



FALLS CITY

PARKS MASTER PLAN

Parks Build Community

Adopted:

Ordinance 551-2017, adopted on 12/14/2017

Amended:

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Parks and Recreation Committee, City Staff,
and the residents and visitors who completed surveys and attended the Parks Master Plan Open House

Specifically, the City Council wishes to thank the following Parks and Recreation Committee Members and staff for the creation of the first Parks Master Plan for Falls City:

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Figure 0-1 The Little Luckiamute River flows through the center of town

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2016, Falls City City Council directed the Parks and Recreation Committee and staff to develop a Local Parks Master Plan.

The Falls City Parks Master Plan is intended to guide the development of the municipal parks for the period of 20 years between 2017 and 2037.

A parks master plan is a long-term vision and plan of action for a community's parks system. Currently, Falls City has three developed parks, two historic cemeteries, one pocket park, and areas of public open space. This plan identifies strategies and techniques for operation and development of parks, and funding.

Through this plan, the City of Falls City can continue improving the level and quality of its parks to meet the needs of current and future residents.

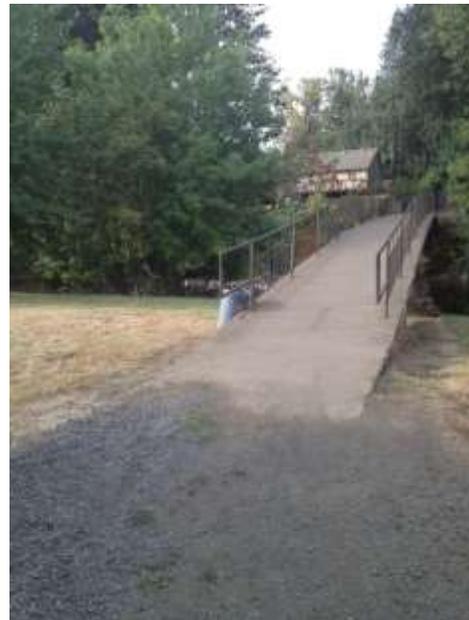
More specifically the Plan:

- ✓ Provides an inventory of existing parks and an analysis of appropriate park classifications and standards; and
- ✓ Identifies current and future park needs using input from the community as well as technical data; and
- ✓ Includes a capital improvement plan (CIP); and
- ✓ Identifies potential funding strategies and sources to implement the CIP.



COUNCILOR RICK ZUNCK AND SEABEES, 1990

In 1990, the Third Street footbridge was constructed by local volunteers and the SeaBees, a group of engineers from different branches of the military, along with \$5,000 from the City budget.



3RD STREET FOOTBRIDGE CONNECTS DOWNTOWN TO THE FAY WILSON MEMORIAL PARK AND OFFERS A STUNNING VIEW OF THE LITTLE LUCKIAMUTE RIVER.

Mission Statement

Parks and Open Spaces are necessary to develop healthy individuals and communities when the economy is strong, and are even more important when we face economic and social challenges.

Motto

“Bit by bit, little by little, step by step”

The Parks Master Plan lays out a twenty year roadmap for the improvements of park and open spaces. Improvements will be incremental and will be driven by the oversight of the Parks and Recreation Committee, Budget Committee, City Council and citizens. Funding of park improvements will be dependent on new revenue sources, grants, donations, service organizations and volunteer efforts. This vision provides the framework for implementation.

Park Inventory (Chapter 3)

The Parks and Recreation Committee and staff conducted a detailed inventory of land currently used for recreation within the city limits. Other public recreational sites within city limits and regional parks were captured in the Parks Master Plan in order to provide citizens with a list of recreational opportunities within our region.

