.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Never	10.5%	24
Once a year	25.0%	57
Once a month	**36.0%**	**82**
Once a week	15.4%	35
More often than once a week, but not every day	11.0%	25
Daily	2.2%	5
	answered question	**228**
	skipped question	**6**

Most respondents drive to Sultan parks on a monthly basis during the summer. The most utilized parks include Osprey, River, and Sportsman. Respondents would generally like to see more passive, more active and more picnic facilities located within their parks. The most common park activities include walking, hiking, taking children to the playground, and playing/watching soccer.

Figure 5. Park Activities Survey Results

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

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Rating Average	Response Count
Walking	**41.5% (93)**	37.9% (85)	19.2% (43)	1.3% (3)	1.00	224
Hiking	18.0% (40)	31.1% (69)	**38.3% (85)**	12.6% (28)	1.00	222
Taking a child to a play-ground	11.9% (26)	18.3% (40)	34.4% (75)	**35.3% (77)**	1.00	218
Exercising your dog at a park	8.2% (18)	19.2% (42)	21.0% (46)	**51.6% (113)**	1.00	219
Bicycling	11.0% (24)	20.6% (45)	**39.0% (85)**	29.4% (64)	1.00	218
Picknicking	6.0% (13)	14.4% (31)	**46.5% (100)**	33.0% (71)	1.00	215
Playing or watching baseball/softball	9.6% (21)	16.5% (36)	33.5% (73)	**40.4% (88)**	1.00	218
Playing or watching soccer	12.3% (27)	18.7% (41)	**38.8% (85)**	30.1% (66)	1.00	219
Skateboarding	6.0% (13)	4.2% (9)	12.0% (26)	**77.8% (168)**	1.00	216
Off Road vehicle use	9.9% (21)	7.0% (15)	13.6% (29)	**69.5% (148)**	1.00	213
					Other (please specify)	18
					answered question	**228**
					skipped question	**6**

Current Park Priorities.

When asked to define what they felt was most important, the majority of respondents reported a need for increased funding for park maintenance. Almost of equal importance was the need for more multi-use trail networks throughout Sultan and for diverse recreational options for people of all ages and abilities.

Respondents to both surveys assigned a high level of importance to acquiring land for parks and recreational facilities, increased education about park space for young people, increased parks and open space volunteer opportunities, improved public access to parking and parks and recreational facilities and acquiring land for the preservation of open space and natural resources.

A survey conducted by the City in November 2009 indicated a majority of residents support (51% Favor; 45% Oppose) a proposal for new sports park. A positive sign that even with a cost, the majority of residents are willing to invest in parks and recreation facilities that meet their needs.

Survey respondents overwhelmingly believed that the financial responsibility for new parks and park maintenance should be shared equally between the City and developers.

Figure 6. Financial Responsibility Survey Results

10. Do you think it's the City's responsibility, the developer's responsibility, or the responsibility of both to pay for new parks and associated maintenance?

	Response Percent	Response Count
City's Responsibility	13.6%	29
Developer's Responsibility	6.1%	13
Both	**80.3%**	**171**
	answered question	**213**
	skipped question	**21**

Future Park Priorities.

When asked about the need for new recreational facilities, a majority of respondents reported a need for new small parks or tot lots scattered throughout Sultan. In addition to new neighborhood scale parks, respondents requested increased trails, larger parks, more passive use recreational facilities and more active use parks for sports activities.

In addition to new facilities, respondents described the need for increased maintenance of parks. A commonly noted concern was related to safety. Many respondents described a sense of unease or fear when using Sultan parks because of the presence of vagrant groups and obvious sings of vandalism.

Survey respondents also reported a need for upgrades to and improved maintenance of existing parks. Finally, the majority of respondents would like a new park located in northeastern Sultan.

Figure 7. Future Park Priorities Survey Results

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

	Response Percent	Response Count
Improve maintenance	**59.4%**	**123**
Improve existing park facilities	56.5%	117
Improve or add programs & special events	31.4%	65
Improve public safety	37.2%	77
Improve access	17.4%	36
Address dog owner's needs	19.8%	41
Improve dog control	17.4%	36
More active facilities (sports oriented)	41.1%	85
More passive facilities (relaxation oriented)	20.3%	42
More trails/paths	56.5%	117
No change needed	3.4%	7
Other (please specify)		21
answered question		**207**
skipped question		**27**

E. STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

It is clear there is a growing community interest in preserving, maintaining and expanding Sultan's park system. Since 2007 a number of park stakeholder groups have emerged. These stakeholders have stepped up to change the city's park system from the ground up. It is important for the city to nurture and support these community-based groups in order to meet the expectations of park users and fulfill the city's long-range goals.

Adopt a Park

Adopt-a-park is an opportunity for businesses, community groups, families and civic-minded individuals to lend a hand in the preservation and beautification of Sultan's parks. The adopt-a-park program helps educate the community about the importance of providing clean and safe parks and trails for everyone to enjoy. Clean parks attract people and improve quality of life for the entire community.

The Sultan adopt-a-park program is currently an informal group of city residents and park users who volunteer their time to clean and maintain the city's parks including Traveler's Park, Reese Park, Sportsmans Park, River Park and Osprey Park. The adopt-a-park program is an outgrowth of the city's successful adopt-a-street program. The Sultan city council is considering a proposal to formalize the adopt-a-park program. Whether the adopt-a-park program is formal or informal, the partnership between city hall and park volunteers to maintain the city's park facilities is necessary to ensure a successful park system.

Park Patrol

The park patrol program was started in 2010 by the Sultan Police Department in partnership with members of the Sultan Block Watch Program. Park Patrol members work in pairs to walk park trails and facilities. Park Patrol members also educate visitors about park resources, programs, facilities, and rules; observe and report safety issues, incidents, and emergencies; and foster positive relationships among park users.

Park patrol volunteers receive basic observation and reporting training. Upon completion of training, each park patrol volunteer is issued a park patrol vest identifying them as a member of the city's park patrol program.

Equestrians

Sultan has a long history as an equestrian community. Horses have been banned from park properties and trail systems in Sultan since the 1970's. During development of the PROS Plan, horse owners expressed interest in developing joint equestrian/pedestrian trails in Osprey Park. As a result of the PROS Plan outreach effort, several local equestrians formed a stakeholders group to evaluated formal and informal trails in Osprey Park. The purpose of the evaluation was to determine if there were trails within the park that could support joint use with equestrians and pedestrians sharing park facilities. The city council is considering a pilot project to test several shared equestrian/pedestrian trails in Osprey Park. The equestrian group is working with other park volunteers to explore the feasibility of a new equestrian/pedestrian trail connection between River Park and Osprey Park.

Dog Owners

As a rural city surrounded by agricultural and forest resources, Sultan residents have plenty of open space and wooded areas to walk their canine companions off-leash. There is a leash law in effect within the city limits which is enforced when non-compliance is observed. However, Sultan parks and trails are rarely crowded and dog-owners frequently allow their pets off leash. This culture will likely change as Sultan's population increases and more residents use the park system.

During development of the 2010 PROS Plan, the city received a few requests to create an off-leash dog park. In the last few years, the demand for off-leash dog parks has increased dramatically nationwide. Off–leash dog parks are a relatively new phenomenon. Philosophies and standards regarding best practices for developing, operating, and maintaining such facilities, vary and are still evolving through trial and error. Substantive discussion needs to precede the creation of single purpose dog parks, or dedicating areas within existing parks, exclusively for off-leash play. City staff and the Sultan city council will need to carefully monitor local demand and support for off-leash play areas for dogs.

The city may want to consider off-leash areas when renovating current park facilities or during acquisition and development of the community park to serve new residents.

Youth Athletic Organizations

Youth athletic organizations are an important stakeholder group for the city's park system. In the past, Sultan has worked with these groups on an informal basis. Sultan has several active youth athletic organizations that use the sports fields in Reese and Osprey Park. The planning board met with several of these groups during the public participation process to get their input on the PROS Plan needs analysis.

Reese Park tends to attract baseball teams especially since field lighting was installed in 2007. Currently a youth football league, the Sultan Pirates, reserves the fields at Osprey Park for practice and league games. The Sultan High School Soccer Team uses the fields at Osprey Park for practice.

Over the life of the 2010 PROS Plan the city is seeking to build closer partnerships with private youth sports organizations who utilize the city's fields and facilities for practices and games. There may be opportunities to work with youth sports leagues to partner on development and funding for the proposed community park.

III. OVERVIEW OF THE CITY'S PARKS, RECREATION RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS

The character of Sultan's parks and recreation system is greatly influenced by the recreation interests and participation of residents in Sultan. Sultan residents play sports, picnic, walk, and play in the City's parks most often during the spring and summer months. Recreation programming opportunities are abundant and well attended by a wide range of Sultan residents, primarily children, youth, and seniors.

A. RECREATIONAL PROGRAM INVENTORY

The City of Sultan owns and operates various recreational assets available to Sultan residents including Osprey Park, River Park, Sportsmans Park and Reese Park that have both passive and active amenities. Youth leagues and sports programs, offered through the Sultan School District, use the city's park facilities for practicing and league games. In addition to such public recreational options, local private organizations offer various recreational programs to the community. Two such local organizations are the Sultan Boys and Girls Club and the local Volunteers of America.

There is no formal level of service assigned to recreational programs. The purpose in examining them here is to understand how recreational facilities are used and to determine which programs are available to whom. This information was used to assist the City in creating goals and policies to promote and increase recreational programming for all residents of all ages, abilities and recreational needs.

Sultan's Boys and Girls Club

The Sultan Boys and Girls Club has been offering a range of recreational programs to Sultan's youth for several years. The Boys and Girls Club is located within close proximity to Sultan's public schools. The Boys and Girls Club offers a range of sports programs including basketball, volleyball, baseball, and flag football. They also offer a leadership program, cooking classes, child care and a pre-school program. One of the more popular programs offered is the Drop in World Club which provides various after-school activities to Sultan youth. The Club offers programs to children 5-18 years of age, and currently has an enrollment of approximately 400 children. Activity fees are modestly set to accommodate various income levels. The Club offers a sliding scale fee system and provides scholarship awards for qualifying low-income households. DSHS funds are accepted for the child care program. All members must pay a $35 dollar general annual membership fee. Sports program fees range from $65-$95 per activity/season

and full-time child care costs are approximately $280 per month. The Boys and Girls Club offers services and programs year-round, and provides all services from its location at 705 1st Street.

Volunteers of America

Located centrally at 617 1st Street and 701 1st Street, Volunteers of America (VOA) has been offering a wide range of community services to the Sultan area for over sixty years. In addition to providing various community resources such as the Sky Valley Family and Community Resource Center, the VOA provides meeting space in the Community Resource Center, a resource commonly used by the Sky Valley Seniors. The VOA Safe Stop program, held on Saturdays at the Sultan Middle School, provided safe, fun and educational programs to 325 Sultan youth in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The VOA sponsors various community events such as annual Thanksgiving dinners and Giving Tree programs. They also offer a hunter-safety program out of the center as well as a boat launch in the County located within the City's urban growth area.

Regional Recreational Opportunities

The Sultan community is served by other regional recreational programs and opportunities. For example, the nearest YMCA facility is only 10 miles from downtown Sultan, in the neighboring city of Monroe. The Monroe YMCA offers numerous community programs to various user and age groups. While the exact number is not known, according to YMCA staff, due to the facility's easy access and close proximity to Sultan, many of its members are Sultan residents. The YMCA offers various programs including aquatics classes for pre-school to senior clientele, various sports programs, a popular teen program and organized youth sports.

Additionally, the City of Sultan is surrounded by various public lands that provide a host of outdoor recreational opportunities to area residents including hiking, biking, rock climbing, and fishing/hunting.

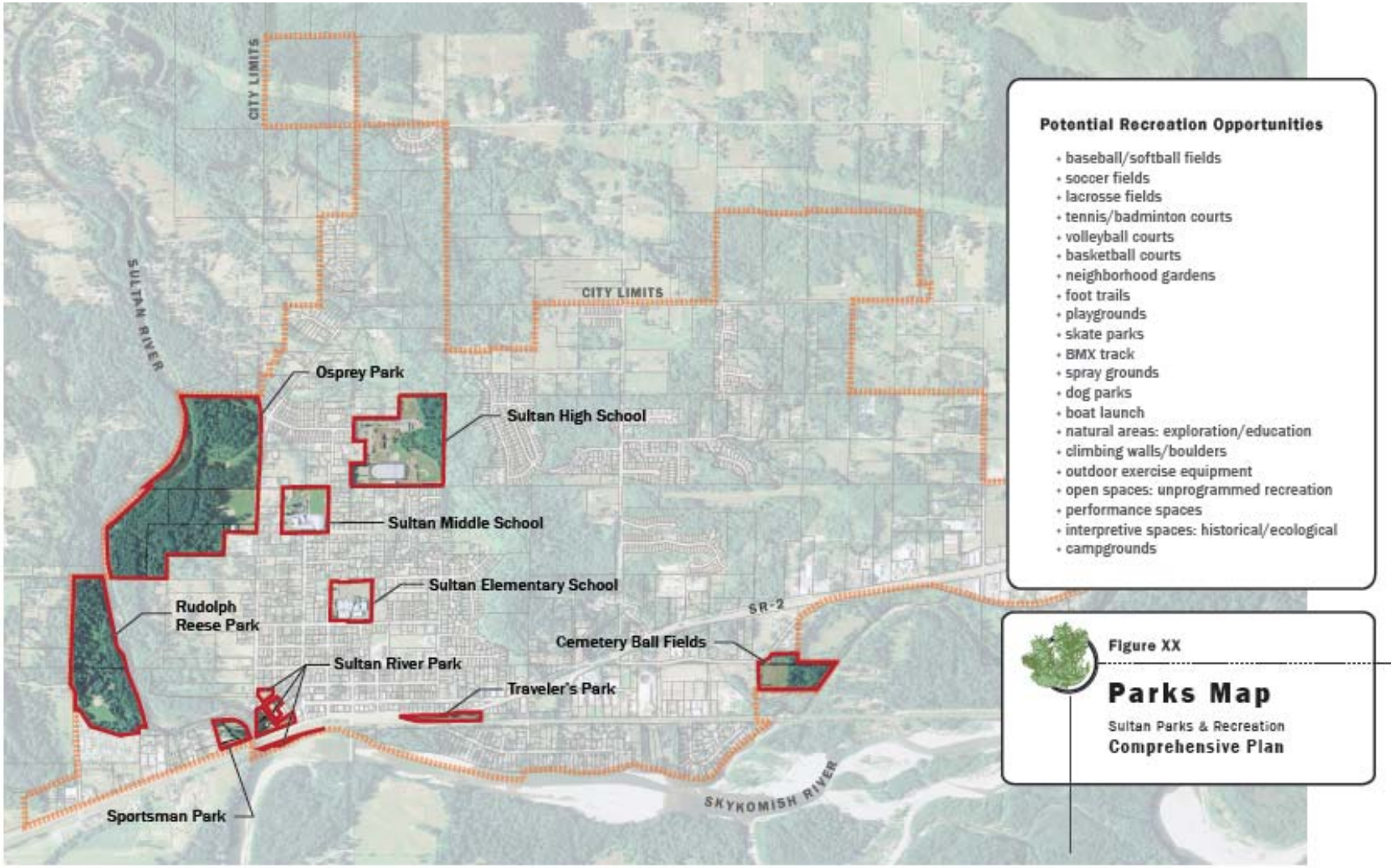
B. PARKLAND AND FACILITY INVENTORY

The parks and recreation system in the City of Sultan is well used by residents and visitors alike. Approximately 36% of respondents to the city's park survey indicated they visited Sultan parks at least once per month. The variety of passive and active recreational opportunities in Sultan's parks and open space system provides opportunities for residents of different ages and abilities to recreate.

The majority of Sultan's park and recreation opportunities are located adjacent to the Sultan and Skykomish Rivers to the west of the city's historic town center. Existing park properties have been acquired through donation (Reese Park), grants and city funds (Osprey Park and River Park), and joint use agreements with other agencies (Traveler's Park and Sportsmans Park).

Detailed profiles of park and recreation facilities in Sultan are located on the following pages. Profiles include an overview of site-specific improvement opportunities and maintenance concerns, outlined alongside the description of each park and recreation facility.

Figure 8. Parks Map



Sultan Park & Recreation Comprehensive Plan

Osprey Park

address	814 1st St, Sultan, WA 98294-9725
parcel numbers	00765600099900, 28083100400300, 28083100401900, 28083100400700
size	76.20 acres
zoning	Undev Land/Water Utilities, Irrig, Storage
current classification	Regional Park
proposed classification	Regional/Large Urban Park
project development	$2,223,300

Vicinity Map

Existing Facilities

Amenities	Condition		
	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
lawn			●
little league backstop w/dugouts		●	
soccer goals	●		
softball field			●
8 picnic tables	●		
covered basketball court	●		
interpretive gravel loop trail			●
asphalt parking lot	●		
drainage way	●		
bike track			●
Sultan River access		●	
pea gravel play area		●	
bleachers		●	
irrigation system	●		

Location Map

Proposed Improvements

Amenities	Maintenance / Operations
• paved spectator facilities	• annual lawn top dressing
• accessible (ADA) routes	• 2X/annual lawn fertilizing
• exercise & equestrian trails	• annual gravel trail maintenance
• controlled-access restrooms	• seasonal mowing
• wayfinding signage	• irrigation system maintenance
• replace play area	• restrooms open year-round
• permanent bleachers	• address crime/safety
• replace damaged benches/signs	• address general cleanliness
• connect to senior center	• address general park condition
• connect to Sultan River Park	
• covered dugouts	

Playground & Structure

Park River Trails

Project Development Costs	Planning Year Horizon	Funding Source
Renovation: $855,900	2011-2017	RCO/City of Sultan
Master Plan: $75,000	2018-2024	
New Facilities: $867,600	2025-2031	
New Trails: $424,800	2011-2017	

Sultan Park & Recreation Comprehensive Plan

Rudolph Reese Park

address	15101 Old Owen Rd, Sultan, WA 98294
parcel numbers	27080600102900, 28083100400200
size	40 acres
zoning	Parks- General Recreation/Undeveloped Land
current classification	Neighborhood Park
proposed classification	Community Park
project development	$1,591,700

Vicinity Map

Existing Facilities

Amenities	Condition		
	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
swings			●
restrooms w/water service		●	
little league field w/dugout		●	
bleachers	●		
2 picnic shelters w/wood stove			●
4 picnic tables	●		
soccer field			●
spectator area			●
2 backstops	● - N		● - S
street lights @ soccer field			●
Sultan River access	●		
gravel vehicle access/circulation		●	
unmarked gravel parking			●

Location Map

River Access

Proposed Improvements

Amenities	Maintenance / Operations
• new play area	• gopher control
• camping facilities	• annual lawn top dressing
• replace picnic shelters	• 2X/annual lawn fertilizing
• upgrade lighting	• seasonal mowing
• reconst. gravel circ. road	• address general cleanliness
• develop parking	• address general park condition
• develop interpretive trails	• gravel road & trail maintenance
• replace bleachers	
• wayfinding signage	

Baseball/Soccer Field & Restroom

Project Development Costs	Planning Year Horizon	Funding Source
Renovation: $484,200	2011-2017	RCO/City of Sultan
Master Plan: $50,000	2018-2024	
New Facilities: $877,500	2025-2031	
New Trails: $180,000	2011-2017	

Sultan Park & Recreation Comprehensive Plan

Sportsman Park

address	SR 2 PS, Sultan, WA 98294
parcel numbers	27080600100500, 00472100100100, 00472100201400
size	3.57 acres
zoning	Parks- General Rec/Rivers, Streams, Creeks
current classification	Regional Park
proposed classification	Special Use Park
project development	$1,166,000

Vicinity Map

EXISTING FACILITIES

Amenities	Condition		
	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
wooden picnic shelter w/stove	●		
informal parking areas			●
portable toilet (rental)	●		
Sultan River access		●	
Sultan River informal boat launch			●

Location Map

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Amenities	Maintenance / Operations
• gravel driving & parking	• annual lawn top dressing
• stormwater ret/det system	• 2X/annual lawn fertilizing
• formal boat launch facility	• gravel road & trail maintenance
• restrooms	• seasonal mowing
• wayfinding signage	• address general cleanliness
• floodway area	• address general park condition

River Access & View

Picnic Shelter

Project Development Costs	Planning Year Horizon	Funding Source
Renovation: $0	2011-2017	RCO/City of Sultan
Master Plan: $50,000	2018-2024	
New Facilities: $1,116,000	2025-2031	
New Trails: $0		

Sultan Park & Recreation Comprehensive Plan

Sultan River Park

address	2nd, Ash, & Main St- Multiple blocks
parcel numbers	00571200100902, 00571200100901, 00571200101001, 00588800100700, 27080500201700, 00588800900100, 00588800800100
size	7.21 acres
zoning	Undeveloped Land/ Parks- General Recreation
current classification	Neighborhood Park
proposed classification	Community Park
project development	$1,726,700

Vicinity Map

Existing Facilities

Amenities	Condition		
	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
lawn			●
7 picnic tables	●		
band stand/shelter w/conc. pad		●	
parking areas (street and on-site)	●		
block retaining wall	●		
water & electrical services		●	
armed forces memorial		●	
2 log climbing poles	●		
concrete utility building	●		
Chief Tseultd sculpture w/conc. pad			●
8' chain link fencing	●		
skateboard ramps		●	
permeable concrete	●		
concrete sidewalk	●		

Location Map

River Access

Proposed Improvements

Amenities	Maintenance / Operations
• additional skate park amenities • climbing wall • irrigation system • play area • Additional parking (inc. angled) • one-way street: 1st & Main • regional stormwater facility • wayfinding signage • connection to Osprey Park • equestrian parking & access	• bi-annual gazebo repair • bi-annual sculpture repair • invasive plant removal

Skate Park

Project Development Costs	Planning Year Horizon	Funding Source
Renovation: $22,500 Master Plan: $50,000 New Facilities: $1,654,200 New Trails: $0	2011-2017 2018-2024 2025-2031	RCO/City of Sultan

Sultan Park & Recreation Comprehensive Plan

Cemetery Ball Fields

address	33101 Cascade View Dr.
parcel numbers	27080400200100
size	10.11 acres
zoning	Playgrounds & Athletic Fields
current classification	Neighborhood Park
proposed classification	Special Use Park
project development	$2,302,700

Vicinity Map

Existing Facilities

Amenities	Condition		
	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
baseball backstop fencing			●
290 SF of grass parking		●	
lawn			●

Location Map

Proposed Improvements

Amenities	Maintenance / Operations
• youth-oriented sports: baseball, soccer, football lacrosse, etc. • sports amenities: bleachers, dugouts, lighting, restrooms, concessions, etc. • wayfinding signage • paved parking area	• mark infields • prepare infields • gopher control • lawn top dressing • lawn fertilizing • mowing • address general cleanliness • address general park condition

Backstop Fence

Field

Project Development Costs	Planning Year Horizon	Funding Source
Renovation: $720,000 Master Plan: $50,000 New Facilities: $1,532,700 New Trails: $0	2011-2017 2018-2024 2025-2031	RCO/City of Sultan

Sultan Park & Recreation Comprehensive Plan

Traveler's Park

address	South of Hwy 2 (between 6th Ave & Main St)
parcel number	27080500102200
size	1.90 acres
zoning	2 Single Family Residences
current classification	Mini-Park
proposed classification	Mini-Park
project development	$457,200

Vicinity Map

Existing Facilities

Amenities	Condition		
	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
lawn		●	
picnic tables w/concrete pad	●		
memorial water feat. (alpine garden)			●
logging interpretive feature			●
one-lane pull-through loop		●	
2-car parking capacity		●	
heritage tree	●		

Location Map

Proposed Improvements

Amenities	Maintenance / Operations
• covered picnic shelters • increase parking capacity • stormwater detention • upgrade logging feature • welcome sign	• mowing • fertilizing • water feature maintenance & cleanup (alpine garden)

Park Lawn

Alpine Garden

Project Development Costs	Planning Year Horizon	Funding Source
Renovation: $18,000 Master Plan: $0 New Facilities: $439,200 New Trails: $0	2011-2017 2018-2024 2025-2031	RCO/City of Sultan

C. REGIONAL PARK FACILITIES

Sultan residents and visitors are fortunate to have access to regional and state park facilities. Regional facilities complement city facilities and offer a wide range of unique recreation experiences. The city has been working closely with the Washington State Parks Department, Snohomish County Parks and the Snohomish County Public Utility District to create an attractive suite of regional park facilities. While not technically part of the city's park system, these facilities serve Sultan residents. As funding for new facilities and on-going maintenance continues to be a challenge, multi-agency relationships encourage shared resources and discourage duplication of services.

The Sultan city council has expressed an interest in partnering with other agencies to develop regional park facilities as a way to attract residents and encourage economic development.

State Parks

Wallace Falls

The Wallace Falls State Park Management Area is a 4,735-acre camping park with shoreline on the Wallace River, Wallace Lake, Jay Lake, Shaw Lake and the Skykomish River. The trail head for the Wallace Falls State Park is located 15 miles east of Sultan. The park features a popular 3 mile hike through old-growth coniferous forests, along the fast- moving Wallace River to the 265-foot waterfall.

Wallace Falls State Park

Washington State has twice considered closing the popular park in 2008 and 2010 order to help balance the state park's budget. Both times, Snohomish County stepped up and offered to take ownership of the park. Sultan will continue to monitor the state's fiscal commitment to Wallace Falls and encourage efforts to keep the park open regardless of agency ownership.

Department of Natural Resources

Reiter Foothills ORV Park

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages Reiter Foothills Forest. Reiter Foothills is a 10,000-acre block of forested state trust land located about 12 miles east of Sultan off U.S. 2. The Reiter Foothills Forest is part of the legacy of more than 5 million acres of state-owned forest, aquatic, agricultural and urban lands managed by the DNR for long-term benefits to current and future trust beneficiaries and the people of Washington.

A planning process initiated by DNR in January 2008 was intended to guide how the DNR manages recreation and public access in Reiter Foothills Forest. This area has a pressing need for well planned recreation facilities that can be managed and maintained to DNR standards. As a result of the planning process, the Director of Public Lands, Peter Goldmark made the executive decision to close Reiter Foothills to public access. This decision displaced 20,000 ORV users who visited the site annually. The city is currently working with DNR and other stakeholders to complete the master plan and secure funding to reopen the site to ORV use.

Reiter Foothills is a important component of the Sky Valley economic development strategy. The surrounding cities of Index, Gold Bar and Monroe have been working cooperatively with the Sky Valley Chamber and DNR to create a set of off-road trails connecting the cities within the Sky Valley together.

There are several models for this type of off-road trail system including the West Virginia Hatfield-McCoy Trails and the Iron Mountain Trails in Minnesota. The city is working with other stakeholders to secure capital funding through the state to restore and reopen the area to ORV users.

Olney Creek Shooting Range

The City of Sultan, Snohomish County Parks and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are working together to reconvey property near the former Olney Creek Campground previously managed by DNR to Snohomish County for a proposed shooting range. Olney Creek is located approximately 7.5 miles north and east of the Sultan historic business district.

The reconveyance proposal was recently approved by the Snohomish County Council. With the County Council's acceptance of the proposed property reconveyance, the state will turn the property over to Snohomish County. Snohomish County, City of Sultan and other regional interest groups will begin the task of funding and building the range in phases.

This site, among other uses, will include a public rifle range. The goal is to give shooters a controlled place to practice. The Snohomish County Sheriff's Department is on board, as well as several major law enforcement agencies in partnership. These agencies spend a lot of money keeping the officers proficient in firearms and have to travel great distances to practice. This creates additional opportunities for shared funding among several law enforcement agencies and private parties.

Snohomish County Parks

Snohomish County would like to establish its first park in east Snohomish County. The nearest county park is Lords Hill located approximately 15 miles west of Sultan on the Snohomish River between Monroe and Snohomish. In order to achieve this goal, Snohomish County is working on acquiring a park property adjacent to Sultan on the Skykomish River.

Sky View Fisherman's Park and Campground

Sky View Tracts is a designated floodplain area in Snohomish County on the south bank of the Skykomish River across from Sultan's historic business district. In an earlier time the land was platted as recreation lots. Since 1980 the majority of the full-time residents were relocated through the FEMA repetitive flood loss buy-out program. More recently, the vacant properties were overrun by transient squatters. In 2007 Snohomish County began an effort to purchase the properties with the intent of creating a fisherman's park with boat launch and RV campground. The county has secured all but seven of the 150 lots. Once the properties are under county ownership, the city and the county will jointly master plan the property and seek funding for development.