Table 0-1 City Owned Parks and Open Spaces by Classification

| Park Classification | Acres |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Community Parks | Total 11.49 |
| George Kitchin Park | 9.4 |
| Michael Harding Memorial Park South | 1.0 |
| Fay Wilson Memorial Park | 1.09 |
| Open Space | Total 4.53 |
| Open space behind City Hall | 0.47 |
| Michael Harding Memorial Park North | 1.63 |
| Old Mill Open Space | 1.01 |
| Dutch Creek Open Space | 1.42 |
| Pocket Parks | Total .002 |
| Erma Ferguson Pocket Park | 0.002 |
| Special Use Parks | Total 5.77 |
| Falls City Upper Cemetery | 3.27 |
| Falls City Lower Cemetery | 2.5 |
| TOTAL Acres | 21.79 |

Figure 0-1 Falls City Parks and Open Spaces



Parkland Acquisition

Oregon Parkland Classification System Level of Service (LOS) Standards suggest that a municipality should have a minimum of 6.25 to 12.5 acres per 1,000 residents. With the 2017 addition of the Michael Harding Memorial Park North open space Falls City has a total of 21.79 acres, which will support the 20 year projected population of 1,244 residents; therefore the Parks Master Plan does not identify a need for additional parkland. As an alternative to land acquisition, the Plan recommends that the City work with land owners adjacent to Little Luckiamute River to negotiate access easements and land dedication for the proposed Little Luckiamute River Trail (Appendix A-2).

Community Needs Assessment (Chapter 6)

Public participation was essential in the development of the Parks Master Plan. The Parks and Recreation Committee and staff utilized surveys, newsletter articles, public meetings, Falls City website and the Parks Master Plan Open House to successfully collaborate with the goal of achieving better and more acceptable decisions.

Park Improvements (Chapter 9)

The Parks and Recreation Committee evaluated improvements using quantified methods resulting in list of park improvements that support recreational trends, desires, and community needs.

Minor Park Improvement Identified

The Parks Master Plan identifies basic needs such as new benches, picnic tables, garbage cans, and identifies existing park structures in need of replacement.

Park Improvements: Top Five Priority

Priority 1 - Site built public restrooms connected to city sewer at each park. The Parks and Recreation Committee identified restrooms as the number 1 priority to resolve public health concerns, improve community livability and protect the Luckiamute Watershed. Priority 2 – Little Luckiamute River Trail (Appendix A-2), Priority 3 – Michael Harding Memorial Park North park Pavilion (Appendix A-1), Priority 4 – Campground at George Kitchin Park, and Priority 5 – City Hall Open Space Simple Amphitheater (Appendix A-3).

Park Improvements: Priority 6 through 12

In order of priority: Equestrian Trails, 9-Hole Disc Golf Course, Skate Park, new playgrounds, rehabilitate the George Kitchin Park ballfield, designated paddle route, and Dog Park.

Inclusivity (Chapter 2)

Parks should be welcoming and safe for people of all ages, ability levels and ethnicities. The U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates indicate that 30.50% of the Falls City citizens have a disability (margin of error +/-5.8), yet there are no ADA compliant recreational improvements. The high percentage of residents with low or moderate income levels suggests that the City should explore ways to target parks and recreation services, and their benefits, towards lower-income residents.

Funding Strategies (Chapter 10)

The Parks Master Plan recommends new funding strategies to establish a dedicated revenue stream, improve fundraising, and includes known strategies such as grants.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) (Chapter 12)

The Parks Master Plan defines a list of potential projects for the period between 2017 and 2037. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes cost estimates for both small and large projects. The CIP will help the City Council, City Manager, Budget Committees, Parks and Recreation Committee, and grant writers. The Parks Master Plan and the CIP will strengthen grant applications. Grants and community donations will continue to play a critical role in park improvements and repairs because Falls City has limited revenues. The CIP does consider operations and maintenance (O&M).

Summary

The Plan's motto "*bit by bit, little by little, step by step*" acknowledges known funding constraints for which new funding strategies outlined in Chapter 10 mitigate. The Plan recommends the creation of a new Parks and Recreation Reserve Fund to account for the accumulation of funds raised through new strategies. The Plan pinpoints the importance of volunteer and service organizations contributions. The Plan acknowledges needs to better assure public health and safety. The plan outlines a strategy to combat vandalism. The Plan calls for park improvements that ensure that parks are accessible to everyone and in compliance with ADA requirements, where possible.



Clockwise. The Stairs, 2013 3rd of July Celebration at George Kitchin Upper Park, snowy 3rd Street walking bridge leading to the Fay Wilson Memorial Park, music in the Gazebo, children in the George Kitchin Upper Park playground, kayaker on the Little Luckiamute River behind City Hall, it's always a beautiful day in the George Kitchin Upper Park, children enjoying the Little Luckiamute River, and our city namesake - The falls.

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

Purpose of this Plan

The Falls City Parks Master Plan is intended to help meet the needs of current and future residents by positioning Falls City to build on the community's unique parks and recreational assets and identify new opportunities.

Steps in the Planning Process

- ✓ Agree on the planning process
- ✓ Develop a detailed inventory of existing parks and their facilities
- ✓ Perform a Level of Service Analysis
- ✓ Encourage public participation
- ✓ Identify needs and Issues
- ✓ Focus on the highest priority needs and issues
- ✓ Develop a vision
- ✓ Formulate goals
- ✓ Identify strategies
- ✓ Prioritize strategies and develop a Capital Improvement Plan

Methods

Performed a *supply analysis* to determine the quality, condition and scope of park and recreation resources available. The supply analysis considered a detailed facility inventory of park and recreation sites (Chapter 3).

Collected and analyzed key information regarding *population, demographics and land use trends* affecting Falls City and its residents, as one element for determining future park and recreation needs (Chapter 2).

Conducted a *demand analysis* to determine residents' current recreational activities, and what they desire in terms of parks and recreation in their community. The demand analysis consisted of three elements: community surveys, public meetings and Parks Master Plan Open House (Chapter 6).

Performed a *standards analysis*, where we compared Falls City park and recreation resources to state recognized standards in order to assess how well Falls City park and recreation facilities are serving the community (Chapter 7).

After analyzing all previously gathered data and findings propose a list of recommendations to guide Falls City in its long-term provision of park and recreation facilities and services (Chapter 9)

Identify sources of funding (Chapter 10, Chapter 11, and Appendix C).

Collected *preliminary cost estimates* for park and recreation, repairs and improvements to existing facilities, and new development (Appendix E).

Chapter 2 COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS

Population

The 2016 population of Falls City is 950. The growth rate has been flat since 2013.

Table 2-1 Population

| Falls City | 1970 ¹ | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | % Growth 2010-2016 |
|------------|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--------------------|
| Population | 745 | 804 | 818 | 966 | 947 | 945 | 945 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 0.3% |