Snohomish County PUD

The Snohomish County Public Utility District owns and operates the Jackson Hydroelectric Project on the Sultan River and maintains the Culmback Dam which creates Spada Lake. The PUD jointly operates and maintains recreation facilities around the dam, Spada Lake and the Sultan River as part of its licensing agreement through the federal government. Property owners around the lake include the State Department of Natural Resources, State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and National Parks Service.

Kayaking Spada Lake

Spada Lake Recreation Area

The recreation sites were opened for public use in the summer of 1991. Facilities include access for fishing and non-motorized boating, hiking, picnicking and public restrooms. The recreation sites are open from April through September, depending on weather conditions. Public use and enjoyment of the Jackson Hydroelectric Project recreation and mitigation lands in the Sultan Basin is subject to the regulations established in PUD.

Whitewater Kayaking

The Sultan River lies dormant below Culmback Dam except during times of severe flooding. When extremely heavy rains hit Western Washington the Sultan River is a beautiful, 13 mile, class IV kayaking river. Local kayakers lament that the PUD water managers seem to have become increasingly proficient at making sure no water is "wasted" by funneling every possible drop of water from Spada Lake down through the diversion pipe to the powerhouse 11 miles downstream from the dam. While not required under the dam's licensing agreement, PUD keeps plenty of storage capacity available to absorb the onslaught of winter storms. Overflows from the dam typically occure only once every several years. PUD is working with kayakers to release flows from the dam to create white water conditions as part of the PUD's 50-year hydro project relicensing requirement with the federal government. PUD owns five acres of property in Sultan's Urban Growth Area at the end of Trout Farm Road. The site has a primitive boat launch and provides a place for kayakers to pull out of the river.

IV. COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A comprehensive system of parks and recreation facilities requires a set of planning classifications, guidelines, and standards to meet diverse and sometimes competing demands in the City. Level of service (LOS) is a term used by park planners and managers to set a minimum threshold for services and resources to satisfy the park and recreation needs of residents. A level of service standard, as referenced in this Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, will be used by the City to:

- Benchmark the desired mix and quality of facilities for residents of Sultan.
- Determine land requirements for parks and recreation facilities.
- Determine the locations of each type of park to provide the adopted level of service.

The City's approach to level of service includes the following types of guidelines and standards:

- Use the population allocations from the Snohomish County Buildable Land Report for 2025 to determine the amount of park and recreation resources to serve the existing and future population. This chapter provides population guidelines for recreation facilities.
- Site guidelines provide the spatial needs for park and recreation facilities. This chapter provides site guidelines for parklands and recreation facilities.
- Park classifications define the uses, size, location, and development guidelines for each park type.

A. PARKS CLASSIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

This update of the PROS Plan includes a review and update of the parks classifications and standards from the 2008 Comprehensive Plan Update. Several parks, including Reese Park, Cemetery Park, River Park and the Water Treatment Plant were previously classified as Neighborhood Parks.

The Planning Board and citizens questioned the validity of these classifications. Based on observations and analysis of the historical and existing use and conditions of the City's facilities, findings of other planning documents, including the 2008 Comprehensive Plan and guidance from the National Recreation and Park Association, this update includes revising Reese Park and River Park as community parks. Cemetery Park will be reclassified from a neighborhood park to a special use facility. The water treatment plant will be removed from the park system since it is generally not accessible to the public for recreation purposes. As a part of this PROS Plan update, the city will adopt the following park classifications, guidelines, and standards.

Public Park Type: Large Urban Park (Regional Park)

Regional parks are the largest type of park that could be developed in the City. Regional parks serve the population of several urban areas, providing a respite from urban lifestyles.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Regional parks are generally built by counties or other agencies with a regional scope. In Sultan, the City may participate in the development and operation of regional parks such as the Sky View Fisherman's Park proposed by Snohomish County but will likely not take the lead, focusing instead on serving the needs of City residents.

Because of the number of persons and the range of interests they serve, regional parks are generally at least 50 acres and are optimally 75 acres in size or larger. Regional parks may feature wooded areas and varying topography.

The City of Sultan's Regional Park is Osprey Park.

Public Park Type: Community Park

Community parks provide a focal point and gathering place for the broader community. Community park facilities are designed for organized activities and sports, although individual and family activities are encouraged. Community parks usually have sport fields or similar facilities as the central focus of the park. Community parks require more support facilities, such as parking, restrooms and playgrounds, than neighborhood or pocket parks because they serve a larger area and offer more facilities.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Community parks are intended to serve the recreational needs of several neighborhoods. Where possible, they should be developed in a coordinated fashion with adjoining schools and located on or near arterial streets. Community parks should be located within 1 to 3 miles of every residence. The optimum size for a community park is 20 to 50 acres.

A community park functions as a neighborhood park for the residents who live in close proximity to the park; therefore, it should comply with the city's neighborhood park classification. In addition, a community park serves multiple neighborhoods and the entire city. As such, expansions to existing community parks or development of new community parks should evaluate the need for the following facilities:

- Recreation/community center
- Swimming pool
- Lighted sports fields
- Large group picnic areas
- Nature or wellness-based interpretive facilities

The City of Sultan's Community Parks are Reese Park and River Park

Public Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood parks provide access to basic recreation opportunities for nearby residents, enhance neighborhood identity, and preserve neighborhood open space. Neighborhood parks are large enough to include both passive and active facilities (including sports fields) but are small enough to be placed in neighborhoods, where they serve the needs of residents in a local setting. Because they are usually located in neighborhoods, neighborhood parks are designed and operated to minimize, noise, traffic, light and other "spill-over" impacts. They are designed primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. The City's neighborhood parks provide for limited organized/league use.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Neighborhood parks are typically 5 to 10 acres in size but must be at least 3 acres. A neighborhood park should generally be located with a ¼- to ½-mile walk from the neighborhood it serves, uninterrupted by arterial roads or other physical barriers.

Ideally, all neighborhood parks shall contain the following amenities:

- Play equipment – Separate structures for 2 to 5 year olds and 5 to 12 year olds will be required. Playground surfacing shall be engineered wood fiber or other surfacing as approved by the Department.
- Drinking fountain(s)
- Picnic tables, barbeques, and benches
- Open turf areas for casual play
- Trees
- Security lighting
- Waste disposal and recycling containers
- Concrete walkways that connect all of the amenities in the park. A loop walk around the park shall also be provided, if feasible.

A neighborhood park may include the following additional amenities based upon neighborhood preference:

- Basketball courts
- Tennis courts
- Skateboard play area
- Zero depth water play area
- A handball, volleyball, or tether ball court
- Community garden
- One or more multi-purpose fields (typically unlighted but could be lighted under certain circumstances)
- Picnic shelter
- Restroom building
- Lighted parking lot

Locations for neighborhood parks will be based on a variety of factors, including the population and demographics of residents in the park's service area and major physical boundaries.

Sultan currently has no Neighborhood Parks.

Public Park Type: Mini-Park (Pocket Park)

Pocket parks are the smallest type of park in the City's system. A pocket park is intended to serve its immediate surrounding area. They are typically built to serve a specific need or where the development of a larger park to meet a neighborhood need is not possible due to physical or other constraints. Pocket parks are not included in the City's inventory for purposes of establishing the Level of Service necessary to support development under the Growth Management Act.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Pocket parks are up to 3 acres in size and are often developed on unused or vacant lots. Typically, they do not provide formal recreation facilities or amenities. Pocket parks will be located primarily based on the availability of land.

Sultan's Mini-Park is Traveler's Park.

Public Park Type: Special Use Facility

A Special Use Park includes a broad range of recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use. These parks may provide a recreational facility or amenity unique to a community or site and may include active and/or passive activities. Special Use Parks are designed to meet the needs of the facility, site and users. They should be strategically located in the community and easily accessible.

The City's two Special Use facilities are Sportsman Park and Cemetery Ball Fields.

Public Park Type: Combined School-Park

The Sultan School District operates several passive and active recreational areas on each of its campuses. These facilities are not part of the PROS Plan Level of Service calculations, but they are available for recreational use to Sultan residents.

The Sultan School District maintains 51.70 acres of Combined School-Park acreage at the Sultan Elementary, Sultan Middle and Sultan High Schools (7.9 acres, 10.05 acres and 33.75 acres, respectively).

Table 3. Park Classifications

Park	Acres	Classification
Osprey	76.20	Regional
Reese	18.78	Community
River	7.21	Community
Travelers	1.90	Mini-Park
Sportsman	3.57	Special Use
Cemetery Ball Field	8.74	Special Use
Sultan Elementary School	7.90	School-Park
Sultan Middle School	10.05	School-Park
Sultan High School	33.75	School-Park
Total	168.10 acres	

B. EXISTING PARK MAINTENANCE AND FACILITIES NEEDS

The Park Inventory sheets from Section III above demonstrate the desired amenities and other maintenance and other operations issues for each of Sultan's existing parks. These sheets also demonstrate the probable funding source and timeline for these improvements.

C. LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

Recreational facilities are used for a variety of purposes by all types of people and groups. Because the needs of Sultan residents are diverse, no individual recreational facility can meet the recreational needs of all users. Therefore, a diverse system of facilities is necessary to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities.

Parks and Recreation Facilities are defined as those facilities which are readily accessible by the public and contain opportunities for active and passive recreation, are under City Ownership and are classified within this Plan as Regional (Osprey Park), Neighborhood and Community Parks. The following defines the Level of Service standards for parks and recreational facilities as required by the Growth Management Act and serve to substantiate system improvements to those. The overall Level of Service for combined parks acreage is 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 residents.

D. FUTURE DEMANDS AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

The 2010 population of Sultan was 4,570. The following is an analysis of the community park acreage needed for the projected 2025 population of 11,119 based on the combined Level of Service of 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 residents. **Table 4** below is an inventory of all the City's park facilities and the 2025 future need for park acreage.

Table 4 includes Mini-parks, Special Use Parks and combined School-Parks; however these parks types are not included in the Level of Service or future need calculations. The table also includes an analysis of Regional and Neighborhood Parks. The City has a single Regional Park, Osprey Park. The size and scale of a Regional Park are prohibitive for the City to create and maintain more than one Regional Park. The needs analysis does not propose a standard for Neighborhood Parks as the City envisions the construction of one, large new Community Park in the northern area of the City between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road south of US 2. The table shows that 10.7 acres of Community Park area will be needed in 2025 based on 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 and a projected population of 11,119.

Table 4. Park Level of Service and Future Needs

Park Type	Proposed LOS (acres/1,000 residents)	2010 Facilities (acres)	2025 Need at Proposed Standard (acres)	2010 Actual LOS (acres/1,000 residents)	Acres Needed for 2025 Population at LOS
Regional	0	76.20	0	16.73	0
Community	3.3	25.99	36.7	5.44	10.70
Neighborhood	0	0	0	0	0
Mini-Park	N/A	1.90	N/A	0.4	N/A
Special Use	N/A	12.31	N/A	2.7	N/A
School-Park	N/A	51.70	N/A	11.35	N/A
Totals	3.3/1,000	168.10	36.7	36.63	10.70

D. FUTURE COMMUNITY PARK COST AND FEE ANALYSIS

The total cost to the City of 10.7 acres of community parks is estimated to be approximately $7.5 million. This estimate is based on the unit costs found in the 2008 Capital Facilities Plan[12] as follows:

Acquisition Cost per Acre	$200,000
Development Cost per Acre	$500,000
Total Cost per Acre	$700,000
Acres Required	10.7
Total Estimated Cost	**$7,490,000**

New housing units are based on the projected population growth divided by persons per household (pph):

6,564 new residents / 2.74 pph = 2,361 units.

[12] City of Sultan *Park Facility - Unconstrained Need List, CFP, September, 2008*

Table 5. Cost per Unit for New Community Park

Park Type	Cost per Acre	2025 Need at LOS	2025 Costs	Projected New Units	Cost per New Unit
Community	$700,000	10.7	$7,490,000	2,361	$3,172

The current park impact fee is $3,175 per dwelling unit. The cost per new single family dwelling unit calculated in the above analysis to meet a new community park standard of 3.3 acres per 1,000 residents is $3,172. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the current park fee will generate sufficient revenue to acquire and develop the community park acreage needed by 2025 in accordance with the proposed standard.

V. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The city is facing a growing demand for improved maintenance and operation of the city's park system. As the city's population increases there will be a growing demand for new park facilities to serve new residents and maintain minimum service levels.

As mentioned earlier, several citizen's initiatives and referendums (e.g. I-695, Referendum 47, and Proposition 747) have taken a toll on several of the major traditional funding sources available to local governments since the Growth Management Act was first adopted in 1990. As a result, local jurisdictions like Sultan are turning increasingly to several new funding sources created as a part of the growth management legislation, including impact fees and the ability to form metropolitan park taxing districts (MPD).

Even with the heightened anti-tax climate, residents of many communities recognize the contribution that parks and recreation amenities make to improving quality of community life. Residents of some communities have supported taxes increases, conservation futures levies, or bond referendums targeted for park purposes. Even with community support it is clear that Sultan must be alert to cost savings opportunities. Sultan will likely need to supplement limited funds with some creative approaches to park finance. Earlier sections describe the city's public, private, and user group partnerships and cost sharing approaches, cost reduction measures, and other creative funding approaches used to fill the funding gap.

The financial strategies from the 2008 Comprehensive Plan on Table CFP-1 are the starting point for developing revenue estimates. Cost estimates for park renovations, master planning, new facilities and trails are taken from the park inventory analysis. The needs list below includes projects that will be considered for funding over the life of this plan. Other project opportunities may be identified and added to the needs list over the life of the plan.

The discussion below presents the unconstrained needs list that has been developed during the PROS Plan Update.

A. FUNDING NEEDS

The Sultan Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements Summary table below shows total unconstrained needs of $17,637,600. This includes $7.49 million for the new community park needed to meet the city's proposed level of service standards outlined in this PROS Plan.

Renovation costs for existing parks are estimated at $2.1 million. The plan identified $275,000 to master plan the city's current park facilities to ensure they will meet the future needs of the Sultan community. The public works department should prepare park master plans for each park to:

- identify historic and natural resources of outstanding value to the public;
- promote recreational uses complementary to site features; and
- define future land management goals as well as facility development for the sites

Table 6. Capital Funding Needs

Sultan Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements - Summary

Park Name	Renovation Costs	Master Plan	New Facilities	New Trails	Total
Current Parks					
Osprey Park	$ 855,900.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 867,600.00	$ 424,800.00	$ **2,223,300.00**
Rudolf Reese Park	$ 484,200.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 877,500.00	$ 180,000.00	$ **1,591,700.00**
Sportsman Park	$ -	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ **1,166,000.00**
Sultan River Park	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ **1,726,700.00**
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ 720,000.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,532,700.00	$ -	$ **2,302,700.00**
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ **457,200.00**
Sub-total Current Parks	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 275,000.00	$ 6,487,200.00	$ 604,800.00	$ 9,467,600.00
Future Parks	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 1,490,000.00	$ 6,000,000.00		$ **7,490,000.00**
New Trails	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
River Park Trail	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00	$ **680,000.00**
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 1,765,000.00	$ 12,487,200.00	$ 1,284,800.00	$ **17,637,600.00**

Table 7 on the following page outlines the proposed capital facilities plan expenditures by year over the next 15 years to complete the list of unconstrained needs during the planning period.

Table 7. Capital Facilities Plan

Capital Facilities Plan

Park Name	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017-2025	Total
Current Parks								
Osprey Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 75,000.00	$ 855,900.00	$ 1,292,400.00	**$ 2,223,300.00**
Rudolf Reese Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000.00	0	$ 180,000.00	$ 1,361,700.00	**$ 1,591,700.00**
Sportsman Park	$ -		$ 50,000.00	$ -	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ -	**$ 1,166,000.00**
Sultan River Park	0	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	**$ 1,726,700.00**
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,302,700.00	**$ 2,302,700.00**
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	**$ 457,200.00**
Sub-total Current Parks	**$ 18,000.00**	**$ 22,500.00**	**$ 539,200.00**	**$ 1,704,200.00**	**$ 1,191,000.00**	**$ 1,035,900.00**	**$ 4,956,800.00**	**$ 9,467,600.00**
Future Parks								**Sub-Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 90,000.00	$ 2,000,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,400,000.00	**$ 7,490,000.00**
New Trails								**Sub-Total**
River Park Trail	0	$ 20,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	**$ 680,000.00**
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 18,000.00	$ 132,500.00	$ 2,869,200.00	$ 2,034,200.00	$ 1,191,000.00	$ 1,035,900.00	$ 10,356,800.00	**$ 17,637,600.00**

B. FUNDING SOURCES[13]

General Fund Revenues and Other tax Dollars

Most of these funding sources, such as property tax and sales tax, flow into the general fund

and may be used to finance a wide variety of public programs and projects. As a result, funding requests for proposed parks and recreation programs face competition from other departments seeking to secure limited general fund dollars.

Councilmanic (non-voted) and general obligation bonds may also be used to finance park facility improvements, but face similar competition for funds that are limited by the city's bond capacity. In 2009, the city's councilmanic debt capacity was $4.4 million. Voter approved bonding capacity for park improvements was $11.9 million.

Other special revenues are derived from state and local option taxes earmarked for specific expenditure purposes. For example, RCW 84.34.230 authorizes counties to levy an optional Conservation Futures property tax (a property tax up to six and one-quarter cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for the purpose of acquiring interest in open space, habitat areas, wetlands, farm and timber lands). RCW 47.30.050 establishes a minimum amount of statewide fuel tax revenues that must be earmarked for trails and paths, generally for traffic safety purposes as authorized by RCW 47.30.030.

Enterprise funds may be created for a park or recreation activity that has a revenue source sufficient to finance all costs. The enterprise revenues, derived from user fees and service charges, are used to pay operating costs, retire capital facility debt, and plan future replacement and expansion projects. Enterprise funds have been used on a limited basis for golf courses, marinas, and similar self-financing operations.

Funding Sources (**Table 8**) below identifies how the city plans to fund future park improvements. Two new sources a Maintenance and Operations (M&0) Levy and a Metropolitan Park District are shown as potential funding for parks. Both of these sources of revenue will require voter approval.

[13] Funding source information was copied from "Planning for Parks and Recreation in your Community" provided by the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office.

Table 8. Capital Facilities Plan Funding Sources

	Funding Sources							
Park Name	General Fund	Park Impact Fees	Grants	Debt Service	M&O Levy	Metropolitan Park District	2017-2025	Total
Current Parks								
Osprey Park	$ 75,000.00	$ -	$ 646,200.00	$ -	$ 855,900.00	$ 646,200.00	$ -	$ 2,223,300.00
Rudolf Reese Park	$ -	$ -	$ 877,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 484,200.00	$ 180,000.00		$ 1,591,700.00
Sportsman Park	$ 50,000.00		$ 558,000.00	$ -	0	$ 558,000.00	$ -	$ 1,166,000.00
Sultan River Park	$ 22,500.00		$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,726,700.00
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ -	$ -	$ 302,700.00	$ 1,000,000.00	$ -	$ 1,000,000.00		$ 2,302,700.00
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 457,200.00
Sub-total Current Parks	$ 165,500.00	$ -	$ 2,873,600.00	$ 2,704,200.00	$ 1,340,100.00	$ 2,384,200.00	$ -	$ 9,467,600.00
Future Parks								Sub-Total
Community Park	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00
New Trails								Sub-Total
River Park Trail	$ 20,000.00	0	$ 330,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00	$ 3,203,600.00	$ 3,034,200.00	$ 1,340,100.00	$ 2,384,200.00	$ -	$ 17,637,600.00

Park Fees

Each year the city reviews and adopts a fee resolution outlining various charges for services and facility use. Park fees are nominal in order to encourage the community to use the city's park facilities. User fees (fees charged to users of the park and recreation facilities) are becoming an increasingly important source of funding for park operation and maintenance costs, but are not always popular. Park fees are set at a level to provide some revenue to cover expenses and at the same time not discourage community use of facilities. Non profit organizations wishing to use park facilities for events can reserve city park facilities at no charge in exchange for volunteer time. Following is a sample of the city's 2010 park fees adopted by the city council:

Figure 9. 2010 Sample Park Fees

RIVER PARK PAVILION:

Community based non-profit Groups/Organizations $50.00
City Sponsored Events ..... no charge
Non-profit Youth/School Groups $50.00
Other Individuals/Groups $100.00

REESE PARK, SPORTSMAN'S PARK & OSPREY PARK:

Reserved Shelter/Basketball Court:

Individual/Groups/Organizations (Events – without field use) $50.00
Individual/Groups/Organizations (Events – with field use) $75.00

Park Impact Fees

Impact fees are charges assessed by local governments against new development projects that attempt to recover the cost incurred by government in providing the public facilities required to serve the new development. Impact fees are only used to fund facilities, such as roads, schools, and parks, that are directly associated with the new development. They may be used to pay the proportionate share of the cost of public facilities that benefit the new development; however, impact fees cannot be used to correct existing deficiencies in public facilities.

In Washington, impact fees are authorized for those jurisdictions planning under the Growth Management Act (RCW 82.02.050 - .110), as part of "voluntary agreements" under RCW 82.02.020, and as mitigation for impacts under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA – Ch. 43.21C RCW).

Impact fees collected under the Growth Management Act are only authorized for: public streets and roads; publicly owned parks, open space, and recreation facilities; school facilities; and fire protection facilities in jurisdictions that are not part of a fire district. Setting fee schedules for impact fees is a complex process typically involving rate studies; generally, impact fees do not recover the full cost of a new facility since these fees must be directly and proportionately related to impacts associated with new development.

The city adopted a park impact fee of $3,175 in 2008.

Grants

The IAC is the major state agency that administers grant and loan programs targeted for parks and recreation. The IAC grants money to state and local agencies, generally on a matching basis, to acquire, develop, and enhance wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation properties. Some money is also distributed for planning grants. IAC grant programs utilize funds from various sources and include the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, Aquatic Lands enhancement Account, Boating Facilities Program, Boating Infrastructure Grants, National Recreational Trails Program, Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and the Youth Athletic Facilities Account.

Maintenance and Operations Levy

As general fund revenues decline, more cities are asking voters to approve separate levies to support park maintenance and operations. The city can ask voters to decide whether to increase property taxes by a levy rate that exceeds the statutory cap in order to fund park maintenance and operations. Levy funds can be used to acquire properties to preserve natural areas throughout the city; protect water quality in lakes and streams; enhance existing parks; improve trails, sportsfields, and neighborhood parks; and maintain park improvements consistent with city Parks standards.

Metropolitan Park District

The provisions in Chapter 35.61 RCW govern the establishment of a metropolitan park district in a city. Previously, this option was only available to cities of 5,000 or more. With the passage of SHB 2557, one or more cities and/or counties may create such a district for "the management, control, improvement, maintenance, and acquisition of parks, parkways, and boulevards…" The size restriction no longer applies.

SHB 2557, adopted in the 2002 legislative session, now specifically authorizes a metropolitan park district to be formed that includes areas outside of the city, or even in another city or county. Previously, the statutes relating to formation of such a district only permitted creating a district that was "coextensive with the limits of the city" (RCW 35.61.020). Any territory annexed to a city that lies entirely within the limits of a metropolitan park district shall be deemed to be within the limits of the (expanded) park district. Formation or extension of park district boundaries is no longer subject to boundary review board (BRB) review if only city territory is involved, independent of the board's review of the city annexation (RCW 35.61.250). (A proposed district that involves area within a county will still be subject to a BRB review in counties that still have a BRB).

There are two basic methods for the formation of a metropolitan park district. The city or county may initiate district formation by adopting a resolution submitting a proposition for its formation to voters within the district boundaries. If the district includes area within the county or other cities and counties, the legislative body of each city and/or county which includes a portion or all of the area in the district must adopt a resolution submitting the proposition to the voters. Alternately, a metropolitan district may

be initiated via a petition with the signatures of 15 percent of the registered voters of the city (or area of the proposed district).

C. PARKS MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

Maintenance is defined by Robert E. Sternloff, former director of the Maintenance Management School at North Carolina State University, as "keeping areas and facilities in their original state or as nearly so as possible." Several barriers exist that prevent the full realization of this definition. They are money, inadequate staff, limited space and equipment, lack of skilled labor, lack of training of personnel, lack of time and the absence of a plan and standards to guide the process.

Maintenance is a factor affecting the usability and desirability of a park, and is an on-going, day-to-day requirement for Sultan's park system. The present level of maintenance varies from park to park and is generally minimal. As more parks and recreation facilities are developed, it will be necessary to expand the maintenance operation commensurate with the increase in park care needs. During development of the PROS Plan several people commented on whether the city should consider developing a new community park if maintaining existing facilities is already a challenge.

This concern was also identified during the park survey. One of the park survey questions asked people to select their top three priorities for Sultan parks. 59% of park survey respondents listed "improve maintenance" as their top priority for the city's park system. 56.5% of those who took the survey identified improving the city's existing facilities as the change they would most like to see in Sultan's parks.

Sultan's park maintenance operations are the responsibility of the public works department. As a result of voter approved initiatives in the late 1990's and declining tax revenues per capita, the city was forced to focus its limited general fund revenues on core services such as public safety and street maintenance.

Starting in 2007, the city began restructuring its organization to bring expenses in line with revenues. One of the goals was to seek new ways to enhance and maintain its parks, recreation facilities, trail systems and open spaces. The City has increased its park budget for the last three years in order to respond to community demand for improved park maintenance levels of service. Prudent financial management and use of volunteers will be necessary to maintain Sultan's park facilities in the future unless the voters approve a new funding source such as a maintenance and operations levy or the creation of a park district.

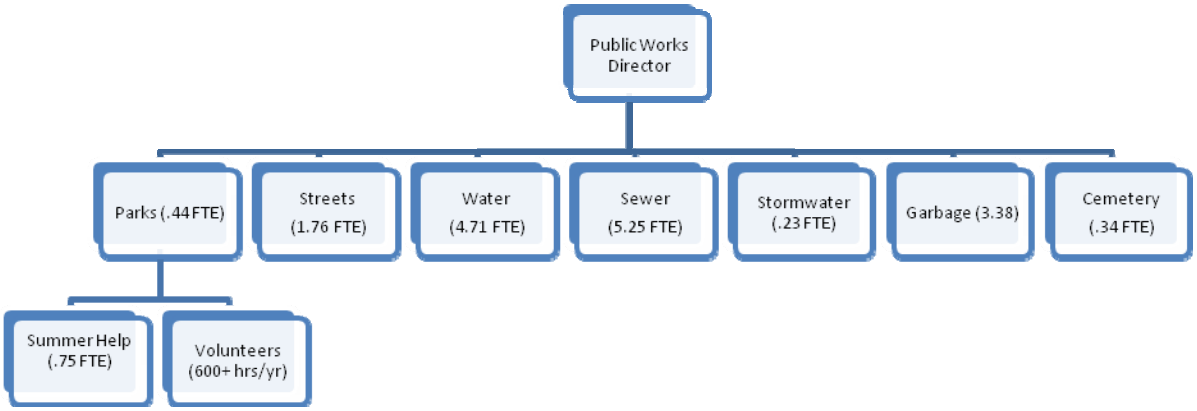
Table 9. Parks Budget 2008-2010

Parks Budget	2008	2009	2010
Salaries and Benefits	$8,050.70	$41,246.96	$41,406.72
Office and Operating Supplies	$3,758.88	$3,141.01	$3,816.00
Vehicle operating, maint., repair	$999.76	$582.39	$1,535.00
Professional Services	$-	$-	$30,750.00
Communication	$405.62	$593.51	$500.00
Travel and Training	$87.32	$18.39	$150.00
Rentals, Insurance and Utilities	$10,792.94	$3,248.12	$6,100.00
Total	$24,095.22	$48,830.38	$84,257.72

Current Parks Staffing Levels

The 2010 budget includes minimal staffing to maintain Sultan's parks: there is approximately .5 full-time equivalent (FTE) dedicated parks operation/maintenance staff from October to April. During the spring, summer and early fall (May-October), the city adds additional staff time for mowing parks and streetscapes. The city's adopt-a-park and park patrol programs are integral part of the city's long-range plan to maintain and operate the city's park facilities. Adopt a park volunteers pick up trash, remove and replace non-native invasive species, gravel trails, remove graffiti and perform other tasks not assigned to the public works department. Youth sports organizations offset the overall need for public works maintenance staff by helping take care of sports fields in Reese and Osprey Parks.

Figure 10. 2010 Public Works Staffing Levels



Park Maintenance Standards

The maintenance crew strives to keep the parks and open spaces in a well-kept condition free of safety hazards, but it is not directed by a formal set of standards tailored to the unique needs of the park system or land management objectives.

Public works staff should periodically survey the physical condition of the parks so that they can effectively and efficiently schedule routine maintenance projects. This allows maintenance needs to be detected and corrected before they become major problems, resulting in minimal disruptions in service and lower costs for repairs.