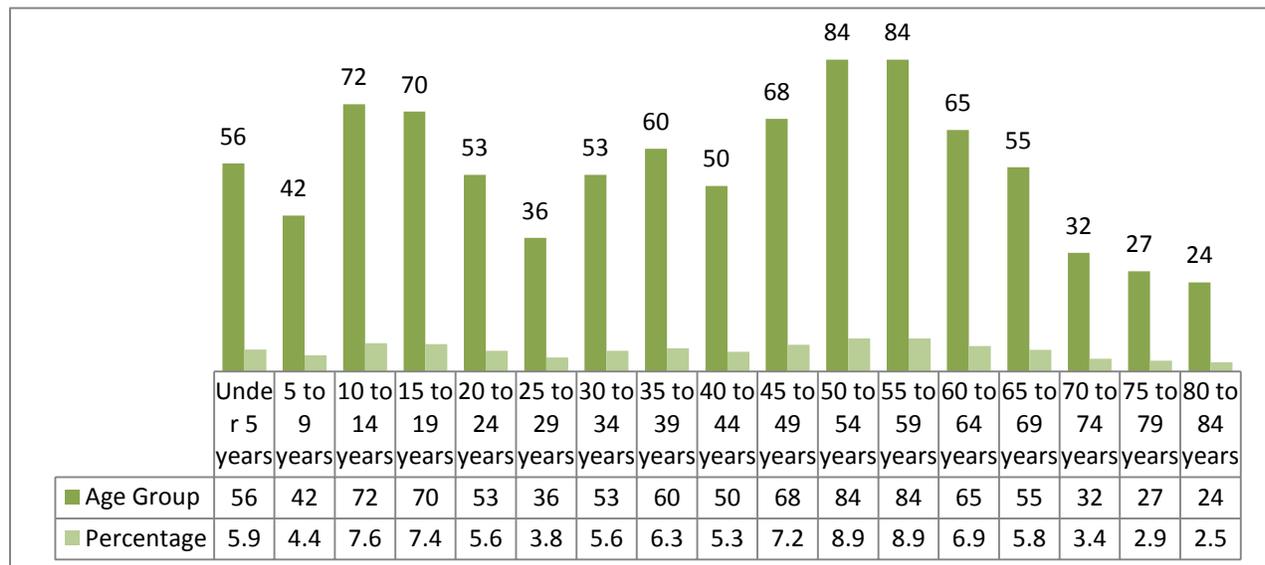
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 *Source: Portland State University Certified Population

Projected Population

The population should increase to 1,224 residents by the year 2037 based on Falls City’s average annual growth rate of 1.44 percent between 1956 and 1996². This represents a growth of 277 persons or an average of 14 persons per year over the next 20 years. It should be noted that in last seven years, the population has only increased by 0.3% total.

Age Breakdown

Table 2-2 Age Breakdown



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010

¹ Source: Falls City 1979 Comprehensive Plan

² Source: Falls City 2010 Comprehensive Plan

Disability Characteristics

Table 2-3 Disability Characteristics

| Subject | Falls City, Oregon | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| | Total | | With a disability | | Percent with a disability | |
| | Estimate | Margin of Error | Estimate | Margin of Error | Estimate | Margin of Error |
| Total civilian noninstitutionalized population | 994 | +/-183 | 303 | +/-70 | 30.50% | +/-5.8 |
| SEX | | | | | | |
| Male | 474 | +/-96 | 180 | +/-48 | 38.00% | +/-7.4 |
| Female | 520 | +/-109 | 123 | +/-36 | 23.70% | +/- |
| AGE | | | | | | |
| Under 5 years | 56 | +/-38 | 0 | +/-12 | 0.00% | +/-39.6 |
| 5 to 17 years | 155 | +/-60 | 8 | +/-9 | 5.20% | +/-6.1 |
| 18 to 34 years | 154 | +/-51 | 24 | +/-23 | 15.60% | +/-13.2 |
| 35 to 64 years | 444 | +/-92 | 171 | +/-56 | 38.50% | +/-8.2 |
| 65 to 74 years | 128 | +/-42 | 59 | +/-28 | 46.10% | +/-14.2 |
| 75 years and over | 57 | +/-22 | 41 | +/-18 | 71.90% | +/-14.1 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Ethnic Composition

Table 2-4 Ethnic Composition

| | 2000 | % | 2010 | % | Change | % |
|--|------|---------|------|---------|--------|---------|
| Total Populations | 966 | 100.00% | 947 | 100.00% | -19 | -2.0% |
| Hispanic or Latino | 35 | 3.6% | 49 | 5.2% | 14 | 40.0% |
| White alone | 872 | 90.3% | 850 | 89.8% | -22 | -2.5% |
| Black or African American Alone | 9 | 0.9% | 1 | 0.1% | -8 | -88.9% |
| American Indian and Alaskan Native alone | 16 | 1.7% | 21 | 2.2% | 5 | 31.3% |
| Asian Alone | 1 | 0.1% | 4 | 0.4% | 3 | 300.0% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone | 2 | 0.2% | 1 | 0.1% | -1 | -50.0% |
| Some other Race Alone | 3 | 0.3% | 0 | 0.0% | -3 | -100.0% |
| Two or More Races | 28 | 2.9% | 12 | 2.2% | -7 | -25.0% |

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census, Summary File 1; 2000 Census, Summary File 1. Tabulated by Population Research Center, Portland State University.