The city should institute a systematic maintenance program designed to evaluate the annual manpower, equipment, and supply needs for the park system and set a productive and efficient means of keeping the parks orderly:

- Identify the minimum, standard, and optimum levels of maintenance appropriate, including the labor, supply, and equipment costs involved.
- Develop specific daily, weekly and monthly maintenance routines sufficient to ensure at least the minimum level of maintenance.
- Prepare a Maintenance Plan for the park system, which could be used to justify future budget requests and ultimately lead to a more efficient and effective park delivery system. A maintenance plan defines maintenance objectives for each facility and area of every park.

Maintenance Plan

The objectives of a maintenance plan are measurable expectations for the quality of park care. For example, five categories could be designated: very high, high, moderate, low, and very low. Each category should specify guidelines for appropriateness of quality, aesthetic value, and safety issues. A maintenance plan also establishes maintenance standards as tools for achieving the objectives. Drawing upon the success and experience of existing maintenance staff, a set of standards should be formulated for each maintenance task:

- Time – How much time does it take to deliver the standard? Include estimates of frequency, such as once a week, twice monthly, etc.
- Personnel – How many people does it take to meet the standard?
- Equipment – What equipment is needed to complete the task to the standard prescribed?
- Materials – Are any materials needed?

The maintenance plan should be prepared by involving not only the maintenance personnel but also others, such as youth sports associations, who are also responsible for parts of various parks. The purpose of cooperative planning is to foster a shared understanding of what it takes to accomplish tasks and to coordinate decisions on what resources are needed. This will establish a comprehensive database available for an objective assessment of maintenance practices and how best to remedy park deficiencies. The maintenance plan should be revised as conditions change and better ways of accomplishing maintenance tasks are found. It will need to be updated as parks are expanded, new facilities are constructed, and public expectations shift.

Workload cost tracking should be used to translate how much money it costs to do certain things. Much of the data for this exercise can come from the maintenance plan database. A cost/benefit comparison model can reveal relationships between expenditures and everyday maintenance responsibilities, thereby serving as a tool for in-house maintenance decisions that allocate financial and staff resources in the best and most efficient manner.

The maintenance crew should develop an annual maintenance calendar for all recurring tasks done seasonally. A work order system should be established.

The city should consider utilizing contract labor through the county's work release program to perform some project level maintenance tasks.

Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation of parks involves major repairs or replacement of deteriorated or outdated facilities. It goes beyond the scope of normal maintenance and involves extensive and costly renovation work, sometimes to upgrade facilities to current standards. Rehabilitation is an important part of maintaining a safe, usable, park system.

Table 6 identifies $2.1 million in funding to replace or renovate existing facilities over the next 15 years. These projects are incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program in Section V.

The public works department should periodically survey the parks to identify major maintenance needs and special capital improvement projects. Annually, the public works director should tour the park

system to identify remedial maintenance measures that should be taken to keep the parks in good condition.

Safety Inspections

Inspections and loss control audits should be conducted to identify safety hazards and liability problems requiring corrective action. By regularly inspecting and maintaining parks and their facilities, the physical well-being of park visitors is enhanced, and municipal liability against personal and property damages is reduced. The loss control program through the city's insurance carrier, Cities Insurance Association of Washington (CIAW) can annually visit the city's parks and submit a risk management report for the facilities. A risk management program should be instituted for playground safety to insure compliance with ADA and CPSC (Consumer Product Safety Commission) requirements and guidelines.

To further prevent liability problems, all parks staff, especially maintenance personnel, should be properly trained to recognize, mitigate, and correct safety hazards at recreation areas and facilities. Training should be received both through attendance at seminars and formal instruction at maintenance management courses. Informal training also plays an important role in promoting the safe and proper use of equipment and machinery during the actual maintenance of parks, thereby reducing the likelihood of on-the-job injuries or equipment/facility damage.

Open Space

The public works department should properly protect and manage the resources of parks by dealing with issues like forest restoration, invasive plant control, water resources management, and wildlife habitat protection. Open space sites within the park system should not be ignored simply because they fail to

serve customers the way that parks do. The role of open space properties should be assessed and those that possess features worthy of some form of active land management practice rather than simply be left alone to grow wild should be identified

VI. GOALS AND POLICIES

A. ORGANIZATION OF GOALS AND POLICIES

The goals and objectives are based on an analysis of existing park, recreation, and open space conditions, and the result of workshop planning sessions and citizen surveys.

The Goals and Policies for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is divided into five (5) topic headings as follows:

1. Park and Recreation Resources
    - Coordination of public and private resources
    - Joint venture opportunities
    - Preservation
    - Design, maintenance, safety and access standards
2. Trails

3. Open Space
4. Recreation
5. Finance

B. PARKS GOALS AND POLICIES

Topic 1 General Park Policies

Develop a high quality, diversified park system that preserves significant environmental opportunity areas and features.

PK-1 Goal: Effectively manage park and recreation resources

Create effective and efficient methods of acquiring, developing, operating and maintaining facilities that accurately distribute costs and benefits to public and private interests.

PK-1.1 Coordinate public and private resources

Strive to create a comprehensive, balanced park and recreation system that integrates Sultan with Snohomish County, Sultan School District, Washington State Department of Wildlife, and other public and private park and recreational lands to provide a greater variety of recreational facilities to the Sultan community.

PK-1.2 Coordinate with the Sultan School District

When appropriate, initiate discussions with the Sultan School District about the possibility of entering into joint ventures for the development of combined school, playground, and athletic facilities.

PK-1.2.1 Consider joint development and maintenance of active play fields and playgrounds - provided the facilities are made available for public use.

PK-1.2.2 Support private, public and non-profit organizations in developing special meeting facilities, assembly facilities, health and other community facilities to support community needs.

PK 1.2.3 Where appropriate, initiate joint planning and operating programs with other public and private organizations to determine and provide for special activities on an area or region wide basis, such as off-road vehicle trails, camping and fishing facilities, boating, rock climbing and gun range facilities.

PK-1.3 Urban growth preserves and set-asides

Cooperate with the Snohomish County Department of Parks & Recreation, Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, and other public and private agencies, and with private landowners to set aside land and resources necessary to provide high quality, convenient park and recreation facilities before the most suitable sites are lost to development.

PK-1.3.1 Work to develop community park and neighborhood park sites on the plateau between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road north of U.S. 2– with access to the trail network and open spaces, and playground and picnic facilities for residents of new local housing areas, and recreational courts and fields for citywide resident use.

PK-1.4 Design, Maintenance and Safety Standards

Design/development standards:

PK-1.4.1 Emphasize user input in planning, design, development and maintenance of park and trail facilities.

PK-1.4.2 Work to design and develop facilities that are of low maintenance and high capacity design to reduce overall facility maintenance and operation requirements and costs.

Maintenance and Safety:

PK-1.4.3 Where appropriate, use low maintenance materials and settings to reduce maintenance and security requirements and retain natural conditions and experiences.

PK 1.4.4 Develop and implement safety standards, procedures, and programs that provide proper training and awareness for city staff charged with maintaining city park and recreation facilities.

PK 1.4.5 Where appropriate, develop adopt-a-park programs, neighborhood park watches, park police patrols, and other innovative programs that increase maintenance, safety and security awareness and visibility.

PK 1.4.6 Define and enforce rules and regulations concerning park activities and operations that protect user groups, city staff and the public.

PK 1.4.7 Seek opportunities to implement design and development standards to improve park facility safety and security.

PK-1.5 Accessibility Standards

Design park and recreational trails and facilities to be accessible to individuals and organized groups of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age, income, and activity interests.

Topic 2 Trail Policies

A trail is defined as a linear corridor, on land or water, with protected status and public access for recreation or transportation (excluding scenic byways and highways). This definition is adopted from Trails for All Americans, a report developed by the National Park Service and American Trails, a private, non-profit, broad-based trails coalition.

PK-2 Goal: Develop trail and corridor access systems

Strive to develop a comprehensive, high quality system of multipurpose recreation trails and corridors for recreational hikers and walkers, joggers, casual strollers, bicyclists, neighborhood residents, and equestrians that access significant environmental features, public facilities and developed urban neighborhoods.

Trail system

PK-2.1 Support community efforts to plan trail corridors and networks to gain adequate support for trail development, long-term maintenance, and protection.

PK-2.2 Emphasis should be given to connecting people to destinations such as neighborhoods, parks, water resources, schools, and work.

PK-2.3 When economical and feasible, link urban neighborhoods to city park and community facilities and to proposed trails connecting Sultan to other community and regional facilities.

PK-2.4 In general, develop a local on- and off-road hike and bike trail grid that provides flexible north-south and east-west access routes between the Sultan River valley, the plateau, and across U.S. 2, and to parks, schools, and employment centers.

PK-2.5 Recognize trail corridors as an important resource conservation mechanism and alternative transportation network.

PK-2.6 Extend trails through natural area corridors to provide a high quality, diverse sampling of Sultan's environmental resources – particularly along the Wallace, Sultan, and Skykomish Rivers, and Winters and Wagley Creekshorelines.

PK-2.7 In areas of the city with few trails, trail systems should be included as a development standard and as an integral part of the area's recreational development.

PK 2.8 Develop trail improvements to a design and development standard that is easy to maintain and accessible by maintenance, security and other appropriate personnel, equipment and vehicles.

Topic 3 Open Space Policies

PK-3 Goal: Preserve quality park resources

PK-3.1 Natural areas

Preserve and protect significant environmental features for park and open space use including wetlands, open spaces, woodlands, shorelines, waterfronts, and other characteristics that reflect Sultan's natural heritage.

PK-3.1.1 Encourage the preservation of unique site features or areas and provide public use and access in new land developments – particularly by linking the extensive wetlands on the plateau between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road north of U.S. 2.

PK-3.2 Manmade environments and features

Incorporate interesting manmade environments, structures, activities, and areas into the park system to preserve these features and provide a balanced park and recreation experience.

PK-3.2.1 Work with property and facility owners to increase public access and utilization of special features – including the shorelines, wetlands, and bluffs that meander through and between developed areas.

PK-3.3 Waterfront access and facilities

Cooperate with other public and private agencies to acquire and preserve additional waterfront access for recreational activities and pursuits.

PK-3.3.1 Seek opportunities to develop a mixture of watercraft access opportunities including canoe, kayak, rowboat, raft, and power boating.

Topic 4 Recreation Policies

PK-4 Goal: Develop quality recreational facilities

Develop a high quality, diversified recreation system that provides for all age and interest groups.

PK-4.1 Improve existing facilities– Enhance existing park sites and recreation facilities when financially feasible.

PK-4.2 Cultural features and interests

Incorporate historical and cultural lands, sites, artifacts, and facilities into the park system to preserve these interests and provide a balanced social experience.

PK-4.2.1 Work with historical and cultural groups to encourage community activities in parks and recreational facilities – including downtown promotional events.

PK-4.3 Athletic facilities

Support the development of athletic recreational facilities for all age groups and recreational interests.

PK-4.3.2 Develop, where appropriate, a select number of facilities that are oriented to multi-agency use, especially in conjunction with local public, private and non-profit organizations.

PK-4.4 Indoor facilities

Support the development of indoor community and recreational centers that provide for community activities, athletic uses, and select significant indoor activities for multi-agency use on a year-round basis.

Topic 5 Park Finance Policies

PK-5.1 Finance

Investigate new, innovative methods of financing facility development, maintenance and operating needs to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match user benefits and interests, and increase facility services.

PK-5.1.1 Consider joint ventures with the Snohomish County Department of Parks & Recreation, Sultan School District, Washington State Department of Wildlife, and other public and private agencies to fund facility development and maintenance where feasible and desirable.

PK-5.1.2 Work with the community to establish and fund the minimum level of service for park facilities and maintenance.

PK-5.1.3 Where practical and feasible use community volunteers to help maintain park and trail facilities to exceed minimum levels of service standards.

PK-5.2 Level of Service Standards

Define existing and proposed land and facility levels of service that differentiate requirements due to population growth versus improved facility standards, neighborhood versus community nexus of benefit, and other regional efforts in order to effectively plan and program park and recreation needs within existing city boundaries.

PK-5.2.1 Parks and Recreation Inventory

Update the inventory, surplus and/or deficiency of City park lands based on the official population estimates from the Washington State Office of Financial Management

PK 5.3 Impact Fees

Strive to create effective and efficient methods of acquiring, developing, operating, and maintaining park and recreational facilities in ways that accurately distribute costs and benefits to public and private users, including the application of adopted growth impact fees where new developments impact existing levels of service standards.

PK-5.3.1 Park/recreation impact assessment methodology

Employ a methodology for determining the facility impact of new development within the Sultan Urban Growth Area to include the city limits and any surrounding lands where the residents will depend on Sultan for park and recreation needs.

PK-5.3.2 Use a methodology for determining park impact fees that considers the potential facility impacts that will be caused by a proposed urban development project, and an equitable mitigation assessment that is in accordance with local park and recreation standards.

PK-5.3.3 Assess impact fees only for growth-related deficiencies, not existing deficiencies.

PK-5.3.4 Use a methodology for determining impact fees that defines a process by which the assessed fees can be allocated between agencies for the appropriate development and maintenance of local parks or conservation areas, active play recreational facilities or trails as each of these facilities may be sponsored on the behalf of Sultan residents.

C. PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Effectively manage park and recreation resources

Develop a high quality, diversified park system that preserves significant environmental opportunity areas and features.

Objectives

1.1. *Develop community and neighborhood parks sites.* Work to develop neighborhood and community park sites on the plateau between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road north of U.S. 2.

1.2. *Coordinate Public and Private Resources*: Initiate joint planning and operating programs with the Sultan School District, Snohomish County Parks, and the Washington State Parks Department. Consider joint development and maintenance of active and passive recreation resources.

1.2.1. Work with Snohomish County to develop a new recreation park across the Skykomish River, outside the City's UGA boundary.

1.2.2. Work with Snohomish County to develop a regional shooting range north of Sultan near the former Olney Creek Campground.

1.2.3. Work with the Department of Natural Resources to develop Reiter Foothills Recreation area as a destination off-road vehicle park.

1.3. *Urban growth preserves and set-asides:* Cooperate with the Snohomish County Department of Parks & Recreation, Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, and other public and private agencies, and with private landowners to set-aside land and resources necessary to provide high quality, convenient park and recreational facilities before the most suitable sites are lost to development.

1.4. *Design/development standards:* Design and develop facilities that are of low maintenance and high capacity design to reduce overall facility maintenance and operation requirements and costs. Use low maintenance materials, settings or other value engineering considerations that reduce care requirements and retain natural conditions and experiences.

1.5. *Maintenance and Safety:* Evaluate current park properties. Seek opportunities to lower maintenance costs.

1.5.1. Develop adopt-a-park programs, neighborhood park watches, park police patrols, and other innovative programs that increase maintenance, safety and security awareness and visibility.

1.5.2. Define and enforce rules and regulations concerning park activities and operations that protect user groups, city staff and the public.

1.5.3. Establish and fund the minimum level of service for park facilities and maintenance.

1.6. *Accessibility:* Design park facilities to be accessible to individuals and organized groups of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age, income, and activity interests.

Goal 2: Develop trail and corridor access systems

Develop a high quality system of multipurpose park trails and corridors that access significant environmental features, public facilities and developed urban neighborhoods.

Objectives

2.1 Create a comprehensive system of multipurpose trails providing for recreational hikers and walkers, joggers, casual strollers, bicyclists, neighborhood residents, and equestrians.

2.2 Link urban neighborhoods to park and community facilities, and with proposed trails to other community and regional facilities.

2.3 Extend trails through natural area corridors that will provide a high quality, diverse sampling of Sultan's environmental resources – particularly along the Wallace, Sultan, and Skykomish Rivers, and Winters and Wagley's Creeks shorelines.

2.4 Increase natural area and open space preservations within Sultan's developed urban area, particularly along shorelines, steep hillsides, wetlands, stream corridors, and major roads that link neighborhoods and facilities.

Goal 3 : Preserve Quality Open Space Resources

Objectives

3.1 *Cultural features and interests:* Incorporate historical and cultural lands, sites, artifacts, and facilities into the park system to preserve these interests and provide a balanced social experience. Work with historical and cultural groups to incorporate community activities into the park and recreational program – including downtown promotional events.

3.2 *Manmade environments and features*: Incorporate interesting manmade environments, structures, activities, and areas into the park system to preserve these features and provide a balanced park and recreation experience. Work with property and facility owners to increase public access and utilization of these special features – including the shorelines, wetlands, and bluffs that meander through and between developed areas.

3.3 Work with property owners to increase public access and use of special features.

3.4 *Waterfront*: Develop a mixture of watercraft access opportunities on the Sultan and Skykomish Rivers including canoe, kayak, rowboat and power boating.

Goal 4: Develop quality recreational facilities

Develop a high quality, diversified recreation system that provides for all age and interest groups.

Objectives

4.1 *Athletic facilities:* Development of the community park will focus on developing athletic and sports fields to serve young families. At this time, it anticipates that future community park development will be exclusively for outdoor activities due to the capital costs of indoor facilities.

Goal 5: Park Financial Policies

Investigate new, innovative methods of financing facility development, maintenance and operating needs to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match user benefits and interests, and increase facility services.

Objectives

5.1 Use a methodology for determining park impact fees that considers the potential facility impacts that will be caused by a proposed urban development project, and an equitable mitigation assessment that is in accordance with local park and recreation standards.

5.1.1 Assess impact fees only for growth-related deficiencies, not existing deficiencies.

5.1.2 Use a methodology for determining impact fees that defines a process by which the assessed fees can be allocated between agencies for the appropriate development and maintenance of local parks or conservation areas, active play recreational facilities or trails as each of these facilities may be sponsored on the behalf of Sultan residents.

5.2 Ask voters to decide whether to increase property taxes by a levy rate that exceeds the statutory cap in order to fund park maintenance and operations. Levy funds can be used to acquire properties to preserve natural areas throughout the city; protect water quality in lakes

and streams; enhance existing parks; improve trails, sportsfields, and neighborhood parks; and maintain park improvements consistent with city Parks standards.

5.3 Consider establishing a voter approved metropolitan park district to support local and regional park facilities.

APPENDIX A

RECREATION SURVEY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

City of Sultan

PO BOX 1199
Sultan, WA 98294
319 Main Street, Suite 200

Phone: 360-793-2231
Fax: 360-793-3344
Webpage: www.ci.sultan.wa.us

For more information contact Connie Dunn at 360-793-2231

TAKE THE SULTAN PARKS SURVEY

www.ci.sultan.wa.us

Parks are special places – green oases in our cities. They are places where we escape the hustle and bustle of daily life, exercise, watch wildlife or simply relax.

As part of the Sultan's effort to update its Park and Recreation Open Space Plan, the city wants to know what you think about Sultan parks and green-spaces. Is it a wildlife haven or a waste ground? Do you love it or loathe it? Is it litter-strewn or is it litter free?

The city has an ONLINE SURVEY on the city's website at www.ci.sultan.wa.us under recent web updates and important links in the middle of the home page.

The city is especially seeking input from young people and families who will be the city's future.

Contact Public Works Director, Connie Dunn at 360-793-2231 or connie.dunn@ci.sultan.wa.us for more information about the park survey and the Park and Recreation Open Space Plan.

CITY OF **SULTAN**
WASHINGTON

COMPREHENSIVE PARK AND RECREATION OPEN SPACE PLAN UPDATE

Which of the following describes how often you personally visited any of Sultan's parks or recreational facilities during the last year.

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ More often than once a week but not every day
- ☐ Daily

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

- ☐ No time, too busy
- ☐ Do not go out, not an outdoor person
- ☐ Health and Age restrictions
- ☐ Poor Accessibility
- ☐ Use parks outside of Sultan
- ☐ Other – please describe

Which of the City parks do you visit most often?

- ☐ Roadside
- ☐ Garden
- ☐ Reese
- ☐ River
- ☐ Water Treatment
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ 2nd and Alder
- ☐ Osprey
- ☐ Sportsman

During which season do you typically visit Sultan parks?

- ☐ Summer
- ☐ Fall
- ☐ Winter
- ☐ Spring

Which days of the week do you typically visit Sultan parks?

- ☐ Weekdays
- ☐ Weekends

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

	too few	too many	just the right amount
Passive Recreation (walking trails, open space):	☐	☐	☐
Active Recreation (sports courts/fields, multi-use trails): Picnic Facilities:	☐	☐	☐
Boat Launches/River Access:	☐	☐	☐
Wetland/Wildlife Habitat reserves:	☐	☐	☐

- Other – please identify: _____

_____

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

	always	often	some-times	never
Walking:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Hiking:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Taking a child to a play-ground:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Exercising your dog at a park:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bicycling:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Picnicking:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Playing or watching baseball /softball:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Playing or watching soccer:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Skateboarding:	☐	☐	☐	☐
Off Road Vehicle use:	☐	☐	☐	☐

- Other – please identify: _____

_____

Do you believe it is very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant or very unimportant for the City to undertake the following tasks over the next few years.

	very important	somewhat important	somewhat unimportant	very unimportant
Acquire additional land for parks/recreational facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐
Acquire additional land to protect open space and natural resources	☐	☐	☐	☐
Increase resources for park maintenance	☐	☐	☐	☐
Increase outreach and education about city parks and open space lands to young people	☐	☐	☐	☐
Provide more volunteer opportunities to help take care of parks and open space	☐	☐	☐	☐
Provide diverse recreational opportunities for all ages and levels of ability	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improve public access and parking to existing parks and recreational facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐
Provide more interconnected multi-use trail networks throughout the city	☐	☐	☐	☐

Would you like more small parks (tot lots) dispersed throughout Sultan's residential neighborhoods?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you think it's the City's responsibility, the developer's responsibility, or the responsibility of both to pay for new parks and associated maintenance?

☐ City's responsibility
☐ Developer's responsibility
☐ Both

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

☐ Walk/Jog ☐ Drive ☐ Bicycle ☐ Wheelchair

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

☐ Improve maintenance
☐ Improve existing park facilities
☐ Improve or add programs & special events
☐ Improve public safety
☐ Improve access
☐ Address dog owner's needs
☐ Improve dog control
☐ More active facilities (sports-oriented)
☐ More passive facilities (relaxation-oriented)
☐ More trails/paths
☐ No change needed
☐ Other

- What is your age? _____
- What is your gender? ☐ F ☐ M
- How many years have you lived in Sultan? _____
- How many members are in your household (including yourself)? _____

How to return your Questionnaire:

Mail: _____

_____

_____

Fax: _____

In Person: _____

Or go on-line and complete/submit the questionnaire (**www.ci.sultan.wa**)

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.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

1. Which of the following describes how often you personally visited any of Sultan's parks during the last year.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Never	10.5%	24
Once a year	25.0%	57
Once a month	**36.0%**	**82**
Once a week	15.4%	35
More often than once a week, but not every day	11.0%	25
Daily	2.2%	5
	answered question	**228**
	skipped question	**6**

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

	Response Percent	Response Count
No time, too busy	**61.6%**	**101**
Do not go out, not an outdoor person	5.5%	9
Health and age restrictions	2.4%	4
Poor accessibility	4.9%	8
Use parks outside of Sultan	25.6%	42
Other (please specify)		71
	answered question	**164**
	skipped question	**70**

3. Which of the following Sultan parks and open spaces do you visit most often?		Response Percent	Response Count
Cemetery		1.4%	3
Garden		0.5%	1
Osprey		**65.4%**	**138**
Reese		7.6%	16
River		13.7%	29
Roadside		1.9%	4
Skatepark		3.8%	8
Sportsman		5.7%	12
		answered question	**211**
		skipped question	**23**

4. During which season do you typically visit Sultan parks?		Response Percent	Response Count
Summer		**82.2%**	**176**
Fall		4.2%	9
Winter		2.3%	5
Spring		11.2%	24
		answered question	**214**
		skipped question	**20**

5. Which days of the week do you typically visit Sultan parks?		
	Response Percent	**Response Count**
Weekdays	44.1%	94
Weekends	**55.9%**	**119**
	answered question	**213**
	skipped question	**21**

6. 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.					
	Too Few	**Just the Right Amount**	**Too Many**	**Rating Average**	**Response Count**
Passive Recreation (walking trails, open space)	**61.5% (131)**	37.1% (79)	1.4% (3)	1.00	213
Active Recreation (sports courts/fields, multi-use trails)	**68.2% (144)**	30.8% (65)	0.9% (2)	1.00	211
Picnic Facilities	**61.4% (127)**	37.7% (78)	1.0% (2)	1.00	207
Boat Launches/River Access	**50.0% (102)**	44.1% (90)	5.9% (12)	1.00	204
Wetland/Wildlife Habitat Reserves	**48.0% (96)**	41.0% (82)	11.0% (22)	1.00	200
				Other (please specify)	40
				answered question	**218**
				skipped question	**16**

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

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Rating Average	Response Count
Walking	**41.5% (93)**	37.9% (85)	19.2% (43)	1.3% (3)	1.00	224
Hiking	18.0% (40)	31.1% (69)	**38.3% (85)**	12.6% (28)	1.00	222
Taking a child to a play-ground	11.9% (26)	18.3% (40)	34.4% (75)	**35.3% (77)**	1.00	218
Exercising your dog at a park	8.2% (18)	19.2% (42)	21.0% (46)	**51.6% (113)**	1.00	219
Bicycling	11.0% (24)	20.6% (45)	**39.0% (85)**	29.4% (64)	1.00	218
Picknicking	6.0% (13)	14.4% (31)	**46.5% (100)**	33.0% (71)	1.00	215
Playing or watching baseball/softball	9.6% (21)	16.5% (36)	33.5% (73)	**40.4% (88)**	1.00	218
Playing or watching soccer	12.3% (27)	18.7% (41)	**38.8% (85)**	30.1% (66)	1.00	219
Skateboarding	6.0% (13)	4.2% (9)	12.0% (26)	**77.8% (168)**	1.00	216
Off Road vehicle use	9.9% (21)	7.0% (15)	13.6% (29)	**69.5% (148)**	1.00	213
					Other (please specify)	18
					answered question	**228**
					skipped question	**6**

8. Do you believe it is very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant or very unimportant for the City to undertake the following tasks over the next few years.

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant	Rating Average	Response Count
Acquire land for parks/recreational facilities	**45.7% (96)**	41.0% (86)	9.0% (19)	4.3% (9)	1.00	210
Acquire land to protect open space and naturalresources	**40.9% (85)**	39.9% (83)	13.9% (29)	5.3% (11)	1.00	208
Increase resources for park maintenance	**61.2% (126)**	30.6% (63)	5.3% (11)	2.9% (6)	1.00	206
Increase education about parks & open space to young people	**43.8% (91)**	31.7% (66)	21.6% (45)	2.9% (6)	1.00	208
Increase parks & open space volunteer opportunities	**47.6% (99)**	34.6% (72)	13.9% (29)	3.8% (8)	1.00	208
Diverse recreational options for all ages & ability levels	**59.1% (123)**	32.7% (68)	6.3% (13)	1.9% (4)	1.00	208
Improve public access & parking to parks and rec facilities	**44.5% (93)**	36.4% (76)	13.9% (29)	5.3% (11)	1.00	209
Provide more multi-use trail networks throughout Sultan	**56.5% (118)**	33.0% (69)	7.7% (16)	2.9% (6)	1.00	209
					answered question	**216**
					skipped question	**18**

9. Would you like more small parks (tot lots) dispersed throughout Sultan's residential neighborhoods?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		**58.0%**	**123**
No		42.0%	89
		answered question	**212**
		skipped question	**22**

10. Do you think it's the City's responsibility, the developer's responsibility, or the responsibility of both to pay for new parks and associated maintenance?

	Response Percent	Response Count
City's Responsibility	13.6%	29
Developer's Responsibility	6.1%	13
Both	**80.3%**	**171**
	answered question	**213**
	skipped question	**21**

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

	Response Percent	Response Count
Walk/Jog	40.8%	84
Drive	**48.5%**	**100**
Bicycle	9.7%	20
Wheelchair	1.0%	2
Other (please specify)		24
	answered question	**206**
	skipped question	**28**

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

	Response Percent	Response Count
Improve maintenance	**59.4%**	**123**
Improve existing park facilities	56.5%	117
Improve or add programs & special events	31.4%	65
Improve public safety	37.2%	77
Improve access	17.4%	36
Address dog owner's needs	19.8%	41
Improve dog control	17.4%	36
More active facilities (sports oriented)	41.1%	85
More passive facilities (relaxation oriented)	20.3%	42
More trails/paths	56.5%	117
No change needed	3.4%	7
Other (please specify)		21
answered question		**207**
skipped question		**27**

13. There is a proposal to develop a new park in the north-east part of Sultan. The park would include sports fields, trails, picnic facilities and open space. Construction would be funded by an increase in property taxes in the City of Sultan of fifteen cents per one thousand dollars of assessed property value, which is $40 a year for the average homeowner in Sultan. In general, do you favor or oppose this proposal?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Favor	**32.1%**	**42**
Favor	26.7%	35
Somewhat Favor	20.6%	27
Somewhat Oppose	9.9%	13
Oppose	3.1%	4
Strongly Oppose	7.6%	10
	answered question	**131**
	skipped question	**103**

14. With five (5) being the most important, and one (1) being the least important, please rank how important the following park amenities are to you.

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Active Recreation	6.9% (9)	9.2% (12)	21.4% (28)	25.2% (33)	**37.4% (49)**	1.00	131
Passive Recreation	9.9% (13)	13.0% (17)	27.5% (36)	**33.6% (44)**	16.0% (21)	1.00	131
Open Space/Natural Reserves	12.9% (17)	15.9% (21)	25.0% (33)	19.7% (26)	**26.5% (35)**	1.00	132
Picnic Facilities	11.3% (15)	15.8% (21)	**33.8% (45)**	25.6% (34)	13.5% (18)	1.00	133
Indoor Public Facilities	10.6% (14)	12.9% (17)	**28.0% (37)**	27.3% (36)	21.2% (28)	1.00	132
Dog-friendly Parks	14.5% (19)	20.6% (27)	**27.5% (36)**	16.8% (22)	20.6% (27)	1.00	131
Trails & Paths	9.8% (13)	8.3% (11)	12.8% (17)	21.8% (29)	**47.4% (63)**	1.00	133
						answered question	**134**
						skipped question	**100**

15. With five (5) being the most important, and one (1) being the least important, please rank how important the following park and recreation characteristics are to you.

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Access	9.4% (12)	8.6% (11)	**30.5% (39)**	28.9% (37)	22.7% (29)	1.00	128
Parking	17.4% (23)	18.2% (24)	**31.1% (41)**	18.9% (25)	14.4% (19)	1.00	132
Small Parks (tot lots)	28.0% (37)	20.5% (27)	**28.8% (38)**	15.2% (20)	7.6% (10)	1.00	132
Large Parks	9.2% (12)	4.6% (6)	22.3% (29)	28.5% (37)	**35.4% (46)**	1.00	130
Park Maintenance	12.1% (16)	4.5% (6)	6.8% (9)	24.2% (32)	**52.3% (69)**	1.00	132
Park Safety	9.3% (12)	6.2% (8)	11.6% (15)	24.8% (32)	**48.1% (62)**	1.00	129
						answered question	**133**
						skipped question	**101**

16. 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 Count
		70
	answered question	**70**
	skipped question	**164**

17. What is your age?		Response Percent	Response Count
0-15		14.2%	30
16-30		**42.2%**	**89**
31-50		23.2%	49
51-70		17.1%	36
71 and above		3.3%	7
	answered question		**211**
	skipped question		**23**

18. What is your gender?		Response Percent	Response Count
Female		**57.2%**	**123**
Male		42.8%	92
	answered question		**215**
	skipped question		**19**

19. How many years have you lived in Sultan?		Response Percent	Response Count
0-2 yrs.		12.6%	25
2-5 yrs.		18.1%	36
5-10 yrs.		24.6%	49
10-20 yrs.		**33.2%**	**66**
20+ yrs.		11.6%	23
		answered question	**199**
		skipped question	**35**

20. How many members are in your household (including yourself)?		Response Percent	Response Count
1		6.1%	13
2		14.2%	30
3		21.2%	45
4		**30.7%**	**65**
5+		27.8%	59
		answered question	**212**
		skipped question	**22**

APPENDIX B

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATIONS OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

City of Sultan

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

The City of Sultan has conducted an Environmental Review of the following project:

File Name & Number: 2010 City of Sultan Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan; DNS 10-004

Location: The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan applies to the entire City of Sultan.

Project Description: The proposed non-project action is the adoption of the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan that will guide the City's future parks, recreation and open space operations, maintenance and development activities. The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is Sultan's 20-year functional plan, describing the strategies and policies that would implement the City's Comprehensive Plan – Parks Element.

Proponent: The City of Sultan

Lead Agency: City of Sultan
319 Main Street
P.O. Box 1199
Sultan, WA 98294-1199

Responsible Official: Robert Martin, Community Development Director

The City of Sultan has determined that this proposal does not have probable significant adverse impacts on the environment. Adoption of the PROS Plan is a non-project action that is in support of the development of the City of Sultan 2011 Growth Management Act Comprehensive Plan. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.031. This decision was made after review of a completed Environmental Checklist and other information on file with the City of Sultan. This information is available to the public on request.

Comments: Written comments may be submitted to the City of Sultan at the address above prior to 5:00 pm on October 7, 2010. A 14-day comment period is applicable to this DNS as provided by WAC 197-11-340 (2) (a) (v). Unless alternative action is taken by the Lead Agency, this DNS shall become final at the end of the comment period.

Appeal: Any interested person may appeal this threshold determination in accordance with SMC 17.04.240. Appeals must be received within 14-days of the end of the comment period (by 5 p.m. October 21, 2010). You should be prepared to make specific factual objections.

For more information contact the City at (360) 793-2231.

Signature: Robert C Martin Date: 9/23/10

Date of Issuance: September 24, 2010

APPENDIX C

SEPA CHECKLIST

2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

This is non-project action – 2010 City of Sultan Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

2. Name of applicant:

City of Sultan
Attn.: Deborah Knight

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

PO Box 1199
319 Main Street
Sultan, WA 98294-1199
360-793-1164 (phone)

4. Date checklist prepared: September 13, 2010

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Sultan, WA

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Preparation of 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan and submittal to City Council: November 2010

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

City of Sultan, Comprehensive Plan Environmental Impact Statement (2004 and 2008)
City of Sultan, SEPA DNS for the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, 2010

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

No. This is non-project action.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan 2004 to be adopted by reference in the 2010 Sultan Comprehensive Plan Update as a City of Sultan Resolution.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the site of the project. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The proposed non-project action is the adoption of the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan that will guide the City's future parks, recreation and open space operations, maintenance and development activities. The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is Sultan's 20-year functional plan, describing the strategies and policies that would implement the City's Comprehensive Plan - Parks Element.

This is a programmatic-level SEPA checklist review analyzing potential environmental impacts of a non-project action.

The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan itself will not cause impacts to the environment; some of the future actions identified in the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan may cause environmental impacts. Future project actions will be evaluated for environmental impacts separately, subject to SEPA requirements.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan applies to the entire City of Sultan.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan applies to the entire city of Sultan. Topography varies from flat to rolling hills including steep slopes in some areas.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

The city of Sultan has a variety of steep slopes. There is no specific project site.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

The City of Sultan has a variety of soil types, mostly glacial in nature.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

When specific projects, or plan updates, are ready for implementation, analysis of soils type will be conducted during the specific environmental review.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Filling and grading may be required for the completion of projects listed in the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. When specific projects, or plan updates, are ready for implementation filling and grading requirements will be evaluated.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Erosion could occur as a result of clearing, construction or use for projects associated with this plan update. Erosion will be evaluated when specific projects or plan updates are ready for implementation.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

Impervious surface calculations will be prepared when specific projects are ready for implementation during the project-specific environmental review.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

When projects are ready for implementation, they will follow City of Sultan development guidelines.

2. Air

a. What type of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

None.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal?
If so, generally describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

None.

3. Water

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

The city of Sultan contains numerous bodies of water among them several creeks and the Sultan and Skykomish rivers.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Projects associated with the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan 2004 may require work adjacent to waters described above. When projects are ready for implementation they will be designed to meet the City's development codes with respect to stormwater.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

N/A

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

N/A.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

Portions of existing parks are within the 100-year floodplain. No project impacts are planned within the floodplain associated with this non-project work.

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No.

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals ...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

N/A.

c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

When specific projects or plan updates, are evaluated specific SEPA review will be prepared.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No. When specific projects or plan updates, or projects, are evaluated specific SEPA review will be prepared.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, or runoff water impacts, if any:

Projects associated with the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan 2004 will follow the City of Sultan development guidelines.

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:
__ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
__ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
__ shrubs, __ grass, __ pasture, __ crop or grain
__ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
__ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
__ other types of vegetation

There are a number of vegetation types within the city of Sultan boundaries.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

N/A

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

N/A

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

N/A

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
_____
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
_____
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:
_____

There is no specific project site. Many bird, fish and animal species, including salmon, live within the City's boundaries.

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Chinook salmon, bull trout, bald eagles are present in or near the city of Sultan. Impacts to threatened or endangered species will be evaluated when projects or plan updates are implemented.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Portions of the City of Sultan serve as migration corridor for birds and fish such as the Skykomish River.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

This project is a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan that will result in the creation and maintenance of new protected Open Space and habitat areas.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

N/A.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

N/A.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

N/A.

7. Environmental Health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

No.

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment operation, other)?

Noise exists through the City. Specific noise impacts of implementing actions of the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, if any, will be considered in the project-level environmental review.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from site.

N/A.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The City of Sultan contains many land uses.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

See above.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

The City of Sultan contains many different structures.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

Specific projects that implement the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan could include demolishing structures. Environmental review will be completed when the specific projects are identified.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

The City of Sultan contains many zoning classifications.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan 2004 is intended as functional plan to implement the Parks Element of the Comprehensive Plan Update 2010.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

The City of Sultan has several shoreline designations within the boundaries.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

The City of Sultan contains areas that are designated as “environmentally critical sensitive areas”. They are located through out the city and include some existing City owned parks areas.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

The city of Sultan has a population of 4,555 (2010). The Plan projects future needs for a 2025 population of 11,119.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

N/A.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and project land uses and plans, if any:

The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update is consistent with the City of Sultan Comprehensive Plan Update 2010.

9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

N/A.

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

There are no proposed structures associated with this non-project action.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

N/A.

11. Light and Glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

N/A. This would be evaluated during the project-level environmental review when the specific transportation projects are identified.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

See above.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

See above.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

See above.

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

The City of Sultan has many designated and informal recreational opportunities within the boundaries. The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan identifies these opportunities and projects needs for recreational opportunities through the year 2025.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

None. This Plan will result in the enhancement of recreational opportunities.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

The City of Sultan has places and objects listed on national, state, or local preservation registers.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

The City of Sultan has landmarks or historic, archeological, scientific, cultural importance within the boundaries.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

To the extent that specific projects that implement the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan can reduce or control impacts to historic and cultural preservation, environmental review and the appropriate mitigation measures, will be analyzed when the specific-project level environmental review is prepared.

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe the proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan affects the entire city's parks system.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

Some of the park and recreational areas within the City of Sultan are accessed by bus transit.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

The appropriate project-level environmental review will be completed when the specific parking projects and programs are identified.

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

N/A.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

N/A.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any.

N/A.

15. Public Services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

To the extent that specific projects implemented in the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan result in an increased need for public services, then environmental review will be conducted once more information is available about the specific projects.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.
See above.

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

There are a number of utilities currently available in the City of Sultan.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in immediate vicinity which might be needed.

To the extent that specific projects implemented in the 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan use utilities, then environmental review will be conducted at the time when more information is available about the specific projects.

C. Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:_____

Date submitted:_____

This checklist was prepared by:

Emily Terrell, Pacific Municipal Consultants for City of Sultan, WA

SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS
Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.
When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

There should be no increase associated with the proposal.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

None. Specific implementing projects will require individual environmental review.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

By preserving open space and habitat, the proposal will have a beneficial impact on plants, fish and animals.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

No impact.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

The proposal will result in a beneficial affect on environmentally sensitive areas and areas designated for governmental protection.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan will have a beneficial affect on land and shoreline use by providing protection for these areas.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

There will be no effect for existing parks. A new Community Park is proposed concurrent with expected development within the City and its urban growth area. There may be increased vehicle trips to the new park.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

The 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is **consistent** with the City of Sultan Comprehensive Plan Update 2008 and will be referenced in the 2010 Update of the Comprehensive Plan.

Attachments: 2010 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities

~~Existing Facilities~~

~~The City reviewed its parks inventory as part of this 2008 Plan revision. Several changes have been made in response to Growth Management Hearing Board directives. Some parks were reclassified (e.g. from community park to neighborhood park) to better reflect their function in the community. Acreages were adjusted to reflect how much of a parcel is actually used for park or recreational purposes. Finally, the focus of the Parks Element was shifted to include only City-owned facilities. While the City will continue to partner with the Sultan School District and others to provide various types of recreation opportunities, the City feels that Level of Service and capital facility standards should apply to those facilities under its direct control.~~

~~Park and recreation facilities owned and operated by the City of Sultan total 142 acres.~~

~~*Roadside Park:* 1.5 acre City Park located on the south side of US-2 west of 10th Street in the 800 block with a gazebo, picnic shed and tables.~~

~~*Garden Park*: A one-acre landscaped area west of Roadside Park, north of US-2.~~

~~*Reese Park*: 32.0 acre park located on the west side of the Sultan River at 216 Old Owen Road with a baseball/soccer field, 2 picnic shelters, 1 restroom facility, and primitive trails to the river edge.~~

~~*River Park*: 6.0 acre park located on the east shore of the Sultan River at the south end of 1st Street and Main Street with a pavilion and picnic facility. The annual community festival with logging competitions and other activities is conducted in the park.~~

~~*Water Treatment Plan site:* This site is located along a private drive accessing 124st. S.E. , a mile west of Sultan Basin Road. The site is 35 acres in size, but is completely fenced and on steep terrain. It is assumed that perhaps five acres could be usable for passive recreation use.~~

Table P- 1
City Owned Park Facilities
2004 and 2008

	2004	2008
City Owned or Operated Facilities		
Mini Parks	**2.50 ac**	**2.50 ac**
Roadside Park	1.50	1.50
Garden Park	1.00	1.00
Neighborhood	**40.01 ac**	**45.11 ac**
Water Treatment Plant		5.00
Cemetery Park	1.50	1.50
2nd and Alder	0.33	0.33
Skate Board Park		0.28
5th and Date	0.18	
Community Park	**0.00 ac**	**5.00 ac**
Osprey Park		5.00
Regional Park	**94.00 ac**	**89.41 ac**
Osprey Park	90.00	85.41
Sportsman Park	4.00	4.00
Total	**136.51 ac**	**142.02 ac**

DELETE TABLE AND REPLACE

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities

~~Figure P-1~~
~~**City of Sultan Parks and Open Spaces**~~

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities

~~*Cemetery Park*: 1.5 acres of undeveloped property in the Sultan Cemetery located on the north bank of the Wallace River at 32901 Cascade View Drive that has been improved with a multipurpose baseball and soccer field. The field will eventually revert to cemetery use when plot demands require.~~

~~*2nd and Alder Streets*: A vacant 0.33 acre parcel acquired by the City for "repetitive flood loss reduction".~~

Table P- 2
Non-City Facilities

Baseball/Softball Fields Total	**4 fields**
Sultan Elementary School	1
Sultan Middle School	1
Sultan High School	2
Soccer Fields	**0**
Sports Courts	**1 court**
Sultan Elementary School	1
Tennis Courts	**0**
Indoor Pools	**0**
Outdoor Pools	**0**
Recreational Centers	**1**
Community Center	15,190 sf

DELETE TABLE AND REPLACE

~~*Osprey Park:* A 90..41 acre park located on the east shore of the Sultan River at 801 1st Street. 5.0 acres have been developed with a multipurpose baseball, football, soccer field and 0.5 mile trail to the river edge. The remaining 85.0 acres preserve wetlands and woodlands that provide wildlife habitat along the river and tributary creek. A war memorial is planned in the park.~~

~~*Sportsman's Park:* A 4.0 acre park located on the west shore of the Sultan River on US-2 and Albion Street with a boat launch, gazebo, picnic shelter, tables, and river fishing access. The park is maintained by the city. The park includes the Skykomish River Boat Launch located on the north side of the river with access from US-2.~~

~~As part of its capital facilities planning, the City will focus on the future need for Neighborhood and Community parks only. City-owned mini-parks are considered more of an aesthetic feature along U.S. 2, rather than active recreation space. So-called *tot lots* are considered a component of the City's subdivision and planned unit development regulations and will, for the most part, be privately owned. Regional parks, while supported by the City, will be developed by the State or County within the larger Skykomish Valley area.~~

~~While not a part of the City-owned inventory, there are several other facilities in Sultan serving the recreation needs of the community. These are listed on Table P-2. These facilities are not considered part of the capital facilities inventory of the City.~~

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities

~~The City also owns the High Street Trail, an asphalt multipurpose trail developed from the east end of High Street for evacuation of schools in case of flood or dam emergencies. Under future plans, an on/off-road bike and hike trail will be developed to provide an east-west trail (and emergency evacuation route) extension of the existing High Street Trail from Osprey Park and 1st Street past the Middle and High Schools along the edge of the plateau to the employment centers at Rice Road and US-2. Other than the High Street Trail there are no off-road multipurpose trails within the city or urban growth area at the present time except for a few short, informal footpaths through vacant properties, school grounds, and open spaces. As discussed below, future initiatives are planned.~~

~~LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS~~

~~Levels of service (LOS) measures the extent to which existing parks, open space and recreation facilities are serving the existing community and what types of future facilities should be provided to meet future growth needs. The most recognized standards for Parks and Recreation are published by the National Recreational and Parks Association (NRPA). For parks, LOS is expressed in terms of acres per 1000 population.~~

~~*As with other non-transportation capital facilities, the Growth Management Act does not require adopting a level of service for parks and recreation. Even so, the City has developed standards for use in its past capital planning efforts and has an adopted LOS policy:*~~

> ~~*"Level of Service: Strive to maintain a Level of Service (LOS) in excess of the national and state standards. Ensure that the minimum LOS for parks meets or exceeds the NRPA standard"*~~
>
> ~~*- Comprehensive Plan Policy 7.1.1*~~

~~CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS~~

~~The City of Sultan has used a "Foundation Level of Service (FLOS)" standard based on what parks were available in 2004 and how they were classified when the Comprehensive Plan was adopted. Sultan's city code[1] adopts a FLOS standard "as set forth in the city of Sultan comprehensive plan."~~

~~The formula for calculating FLOS is:~~

~~*Current park acres ÷ Current Population = acres/person FLOS*~~

~~The 1994 Plan established the FLOS at 42.6 acres per 1000 residents[2] based on "active" and "open space/passive" uses inventories at the time. Not all open~~

~~[1] SMC 16.108.130~~

~~[2] Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B~~

~~space was included, only City-owned and accessible open space. This standard was continued in the 2004 Plan update.~~

~~The FLOS approach attempts to maintain the inventory of parks and open space at historic ratios as the population grows. This presents significant capital cost issues as the population grows to 11,000 in 2025 and far exceeds standards set by other communities. Table P-3 illustrates this point.~~

~~In 2004, the population of the City was 3,814 according to the Plan. The resulting FLOS ratio is shown in Column "d" on Table P-3 based on the revised classification of park lands (Table P-1 and Column "b"). Although the population figure does not include the entire UGA, it is used as for the current FLOS calculation for consistency purposes. Unless and until the 2004 Plan is revised, the LOS standard for the City remains 42.6 ac./1000.~~

~~FLOS is significantly higher that accepted national standards. Maintaining this standard will require significant land acquisition. As part of this Plan revision, the Foundation Level of Service approach will be replaced by a more conventional NRPA-based standard. This will significantly reduce future capital costs and will compare favorably with what other Growth Management communities are doing.~~

Table P-3
Park Level of Service

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Park Type	**2004 Facilities**	**NRPA LOS (Per 1000 Pop)**	**Sultan FLOS 2004**	**Added Need for Current 2004**	**Added Need for 2025 Population (FLOS/NRPA)**	**FLOS without Additions 2025 (Per 1000 Population)**
Mini Parks	2.5	1.5	.7	3.2	11.0	0.2
Neighborhood Parks	40.01	1.5	10.5		76.6	3.6
Community Parks		1.5		5.7	11.0	
Regional Parks	94	0.04	24.6		180.0	8.5

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~~Revised Level of Service Standards will be as follows:~~

~~Mini-Parks — 1.5 Acres per 1000 residents, for either public mini-parks or private "tot-lots" as required by the City's Subdivision standards.~~
~~Neighborhood Parks — 1.5 acres per 1000 residents~~
~~Community Parks — 2.0 acres per 1000 residents~~
~~Regional Parks — No standard although the City may cooperate with other jurisdictions in the development of regional park facilities. The City currently far exceeds accepted standards.~~

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities

~~The City should will view its "concurrency" responsibility as applying to City-owned parks only. It is unclear in the 2004 Plan (Appendix I) the extent to which school, private and other facilities are included. For example, the Plan shows that sports courts and tennis courts do not meet national standards but these are not always considered typical publicly-owned facilities. In fact, these facilities are not subject to City LOS standards in the 2004 Plan, but this should be made clear.~~

~~If the City's LOS is established at *more conventional* levels for *City-owned facilities only*, the results of the LOS analysis show that the City of Sultan would meet community standards through 2025 for most park facilities. At 1.5 acres/1000 residents about 14 acres of mini parks (small landscaped areas with benches, small play areas, etc.) could be warranted as growth occurs in new subdivisions or multi-family developments. At 2.0 acres/1000, 22 additional acres of community parks would be warranted. This is consistent with community thinking that parkas new community park is among the highest priority park needs.~~

~~Subdivision "tot lots":~~

~~Mini-parks and tot-lots are sometimes confused in terms of ownership and financing. Some would argue that tot-lots (small neighborhood playgrounds) should count as credits against required park impact fees. Others argue that these are not part of the park system, but are required by the subdivision code as a standard feature of new plats. The need for tot lots in specific subdivisions based on a review of project needs and impacts will determine if tot lots will be provided and how they will be treated. If a proposed park meets the criteria for a publicly-owned "mini-park" it will then be considered a part of the park "need assessment" (**Table P-4).** The subdivision developer would at that point become eligible for credits against other park impact fees. Once the City's position is determined, the subdivision code will be amended as necessary to clarify this requirement.~~

~~Impact Fees:~~

~~Another 2008 change in the treatment of park development and capital financing deals with the City's policy of collecting impact fees at the time of building permit. Under the city's current system the developer is not "vested" to impact fees, i.e. while the fee amount might be estimated at the time of subdivision approval, it could increase by the time home construction begins. This can cause difficulties for developer in marketing his or her property because the homebuilder doesn't know how much to pay for the property without knowing the fees to be paid at the time of building permit. This will be adjusted in City code to allow the Park Impact Fee to vest at the time of "first approval" (e.g preliminary subdivision approval) for as long as the approval is in effect.~~

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities

~~FUTURE NEEDS~~

~~To summarize the future park needs resulting from the updated Level of Service analysis:~~

- ~~The City has established new level of service standards to replace the former FLOS~~
- ~~The 2004 inventory of parks has been reviewed and adjusted to reclassify current park facilities according to their actual function~~
- ~~Trail systems have been de-emphasized somewhat to increase the priority ranking of community parks for acquisition and development.~~
- ~~A clearer distinction has been recommended between "tot lots" in new residential developments vs. "mini-parks" which will be publicly-owned and which could be included in proposed developments upon approval by the City.~~
- ~~The timing and applicability of park impact fees have been clarified.~~

~~Based on the foregoing, the additions and changes shown on Table P-4 are recommended. Over the 2025 Plan period, these additions will accomplish the City's revised LOS standard while still meeting the policy Objective 7.1.1. by exceeding the national standards, albeit by less than the former 42.6 acres/1000.~~

~~Table P-4 proposes acquisition and development of several mini-parks throughout the community, either freestanding, or dedicated as part of new development. Improvements to existing park sites are also shown to bring them up to higher, more usable standard.~~

~~Table P-5 presents cost estimates for acquisition and/or development of the various park projects shown on Table P-4.~~

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities

Table P-5
Park Improvements
2008-2025

	2025	Acquire	Develop	Total	2004 Plan Estimate
Mini Parks					
New (7-9)	14	$2,800,000	$1,050,000	$3,850,000	
Neighborhood					
Neighborhood Park Improvements				,000	
2nd and Alder			$24,750	$24,750	
Skate Board Park			$175,000	$175,000	
Community Park					
New	22.5	$4,500,000	$11,250,000	$15,750,000	$7,550,000
Regional Park					
Trail Development			$185,000	$185,000	$2,132,800
Total		**$7,300,000**	**$12,884,750**	**$20,184,750**	**$9,682,800**

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~~**Goals and Policies**~~

~~***Goal: Effectively manage park and recreation resources***~~

~~Create effective and efficient methods of acquiring, developing, operating and maintaining facilities that accurately distribute costs and benefits to public and private interests.~~

~~***1 Coordinate public and private resources***~~

~~Create a comprehensive, balanced park and recreational system that integrates Sultan with Snohomish County, Sultan School District, Washington State Department of Wildlife, and other public and private park and recreational lands and facilities in a manner that will best serve and provide for Sultan resident interests. Cooperate with other public and private agencies to avoid duplication, improve facility quality and availability, reduce costs, and represent Sultan's interests.~~

~~2Joint venture opportunities~~

~~Joint venture and make publicly accessible possibly in combination with other public, non-profit, or private agencies a greater variety of recreational facilities than would be accomplished by Sultan alone or otherwise. Discuss with the Sultan School District the possibility of entering into joint ventures for the development of combined school, playground, and athletic facilities. Consider sharing the monies Sultan could realize from environmental and growth management impact assessments with the Sultan School District for the joint development and maintenance of active play fields and playgrounds - provided the facilities are made available for use by students and community residents alike.~~

~~Level of Service Standards~~

A. ~~For purposes of establishing a Level of Service standard under the Growth Management Act, "Parks and Recreation Facilities" will be defined as those facilities under City ownership, inclusive of neighborhood parks and community parks. "Mini-parks" (landscaped areas of 1.5 acres or less) are not included in the City's inventory for purposes of establishing Level of Service.~~
B. ~~For purposes of establishing a Level of Service standard, "Parks and Recreation Facilities" will be defined as those facilities which are readily accessible by the public and contain opportunities for active and passive recreation.~~
C. ~~The adopted Level of Service for Parks and Recreation will be established as a *minimum* 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents for neighborhood parks. The Level of Service Standard for community parks will be established at 2.0 acres per 1000 residents.~~
D. ~~The adopted LOS standard for regional parks will be established at 1 ac. per 24,000 residents within the Sky Valley region. Regional park development will not be considered a purely local responsibility; however the City of Sultan will pledge its cooperation with other communities, the State and others in development of park and recreation facilities serving the broader Skykomish Valley community.~~

~~Parks and Recreation Inventory~~

~~The inventory, surplus and/or deficiency of City park lands will be updated annually upon receipt of official population estimates from the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM).~~

~~Finance~~

~~3 Cost/benefit assessment~~

~~Create effective and efficient methods of acquiring, developing, operating, and maintaining park and recreational facilities in manners that accurately distribute costs and benefits to public and private user interests.~~

~~4 Finance~~

~~Investigate new, innovative methods of financing facility development, maintenance and operating needs to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match user benefits and interests, and increase facility services. Consider joint ventures with the Snohomish County Department of Parks & Recreation, Sultan School District, Washington State Department of Wildlife, and other public and private agencies where feasible and desirable.~~

~~Impact Fees~~

~~5 Park/recreation impact assessment methodology~~

~~Develop a methodology for determining the facility impact of proposed development projects within the Sultan planning area to include the corporate limits and any surrounding lands where the residents will depend on Sultan for park and recreation needs. The methodology should determine the potential facility impacts that will be caused by a proposed urban development project, and an equitable mitigation assessment that is in accordance with local park and recreation standards. The methodology should also define a process by which the assessed fees can be allocated between agencies for the appropriate development and maintenance of local parks or conservation areas, active play recreational facilities or trails as each of these facilities may be sponsored on the behalf of Sultan residents.~~

~~6 Urban growth preserves and set-asides~~

~~Cooperate with the Snohomish County Department of Parks & Recreation, Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, and other public and private agencies, and with private landowners to set-aside land and resources necessary to provide high quality, convenient park and recreational facilities before the most suitable sites are lost to development.~~

~~Community Parks~~

~~7 Develop neighborhood park sites on the plateau~~ ~~– with access to the trail network and open spaces, and playground and picnic facilities for residents of new local housing areas. (Relocated from 3. Implementation Tasks)~~

~~8 Develop a community park site on the plateau~~ ~~– with access to the trail network and open spaces, and recreational courts and fields for citywide resident use. (Relocated from 3. Implementation Tasks)~~

~~Facility Design~~

~~9 Design/development standards~~

~~Design and develop facilities that are of low maintenance and high capacity design to reduce overall facility maintenance and operation requirements and~~

~~costs. Where appropriate, use low maintenance materials, settings or other value engineering considerations that reduce care requirements and retain natural conditions and experiences.~~

~~***10 Accessibility***~~
~~Design park and recreational trails and facilities to be accessible to individuals and organized groups of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age, income, and activity interests.~~

~~**Trails**~~

~~***Goal: Develop trail and corridor access systems***~~
~~Develop a high quality system of multipurpose park trails and corridors that access significant environmental features, public facilities and developed urban neighborhoods.~~

~~**Trail system**~~

~~Create a comprehensive system of multipurpose trails providing for recreational hikers and walkers, joggers, casual strollers, bicyclists, neighborhood residents, and equestrians. Link urban neighborhoods to park and community facilities, and with proposed trails to other community and regional facilities. Extend trails through natural area corridors that will provide a high quality, diverse sampling of Sultan's environmental resources – particularly along the Wallace, Sultan, and Skykomish Rivers, and Winters and Wagley's Creeks shorelines.~~

~~In general, develop a local on and off-road hike and bike trail grid – that provides flexible north-south and east-west access routes between the Sultan River valley, the plateau, and across SR-2 and to parks, schools, and employment centers. (Relocated from 3. Implementation Tasks)~~

~~Following is a list of potential trail improvement projects indentified in the 2004 Plan Update. This list is unprioritized and the location or construction of any of the potential projects will be determined on an individual basis by the City Council. Implementation will be subject to availability of funding as part of the City's Capital Facilities Plan.~~

~~A. ***Develop an East-West Trail adjacent or near to the Pacific Northwest Pipeline*** – to create a northern loop trail (and emergency evacuation route) between connect the Sultan River valley, the plateau, and Rice Road.~~

~~B. ***Develop a Willow Avenue/Bryant Road sidewalk/trail to Rice Road*** – to create an east-west trail connection (and emergency evacuation route) from 1st Street past the high school and through the wetlands to Rice Road.~~

C. ***Develop a High Street/Kessler Drive/140th Street sidewalk/trail to Rice Road*** – to create an east-west trail connection (and emergency evacuation route) from Osprey Park and 1st Street past the middle and high schools and across the plateau to the employment centers at Rice Road and SR-2.