Income Characteristics

The Falls City median family income is significantly lower than the county and state average. Oregon \$51,243, Polk County \$52,821 and Falls City \$33,309³.

Table 2-5 Income

| INCOME (IN 2015 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS) | Estimate | Margin of Error | Percentage | Percentage margin of Error |
|---|----------|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Total households | 357 | +/-59 | 357 | (X) |
| Less than \$10,000 | 57 | +/-28 | 16.00% | +/-7.2 |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999 | 23 | +/-14 | 6.40% | +/-3.6 |
| \$15,000 to \$24,999 | 70 | +/-25 | 19.60% | +/-6.5 |
| \$25,000 to \$34,999 | 40 | +/-26 | 11.20% | +/-6.6 |
| \$35,000 to \$49,999 | 57 | +/-25 | 16.00% | +/-6.4 |
| \$50,000 to \$74,999 | 45 | +/-19 | 12.60% | +/-4.6 |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 | 42 | +/-21 | 11.80% | +/-5.5 |
| \$100,000 to \$149,999 | 16 | +/-14 | 4.50% | +/-3.7 |
| \$150,000 to \$199,999 | 4 | +/-5 | 1.10% | +/-1.3 |
| \$200,000 or more | 3 | +/-4 | 0.80% | +/-1.2 |
| Median household income (dollars) | 33,309 | +/-5,991 | (X) | (X) |
| Mean household income (dollars) | 43,609 | +/-7,294 | (X) | (X) |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

³ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Poverty Characteristics

Portland State University (PSU) conducted a 2016 Income Survey⁴ of residents with City sewer. The PSU Survey Research Lab surveyed 134 families, resulting in a response rate of 85.35%. Survey results indicated that 83 families, representing 214 residents (55.15%) with City Sewer are consider low or moderate income according to the census criteria outlined by Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The PSU income survey percentage of individuals with low or moderate income was significantly higher than U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Table 2-6 Poverty

| Subject | Total | | Below poverty level | | Percent below poverty level | |
|--|----------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| | Estimate | Margin of Error | Estimate | Margin of Error | Estimate | Margin of Error |
| Population | 974 | +/-167 | 250 | +/-94 | 25.70% | +/-9.1 |
| AGE | | | | | | |
| Under 18 years | 191 | +/-67 | 84 | +/-55 | 44.00% | +/-18.9 |
| Under 5 years | 50 | +/-36 | 36 | +/-35 | 72.00% | +/-24.4 |
| 5 to 17 years | 141 | +/-52 | 48 | +/-31 | 34.00% | +/-16.3 |
| Related children of householder under 18 years | 185 | +/-66 | 78 | +/-54 | 42.20% | +/-19.6 |
| 18 to 64 years | 598 | +/-120 | 149 | +/-48 | 24.90% | +/-8.3 |
| 18 to 34 years | 154 | +/-51 | 57 | +/-33 | 37.00% | +/-19.7 |
| 35 to 64 years | 444 | +/-92 | 92 | +/-31 | 20.70% | +/-6.5 |
| 60 years and over | 253 | +/-54 | 23 | +/-18 | 9.10% | +/-6.6 |
| 65 years and over | 185 | +/-48 | 17 | +/-16 | 9.20% | +/-8.0 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