D. ***Develop a Fir Street sidewalk/trail to Kessler Drive*** – to create an east-west trail connection (and emergency evacuation route) from 1st Street past the elementary school to the plateau and the Kessler Drive trail.

E. ***Develop a north-side SR-2 trail*** – to provide an east-west trail connection from Sportsmen Park across the SR-2 bridge to River Park then through the edge of the downtown and the business uses along Winters and Wagley's Creeks and Rice Road to Sultan Startup Road.

F. ***Develop Skykomish River trails*** – along both sides of the river using trail alignments from River Park under the BNSF trestle and across JW Mann Road bridge.

G. ***Develop a south-side SR-2/Wallace River trail*** – from JW Mann Road bridge through the road-side park to Foundry Drive and Cascade View Drive past Cemetery Park to the end of Sultan Startup Road.

H. ***Develop a west-side Sultan River Trail*** - from the SR-2 bridge through Sportsmen Park to Reese Park.

I. ***Develop an east-side Sultan River Trail*** – from River Park around the wetlands and through Osprey Park to the Oxbow and aconnection to Willow Avenue trail

J. ***Develop 4th Street sidewalks and bike lanes*** – from Main Street past the elementary, middle, and high schools to the Willow Avenue trail.

K. ***Develop 8th Street sidewalks and bike lanes*** – from SR-2 across the Fir and High Street trails to the high school.

L. ***Develop a North Kessler Drive trail*** – from Kessler Drive across the Fir and High Street trails to the Pipeline trail.

M. ***Develop Sultan Basin Road sidewalks and bike lanes*** – from the end of Foundry Drive across SR-2 and the Kessler, Bryant, and Pipeline trails to the top of the plateau at 124th Street.

N. ***Develop a Cascade View Drive/330th Avenue trail*** – from the Wallace River/Sprague Slough past Cemetery Park and across SR-2 through the employment uses along Winters and Wagley's Creeks to the top of the plateau and across the Kessler to the Pipeline trail.

O. ***Develop a Rice Road trail*** – from the end of Sultan Startup Road across SR-2 to the Pipeline trail.

Goal: Preserve quality park resources

Develop a high quality, diversified park system that preserves significant environmental opportunity areas and features.

1 Natural areas

Preserve and protect significant environmental features for park and open space use including unique wetlands, open spaces, woodlands, shorelines, waterfronts, and other characteristics that reflect Sultan's natural heritage. Encourage the preservation of unique site features or areas and the providing of public use and access in new land developments – particularly by linking the extensive wetlands on the plateau.

2 Manmade environments and features

Incorporate interesting manmade environments, structures, activities, and areas into the park system to preserve these features and provide a balanced park and recreation experience. Work with property and facility owners to increase public access and utilization of these special features – including the shorelines, wetlands, and bluffs that meander through and between developed areas.

3 Waterfront access and facilities

Cooperate with other public and private agencies to acquire and preserve additional waterfront access for recreational ativities and pursuits. Develop a mixture of watercraft access opportunities including canoe, kayak, rowboat, raft, and power boating.

Goal: Develop quality recreational facilities

Develop a high quality, diversified recreation system that provides for all age and interest groups.

Other

1 Improve existing school and city park sites – enhancing existing picnic facilities and shelters, outdoor fields and courts, indoor gymnasiums and meeting rooms for public use. (Relocated from 3. Implementation Tasks)

2 Cultural features and interests

Incorporate historical and cultural lands, sites, artifacts, and facilities into the park system to preserve these interests and provide a balanced social experience.

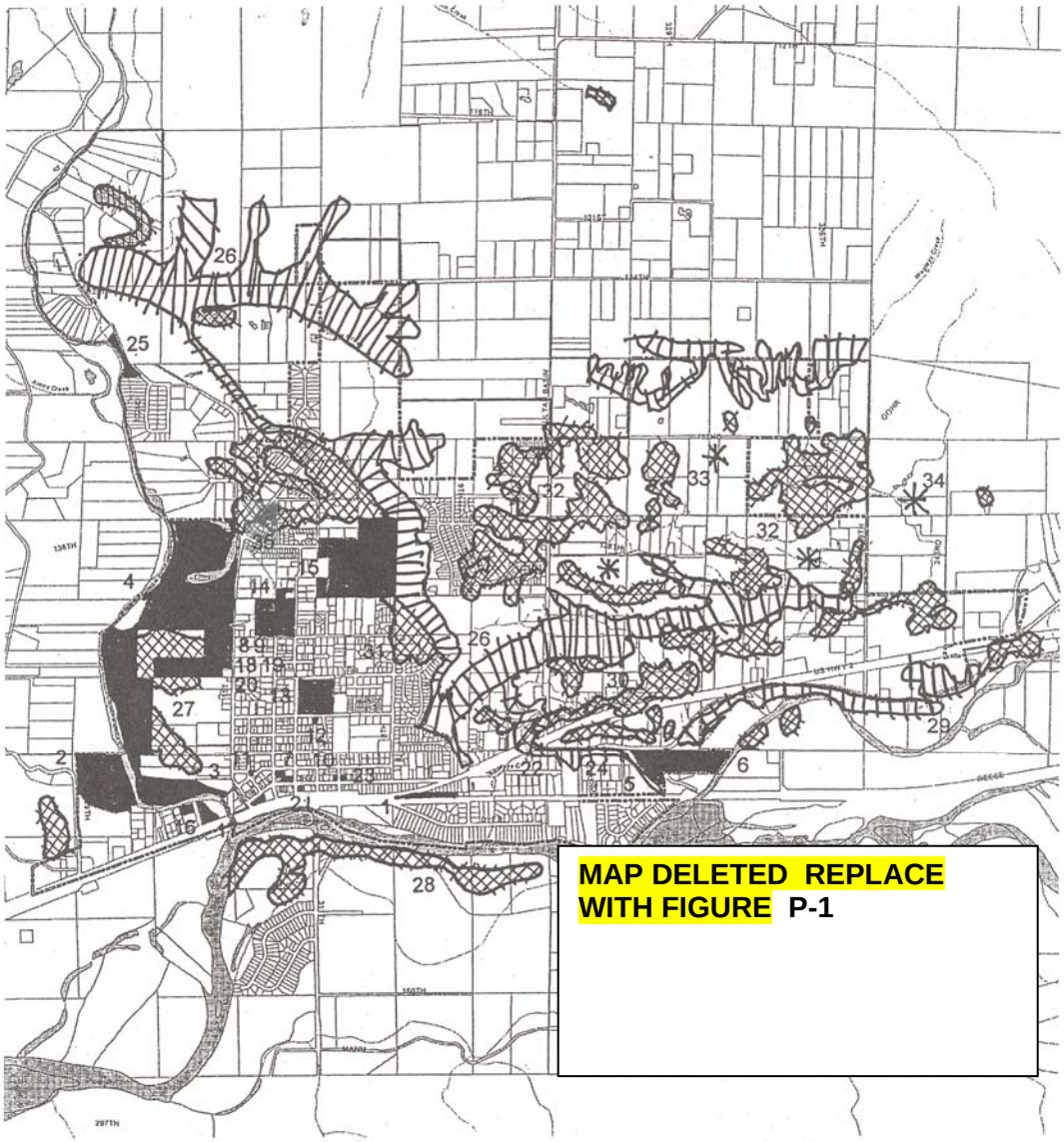
~~Work with historical and cultural groups to incorporate community activities into the park and recreational program – including downtown promotional events.~~

~~3 Athletic facilities~~

~~Support the development of athletic recreational facilities that meet the highest quality competitive playing standards and requirements for all age groups and recreational interests. Concentrate on field and court activities that provide for the largest number of participants. Develop, where appropriate, a select number of facilities that are oriented to the highest competitive playing standard for multi-agency use, especially in conjunction with the Sultan School District.~~

~~4 Indoor facilities~~

~~Support the development of indoor community and recreational centers that provide for special community activities and athletic uses on a year-round basis. Develop, if appropriate, a select number of centers that are oriented to the most significant indoor activities for multi-agency use, especially in conjunction with the Sultan School District.~~



Park, recreation, and open space

Existing facilities

1 Roadside Park
2 Reese Park
3 River Park
4 Osprey Park
5 Cemetery Park
6 Sultan Cemetery
7 City Hall/Library
8 Community Center
9 Old City Hall
10 Police/Fire Station meeting room
11 2nd & Alder property
12 5th & Date property
13 Sultan Elementary School
14 Sultan Middle School
15 Sultan High School
16 Sportsman's Park
17 Skykomish River Boat Launch
18 Sultan Boys & Girls Club
19 Sky Valley Resource Center
20 Volunteers of America
21 Sultan Arts Council & Museum
22 Fern Bluff Grange
23 VFW
24 Eagles
25 Trout Farm Road HOA

Proposed parks

26 Hillside greenbelt conservancies
27 Sultan River Greenway
28 Skykomish River Greenway
29 Wallace River Greenway
30 Wagley Creek Greenway
31 Fir Street Wetlands
32 Plateau Wetlands
33 Plateau neighborhood parks
34 Plateau community park
35 Willow Trace Park

Steep slopes
Wetlands
Existing parks and schools
Proposed parks – not sited

Park and Recreational Facilities
2008 Comprehensive Plan Update
September 25, 2008

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

A. Sultan's community

When planning for the future of local parks and recreation opportunities, as well as both passive and active recreation space, it is important to consider demographic and socioeconomic trends. Demographics make a difference in the type of facilities that will be most used and appreciated in a community. A community with a high percentage of children and young families is likely to benefit from play structures and organized sporting facilities. This type of community might also benefit from smaller, more numerous parks. A community with a high percentage of senior citizens may need a senior center and a greater percentage of at-grade facilities, amenities and trails.

During the 2000 census 38.8% of the city's population was under 24 years old. This is slightly higher than the state and national averages of approximately 34%. Approximately 52.5% of Sultan residents were between the ages of 25 and 64. 8.7% of Sultan's population was over 65 at the time of the 2000 census.

In 2000, 71% of Sultan's residents lived in two or more person family households. According to the 2000 Census, 72% of Sultan's residents owned their homes. About 30% of Sultan's residents lived in married couple households with children. Another 24% of residents were married couples without children.

Given the number of households and the population estimates from the Office of Financial Management, the City estimates there are approximately 2.74 persons per household. Together with the demographic information, it appears Sultan's population has slightly more young families than the state average.

As an outlying suburban area, Sultan tends to attract young families seeking to purchase their first affordable home. As a result, the City's overall strategy is to focus on maintaining and developing recreation opportunities for young families.

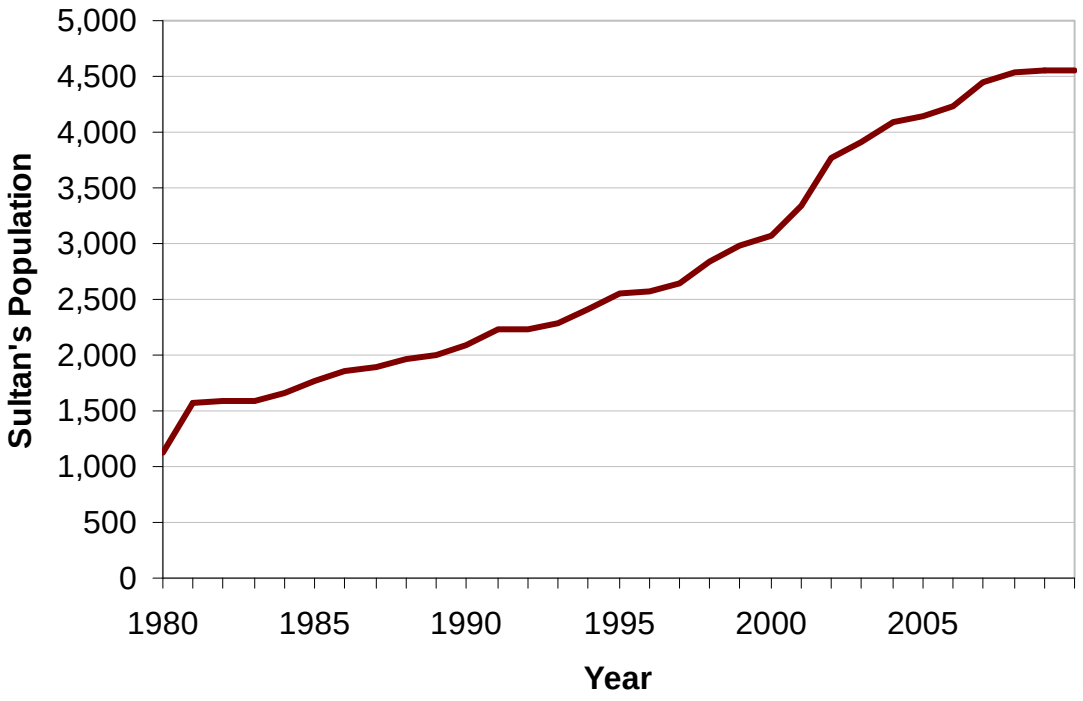
Table 1. 2000 Sultan Demographics

SULTAN 2000 Census		
	Number	Pct
Male	1,683	50.3
Female	1,661	49.7
	Number	Pct
15 or younger	894	26.7
16-24	403	12.1
25-44	1,154	34.5
45-64	603	18.0
65+	290	8.7
		Number
Average age (years)		32.67

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

The Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) estimates the Sultan population in April 2010 was 4,570. Snohomish County has a population over 700,000. Sultan represents less than 1% of the total county population.

Figure 1. Population growth, City of Sultan, 1980 to 2009



Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/cociseries/default.asp

Since 2000, Sultan's population has grown by 37%. In the last several years, Sultan's growth rate has been nearly flat as a result of the economic downturn that started in 2007 As the economy and housing market recover, future residential development of the areas north and east of the historic town center between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road may increase the population.

The GMA requires the OFM to periodically produce population estimates by county. Counties must then further subdivide and allocate these population estimates to each of their cities and the unincorporated county. The purpose of this exercise is to determine if the Sultan urban growth area is sufficient to meet the residential and employment needs of future residents. Snohomish County allocated 11,119 residents to Sultan in 2025, an increase of 132% over the 2006 population.

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

An additional population allocation above the 11,119 people during the 10-year comprehensive plan update in 2015 will require a review of the level of service for parks recommended in this PROS Plan. One additional community park as proposed in this plan may not be sufficient to serve a higher population allocation.

Table 2. Population forecast, Sultan UGA, 2006 to 2025

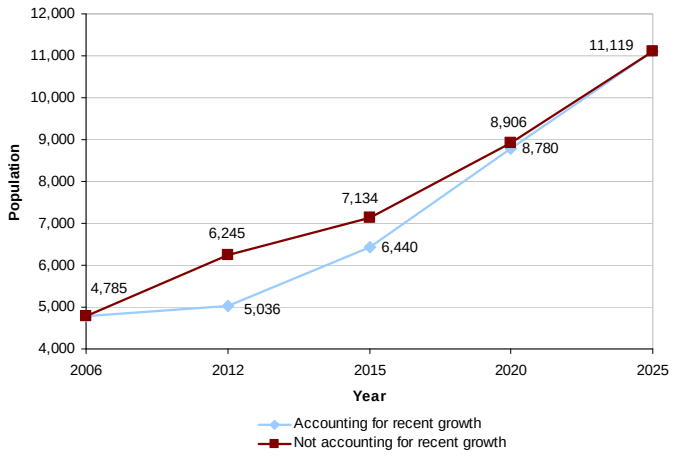
	2006	2025 Target	Change 2006 to 2025	Percent	AAGR
Sultan UGA	4,785	11,119	6,334	132%	4.5%
Sultan City	4,440	8,190	3,750	84%	3.3%
Unincorporated	345	2,929	2,584	749%	11.9%

Source: Snohomish County 2007 Buildable Lands Report, Table 1
Note: AAGR is average annual growth rate
http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/PDS/Divisions/LR_Planning/Information/Demographics/Buildable_Lands/

Sultan's population has not grown at the forecast rate during the 2006 to 2009 period. Rather than growing at an average of 4.5% annually, Sultan grew at 0.9% between 2006 and 2009. Sultan's population will need to grow at a higher rate in the future to reach the projected growth of 11,119 people by 2025.

Figure 2 shows an illustration of Sultan's potential growth curve to reach the target population. **Figure 2** assumes that Sultan continues to grow at 0.9% through 2012, based on the slow recovery from the current recession. By 2012, Sultan would have about 5,036 people, about 1,200 people fewer than the forecast of 6,245 people. Sultan would need to grow faster (7.2% average annual growth) during the 2012 to 2020 period to "catch up" to meet the population target in 2025.

Figure 2. Potential growth based on existing population forecast to 2025, City of Sultan



Sultan will continue to plan for a population of 11,119 people in 2025 as required under the Growth Management Act. The city will carefully monitor growth trends and work with

Snohomish County to reconsider the population allocation when the County next updates its buildable lands report beginning in 2013.

Regardless of the size of the city's population, it is clear the Sultan attracts young families seeking affordable housing and a community with small town character. 68% of park survey participants indicated the city had too few active recreation opportunities.

The city's proposed capital improvements are therefore focused on serving families. Acquiring property for a future sports field complex and a multi-purpose community park near the city's future residential areas is a top priority. Master planning existing parks to incorporate more kid and family friendly elements such as picnic facilities is another top priority.

B Regional Recreation and Tourism

The City of Sultan is located at the confluence of the Sultan and Skykomish Rivers in what is regionally known as the Sky Valley. Sky Valley has unique historical, cultural and natural resources. The Sultan and Skykomish Rivers are world-class salmon and steelhead waters. The Sky Valley attracts fishermen, hunters, and other outdoor enthusiasts from across the United States and beyond.

Past economic drivers such as logging have declined over the past 20 years. Future urban development will be focused on the 1-5 corridor not US 2[3]. Home-based residential growth will not provide sufficient demand to support local business alone. Recreation and tourism have the potential to draw customers to the region and support the local economy. One of the city's goals is to develop a park system that will attract visitors from outside the area. The city council and community view the city's recreation resources as an economic development tool.

Although the Sky Valley is made up of separate communities, these communities are connected by US 2 and the Skykomish River. The Sky Valley communities are starting to work together to attract visitors to come, stay and spend their money. There are a number of separate planning efforts underway to enhance and advance recreation and tourism in the Sky Valley. Projects include Reiter Foothills ORV Park, Olney Creek Shooting Range, and camping facilities. There are also efforts at the federal, state and county level to restrict current recreation activities.

Regional cooperation will provide the legal framework for advancing a cohesive vision and protect current and future recreation resources. More specific information on regional recreation opportunities and partnerships is provided in Section III - Inventory

C Public Input Surveys

In November 2009, the city conducted a statistically valid phone survey of 300 sultan residents. The survey included a question about whether residents favored or opposed the development of a new sports park in the Sultan Basin Road area with construction of the park funded by an increase in property taxes of $.15 per $1,000 dollars of assessed property value (approximately $40/year). More than 50% of the those surveyed supported this proposal.

[3] Puget Sound Regional Council Vision 2040

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

In order to reach as many people as possible, the City directed PMC to create a project survey specifically for the PROS Plan. The survey was launched in both a paper questionnaire and as a digital survey hosted on surveymonkey.com and listed on the City's website. The paper survey was created for use by the Planning Board and asked a brief list of questions related to how Sultan's parks are used and by whom. The Project Questionnaire included 17 questions. Project Questionnaires were distributed to the public at various community venues. An extended digital survey with three additional questions was also available on the City's web page (www.ci.sultan.wa.us).

Paper copies of the survey were available beginning the last week of February. The digital survey was launched in late February and closed on April 1, 2010. The City received 28 paper copy responses and 120 web-based responses (Appendix A). While the questionnaire results are not statistically valid (not representative of all Sultan residents), they did provide insight to the community's opinions that were considered, discussed, and ultimately influenced changes to the PROS Plan.

As the survey was conducted among all residents instead of registered voters, it does not necessarily predict how a potential measure would perform on the ballot.

Survey Results

Park Use

Sultan's parks are well used. About half of the survey respondents reported visiting Sultan's parks at least once per month. About one in six respondents reported visiting Sultan parks more than twice per week. Respondents said the reason they don't visit more often is not inherent to Sultan's parks themselves, but instead related to a lack of time. Some respondents reported a preference for parks outside Sultan.

Most respondents drive to Sultan parks on a monthly basis during the summer. The most utilized parks include Osprey, River, and Sportsman. Respondents would generally like to see more passive, more active and more picnic facilities located within their parks. The most common park activities include walking, hiking, taking children to the playground, and playing/watching soccer.

Current Park Priorities

When asked to define what they felt was most important, the majority of respondents reported a need for increased funding for park maintenance. Almost of equal importance was the need for more multi-use trail networks throughout Sultan and for diverse recreational options for people of all ages and abilities.
Respondents to both surveys assigned a high level of importance to acquiring land for parks and recreational facilities, increased education about park space for young people, increased parks and open space volunteer opportunities, improved public access to parking and parks and recreational facilities and acquiring land for the preservation of open space and natural resources.

A survey conducted by the City in November 2009 indicated a majority of residents support (51% Favor; 45% Oppose) a proposal for new sports park. A positive sign that even with a cost,

the majority of residents are willing to invest in parks and recreation facilities that meet their needs.

Survey respondents overwhelmingly believed that the financial responsibility for new parks and park maintenance should be shared equally between the City and developers.

Future Park Priorities

When asked about the need for new recreational facilities, a majority of respondents reported a need for new small parks or tot lots scattered throughout Sultan. In addition to new neighborhood scale parks, respondents requested increased trails, larger parks, more passive use recreational facilities and more active use parks for sports activities.

In addition to new facilities, respondents described the need for increased maintenance of parks. A commonly noted concern was related to safety. Many respondents described a sense of unease or fear when using Sultan parks because of the presence of vagrant groups and obvious signs of vandalism.

Survey respondents also reported a need for upgrades to and improved maintenance of existing parks. Finally, the majority of respondents would like a new park located in northeastern Sultan.

D. STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

It is clear there is a growing community interest in preserving, maintaining and expanding Sultan's park system. Since 2007 a number of park stakeholder groups have emerged. These stakeholders have stepped up to change the city's park system from the ground up. It is important for the city to nurture and support these community-based groups in order to meet the expectations of park users and fulfill the city's long-range goals.

Adopt a Park

Adopt-a-park is an opportunity for businesses, community groups, families and civic-minded individuals to lend a hand in the preservation and beautification of Sultan's parks. The adopt-a-park program helps educate the community about the importance of providing clean and safe parks and trails for everyone to enjoy. Clean parks attract people and improve quality of life for the entire community.

The Sultan adopt-a-park program is currently an informal group of city residents and park users who volunteer their time to clean and maintain the city's parks including Traveler's Park, Reese Park, Sportsmans Park, River Park and Osprey Park. The adopt-a-park program is an outgrowth of the city's successful adopt-a-street program. The Sultan city council is considering a proposal to formalize the adopt-a-park program. Whether the adopt-a-park program is formal or informal, the partnership between city hall and park volunteers to maintain the city's park facilities is necessary to ensure a successful park system.

Park Patrol

The park patrol program was started in 2010 by the Sultan Police Department in partnership with members of the Sultan Block Watch Program. Park Patrol members work in pairs to walk

park trails and facilities. Park Patrol members also educate visitors about park resources, programs, facilities, and rules; observe and report safety issues, incidents, and emergencies; and foster positive relationships among park users.
Park patrol volunteers receive basic observation and reporting training. Upon completion of training, each park patrol volunteer is issued a park patrol vest identifying them as a member of the city's park patrol program.

Equestrians

Sultan has a long history as an equestrian community. Horses have been banned from park properties and trail systems in Sultan since the 1970's. During development of the PROS Plan, horse owners expressed interest in developing joint equestrian/pedestrian trails in Osprey Park. As a result of the PROS Plan outreach effort, several local equestrians formed a stakeholders group to evaluated formal and informal trails in Osprey Park. The purpose of the evaluation was to determine if there were trails within the park that could support joint use with equestrians and pedestrians sharing park facilities. The city council is considering a pilot project to test several shared equestrian/pedestrian trails in Osprey Park. The equestrian group is working with other park volunteers to explore the feasibility of a new equestrian/pedestrian trail connection between River Park and Osprey Park.

Dog Owners

As a rural city surrounded by agricultural and forest resources, Sultan residents have plenty of open space and wooded areas to walk their canine companions off-leash. There is a leash law in effect within the city limits which is enforced when non-compliance is observed. However, Sultan parks and trails are rarely crowded and dog-owners frequently allow their pets off leash. This culture will likely change as Sultan's population increases and more residents use the park system.

During development of the 2010 PROS Plan, the city received a few requests to create an off-leash dog park. In the last few years, the demand for off-leash dog parks has increased dramatically nationwide. Off–leash dog parks are a relatively new phenomenon. Philosophies and standards regarding best practices for developing, operating, and maintaining such facilities, vary and are still evolving through trial and error. Substantive discussion needs to precede the creation of single purpose dog parks, or dedicating areas within existing parks, exclusively for off-leash play. City staff and the Sultan city council will need to carefully monitor local demand and support for off-leash play areas for dogs.

The city may want to consider off-leash areas when renovating current park facilities or during acquisition and development of the community park to serve new residents.

Youth Athletic Organizations

Youth athletic organizations are an important stakeholder group for the city's park system. In the past, Sultan has worked with these groups on an informal basis. Sultan has several active youth athletic organizations that use the sports fields in Reese and Osprey Park. The planning board met with several lf these groups during the public participation process to get their input on the PROS Plan needs analysis.
Reese Park tends to attract baseball teams especially since field lighting was installed in 2007. Currently a youth football league, the Sultan Pirates, reserves the fields at Osprey Park for practice and league games. The Sultan High School Soccer Team uses the fields at Osprey Park for practice.

Over the life of the 2010 PROS Plan the city is seeking to build closer partnerships with private youth sports organizations who utilize the city's fields and facilities for practices and games. There may be opportunities to work with youth sports leagues to partner on development and funding for the proposed community park.

OVERVIEW OF THE CITY'S PARKS, RECREATION RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS

The character of Sultan's parks and recreation system is greatly influenced by the recreation interests and participation of residents in Sultan. Sultan residents play sports, picnic, walk, and play in the City's parks most often during the spring and summer months. Recreation programming opportunities are abundant and well attended by a wide range of Sultan residents, primarily children, youth, and seniors.

A. Recreational Program Inventory

The City of Sultan owns and operates various recreational assets available to Sultan residents including Osprey Park, River Park, Sportsmans Park and Reese Park that have both passive and active amenities. Youth leagues and sports programs, offered through the Sultan School District, use the city's park facilities for practicing and league games. In addition to such public recreational options, local private organizations offer various recreational programs to the community. Two such local organizations are the Sultan Boys and Girls Club and the local Volunteers of America.

There is no formal level of service assigned to recreational programs. The purpose in examining them here is to understand how recreational facilities are used and to determine which programs are available to whom. This information was used to assist the City in creating goals and policies to promote and increase recreational programming for all residents of all ages, abilities and recreational needs.

Sultan's Boys and Girls Club

The Sultan Boys and Girls Club has been offering a range of recreational programs to Sultan's youth for several years. The Boys and Girls Club is located within close proximity to Sultan's public schools. The Boys and Girls Club offers a range of sports programs including basketball, volleyball, baseball, and flag football. They also offer a leadership program, cooking classes, child care and a pre-school program. One of the more popular programs offered is the Drop in World Club which provides various after-school activities to Sultan youth. The Club offers programs to children 5-18 years of age, and currently has an enrollment of approximately 400 children. Activity fees are modestly set to accommodate various income levels. The Club offers a sliding scale fee system and provides scholarship awards for qualifying low-income households. DSHS funds are accepted for the child care program. All members must pay a $35 dollar general annual membership fee. Sports program fees range from $65-$95 per activity/season

and full-time child care costs are approximately $280 per month. The Boys and Girls Club offers services and programs year-round, and provides all services from its location at 705 1st Street.

Volunteers of America

Located centrally at 617 1st Street and 701 1st Street, Volunteers of America (VOA) has been offering a wide range of community services to the Sultan area for over sixty years. In addition to providing various community resources such as the Sky Valley Family and Community Resource Center, the VOA provides meeting space in the Community Resource Center, a resource commonly used by the Sky Valley Seniors. The VOA Safe Stop program, held on Saturdays at the Sultan Middle School, provided safe, fun and educational programs to 325 Sultan youth in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The VOA sponsors various community events such as annual Thanksgiving dinners and Giving Tree programs. They also offer a hunter-safety program out of the center as well as a boat launch in the County located within the City's urban growth area.

Regional Recreational Opportunities

The Sultan community is served by other regional recreational programs and opportunities. For example, the nearest YMCA facility is only 10 miles from downtown Sultan, in the neighboring city of Monroe. The Monroe YMCA offers numerous community programs to various user and age groups. While the exact number is not known, according to YMCA staff, due to the facility's easy access and close proximity to Sultan, many of its members are Sultan residents. The YMCA offers various programs including aquatics classes for pre-school to senior clientele, various sports programs, a popular teen program and organized youth sports.
Additionally, the City of Sultan is surrounded by various public lands that provide a host of outdoor recreational opportunities to area residents including hiking, biking, rock climbing, and fishing/hunting.

B. Parkland and Facility Inventory

The parks and recreation system in the City of Sultan is well used by residents and visitors alike. Approximately 36% of respondents to the city's park survey indicated they visited Sultan parks at least once per month. The variety of passive and active recreational opportunities in Sultan's parks and open space system provides opportunities for residents of different ages and abilities to recreate.

The majority of Sultan's park and recreation opportunities are located adjacent to the Sultan and Skykomish Rivers to the west of the city's historic town center. Existing park properties have been acquired through donation (Reese Park), grants and city funds (Osprey Park and River Park), and joint use agreements with other agencies (Traveler's Park and Sportsmans Park).
Detailed profiles of park and recreation facilities in Sultan are located on the following pages. Profiles include an overview of site-specific improvement opportunities and maintenance concerns, outlined alongside the description of each park and recreation facility.

Regional Park Facilities

Sultan residents and visitors are fortunate to have access to regional and state park facilities. Regional facilities complement city facilities and offer a wide range of unique recreation experiences. The city has been working closely with the Washington State Parks Department, Snohomish County Parks and the Snohomish County Public Utility District to create an attractive suite of regional park facilities. While not technically part of the city's park system, these facilities serve Sultan residents. As funding for new facilities and on-going maintenance

continues to be a challenge, multi-agency relationships encourage shared resources and discourage duplication of services.
The Sultan city council has expressed an interest in partnering with other agencies to develop regional park facilities as a way to attract residents and encourage economic development.

State Parks

Wallace Falls

The Wallace Falls State Park Management Area is a 4,735-acre camping park with shoreline on the Wallace River, Wallace Lake, Jay Lake, Shaw Lake and the Skykomish River. The trail head for the Wallace Falls State Park is located 15 miles east of Sultan. The park features a popular 3 mile hike through old-growth coniferous forests, along the fast- moving Wallace River to the 265-foot waterfall.
Washington State has twice considered closing the popular park in 2008 and 2010 order to help balance the state park's budget. Both times, Snohomish County stepped up and offered to take ownership of the park. Sultan will continue to monitor the state's fiscal commitment to Wallace Falls and encourage efforts to keep the park open regardless of agency ownership.

Wallace Falls State Park

Department of Natural Resources

Reiter Foothills ORV Park

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages Reiter Foothills Forest. Reiter Foothills is a 10,000-acre block of forested state trust land located about 12 miles east of Sultan off Highway 2. The Reiter Foothills Forest is part of the legacy of more than 5 million acres of state-owned forest, aquatic, agricultural and urban lands managed by the DNR for long-term benefits to current and future trust beneficiaries and the people of Washington.

A planning process initiated by DNR in January 2008 was intended to guide how the DNR manages recreation and public access in Reiter Foothills Forest. This area has a pressing need for well planned recreation facilities that can be managed and maintained to DNR standards. As a result of the planning process, the Director of Public Lands, Peter Goldmark made the executive decision to close Reiter Foothills to public access. This decision displaced 20,000 ORV users who visited the site annually. The city is currently working with DNR and other stakeholders to complete the master plan and secure funding to reopen the site to ORV use.
Reiter Foothills is a important component of the Sky Valley economic development strategy. The surrounding cities of Index, Gold Bar and Monroe have been working cooperatively with the Sky Valley Chamber and DNR to create a set of off-road trails connecting the cities within the Sky Valley together.
There are several models for this type of off-road trail system including the West Virginia Hatfield-McCoy Trails and the Iron Mountain Trails in Minnesota. The city is working with other stakeholders to secure capital funding through the state to restore and reopen the area to ORV users.

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

Olney Creek Shooting Range

The City of Sultan, Snohomish County Parks and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are working together to reconvey property near the former Olney Creek Campground previously managed by DNR to Snohomish County for a proposed shooting range. Olney Creek is located approximately 7.5 miles north and east of the Sultan historic business district.

The reconveyance proposal was recently approved by the Snohomish County Council. With the County Council's acceptance of the proposed property reconveyance, the state will turn the property over to Snohomish County. Snohomish County, City of Sultan and other regional interest groups will begin the task of funding and building the range in phases.

This site, among other uses, will include a public rifle range. The goal is to give shooters a controlled place to practice. The Snohomish County Sheriff's Department is on board, as well as several major law enforcement agencies in partnership. These agencies spend a lot of money keeping the officers proficient in firearms and have to travel great distances to practice. This creates additional opportunities for shared funding among several law enforcement agencies and private parties.

Snohomish County Parks

Snohomish County would like to establish its first park in east Snohomish County. The nearest county park is Lords Hill located approximately 15 miles west of Sultan on the Snohomish River between Monroe and Snohomish. In order to achieve this goal, Snohomish County is working on acquiring a park property adjacent to Sultan on the Skykomish River.

Sky View Fisherman's Park and Campground

Sky View Tracts is a designated floodplain area in Snohomish County on the south bank of the Skykomish River across from Sultan's historic business district. In an earlier time the land was platted as recreation lots. Since 1980 the majority of the full-time residents were relocated through the FEMA repetitive flood loss buy-out program. More recently, the vacant properties were overrun by transient squatters. In 2007 Snohomish County began an effort to purchase the properties with the intent of creating a fisherman's park with boat launch and RV campground. The County has secured all but seven of the 150 lots. Once the properties are under County ownership, the city and the county will jointly master plan the property and seek funding for development.

Snohomish County PUD

The Snohomish County Public Utility District owns and operates the Jackson Hydroelectric Project on the Sultan River and maintains the Culmback Dam which creates Spada Lake. The PUD jointly operates and maintains recreation facilities around the dam, Spada Lake and the Sultan River as part of its licensing agreement through the federal government. Property owners around the lake include the State Department of Natural Resources, State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and National Parks Service.

Kayaking Spada Lake

Spada Lake Recreation Area

The recreation sites were opened for public use in the summer of 1991. Facilities include access for fishing and non-motorized boating, hiking, picnicking and public restrooms. The recreation sites are open from April through September, depending on weather conditions. Public use and enjoyment of the Jackson Hydroelectric Project recreation and mitigation lands in the Sultan Basin is subject to the regulations established in PUD.

Whitewater Kayaking

The Sultan River lies dormant below Culmback Dam except during times of severe flooding. When extremely heavy rains hit Western Washington the Sultan River is a beautiful, 13 mile, class IV kayaking river. Local kayakers lament the PUD water managers seem to have become increasingly proficient at making sure no water is "wasted" by funneling every possible drop of water from Spada Lake down through the diversion pipe to the powerhouse 11 miles downstream from the dam, and keeping plenty of storage capacity available to absorb the onslaught of winter storms such that overflow typically occurs only once every several years. PUD is working with kayakers to release flows from the dam to create white water conditions as part of the PUD's 50-year hydro project relicensing requirement with the federal government. PUD owns five acres of property in Sultan's Urban Growth Area at the end of Trout Farm Road. The site has a primitive boat launch and provides a place for kayakers to pull out of the river.

IV. Community Needs Assessment

A comprehensive system of parks and recreation facilities requires a set of planning classifications, guidelines, and standards to meet diverse and sometimes competing demands in the City. Level of service (LOS) is a term used by park planners and managers to set a minimum threshold for services and resources to satisfy the park and recreation needs of residents. A level of service standard, as referenced in this Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, will be used by the City to:

- Benchmark the desired mix and quality of facilities for residents of Sultan.
- Determine land requirements for parks and recreation facilities.
- Determine the locations of each type of park to provide the adopted level of service.

The City's approach to level of service includes the following types of guidelines and standards:

- Use the population allocations from the Snohomish County Buildable Land Report for 2025 to determine the amount of park and recreation resources to serve the existing and future population. This chapter provides population guidelines for recreation facilities.
- Site guidelines provide the spatial needs for park and recreation facilities. This chapter provides site guidelines for parklands and recreation facilities.
- Park classifications define the uses, size, location, and development guidelines for each park type.

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

A. Parks Classifications and Standards

This update of the PROS Plan includes a review and update of the parks classifications and standards from the 2008 Comprehensive Plan Update. Several parks, including Reese Park, Cemetery Park, River Park and the Water Treatment Plant were previously classified as Neighborhood Parks.

The Planning Board and citizens questioned the validity of these classifications. Based on observations and analysis of the historical and existing use and conditions of the City's facilities, findings of other planning documents, including the 2008 Comprehensive Plan and guidance from the National Recreation and Park Association, this update includes revising Reese Park and River Park as community parks. Cemetery Park will be reclassified from a neighborhood park to a special use facility. The water treatment plant will be removed from the park system since it is generally not accessible to the public for recreation purposes. As a part of this PROS Plan update, the city will adopt the following park classifications, guidelines, and standards.

Public Park Type: Large Urban Park (Regional Park)

Regional parks are the largest type of park that could be developed in the City. Regional parks serve the population of several urban areas, providing a respite from urban lifestyles.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Regional parks are generally built by counties or other agencies with a regional scope. In Sultan, the City may participate in the development and operation of regional parks such as the Sky View Fisherman's Park proposed by Snohomish County but will likely not take the lead, focusing instead on serving the needs of City residents.
Because of the number of persons and the range of interests they serve, regional parks are generally at least 50 acres and are optimally 75 acres in size or larger. Regional parks may feature wooded areas and varying topography.

The City of Sultan's Regional Park is Osprey Park.

Public Park Type: Community Park

Community parks provide a focal point and gathering place for the broader community. Community park facilities are designed for organized activities and sports, although individual and family activities are encouraged. Community parks usually have sport fields or similar facilities as the central focus of the park. Community parks require more support facilities, such as parking, restrooms and playgrounds, than neighborhood or pocket parks because they serve a larger area and offer more facilities.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Community parks are intended to serve the recreational needs of several neighborhoods. Where possible, they should be developed in a coordinated fashion with adjoining schools and located on or near arterial streets. Community parks should be located within 1 to 3 miles of every residence. The optimum size for a community park is 20 to 50 acres.
A community park functions as a neighborhood park for the residents who live in close proximity to the park; therefore, it should comply with the City's neighborhood park classification. In addition, a community park serves multiple neighborhoods and the entire City. As such, expansions to existing community parks or development of new community parks should evaluate the need for the following facilities:

- Recreation/community center
- Swimming pool
- Lighted sports fields
- Large group picnic areas
- Nature or wellness-based interpretive facilities

The City of Sultan's Community Parks are Reese Park and River Park

Public Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood parks provide access to basic recreation opportunities for nearby residents, enhance neighborhood identity, and preserve neighborhood open space. Neighborhood parks are large enough to include both passive and active facilities (including sports fields) but are small enough to be placed in neighborhoods, where they serve the needs of residents in a local setting. Because they are usually located in neighborhoods, neighborhood parks are designed and operated to minimize, noise, traffic, light and other "spill-over" impacts. They are designed primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. The City's neighborhood parks provide for limited organized/league use.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Neighborhood parks are typically 5 to 10 acres in size but must be at least 3 acres. A neighborhood park should generally be located with a ¼- to ½-mile walk from the neighborhood it serves, uninterrupted by arterial roads or other physical barriers.
Ideally, all neighborhood parks shall contain the following amenities:

- Play equipment – Separate structures for 2 to 5 year olds and 5 to 12 year olds will be required. Playground surfacing shall be engineered wood fiber or other surfacing as approved by the Department.
- Drinking fountain(s)
- Picnic tables, barbeques, and benches
- Open turf areas for casual play
- Trees
- Security lighting
- Waste disposal and recycling containers
- Concrete walkways that connect all of the amenities in the park. A loop walk around the park shall also be provided, if feasible.

A neighborhood park may include the following additional amenities based upon neighborhood preference:

- Basketball courts
- Tennis courts
- Skateboard play area
- Zero depth water play area
- A handball, volleyball, or tether ball court
- Community garden
- One or more multi-purpose fields (typically unlighted but could be lighted under certain circumstances)
- Picnic shelter
- Restroom building
- Lighted parking lot

Locations for neighborhood parks will be based on a variety of factors, including the population and demographics of residents in the park's service area and major physical boundaries.
Sultan currently has no Neighborhood Parks.

Public Park Type: Mini-Park (Pocket Park)

Pocket parks are the smallest type of park in the City's system. A pocket park is intended to serve its immediate surrounding area. They are typically built to serve a specific need or where the development of a larger park to meet a neighborhood need is not possible due to physical or other constraints. Pocket parks are not included in the City's inventory for purposes of establishing the Level of Service necessary to support development under the Growth Management Act.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Pocket parks are up to 3 acres in size and are often developed on unused or vacant lots. Typically, they do not provide formal recreation facilities or amenities. Pocket parks will be located primarily based on the availability of land.

Sultan's Mini-Park is Traveler's Park.

Public Park Type: Special Use Facility

A Special Use Park includes a broad range of recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use. These parks may provide a recreational facility or amenity unique to a community or site and may include active and/or passive activities. Special Use Parks are designed to meet the needs of the facility, site and users. They should be strategically located in the community and easily accessible.

The City's two Special Use facilities are Sportsman Park and Cemetery Ball Fields.

Public Park Type: Combined School-Park

The Sultan School District operates several passive and active recreational areas on each of its campuses. These facilities are not part of the PROS Plan Level of Service calculations, but they are available for recreational use to Sultan residents.

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

The Sultan School District maintains 51.70 acres of Combined School-Park acreage at the Sultan Elementary, Sultan Middle and Sultan High Schools (7.9 acres, 10.05 acres and 33.75 acres, respectively).

Table 3. Park Classifications

Park	Acres	Classification
Osprey	76.20	Regional
Reese	18.78	Community
River	7.21	Community
Travelers	1.90	Mini-Park
Sportsman	3.57	Special Use
Cemetery Ball Field	8.74	Special Use
Sultan Elementary School	7.90	School-Park
Sultan Middle School	10.05	School-Park
Sultan High School	33.75	School-Park
Total	168.10 acres	

B. Existing Park Maintenance and Facilities Needs

The Park Inventory sheets provided in the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan demonstrate the desired amenities and other maintenance and other operations issues for each of Sultan's existing parks. These sheets also demonstrate the probable funding source and timeline for these improvements.

C. Level of Service Standards

Recreational facilities are used for a variety of purposes by all types of people and groups. Because the needs of Sultan residents are diverse, no individual recreational facility can meet the recreational needs of all users. Therefore, a diverse system of facilities is necessary to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities.

Parks and Recreation Facilities are defined as those facilities which are readily accessible by the public and contain opportunities for active and passive recreation, are under City Ownership and are classified within this Plan as Regional (Osprey Park), Neighborhood and Community Parks. The following defines the Level of Service standards for parks and recreational facilities as required by the Growth Management Act and serve to substantiate system improvements to those. The overall Level of Service for combined parks acreage is 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 residents.

Future Demand and Needs Analysis

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

The 2010 population of Sultan was 4,570. The following is an analysis of the community park acreage needed for the projected 2025 population of 11,119 based on the combined Level of Service of 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 residents. **Table 4** below is an inventory of all the City's park facilities and the 2025 future need for park acreage.

Table 4 includes Mini-parks, Special Use Parks and combined School-Parks; however these parks types are not included in the Level of Service or future need calculations. The table also includes an analysis of Regional and Neighborhood Parks. The City has a single Regional Park, Osprey Park. The size and scale of a Regional Park are prohibitive for the City to create and maintain more than one Regional Park.

The needs analysis does not propose a standard for Neighborhood Parks as the City envisions the construction of one, large new Community Park in the northern area of the City between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road south of US 2. The table shows that 10.7 acres of Community Park area will be needed in 2025 based on 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 and a projected population of 11,119.

Table 4. Park Level of Service and Future Needs

Park Type	Proposed LOS (acres/1,000 residents)	2010 Facilities (acres)	2025 Need at Proposed Standard (acres)	2010 Actual LOS (acres/1,000 residents)	Acres Needed for 2025 Population at LOS
Regional	0	76.20	0	16.73	0
Community	3.3	25.99	36.7	5.44	10.70
Neighborhood	0	0	0	0	0
Mini-Park	N/A	1.90	N/A	0.4	N/A
Special Use	N/A	12.31	N/A	2.7	N/A
School-Park	N/A	51.70	N/A	11.35	N/A
Totals	3.3/1,000	168.10	36.7	36.63	10.70

D. Future Community Park Cost and Fee Analysis

The total cost to the City of 10.7 acres of community parks is estimated to be approximately $7.5 million. This estimate is based on the unit costs found in the 2008 Capital Facilities Plan[4] as follows:

Acquisition Cost per Acre	$200,000
Development Cost per Acre	$500,000
Total Cost per Acre	$700,000
Acres Required	10.7
Total Estimated Cost	**$7,490,000**

[4] City of Sultan *Park Facility - Unconstrained Need List, CFP, September, 2008*

New housing units are based on the projected population growth divided by persons per household (pph):

6,564 new residents / 2.74 pph = 2,361 units.

Table 5. Cost per Unit for New Community Park

Park Type	Cost per Acre	2025 Need at LOS	2025 Costs	Projected New Units	Cost per New Unit
Community	$700,000	10.7	$7,490,000	2,361	$3,172

The current park impact fee is $3,175 per dwelling unit. The cost per new single family dwelling unit calculated in the above analysis to meet a new community park standard of 3.3 acres per 1,000 residents is $3,172. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the current park fee will generate sufficient revenue to acquire and develop the community park acreage needed by 2025 in accordance with the proposed standard.

V. capital improvement program

The city is facing a growing demand for improved maintenance and operation of the city's park system. As the city's population increases there will be a growing demand for new park facilities to serve new residents and maintain minimum service levels.

As mentioned earlier, several citizen's initiatives and referendums (e.g. I-695, Referendum 47, and Proposition 747) have taken a toll on several of the major traditional funding sources available to local governments since the Growth Management Act was first adopted in 1990. As a result, local jurisdictions like Sultan are turning increasingly to several new funding sources created as a part of the growth management legislation, including impact fees and the ability to form metropolitan park taxing districts (MPD).

Even with the heightened anti-tax climate, residents of many communities recognize the contribution that parks and recreation amenities make to improving quality of community life. Residents of some communities have supported taxes increases, conservation futures levies, or bond referendums targeted for park purposes. Even with community support it is clear that Sultan must be alert to cost savings opportunities. Sultan will likely need to supplement limited funds with some creative approaches to park finance. Earlier sections describe the city's public, private, and user group partnerships and cost sharing approaches, cost reduction measures, and other creative funding approaches used to fill the funding gap.

The financial strategies from the 2008 Comprehensive Plan on Table CFP-1 are the starting point for developing revenue estimates. Cost estimates for park renovations, master planning, new facilities and trails are taken from the park inventory analysis. The needs list below includes projects that will be considered for funding over the life of this plan. Other project opportunities may be identified and added to the needs list over the life of the plan.

The discussion below presents the unconstrained needs list that has been developed during the PROS Plan Update.

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

A. Funding Needs

The Sultan Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements Summary table below shows total unconstrained needs of $17,637,600. This includes $7.49 million for the new community park needed to meet the city's proposed level of service standards outlined in this PROS Plan.

Renovation costs for existing parks are estimated at $2.1 million. The plan identified $275,000 to master plan the city's current park facilities to ensure they will meet the future needs of the Sultan community. The public works department should prepare park master plans for each park to:

- identify historic and natural resources of outstanding value to the public;
- promote recreational uses complementary to site features; and
- define future land management goals as well as facility development for the sites

Table 6. Capital Funding Needs

Sultan Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements - Summary

Park Name	Renovation Costs	Master Plan	New Facilities	New Trails	Total
Current Parks					
Osprey Park	$ 855,900.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 867,600.00	$ 424,800.00	$ **2,223,300.00**
Rudolf Reese Park	$ 484,200.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 877,500.00	$ 180,000.00	$ **1,591,700.00**
Sportsman Park	$ -	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ **1,166,000.00**
Sultan River Park	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ **1,726,700.00**
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ 720,000.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,532,700.00	$ -	$ **2,302,700.00**
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ **457,200.00**
Sub-total Current Parks	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 275,000.00	$ 6,487,200.00	$ 604,800.00	$ 9,467,600.00
Future Parks	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 1,490,000.00	$ 6,000,000.00		$ **7,490,000.00**
New Trails	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
River Park Trail	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00	$ **680,000.00**
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 1,765,000.00	$ 12,487,200.00	$ 1,284,800.00	$ **17,637,600.00**

Table 7 outlines the proposed capital facilities plan expenditures by year over the next 15 years to complete the list of unconstrained needs during the planning period.

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

Table 7. Capital Facilities Plan

Capital Facilities Plan

Park Name	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017-2025	Total
Current Parks								
Osprey Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 75,000.00	$ 855,900.00	$ 1,292,400.00	$ **2,223,300.00**
Rudolf Reese Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000.00	0	$ 180,000.00	$ 1,361,700.00	$ **1,591,700.00**
Sportsman Park	$ -		$ 50,000.00	$ -	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ **1,166,000.00**
Sultan River Park	0	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ **1,726,700.00**
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,302,700.00	$ **2,302,700.00**
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ **457,200.00**
Sub-total Current Parks	**$ 18,000.00**	**$ 22,500.00**	**$ 539,200.00**	**$ 1,704,200.00**	**$ 1,191,000.00**	**$ 1,035,900.00**	**$ 4,956,800.00**	**$ 9,467,600.00**
Future Parks								**Sub-Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 90,000.00	$ 2,000,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,400,000.00	$ **7,490,000.00**
New Trails								**Sub-Total**
River Park Trail	0	$ 20,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ **680,000.00**
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 18,000.00	$ 132,500.00	$ 2,869,200.00	$ 2,034,200.00	$ 1,191,000.00	$ 1,035,900.00	$ 10,356,800.00	$ **17,637,600.00**

VI. GOALS AND POLICIES

A. Organization of Goals and Policies

The goals and objectives are based on an analysis of existing park, recreation, and open space conditions, and the result of workshop planning sessions and citizen surveys.

The Goals and Policies for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is divided into five (5) topic headings as follows:

1. Park and Recreation Resources
   - Coordination of public and private resources
   - Joint venture opportunities
   - Preservation
   - Design, maintenance, safety and access standards
2. Trails

B. Parks Goals and Policies

Develop a high quality, diversified park system that preserves significant environmental opportunity areas and features.

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

PK-1 Goal: Effectively manage park and recreation resources

Create effective and efficient methods of acquiring, developing, operating and maintaining facilities that accurately distribute costs and benefits to public and private interests.

PK-1.1 Coordinate public and private resources

Strive to create a comprehensive, balanced park and recreation system that integrates Sultan with Snohomish County, Sultan School District, Washington State Department of Wildlife, and other public and private park and recreational lands to provide a greater variety of recreational facilities to the Sultan community.

PK-1.2 Coordinate with the Sultan School District

When appropriate, initiate discussions with the Sultan School District about the possibility of entering into joint ventures for the development of combined school, playground, and athletic facilities.

PK-1.2.1 Consider joint development and maintenance of active play fields and playgrounds - provided the facilities are made available for public use.

PK-1.2.2 Support private, public and non-profit organizations in developing special meeting facilities, assembly facilities, health and other community facilities to support community needs.

PK 1.2.3 Where appropriate, initiate joint planning and operating programs with other public and private organizations to determine and provide for special activities on an area or region wide basis, such as off-road vehicle trails, camping and fishing facilities, boating, rock climbing and gun range facilities.

PK-1.3 Urban growth preserves and set-asides

Cooperate with the Snohomish County Department of Parks & Recreation, Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, and other public and private agencies, and with private landowners to set aside land and resources necessary to provide high quality, convenient park and recreation facilities before the most suitable sites are lost to development.

PK-1.3.1 Work to develop community park and neighborhood park sites on the plateau between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road north of US 2– with access to the trail network and open spaces, and playground and picnic facilities for residents of new local housing areas, and recreational courts and fields for citywide resident use.

PK-1.4 Design, Maintenance and Safety Standards

Design/development standards:

PK-1.4.1 Emphasize user input in planning, design, development and maintenance of park and trail facilities.

PK-1.4.2 Work to design and develop facilities that are of low maintenance and high capacity design to reduce overall facility maintenance and operation requirements and costs.

Maintenance and Safety:

PK-1.4.3 Where appropriate, use low maintenance materials and settings to reduce maintenance and security requirements and retain natural conditions and experiences.

PK 1.4.4 Develop and implement safety standards, procedures, and programs that provide proper training and awareness for city staff charged with maintaining city park and recreation facilities.

PK 1.4.5 Where appropriate, develop adopt-a-park programs, neighborhood park watches, park police patrols, and other innovative programs that increase maintenance, safety and security awareness and visibility.

PK 1.4.6 Define and enforce rules and regulations concerning park activities and operations that protect user groups, city staff and the public.

PK 1.4.7 Seek opportunities to implement design and development standards to improve park facility safety and security.

PK-1.5 Accessibility Standards

Design park and recreational trails and facilities to be accessible to individuals and organized groups of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age, income, and activity interests.

Trail Policies

A trail is defined as a linear corridor, on land or water, with protected status and public access for recreation or transportation (excluding scenic byways and highways). This definition is adopted from Trails for All Americans, a report developed by the National Park Service and American Trails, a private, non-profit, broad-based trails coalition.

PK-2 Goal: Develop trail and corridor access systems

Strive to develop a comprehensive, high quality system of multipurpose recreation trails and corridors for recreational hikers and walkers, joggers, casual strollers, bicyclists, neighborhood residents, and equestrians that access significant environmental features, public facilities and developed urban neighborhoods.

Trail system

PK-2.1 Support community efforts to plan trail corridors and networks to gain adequate support for trail development, long-term maintenance, and protection.

PK-2.2 Emphasis should be given to connecting people to destinations such as neighborhoods, parks, water resources, schools, and work.

PK-2.3 When economical and feasible, link urban neighborhoods to city park and community facilities and to proposed trails connecting Sultan to other community and regional facilities.

PK-2.4 In general, develop a local on- and off-road hike and bike trail grid that provides flexible north-south and east-west access routes between the Sultan River valley, the plateau, and across U.S. 2, and to parks, schools, and employment centers.

PK-2.5 Recognize trail corridors as an important resource conservation mechanism and alternative transportation network.

PK-2.6 Extend trails through natural area corridors to provide a high quality, diverse sampling of Sultan's environmental resources – particularly along the Wallace, Sultan, and Skykomish Rivers, and Winters and Wagley Creekshorelines.

PK-2.7 In areas of the city with few trails, trail systems should be included as a development standard and as an integral part of the area's recreational development.

PK 2.8 Develop trail improvements to a design and development standard that is easy to maintain and accessible by maintenance, security and other appropriate personnel, equipment and vehicles.