⁴ Source: PSU Falls City Oregon Income Survey 2016 Report

| Subject | Oregon | | Polk County | | Falls City | |
|---|---------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| | Percent | Percent Margin of Error | Percent | Percent Margin of Error | Percent | Percent Margin of Error |
| THE PAST 12 MONTHS IS BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL | | | | | | |
| All families | 11.20% | +/-0.3 | 10.60% | +/-1.5 | 21.50% | +/-9.4 |
| With related children of the householder under 18 years | 18.40% | +/-0.5 | 18.20% | +/-2.9 | 39.40% | +/-19.5 |
| With related children of the householder under 5 years only | 20.10% | +/-0.9 | 23.00% | +/-7.5 | 50.00% | +/-44.2 |
| Married couple families | 6.00% | +/-0.2 | 5.90% | +/-1.2 | 15.30% | +/-7.9 |
| With related children of the householder under 18 years | 9.20% | +/-0.4 | 10.30% | +/-2.5 | 27.90% | +/-16.8 |
| With related children of the householder under 5 years only | 8.10% | +/-0.9 | 12.00% | +/-6.0 | 42.90% | +/-48.8 |
| Families with female householder, no husband present | 31.80% | +/-0.9 | 29.20% | +/-6.3 | 21.60% | +/-18.0 |
| With related children of the householder under 18 years | 41.50% | +/-1.3 | 39.80% | +/-8.0 | 21.40% | +/-26.0 |
| With related children of the householder under 5 years only | 51.40% | +/-2.9 | 56.90% | +/-24.8 | - | ** |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

An '-' following a median estimate means the median falls in the lowest interval of an open-ended distribution.

A '+' following a median estimate means the median falls in the upper interval of an open-ended distribution.

Conclusion

Citizen demographics go hand in hand with the mission statement of the Parks Master Plan: *“Parks and Open Spaces are necessary to develop healthy individuals and communities when the economy is strong, and are even more important when we face economic and social challenges.”*

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates that **30.50%** of residents have a disability (margin of rate +/-5.8).

- Parks should be welcoming and safe for people of all ages, ability levels and ethnicities.
- Ensure that all parks are accessible to everyone and in compliance with ADA requirements when implementing system improvements and with major repairs.

Portland State University Income Survey⁵ of residents with City sewer service found that 83 families, representing 214 residents (**55.15%**) have low or moderate income. The U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015

⁵ Source: PSU Falls City Oregon Income Survey 2016 Report

American Community Survey 5-Year estimates that **25.70%** of Falls City residents are below the poverty level. Falls City income levels fall below Polk County by approximately \$19,500 annually⁶.

- Poverty and income are important considerations in the parks planning process, as they influence residents’ willingness and ability to pay for higher levels of service and new parks.
- The high percentage of people with low or moderate income levels suggests that the City should explore ways to target parks and recreation services, and their benefits, towards lower-income residents.

Falls City population growth has been flat over the last four years. In contrast, Polk County growth rate was in the top two tiers in the State of Oregon in 2015. Polk County growth rate was 2 percent, with a population increase of 1,408 for a total population in July 2015 of 79,391⁷. Out of Oregon’s 36 counties, 29 saw a population increase. Deschutes, Crook saw an increase of 3 percent, Polk, Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Jefferson, and Marion saw an increase of 2 percent.

The population growth rate in Falls City will increase after sewer treatment system improvements are implemented as defined by the 2013 Wastewater Facility Plan. Defined sewer improvement will serve existing sewer users located primarily north of the Little Luckiamute River. City Council desires future capacity to serve the entire corporate boundary of the City of Falls City. Once city sewer service is extended to the Corporate City Limits the population growth will accelerate, because the City will have sufficient vacant land to provide for population growth.

- With a community that is projected to see an increase in population, implementation of park improvements would help to ensure that our city provides a friendly and welcoming environment for citizens of all demographics.