Open Space Policies

PK-3 Goal: Preserve quality park resources

PK-3.1 Natural areas

Preserve and protect significant environmental features for park and open space use including wetlands, open spaces, woodlands, shorelines, waterfronts, and other characteristics that reflect Sultan's natural heritage.

> **PK-3.1.1** Encourage the preservation of unique site features or areas and provide public use and access in new land developments – particularly by linking the extensive wetlands on the plateau between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road north of US 2.

PK-3.2 Manmade environments and features

Incorporate interesting manmade environments, structures, activities, and areas into the park system to preserve these features and provide a balanced park and recreation experience.

> **PK-3.2.1** Work with property and facility owners to increase public access and utilization of special features – including the shorelines, wetlands, and bluffs that meander through and between developed areas.

PK-3.3 Waterfront access and facilities

Cooperate with other public and private agencies to acquire and preserve additional waterfront access for recreational activities and pursuits.

> **PK-3.3.1** Seek opportunities to develop a mixture of watercraft access opportunities including canoe, kayak, rowboat, raft, and power boating.

Recreation Policies

PK-4 Goal: Develop quality recreational facilities

Develop a high quality, diversified recreation system that provides for all age and interest groups.

PK-4.1 Improve existing facilities– Enhance existing park sites and recreation facilities when financially feasible.

PK-4.2 Cultural features and interests

Incorporate historical and cultural lands, sites, artifacts, and facilities into the park system to preserve these interests and provide a balanced social experience.

PK-4.2.1 Work with historical and cultural groups to encourage community activities in parks and recreational facilities – including downtown promotional events.

PK-4.3 Athletic facilities

Support the development of athletic recreational facilities for all age groups and recreational interests.

PK-4.3.2 Develop, where appropriate, a select number of facilities that are oriented to multi-agency use, especially in conjunction with local public, private and non-profit organizations.

PK-4.4 Indoor facilities

Support the development of indoor community and recreational centers that provide for community activities, athletic uses, and select significant indoor activities for multi-agency use on a year-round basis.

Park Finance Policies

PK-5.1 Finance

Investigate new, innovative methods of financing facility development, maintenance and operating needs to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match user benefits and interests, and increase facility services.

PK-5.1.1 Consider joint ventures with the Snohomish County Department of Parks & Recreation, Sultan School District, Washington State Department of Wildlife, and other public and private agencies to fund facility development and maintenance where feasible and desirable.

PK-5.1.2 Work with the community to establish and fund the minimum level of service for park facilities and maintenance.

PK-5.1.3 Where practical and feasible use community volunteers to help maintain park and trail facilities to exceed minimum levels of service standards.

PK-5.2 Level of Service Standards

Define existing and proposed land and facility levels of service that differentiate requirements due to population growth versus improved facility standards, neighborhood versus community nexus of benefit, and other regional efforts in order to effectively plan and program park and recreation needs within existing city boundaries.

PK-5.2.1 Parks and Recreation Inventory

Update the inventory, surplus and/or deficiency of City park lands based on the official population estimates from the Washington State Office of Financial Management

3.3 Park and Recreational Facilities - Amendments

PK 5.3 Impact Fees

Strive to create effective and efficient methods of acquiring, developing, operating, and maintaining park and recreational facilities in ways that accurately distribute costs and benefits to public and private users, including the application of adopted growth impact fees where new developments impact existing levels of service standards.

PK-5.3.1 Park/recreation impact assessment methodology

Employ a methodology for determining the facility impact of new development within the Sultan Urban Growth Area to include the city limits and any surrounding lands where the residents will depend on Sultan for park and recreation needs.

PK-5.3.2 Use a methodology for determining park impact fees that considers the potential facility impacts that will be caused by a proposed urban development project, and an equitable mitigation assessment that is in accordance with local park and recreation standards.

PK-5.3.3 Assess impact fees only for growth-related deficiencies, not existing deficiencies.

PK-5.3.4 Use a methodology for determining impact fees that defines a process by which the assessed fees can be allocated between agencies for the appropriate development and maintenance of local parks or conservation areas, active play recreational facilities or trails as each of these facilities may be sponsored on the behalf of Sultan residents.

3.4 Capital Facilities Plan - Amendments

The various need assessments being conducted as part of this planning process has identified 248 million dollars in needs for various public services (Table VIII-4). 62.5% of these needs are associated with the city's transportation system.

Table VIII-4: Unconstrained Public Facility Needs

	Total Unconstrained Needs	Percent
Transportation	$155,479,824	62.5%
Parks	~~$20,729,950~~ $17,637,600	~~8.3%~~ 7.2%
Water	$22,471,000	9.0%
Sewer	$45,404,000	18.2%
SWM	$2,184,900	0.9%
General Government	$2,607,825	1.0%
Total	~~$248,877,499~~ $245,785,149	

Table VIII-5: Unconstrained need by type.

	Basic Needs	Projects Necessary for Development	Improvement Projects	Total
Transportation	$4,528,000	$142,192,824	$8,759,000	$155,479,824
Parks		~~$19,600,000~~ $7,490,000	~~$1,129,950~~ $10,147,600	~~$20,729,950~~ $17,637,600
Water	$12,829,000	$9,642,000		$22,471,000
Sewer	$16,318,000	$29,086,000		$45,404,000
SWM	$1,750,900	$434,000		$2,184,900
General Government	$2,607,825			$2,607,825
Total	$38,033,725	$200,954,824	$9,888,950	~~$248,877,499~~ ~~$245,785,149~~

3.4 Capital Facilities Plan - Amendments

Parks

Park Facility Needs

CFP-8 Parks Unconstrained Needs List

Park Improvements
2008-2025

	2025	Acquire	Develop	Total
Mini Parks				
New (7-9)	14	$2,800,000	$1,050,000	$3,850,000
Neighborhood				
Neighborho				
Improvemer				200,000
2nd and Alde				24,750
Skate Board				175,000
Community Park				
New	22.5	$4,500,000	$11,250,000	$15,750,000
Regional Park				
Trail Development			$185,000	$185,000
Total		**$7,300,000**	**$12,884,750**	**$20,184,750**

DELETE TABLE AND REPLACE SULTAN PARKS AND RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS - SUMMARY (BELOW)

Strategic Considerations for Parks

- The unconstrained needs analysis identifies ~~$34.5~~ $17.6 million in projects.
- The only existing significant internal funding source for park needs is REET and parks will need to compete with other capital needs for this revenue; only a limited amount of money is anticipated to be available. Basic needs in other systems take priority.
- Basic needs
  - There are no basic needs
- Facilities needed to support growth
  - City will set or reduce the LOS for system projects "necessary for development" at the level needed to support one Community Park. The Community Park can be funded with an appropriate amount of impact fees, available REET funding, and grants or voter approved support.
  - The community park identified in the strategy is a system need for providing park and recreational services.
  - Grants will be pursued for Community Park. If grants are not received, City will consider inside levy lift to finance.
  - City can also consider other alternatives for financing the park including seeking land donations, additional developer financing from developments near park and reducing Park development costs.
  - Mini-parks should be incorporated into the design of new subdivisions.

3.4 Capital Facilities Plan - Amendments

Sultan Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements - Summary

Park Name	Renovation Costs	Master Plan	New Facilities	New Trails	Total
Current Parks					
Osprey Park	$ 855,900.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 867,600.00	$ 424,800.00	$ **2,223,300.00**
Rudolf Reese Park	$ 484,200.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 877,500.00	$ 180,000.00	$ **1,591,700.00**
Sportsman Park	$ -	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ **1,166,000.00**
Sultan River Park	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ **1,726,700.00**
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ 720,000.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,532,700.00	$ -	$ **2,302,700.00**
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ **457,200.00**
Sub-total Current Parks	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 275,000.00	$ 6,487,200.00	$ 604,800.00	$ 9,467,600.00
Future Parks	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 1,490,000.00	$ 6,000,000.00		$ **7,490,000.00**
New Trails	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
River Park Trail	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00	$ **680,000.00**
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 1,765,000.00	$ 12,487,200.00	$ 1,284,800.00	$ **17,637,600.00**

3.4 Capital Facilities Plan - Amendments

- Improvement projects
  - While there is a wide range of grant potentials available, they cannot be predicted. Consequently, projects needing grant funding are treated as potential improvement projects.
  - Community funding might be appropriate and feasible for some of the smaller parks in the needs list. The City will seek grants and community funding for smaller park needs in downtown area.
  - The City can consider using any general fund revenue that may be available for these smaller parks.
  - Resource oriented parks compete most effectively for potential grants and funding opportunities. Reserve some REET funds for potential grant matching.
  - The second community park is not funded, and is eliminated from the City's list of projects to be funded.

Park Capital Facilities Financing Strategy

Table VIII-9: Park Financial Strategy

Parks Financial Strategy							
	REET	Grant or Community Support or As Revenue can be Developed	Impact Fees	Grant or Inside Levy Lift @2015	Excess Levy	Direct Developer Contributions	Total
Projects Necessary for Development							
New Mini Parks						3,850,000	3,850,000
New Communi							15,750,000
Improvement Projec							
Neighborhood							399,750
Trail							185,000
Total							20,184,750
Unfunded Improvement Projects							
Total Unfunded							
TOTAL							20,184,750

DELETE TABLE AND REPLACE WITH FUNDING SOURCES TABLE (BELOW)

Notes
Would set "necessary for development" LOS at the ratio needed for one community park.
Assumes that impact fees are periodically adjusted for inflation.
2015 Levy lift tax rate would be $0.54 per thousand assessed value--Maximum margin is: $0.58
There will be capacity for both this levy lift and the 2020 levy for general government

3.4 Capital Facilities Plan - Amendments

CFP-9: Park Financial Strategy

Funding Sources

Park Name	General Fund	Park Impact Fees	Grants	Debt Service	M&O Levy	Metropolitan Park District	2017-2025	Total
Current Parks								
Osprey Park	$ 75,000.00	$ -	$ 646,200.00	$ -	$ 855,900.00	$ 646,200.00	$ -	$ 2,223,300.00
Rudolf Reese Park	$ -	$ -	$ 877,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 484,200.00	$ 180,000.00		$ 1,591,700.00
Sportsman Park	$ 50,000.00		$ 558,000.00	$ -	0	$ 558,000.00	$ -	$ 1,166,000.00
Sultan River Park	$ 22,500.00		$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,726,700.00
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ -	$ -	$ 302,700.00	$ 1,000,000.00	$ -	$ 1,000,000.00		$ 2,302,700.00
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 457,200.00
Sub-total Current Parks	**$ 165,500.00**	**$ -**	**$ 2,873,600.00**	**$ 2,704,200.00**	**$ 1,340,100.00**	**$ 2,384,200.00**	**$ -**	**$ 9,467,600.00**
Future Parks								**Sub-Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00
New Trails								**Sub-Total**
River Park Trail	$ 20,000.00	0	$ 330,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00	$ 3,203,600.00	$ 3,034,200.00	$ 1,340,100.00	$ 2,384,200.00	$ -	$ 17,637,600.00

3.4 Capital Facilities Plan - Amendments

Table CFP 18: Total Recommended Financial Strategy

Basic Needs		REET and Other Tax Dollars	Grant/Community Support	Impact Fees	Rates/GFC	Inside Levy	Excess Levy	Developer Financing	Total	Percent
	Transportation	$4,678,000	$312,000	$0	$0	$0	$0	$550,000	$5,540,000	2.2%
	Water	$0	$0	$0	$12,322,519	$0	$0	$5,571,819	$17,894,338	7.1%
	Sewer	$0	$0	$0	$9,661,600	$0	$0	$7,279,200	$16,940,800	6.7%
	SWM	$0	$0	$0	$1,059,283	$0	$0	$692,117	$1,751,400	0.7%
	General Govt.	$806,380	$0	$0	$562,760	$1,238,685	$0	$0	$2,607,825	1.0%
	Total	**$5,484,380**	**$312,000**	**$0**	**$23,606,162**	**$1,238,685**	**$0**	**$14,093,136**	**$44,734,363**	17.7%
Projects Necessary for Development										
	Transportation	$0	$28,271,776	$20,017,097	$0	$0	$0	$93,903,951	$142,192,824	56.3%
	Parks	0	0	$7,490,000	$0	$0	$0	$0	$7,490,000	3.0%
	Water	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$9,424,000	$9,424,000	3.7%
	Sewer	$0	$500,000	$0	$22,879,800	$0	$0	$5,926,200	$29,306,000	11.6%
	SWM	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$434,000	$434,000	0.2%
	Total	**$0**	**$28,771,776**	**$27,507,097**	**$22,879,800**	**$0**	**$0**	**$109,688,151**	**$188,846,824**	74.8%
Improvement Projects										
	Transportation	$900,000	$5,874,800	$0	$0	$0	$0	$1,984,200	$8,759,000	3.5%
	Parks	$185,500	$3,203,600			$3,034,200	$3,724,300		$10,147,600	4.0%
	Total	**$1,085,500**	**$9,078,400**	**$0**	**$0**	**$3,034,200**	**$3,724,300**	**$1,984,200**	**$18,906,600**	7.5%
Total Funded		**$6,569,880**	**$38,162,176**	**$27,507,097**	**$46,485,962**	**$4,272,885**	**$3,724,300**	**$125,765,487**	**$252,487,787**	
	Percent	2.6%	15.1%	10.9%	18.4%	1.7%	1.5%	49.8%		

3.4 Capital Facilities Plan - Amendments

Table CFP 18: Total Recommended Financial Strategy (Continued)

Basic Needs	REET and Other Tax Dollars	Grant/ Community Support	Impact Fees	Rates/ GFC	Inside Levy	Excess Levy	Developer Financing	Total	Percent
Not Funded									
								$0	
Transportation	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
SWM	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$524,000	

Table CFP-19C Parks 2011-2016 CIP Expenditures

Capital Facilities Plan

Park Name	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017-2025	Total
Current Parks								
Osprey Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 75,000.00	$ 855,900.00	$ 1,292,400.00	$ 2,223,300.00
Rudolf Reese Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000.00	0	$ 180,000.00	$ 1,361,700.00	$ 1,591,700.00
Sportsman Park	$ -		$ 50,000.00	$ -	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 1,166,000.00
Sultan River Park	0	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,726,700.00
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,302,700.00	$ 2,302,700.00
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 457,200.00
Sub-total Current Parks	**$ 18,000.00**	**$ 22,500.00**	**$ 539,200.00**	**$ 1,704,200.00**	**$ 1,191,000.00**	**$ 1,035,900.00**	**$ 4,956,800.00**	**$ 9,467,600.00**
Future Parks								**Sub-Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 90,000.00	$ 2,000,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,400,000.00	$ 7,490,000.00
New Trails								**Sub-Total**
River Park Trail	0	$ 20,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 18,000.00	$ 132,500.00	$ 2,869,200.00	$ 2,034,200.00	$ 1,191,000.00	$ 1,035,900.00	$ 10,356,800.00	$ 17,637,600.00

Appendix D – Needs Assessment Amendments

~~Existing Facilities~~

~~The City reviewed its parks inventory as part of this 2008 Plan revision. Several changes have been made in response to Growth Management Hearing Board directives. Some parks were reclassified (e.g. from community park to neighborhood park) to better reflect their function in the community. Acreages were adjusted to reflect how much of a parcel is actually used for park or recreational purposes. Finally, the focus of the Parks Element was shifted to include only City-owned facilities. While the City will continue to partner with the Sultan School District and others to provide various types of recreation opportunities, the City feels that Level of Service and capital facility standards should apply to those facilities under its direct control.~~

~~Park and recreation facilities owned and operated by the City of Sultan total 142 acres.~~

~~*Roadside Park:* 1.5 acre City Park located on the south side of US-2 west of 10th Street in the 800 block with a gazebo, picnic shed and tables.~~

~~*Garden Park*: A one-acre landscaped area west of Roadside Park, north of US-2.~~

~~*Reese Park*: 32.0 acre park located on the west side of the Sultan River at 216 Old Owen Road with a baseball/soccer field, 2 picnic shelters, 1 restroom facility, and primitive trails to the river edge.~~

Table P- 1
City Owned Park Facilities
2004 and 2008

	2004	2008
City Owned or Operated Facilities		
Mini Parks	**2.50 ac**	**2.50 ac**
Roadside Park	1.50	1.50
Garden Park	1.00	1.00
Neighborhood	**40.01 ac**	**45.11 ac**
Reese Park	32.00	32.00
River Park	6.00	6.00
Water Treatment Plant		5.00
Cemetery Park	1.50	1.50
2nd and Alder	0.33	0.33
Skate Board Park		0.28
5th and Date	0.18	
Community Park	**0.00 ac**	**5.00 ac**
Osprey Park		5.00
Regional Park	**94.00 ac**	**89.41 ac**
Osprey Park	90.00	85.41
Sportsman Park	4.00	4.00
Total	**136.51 ac**	**142.02 ac**

~~*River Park*: 6.0 acre park located on the east shore of the Sultan River at the south end of 1st Street and Main Street with a pavilion and picnic facility. The annual community festival with logging competitions and other activities is conducted in the park.~~

~~*Water Treatment Plan site:* This site is located along a private drive accessing 124st. S.E. , a mile west of Sultan Basin Road. The site is 35 acres in size, but is completely fenced and on steep terrain. It is assumed that perhaps five acres could be usable for passive recreation use.~~

~~*Cemetery Park*: 1.5 acres of undeveloped property in the Sultan Cemetery located on the north bank of the Wallace River at 32901 Cascade View Drive that has been improved with a multipurpose baseball and soccer field. The field will eventually revert to cemetery use when plot demands~~

~~require.~~

~~*2nd and Alder Streets*: A vacant 0.33 acre parcel acquired by the City for "repetitive flood loss reduction".~~

Table P- 2
Non-City Facilities

Baseball/Softball Fields Total	**4 fields**
Sultan Elementary School	1
Sultan Middle School	1
Sultan High School	2
Football Fields Total	**1 field**
Sultan High School	1
Soccer Fields	**0**
Sports Courts	**1 court**
Sultan Elementary School	1
Tennis Courts	**0**
Indoor Pools	**0**
Outdoor Pools	**0**
Recreational Centers	**1**
Community Center	15,190 sf

~~*Osprey Park:* A 90..41 acre park located on the east shore of the Sultan River at 801 1st Street. 5.0 acres have been developed with a multipurpose baseball, football, soccer field and 0.5 mile trail to the river edge. The remaining 85.0 acres preserve wetlands and woodlands that provide wildlife habitat along the river and tributary creek. A war memorial is planned in the park.~~

~~*Sportsman's Park:* A 4.0 acre park located on the west shore of the Sultan River on US-2 and Albion Street with a boat launch, gazebo, picnic shelter, tables, and river fishing access. The park is maintained by the city. The park includes the Skykomish River Boat Launch located on the north side of the river with access from US-2.~~

~~As part of its capital facilities planning, the City will focus on the future need for Neighborhood and Community parks only. City-owned mini-parks are considered more of an aesthetic feature along U.S. 2, rather than active recreation space. So-called *tot lots* are considered a component of the City's subdivision and planned unit development regulations and will, for the most part, be privately owned. Regional parks, while supported by the City, will be developed by the State or County within the larger Skykomish Valley area.~~

~~While not a part of the City-owned inventory, there are several other facilities in Sultan serving the recreation needs of the community. These are listed on Table P-2. These facilities are not considered part of the capital facilities inventory of the City.~~

~~The City also owns the High Street Trail, an asphalt multipurpose trail developed from the east end of High Street for evacuation of schools in case of flood or dam emergencies. Under future plans, an on/off-road bike and hike trail will be developed to provide an east-west trail (and emergency evacuation route) extension of the existing High Street Trail from Osprey Park and 1st Street past the Middle and High Schools along the edge of the plateau to the employment centers at Rice Road and US-2. Other than the High Street Trail there are no off-road multipurpose trails within the city or urban growth area at the present time except for a few short, informal footpaths through vacant properties, school grounds, and open spaces. As discussed below, future initiatives are planned.~~

E. Parks Classifications and Standards

This update of the PROS Plan includes a review and update of the parks classifications and standards from the 2008 Comprehensive Plan Update. Several parks, including Reese Park, Cemetery Park, River Park and the Water Treatment Plant were previously classified as Neighborhood Parks.

The Planning Board and citizens questioned the validity of these classifications. Based on observations and analysis of the historical and existing use and conditions of the City's facilities, findings of other planning documents, including the 2008 Comprehensive Plan and guidance from the National Recreation and Park Association, this update includes revising Reese Park and River Park as community parks. Cemetery Park will be reclassified from a neighborhood park to a special use facility. The water treatment plant will be removed from the park system since it is generally not accessible to the public for recreation purposes. As a part of this PROS Plan update, the city will adopt the following park classifications, guidelines, and standards.

Public Park Type: Large Urban Park (Regional Park)

Regional parks are the largest type of park that could be developed in the City. Regional parks serve the population of several urban areas, providing a respite from urban lifestyles.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Regional parks are generally built by counties or other agencies with a regional scope. In Sultan, the City may participate in the development and operation of regional parks such as the Sky View Fisherman's Park proposed by Snohomish County but will likely not take the lead, focusing instead on serving the needs of City residents.

Because of the number of persons and the range of interests they serve, regional parks are generally at least 50 acres and are optimally 75 acres in size or larger. Regional parks may feature wooded areas and varying topography.

The City of Sultan's Regional Park is Osprey Park.

Public Park Type: Community Park

Community parks provide a focal point and gathering place for the broader community. Community park facilities are designed for organized activities and sports, although individual and family activities are encouraged. Community parks usually have sport fields or similar facilities as the central focus of the park. Community parks require more support facilities, such as parking, restrooms and playgrounds, than neighborhood or pocket parks because they serve a larger area and offer more facilities.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Community parks are intended to serve the recreational needs of several neighborhoods. Where possible, they should be developed in a coordinated fashion with adjoining schools and located on or near arterial streets. Community parks should be located within 1 to 3 miles of every residence. The optimum size for a community park is 20 to 50 acres.
A community park functions as a neighborhood park for the residents who live in close proximity to the park; therefore, it should comply with the City's neighborhood park classification. In addition, a community park serves multiple neighborhoods and the entire City. As such,

expansions to existing community parks or development of new community parks should evaluate the need for the following facilities:

- Recreation/community center
- Swimming pool
- Lighted sports fields
- Large group picnic areas
- Nature or wellness-based interpretive facilities

The City of Sultan's Community Parks are Reese Park and River Park

Public Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood parks provide access to basic recreation opportunities for nearby residents, enhance neighborhood identity, and preserve neighborhood open space. Neighborhood parks are large enough to include both passive and active facilities (including sports fields) but are small enough to be placed in neighborhoods, where they serve the needs of residents in a local setting. Because they are usually located in neighborhoods, neighborhood parks are designed and operated to minimize, noise, traffic, light and other "spill-over" impacts. They are designed primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. The City's neighborhood parks provide for limited organized/league use.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Neighborhood parks are typically 5 to 10 acres in size but must be at least 3 acres. A neighborhood park should generally be located with a ¼- to ½-mile walk from the neighborhood it serves, uninterrupted by arterial roads or other physical barriers.
Ideally, all neighborhood parks shall contain the following amenities:

- Play equipment – Separate structures for 2 to 5 year olds and 5 to 12 year olds will be required. Playground surfacing shall be engineered wood fiber or other surfacing as approved by the Department.
- Drinking fountain(s)
- Picnic tables, barbeques, and benches
- Open turf areas for casual play
- Trees
- Security lighting
- Waste disposal and recycling containers
- Concrete walkways that connect all of the amenities in the park. A loop walk around the park shall also be provided, if feasible.

A neighborhood park may include the following additional amenities based upon neighborhood preference:

- Basketball courts
- Tennis courts
- Skateboard play area
- Zero depth water play area
- A handball, volleyball, or tether ball court
- Community garden
- One or more multi-purpose fields (typically unlighted but could be lighted under certain circumstances)
- Picnic shelter
- Restroom building
- Lighted parking lot

Locations for neighborhood parks will be based on a variety of factors, including the population and demographics of residents in the park's service area and major physical boundaries.
Sultan currently has no Neighborhood Parks.

Public Park Type: Mini-Park (Pocket Park)

Pocket parks are the smallest type of park in the City's system. A pocket park is intended to serve its immediate surrounding area. They are typically built to serve a specific need or where the development of a larger park to meet a neighborhood need is not possible due to physical or other constraints. Pocket parks are not included in the City's inventory for purposes of establishing the Level of Service necessary to support development under the Growth Management Act.

General Development and Use Guidelines

Pocket parks are up to 3 acres in size and are often developed on unused or vacant lots. Typically, they do not provide formal recreation facilities or amenities. Pocket parks will be located primarily based on the availability of land.

Sultan's Mini-Park is Traveler's Park.

Public Park Type: Special Use Facility

A Special Use Park includes a broad range of recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use. These parks may provide a recreational facility or amenity unique to a community or site and may include active and/or passive activities. Special Use Parks are designed to meet the needs of the facility, site and users. They should be strategically located in the community and easily accessible.

The City's two Special Use facilities are Sportsman Park and Cemetery Ball Fields.

Public Park Type: Combined School-Park

The Sultan School District operates several passive and active recreational areas on each of its campuses. These facilities are not part of the PROS Plan Level of Service calculations, but they are available for recreational use to Sultan residents.

The Sultan School District maintains 51.70 acres of Combined School-Park acreage at the Sultan Elementary, Sultan Middle and Sultan High Schools (7.9 acres, 10.05 acres and 33.75 acres, respectively).