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year estimates

⁷ Oregon Live news article dated March 23, 2016 titled “New Census data is out: See Oregon's 29 growing counties”

Chapter 3 THE CURRENT PARK SYSTEM

Planning Area

Falls City is a small rural community with a population of 950⁸ with an area of 1.2 square miles. The City of Falls City, Polk County, Oregon is located in the Mid-Willamette Valley. The area of study is located within the incorporated city limits. The urban Growth Boundary (UGB) for Falls City is defined as the same as the incorporated city limits and was set in 1979 (Ordinance 391 adopted May 8, 1979; Polk County Ordinance 238 adopted April 11, 1979). The closest cities are Dallas (≈ 6 miles), Monmouth (≈12.5 miles) and Independence (≈15 miles). Falls City is approximately 22 miles southwest of the City of Salem, approximately 68 miles from Portland, Oregon and approximately 55 miles east of Lincoln City.

Falls City offers a local store, a bar & grill, and an artisan bakery. Residents enjoy the natural resources including the Little Luckiamute River that flows through the center of town, our namesake Falls, beautiful parks, open spaces and miles of farming and timberland.

The dominant landscape is steep mountainous slopes on the west, north and south sides of the city. East of the city, the landscape is agricultural in appearance. Falls City unique landscape includes forest and wildlife environments settled around the Little Luckiamute River and various other tributaries. The City's quality of life and recreation opportunities are highly valued by the community.

This chapter defines a subset of State of Oregon parkland classifications park classifications and provided detailed inventories of Falls City recreational spaces and facilities. In Chapter 7 Level of Service, the Falls City inventory will be compared to State of Oregon Level of Service (LOS) standards to define gaps in recreational opportunities currently provided to residents.

In addition to parks and open spaces owned by the City of Falls City, the Parks Master Plan included properties owned by the Falls City School District, and parks beyond the city limits to represent a full range of recreation opportunities in and near Falls City.

Pocket Parks

A pocket park is the smallest park classification. Pocket parks provide basic recreation opportunities on small lots, within residential areas serving an area within approximately 5-10 minutes walking time (approximately ¼ mile). Typically less than two acres in size, these parks are designed to serve residents in immediately adjacent neighborhoods. Pocket parks provide limited recreation amenities, such as playgrounds, benches, and picnic tables. Pocket parks do not normally provide off-street parking.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks provide close-to-home recreation opportunities primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. They are located within approximately 5-10 minute walking time (approximately ¼ - ½ mile) without crossing major thoroughfares and/or other structures and easy bicycling distance of residents. They typically serve up to a one-half-mile radius, and are generally 2-20

⁸ 2015 Certified Population Portland State University

acres in size (Service area is also influenced by neighborhood configuration and various geographical and transportation barriers). Neighborhood parks typically include amenities such as playgrounds, outdoor sports courts, sports fields, picnic tables, pathways, and multi-use open grass areas. They may or may not provide off-street parking. Neighborhood parks can, when practical, be located next to elementary schools in order to provide more efficient use of public resources.

Community Parks

Community parks are typically larger in size and serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Their focus is on meeting the recreation needs of several neighborhoods or large sections of the community, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. Community parks are typically 15-100 acres, depending on the spatial requirements of the facilities provided and the amount of land dedicated to natural resource protection. Community parks provide both active and passive recreation opportunities that appeal to the entire community serving an area within approximately 15 minutes driving time. While a community park may be proximate to a neighborhood and can provide typical neighborhood park amenities, they are normally designed as a “drive-to sites.” Community parks typically accommodate large numbers of people, and offer a wide variety of facilities, such as group picnic areas and large shelters, sports fields and courts, children’s play areas, swimming pools and splash pads, community gardens, extensive pathway systems, community festival or event space, and green space or natural areas. Community parks require additional support facilities, such as off-street parking and restrooms and as such can also serve as regional trailheads.