Table 3. Park Classifications

Park	Acres	Classification
Osprey	76.20	Regional
Reese	18.78	Community
River	7.21	Community
Travelers	1.90	Mini-Park
Sportsman	3.57	Special Use
Cemetery Ball Field	8.74	Special Use
Sultan Elementary School	7.90	School-Park
Sultan Middle School	10.05	School-Park
Sultan High School	33.75	School-Park
Total	168.10 acres	

~~LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS~~

~~Levels of service (LOS) measures the extent to which existing parks, open space and recreation facilities are serving the existing community and what types of future facilities should be provided to meet future growth needs. The most recognized standards for Parks and Recreation are published by the National Recreational and Parks Association (NRPA). For parks, LOS is expressed in terms of acres per 1000 population.~~

~~*As with other non-transportation capital facilities, the Growth Management Act does not require adopting a level of service for parks and recreation. Even so, the City has developed standards for use in its past capital planning efforts and has an adopted LOS policy:*~~

> ~~*"Level of Service: Strive to maintain a Level of Service (LOS) in excess of the national and state standards. Ensure that the minimum LOS for parks meets or exceeds the NRPA standard"*~~
>
> ~~*- Comprehensive Plan Policy 7.1.1*~~

~~CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS~~

~~The City of Sultan has used a "Foundation Level of Service (FLOS)" standard based on what parks were available in 2004 and how they were classified when the Comprehensive Plan was adopted. Sultan's city code[5] adopts a FLOS standard "as set forth in the city of Sultan comprehensive plan."~~

~~The formula for calculating FLOS is:~~

~~*Current park acres ÷ Current Population = acres/person FLOS*~~

~~The 1994 Plan established the FLOS at 42.6 acres per 1000 residents[6] based on "active" and "open space/passive" uses inventories at the time. Not all open space was included, only City-owned and accessible open space. This standard was continued in the 2004 Plan update.~~

~~The FLOS approach attempts to maintain the inventory of parks and open space at historic ratios as the population grows. This presents significant capital cost issues as the population grows to 11,000 in 2025 and far exceeds standards set by other communities. Table P-3 illustrates this point.~~

~~In 2004, the population of the City was 3,814 according to the Plan. The resulting FLOS ratio is shown in Column "d" on Table P-3 based on the revised classification of park lands (Table P-1 and Column "b"). Although the population figure does not include the entire UGA, it is used as for the current FLOS calculation for consistency purposes. Unless and until the 2004 Plan is revised, the LOS standard for the City remains 42.6 ac./1000.~~

~~FLOS is significantly higher that accepted national standards. Maintaining this standard will require significant land acquisition. As part of this Plan revision, the Foundation Level of~~

~~[5] SMC 16.108.130~~

~~[6] Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B~~

~~Service approach will be replaced by a more conventional NRPA-based standard. This will significantly reduce future capital costs and will compare favorably with what other Growth Management communities are doing.~~

Table P-3
Park Level of Service

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Park Type	**2004 Facilities**	**NRPA LOS (Per 1000 Pop)**	**Sultan FLOS 2004 (Per 1000 Pop)**	**Added Need for Current 2004 Population**	**Added Need for 2025 Population (FLOS/NRPA)**	**FLOS without Additions 2025 (Per 1000 Population)**
Mini Parks	2.5				11.0	0.2
Neighborhood Parks	40.01	1.5	10.5		76.6	3.6
Community Parks		1.5		5.7	11.0	
Regional Parks	94	0.04	24.6		180.0	8.5

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~~Revised Level of Service Standards will be as follows:~~

~~Mini-Parks 1.5 Acres per 1000 residents, for either public mini-parks or private "tot-lots" as required by the City's Subdivision standards.~~
~~Neighborhood Parks 1.5 acres per 1000 residents~~
~~Community Parks 2.0 acres per 1000 residents~~
~~Regional Parks No standard although the City may cooperate with other jurisdictions in the development of regional park facilities. The City currently far exceeds accepted standards.~~

~~The City should will view its "concurrency" responsibility as applying to City-owned parks only. It is unclear in the 2004 Plan (Appendix I) the extent to which school, private and other facilities are included. For example, the Plan shows that sports courts and tennis courts do not meet national standards but these are not always considered typical publicly-owned facilities. In fact, these facilities are not subject to City LOS standards in the 2004 Plan, but this should be made clear.~~

~~If the City's LOS is established at *more conventional* levels for *City-owned facilities only*, the results of the LOS analysis show that the City of Sultan would meet community standards through 2025 for most park facilities. At 1.5 acres/1000 residents about 14 acres of mini-parks (small landscaped areas with benches, small play areas, etc.) could be warranted as growth occurs in new subdivisions or multi-family developments. At 2.0 acres/1000, 22 additional acres of community parks would be warranted. This is consistent with community thinking that parkas new community park is among the highest priority park needs.~~

~~Subdivision "tot lots":~~

~~Mini-parks and tot-lots are sometimes confused in terms of ownership and financing. Some would argue that tot-lots (small neighborhood playgrounds) should count as credits against~~

~~required park impact fees. Others argue that these are not part of the park system, but are required by the subdivision code as a standard feature of new plats. The need for tot lots in specific subdivisions based on a review of project needs and impacts will determine if tot lots will be provided and how they will be treated. If a proposed park meets the criteria for a publicly-owned "mini-park" it will then be considered a part of the park "need assessment" (**Table P-4).** The subdivision developer would at that point become eligible for credits against other park impact fees. Once the City's position is determined, the subdivision code will be amended as necessary to clarify this requirement.~~

~~Impact Fees:~~

~~Another 2008 change in the treatment of park development and capital financing deals with the City's policy of collecting impact fees at the time of building permit. Under the city's current system the developer is not "vested" to impact fees, i.e. while the fee amount might be estimated at the time of subdivision approval, it could increase by the time home construction begins. This can cause difficulties for developer in marketing his or her property because the homebuilder doesn't know how much to pay for the property without knowing the fees to be paid at the time of building permit. This will be adjusted in City code to allow the Park Impact Fee to vest at the time of "first approval" (e.g preliminary subdivision approval) for as long as the approval is in effect.~~

~~FUTURE NEEDS~~

~~To summarize the future park needs resulting from the updated Level of Service analysis:~~

- ~~The City has established new level of service standards to replace the former FLOS~~
- ~~The 2004 inventory of parks has been reviewed and adjusted to reclassify current park facilities according to their actual function~~
- ~~Trail systems have been de-emphasized somewhat to increase the priority ranking of community parks for acquisition and development.~~
- ~~A clearer distinction has been recommended between "tot lots" in new residential developments vs. "mini-parks" which will be publicly-owned and which could be included in proposed developments upon approval by the City.~~
- ~~The timing and applicability of park impact fees have been clarified.~~

~~Based on the foregoing, the additions and changes shown on Table P-4 are recommended. Over the 2025 Plan period, these additions will accomplish the City's revised LOS standard while still meeting the policy Objective 7.1.1. by exceeding the national standards, albeit by less than the former 42.6 acres/1000.~~

~~Table P-4 proposes acquisition and development of several mini-parks throughout the community, either freestanding, or dedicated as part of new development. Improvements to existing park sites are also shown to bring them up to higher, more usable standard.~~

~~Table P-5 presents cost estimates for acquisition and/or development of the various park projects shown on Table P-4.~~

Appendix D – Needs Assessment Amendments

Existing Park Maintenance and Facilities Needs

The Park Inventory sheets provided in the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan demonstrate the desired amenities and other maintenance and other operations issues for each of Sultan's existing parks. These sheets also demonstrate the probable funding source and timeline for these improvements.

Level of Service Standards

Recreational facilities are used for a variety of purposes by all types of people and groups. Because the needs of Sultan residents are diverse, no individual recreational facility can meet the recreational needs of all users. Therefore, a diverse system of facilities is necessary to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities.

Parks and Recreation Facilities are defined as those facilities which are readily accessible by the public and contain opportunities for active and passive recreation, are under City Ownership and are classified within this Plan as Regional (Osprey Park), Neighborhood and Community Parks. The following defines the Level of Service standards for parks and recreational facilities as required by the Growth Management Act and serve to substantiate system improvements to those. The overall Level of Service for combined parks acreage is 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 residents.

Future Demand and Needs Analysis

The 2010 population of Sultan was 4,570. The following is an analysis of the community park acreage needed for the projected 2025 population of 11,119 based on the combined Level of Service of 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 residents. **Table 4** below is an inventory of all the City's park facilities and the 2025 future need for park acreage.

Table 4 includes Mini-parks, Special Use Parks and combined School-Parks; however these parks types are not included in the Level of Service or future need calculations. The table also includes an analysis of Regional and Neighborhood Parks. The City has a single Regional Park, Osprey Park. The size and scale of a Regional Park are prohibitive for the City to create and maintain more than one Regional Park.

The needs analysis does not propose a standard for Neighborhood Parks as the City envisions the construction of one, large new Community Park in the northern area of the City between Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road south of US 2. The table shows that 10.7 acres of Community Park area will be needed in 2025 based on 3.3 acres of community park per 1,000 and a projected population of 11,119.

Table 4. Park Level of Service and Future Needs

Park Type	Proposed LOS (acres/1,000 residents)	2010 Facilities (acres)	2025 Need at Proposed Standard (acres)	2010 Actual LOS (acres/1,000 residents)	Acres Needed for 2025 Population at LOS
Regional	0	76.20	0	16.73	0
Community	3.3	25.99	36.7	5.44	10.70
Neighborhood	0	0	0	0	0
Mini-Park	N/A	1.90	N/A	0.4	N/A
Special Use	N/A	12.31	N/A	2.7	N/A
School-Park	N/A	51.70	N/A	11.35	N/A
Totals	3.3/1,000	168.10	36.7	36.63	10.70

Future Community Park Cost and Fee Analysis

The total cost to the City of 10.7 acres of community parks is estimated to be approximately $7.5 million. This estimate is based on the unit costs found in the 2008 Capital Facilities Plan[7] as follows:

Acquisition Cost per Acre	$200,000
Development Cost per Acre	$500,000
Total Cost per Acre	$700,000
Acres Required	10.7
Total Estimated Cost	**$7,490,000**

New housing units are based on the projected population growth divided by persons per household (pph):

6,564 new residents / 2.74 pph = 2,361 units.

Table 5. Cost per Unit for New Community Park

Park Type	Cost per Acre	2025 Need at LOS	2025 Costs	Projected New Units	Cost per New Unit
Community	$700,000	10.7	$7,490,000	2,361	$3,172

The current park impact fee is $3,175 per dwelling unit. The cost per new single family dwelling unit calculated in the above analysis to meet a new community park standard of 3.3 acres per 1,000 residents is $3,172. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the current

[7] City of Sultan *Park Facility - Unconstrained Need List, CFP, September, 2008*

park fee will generate sufficient revenue to acquire and develop the community park acreage needed by 2025 in accordance with the proposed standard.

~~Cost Assumptions~~

~~Regarding cost, the City contacted Snohomish County park representatives. Based on their recent park design and development experience, an estimate of $500,000 per acre has been used for community parks. For smaller mini parks, a recent 4 acre park redevelopment project in Tacoma is budgeted for about $75,000 per acre. The City's most recent Park~~

~~Table P-4~~
~~City Owned Park Facilities~~
~~2008 Needs Assessment~~

-	~~2008~~	~~2025~~	~~Acquire~~	~~Develop~~
~~**Mini Parks**~~	~~**2.50 ac**~~	~~**16.50 ac**~~	-	-
~~Roadside Park~~	~~1.5~~	~~1.5~~	-	-
~~Garden Park~~	~~1~~	~~1~~	-	-
~~*New (7-9)*~~	-	~~*14*~~	~~**X**~~	~~**X**~~
~~**Neighborhood**~~	~~**45.11 ac**~~	~~**45.11 ac**~~	-	-
~~Reese Park~~				-
~~River Park~~				-
~~Water Treatment Plant~~	~~5~~	~~5~~	-	~~X~~
~~Cemetery Park~~	~~1.5~~	~~1.5~~	-	-
~~2nd and Alder~~	~~0.33~~	~~0.33~~	-	~~X~~
~~Skate Board Park~~	~~0.28~~	~~0.28~~	-	~~X~~
-	-	-	-	-
~~**Community Park**~~	~~**5.00 ac**~~	~~**50.00 ac**~~	-	-
~~Osprey Park~~	~~5~~	~~5~~	-	-
~~*New (2)*~~	-	~~*45*~~	~~**X**~~	~~**X**~~
-	-	-	-	-
~~**Regional Park**~~	~~**89.41 ac**~~	~~**89.41 ac**~~	-	-
~~Osprey Park~~	~~85.41~~	~~85.41~~	-	-
~~Sportsman Park~~	~~4~~	~~4~~	-	-
~~**Trail Development**~~	-	-	~~**X**~~	~~**X**~~
~~**Total**~~	~~**142.02 ac**~~	~~**201.02**~~	-	-

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~~Impact Fee Analysis based on the 2004 Plan, estimated a develop cost of $60,000 per acre. The higher $75,000 figure is used for this parks plan.~~

~~It should be noted that the estimates assume a higher level of mink park improvement. A lower end estimate if $10 $12,000 per acre could be used if only a bench, picnic table, landscaping and pedestrian paths were to be constructed.~~

~~The property acquisition cost assumption is based, in part, on a review of recent real estate advertising for the Sultan area. One raw land parcel of 9 acres is offered for $600,000 ($66,000 per acre). Another vacant parcel advertised for multiple family uses is offered for $300,000 per acre, as is a commercial property. Snohomish County recently announced purchase of 13 acres near the proposed Brightwater facility for parks. The cost totals $2.7 million ($206,000 per acre). A search of Assessor Records of recent property sales in the Sultan area showed and average price of $239,000 per acre. Characteristics of those properties were varied.~~

~~The 2004 Comprehensive Plan and Parks mitigation fee assumed an acquisition cost of $100,000 per acre. For purposes of this capital facilities plan, an estimate of $200,000 per acre has been used. This assumes that community park land will be more developable than lands estimated in 2004, but will be less than the higher end lands being marketed in the $300,000 range.~~

~~Based on these assumptions, cost estimates for the improvements contained in Table P-4 are shown on Table P-5. Total estimated costs for the period 2008-2025 to bring Sultan's parks to the proposed level of service standard are about $34.5 million, an average of about $2 million per year in capital budget expense. This compares with an estimated cost of $9.7 million used as a basis for park impact fees based on the 2004 Comprehensive Plan.~~

~~Potential Revenue Sources~~

~~Typical revenue sources for park acquisition and development include impact fees, land dedications, general fund allocations and grants. The City currently assesses a park impact fee of $3415 for each new dwelling unit. Applying this number against the projected 2725 new dwellings expected by 2025 would produce about $9.5 million.~~

Table P-5 City Owned Park Facilities Cost Estimate						
-	2008	2025	Acquire	Develop	Total	2004 Plan Estimate
Mini Parks	2.50 ac	16.50 ac	-	-	-	-
New (7-9)	-	*14*	$2,800,000	$1,050,000	$3,850,000	
Neighborhood	45.11 ac	45.11 ac				
Water Treatment Plant	5	5		$375,000	$375,000	
2nd and Alder	0.33	0.33		$24,750	$24,750	
Skate Board Park	0.28	0.28		$21,000	$21000	
-						
Community Park	5.00 ac	50.00 ac				
New (2)	-	*45*	$9,000,000	$22,500,000	$31,500,000	$7,550,000
-	-	-				
Regional Park	89.41 ac	89.41 ac				
Trail Development	-	-		$185,000	$185,000	$2,132,800
-						
Total	142.02 ac	201.02	$11,800,000	$24,155,750	$35,955,750	$9,682,800

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The City Staff, consultants, citizens, Planning Board and Council should agree on the level of funding sources that can reasonably be expected. Increases in park mitigation fees, anticipated grant levels, etc. should be weighed as part of a final decision on long term expenditures at the levels depicted on Table P-5. This will be a part of the Capital Facilities Plan discussion once revenues and expenditures for other capital needs are presented. Current policy[8] encourages "joint ventures with public and private agencies to assist in facility development, maintenance and operation, and to reduce costs." While this analysis has focused on City owned facilities, cooperative efforts with other park and recreation providers may result in cost efficiencies.

[8] Policy CF – 9.2, 2004 Plan

Capital improvement program

The city is facing a growing demand for improved maintenance and operation of the city's park system. As the city's population increases there will be a growing demand for new park facilities to serve new residents and maintain minimum service levels.

As mentioned earlier, several citizen's initiatives and referendums (e.g. I-695, Referendum 47, and Proposition 747) have taken a toll on several of the major traditional funding sources available to local governments since the Growth Management Act was first adopted in 1990. As a result, local jurisdictions like Sultan are turning increasingly to several new funding sources created as a part of the growth management legislation, including impact fees and the ability to form metropolitan park taxing districts (MPD).

Even with the heightened anti-tax climate, residents of many communities recognize the contribution that parks and recreation amenities make to improving quality of community life. Residents of some communities have supported taxes increases, conservation futures levies, or bond referendums targeted for park purposes. Even with community support it is clear that Sultan must be alert to cost savings opportunities. Sultan will likely need to supplement limited funds with some creative approaches to park finance. Earlier sections describe the city's public, private, and user group partnerships and cost sharing approaches, cost reduction measures, and other creative funding approaches used to fill the funding gap.

The financial strategies from the 2008 Comprehensive Plan on Table CFP-1 are the starting point for developing revenue estimates. Cost estimates for park renovations, master planning, new facilities and trails are taken from the park inventory analysis. The needs list below includes projects that will be considered for funding over the life of this plan. Other project opportunities may be identified and added to the needs list over the life of the plan.

The discussion below presents the unconstrained needs list that has been developed during the PROS Plan Update.

Funding Needs

The Sultan Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements Summary table below shows total unconstrained needs of $17,637,600. This includes $7.49 million for the new community park needed to meet the city's proposed level of service standards outlined in this PROS Plan.

Renovation costs for existing parks are estimated at $2.1 million. The plan identified $275,000 to master plan the city's current park facilities to ensure they will meet the future needs of the Sultan community. The public works department should prepare park master plans for each park to:

- identify historic and natural resources of outstanding value to the public;
- promote recreational uses complementary to site features; and
- define future land management goals as well as facility development for the sites

Table 6. Capital Funding Needs

Sultan Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements - Summary

Park Name	Renovation Costs	Master Plan	New Facilities	New Trails	Total
Current Parks					
Osprey Park	$ 855,900.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 867,600.00	$ 424,800.00	$ 2,223,300.00
Rudolf Reese Park	$ 484,200.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 877,500.00	$ 180,000.00	$ 1,591,700.00
Sportsman Park	$ -	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ 1,166,000.00
Sultan River Park	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ 1,726,700.00
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ 720,000.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,532,700.00	$ -	$ 2,302,700.00
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ 457,200.00
Sub-total Current Parks	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 275,000.00	$ 6,487,200.00	$ 604,800.00	$ 9,467,600.00
Future Parks	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 1,490,000.00	$ 6,000,000.00		$ 7,490,000.00
New Trails	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
River Park Trail	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00	$ 680,000.00
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 1,765,000.00	$ 12,487,200.00	$ 1,284,800.00	$ 17,637,600.00

Table 7 outlines the proposed capital facilities plan expenditures by year over the next 15 years to complete the list of unconstrained needs during the planning period.

Table 7. Capital Facilities Plan

Capital Facilities Plan

Park Name	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017-2025	Total
Current Parks								
Osprey Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 75,000.00	$ 855,900.00	$ 1,292,400.00	$ 2,223,300.00
Rudolf Reese Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000.00	0	$ 180,000.00	$ 1,361,700.00	$ 1,591,700.00
Sportsman Park	$ -		$ 50,000.00	$ -	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 1,166,000.00
Sultan River Park	0	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,726,700.00
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,302,700.00	$ 2,302,700.00
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 457,200.00
Sub-total Current Parks	**$ 18,000.00**	**$ 22,500.00**	**$ 539,200.00**	**$ 1,704,200.00**	**$ 1,191,000.00**	**$ 1,035,900.00**	**$ 4,956,800.00**	**$ 9,467,600.00**
Future Parks								**Sub-Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 90,000.00	$ 2,000,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,400,000.00	$ 7,490,000.00
New Trails								**Sub-Total**
River Park Trail	0	$ 20,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 18,000.00	$ 132,500.00	$ 2,869,200.00	$ 2,034,200.00	$ 1,191,000.00	$ 1,035,900.00	$ 10,356,800.00	$ 17,637,600.00

Appendix D – Needs Assessment Amendments

GOALS AND POLICIES REVISIONS

Based on this Needs Assessment for Parks, the following adjustments to the 2004 Plan policies should be considered.

Parks and Recreation Defined:

1. For purposes of establishing a Level of Service standard under the Growth Management Act, "Parks and Recreation Facilities" will be defined as those facilities under City ownership and inclusive of mini-parks, neighborhood parks and community parks.
2. For purposes of establishing a Level of Service standard, "Parks and Recreation Facilities" will be defined as those facilities which are readily accessible by the public and contain opportunities for active and passive recreation.
3. The adopted Level of Service for Parks and Recreation will be established as a *minimum* ~~1.5 acres per 1,000 residents for mini parks and neighborhood parks. The Level of Service Standard for community parks will be established at 4.5~~3.3 acres per 1000 residents for community parks.
4. The adopted LOS standard for regional parks will be established at 1 ac. per 24,000 residents within the Sky Valley region. Regional park development will not be considered a purely local responsibility; however the City of Sultan will pledge its cooperation with other communities, the State and others in development of park and recreation facilities serving the broader Skykomish Valley community.

Parks and Recreation Inventory

5. The inventory, surplus and/or deficiency of City park lands will be updated ~~annually~~ upon ~~receipt~~ consideration of official population estimates from the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM).

Park Impact Fees

6. Park Impact Fees will be adopted by Resolution of the City Council, not by amendment to Section 16.12.030 of the Municipal Code.
7. Ordinance 929-06, establishing park impact fees should be repealed and replaced by resolutions per an amended Section 16.12.030 (See Attachment A)
8. Park Impact Fees to be applied to new residential development requests will be updated as part of the annual budget process based on the updated Inventory.
9. The Parks Impact Fee calculation formula should be amended to simplify credits. The Council by resolution should set the discount amount annually based on reasonable analysis anticipated tax contributions by new developments. It should be a fixed percentage discount (e.g. 50%, 25%).

CODE AND REGULATION CHANGES

16.72.010 Applicability.

All types of residential subdivisions shall be required to provide recreation. In addition to the recreation requirements, residential developments shall meet the open space requirements of this title. The requirements of this section are in addition to park impact fee requirements of SMC 16.112.030. Residential developments include condominium, multifamily, manufactured home parks and subdivisions. (Ord. 716-00; Ord. 630 § 2[16.10.060(A)], 1995)

New Section in 16.72: Public Dedication of Recreation Lands

- Recreation lands required as part of subdivision approval may be offered for City ownership
- City Council has final authority to accept or decline
- Property offered must meet size and design requirement for mini-park, neighborhood or community park
- City will credit the cost against the park impact fee amount. (See also SMC 16.112.080)

16.72.050 Types of recreation facilities to be provided.

- Add language that in providing for the various types of facilities, property located near an established trail system will be allowed a credit against its park impact fee for providing a linkage from the proposed development.

16.108.130 Concurrency determination – Parks and recreation.

A. The city of Sultan will provide level of service (LOS) information as set forth **by Resolution consistent with** ~~in~~ the city of Sultan comprehensive plan. *(Note: Assuming State law allows this by Resolution and not Council ordinance)*

16.112.080: The amount of credit shall be determined at the time of subdivision ~~building permit issuance (~~or site plan approval; or building permit issuance where no subdivision or site plan approval is required~~)~~. In the event the amount of the credit is calculated to be greater than the amount of the impact fee due, the developer may apply such excess credit toward impact fees imposed on other developments within the city. (Ord. 630 § 2[16.13.080], 1995)

Parks

Park Facility Needs

Figure 33: Parks Unconstrained Needs List

Park Improvements
2008-2025

	2025	Acquire	Develop	Total
Mini Parks				
New (7-9)	14	$2,800,000	$1,050,000	$3,850,000
Neighborhood				
Neighborho				
Improvemer				200,000
2nd and Alde				24,750
Skate Board				175,000
Community Park				
New	22.5	$4,500,000	$11,250,000	$15,750,000
Regional Park				
Trail Development			$185,000	$185,000
Total		**$7,300,000**	**$12,884,750**	**$20,184,750**

DELETE TABLE AND REPLACE SULTAN PARKS AND RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (BELOW)

Strategic Considerations for Parks

- The unconstrained needs analysis identifies ~~$34.5~~ $17.6 million in projects.
- The only existing significant internal funding source for park needs is REET and parks will need to compete with other capital needs for this revenue; only a limited amount of money is anticipated to be available. Basic needs in other systems take priority.
- Basic needs
  - There are no basic needs
- Facilities needed to support growth
  - City will set or reduce the LOS for system projects "necessary for development" at the level needed to support one Community Park. The Community Park can be funded with an appropriate amount of impact fees, available REET funding, and grants or voter approved support.
  - The community park identified in the strategy is a system need for providing park and recreational services.
  - Grants will be pursued for Community Park. If grants are not received, City will consider inside levy lift to finance.
  - City can also consider other alternatives for financing the park including seeking land donations, additional developer financing from developments near park and reducing Park development costs.
  - Min-parks should be incorporated into the design of new subdivisions.

Figure 33: Parks Unconstrained Needs List

Sultan Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements - Summary

Park Name	Renovation Costs	Master Plan	New Facilities	New Trails	Total
Current Parks					
Osprey Park	$ 855,900.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 867,600.00	$ 424,800.00	$ **2,223,300.00**
Rudolf Reese Park	$ 484,200.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 877,500.00	$ 180,000.00	$ **1,591,700.00**
Sportsman Park	$ -	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,116,000.00	$ -	$ **1,166,000.00**
Sultan River Park	$ 22,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ **1,726,700.00**
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ 720,000.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 1,532,700.00	$ -	$ **2,302,700.00**
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ **457,200.00**
Sub-total Current Parks	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 275,000.00	$ 6,487,200.00	$ 604,800.00	$ 9,467,600.00
Future Parks	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 1,490,000.00	$ 6,000,000.00		$ **7,490,000.00**
New Trails	**Renovation Costs**	**Planning**	**New Facilities**	**New Trails**	**Total**
River Park Trail	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00	$ **680,000.00**
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ 2,100,600.00	$ 1,765,000.00	$ 12,487,200.00	$ 1,284,800.00	$ **17,637,600.00**

- Improvement projects
  - While there is a wide range of grant potentials available, they cannot be predicted. Consequently, projects needing grant funding are treated as potential improvement projects.
  - Community funding might be appropriate and feasible for some of the smaller parks in the needs list. The City will seek grants and community funding for smaller park needs in downtown area.
  - The City can consider using any general fund revenue that may be available for these smaller parks.
  - Resource oriented parks compete most effectively for potential grants and funding opportunities. Reserve some REET funds for potential grant matching.
  - The second community park is not funded, and is eliminated from the City's list of projects to be funded.

Figure 34: Park Financial Strategy

Parks Financial Strategy

	REET	Grant or Community Support or As Revenue can be Developed	Impact Fees	Grant or Inside Levy Lift @2015	Excess Levy	Direct Developer Contributions	Total
Projects Necessary for Development							
New Mini Parks						3,850,000	3,850,000
New Communi							15,750,000
Improvement Projec							
Neighborhood							399,750
Trail							185,000
Total							20,184,750
Unfunded Improvement Projects							
Total Unfunded							
TOTAL							20,184,750

DELETE TABLE AND REPLACE WITH FUNDING SOURCES TABLE (BELOW)

Notes
Would set "necessary for development" LOS at the ratio needed for one community park.
Assumes that impact fees are periodically adjusted for inflation.
2015 Levy lift tax rate would be $0.54 per thousand assessed value--Maximum margin is: $0.58
There will be capacity for both this levy lift and the 2020 levy for general government

Figure 34: Park Financial Strategy

Funding Sources

Park Name	General Fund	Park Impact Fees	Grants	Debt Service	M&O Levy	Metropolitan Park District	2017-2025	Total
Current Parks								
Osprey Park	$ 75,000.00	$ -	$ 646,200.00	$ -	$ 855,900.00	$ 646,200.00	$ -	$ 2,223,300.00
Rudolf Reese Park	$ -	$ -	$ 877,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 484,200.00	$ 180,000.00		$ 1,591,700.00
Sportsman Park	$ 50,000.00		$ 558,000.00	$ -	0	$ 558,000.00	$ -	$ 1,166,000.00
Sultan River Park	$ 22,500.00		$ 50,000.00	$ 1,654,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,726,700.00
Cemetery Ball Fields	$ -	$ -	$ 302,700.00	$ 1,000,000.00	$ -	$ 1,000,000.00		$ 2,302,700.00
Traveler's Park	$ 18,000.00	$ -	$ 439,200.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 457,200.00
Sub-total Current Parks	**$ 165,500.00**	**$ -**	**$ 2,873,600.00**	**$ 2,704,200.00**	**$ 1,340,100.00**	**$ 2,384,200.00**	**$ -**	**$ 9,467,600.00**
Future Parks								**Sub-Total**
Community Park	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00
New Trails								**Sub-Total**
River Park Trail	$ 20,000.00	0	$ 330,000.00	$ 330,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,000.00
Total Park and Trail Improvements	$ -	$ 7,490,000.00	$ 3,203,600.00	$ 3,034,200.00	$ 1,340,100.00	$ 2,384,200.00	$ -	$ 17,637,600.00

Appendix E-1 Fiscal Capacity

Figure 43: 2025 Financial Strategy

Basic Needs		REET and Other Tax Dollars	Grant/Community Support	Impact Fees	Rates/GFC	Inside Levy	Excess Levy	Developer Financing	Total	Percent
	Transportation	$4,678,000	$312,000	$0	$0	$0	$0	$550,000	$5,540,000	2.2%
	Water	$0	$0	$0	$12,322,519	$0	$0	$5,571,819	$17,894,338	7.1%
	Sewer	$0	$0	$0	$9,661,600	$0	$0	$7,279,200	$16,940,800	6.7%
	SWM	$0	$0	$0	$1,059,283	$0	$0	$692,117	$1,751,400	0.7%
	General Govt.	$806,380	$0	$0	$562,760	$1,238,685	$0	$0	$2,607,825	1.0%
	Total	**$5,484,380**	**$312,000**	**$0**	**$23,606,162**	**$1,238,685**	**$0**	**$14,093,136**	**$44,734,363**	17.7%
Projects Necessary for Development										
	Transportation	$0	$28,271,776	$20,017,097	$0	$0	$0	$93,903,951	$142,192,824	56.3%
	Parks	0	0	$7,490,000	$0	$0	$0	$0	$7,490,000	3.0%
	Water	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$9,424,000	$9,424,000	3.7%
	Sewer	$0	$500,000	$0	$22,879,800	$0	$0	$5,926,200	$29,306,000	11.6%
	SWM	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$434,000	$434,000	0.2%
	Total	**$0**	**$28,771,776**	**$27,507,097**	**$22,879,800**	**$0**	**$0**	**$109,688,151**	**$188,846,824**	74.8%
Improvement Projects										
	Transportation	$900,000	$5,874,800	$0	$0	$0	$0	$1,984,200	$8,759,000	3.5%
	Parks	$185,500	$3,203,600			$3,034,200	$3,724,300		$10,147,600	4.0%
	Total	**$1,085,500**	**$9,078,400**	**$0**	**$0**	**$3,034,200**	**$3,724,300**	**$1,984,200**	**$18,906,600**	7.5%
Total Funded		**$6,569,880**	**$38,162,176**	**$27,507,097**	**$46,485,962**	**$4,272,885**	**$3,724,300**	**$125,765,487**	**$252,487,787**	
	Percent	2.6%	15.1%	10.9%	18.4%	1.7%	1.5%	49.8%		

Figure 43: 2025 Financial Strategy (Continued)

Basic Needs	REET and Other Tax Dollars	Grant/ Community Support	Impact Fees	Rates/ GFC	Inside Levy	Excess Levy	Developer Financing	Total	Percent
Not Funded									
								$0	
Transportation	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
SWM	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$524,000	