Regional Parks

Regional parks are large parks that provide access to unique natural or cultural features and regional-scale recreation facilities. Typically 100 acres or more in size, regional parks serve areas within a 45 minute driving time. These parks often include significant green space to preserve unique natural areas, riverfront corridors, wetlands, and agricultural or forested areas. Regional parks may include properties for which there are no immediate development plans and that are situated in such a way as to primarily serve the surrounding neighborhood (land banked properties). Regional parks also may accommodate large group activities and often have infrastructure to support sporting events, festivals, and other revenue-generating events to enhance the City’s economic vitality and identity. Activities available in regional parks may include picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, trail use, etc. Regional parks include supporting facilities, such as restrooms and parking.

Nature Parks and Open Spaces

Nature parks are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. They may preserve or protect environmentally sensitive areas, such as wildlife habitats, stream and creek corridors, or unique and/or endangered plant species. Nature parks may vary in size from small parcels (less than 10 acres) to large properties of more than 200 acres. Nature parks typically serve a community-wide population and include greenways, natural areas, and preserves. Public access to natural areas may be limited at these sites, which often include wetlands, steep hillsides, or other similar spaces. Some nature parks may be managed secondarily to provide passive recreation opportunities. These sites may contain trails, interpretive displays, viewpoints, and seating areas.

Special Use Parks

The Special Use classification covers a broad range of park and recreation lands that are specialized or single-purpose in nature. Parks in this category include waterfront or ocean access parks, boat ramps, memorials, historic sites, waysides, swimming areas, single purpose sites used for a particular field sport, dog parks, skateboard parks, display gardens, sites occupied by buildings, or protect some significant geologic or scenic feature. Special use parks that have a community or regional draw may require supporting facilities such as parking or restrooms. Park size is dependent on the special use and can vary from very small to many acres.

Special Use Facilities

The Special Use Facilities classification covers Falls City School District Properties and Church properties that welcome public use. While these properties are largely occupied by school or church buildings, they include sport fields, playgrounds and open fields.

Trails, Pathways and Bikeways

Trails, pathways, and bikeways include a number of trail types including multi-use, pedestrian, and soft surface trails to accommodate a variety of activities such as walking, running, biking, dog walking, rollerblading, skateboarding, and horseback riding. Such trails may be located within parks or along existing streets and roadways as part of the citywide transportation system. Multi-use trails are designed for use by pedestrians, bicyclists, skateboarders, wheelchairs, and other non-motorized vehicle users. These trails are hard surfaced to accommodate bicycles and provide accessibility for people with disabilities. Hard surfaced pedestrian trails are generally found within smaller parks and as secondary trails within larger parks. Soft surfaced trails are composed of soft-surface materials, such as soil, crushed rock, hog fuel, and wood chips. Most soft surfaces do not provide accessibility for people with disabilities but are preferable for some recreation activities, such as running and hiking. Trails, pathways, and bikeways may include amenities such as directional and control signage, gates, benches, overlooks, drinking fountains, lighting, trailhead kiosks, and interpretive signs.

Regional Sports Parks

Regional sports parks typically consolidate heavily programmed athletic facilities for activities such as soccer, football, baseball/softball into a few strategically located sites throughout the community. Regional sports parks could also include facilities such as race tracks, shooting ranges and equestrian areas. The location of these facilities is important due to the traffic, lighting, and noise that are often associated with them. They typically require large parking areas and restroom facilities. They also may have other park amenities, such as play areas or picnic facilities that serve non-participant family members and others while events are taking place. Regional sports parks normally require a minimum of 25 acres, with 40-80 acres being optimal.

Destination Parks

Destination Parks can include the same characteristics as Regional Parks, Natural Area Parks, Special Use Parks and Linear Parks, but offer such outstanding natural, historic, scenic or recreational attractions that visitors travel more than an hour to several days, by car, to reach them. They are usually well known statewide and even nationally. They can have a wide range of acreage sizes and levels of

development, but generally have a moderate to very intensive level of visitation. They can be day-use parks or can offer overnight camping or cabins.

Most of the parks in the Oregon State Park system are Destination Parks. Some county and regional park systems also operate Destination Parks.

City of Falls City Community Parks, Open Spaces, Pocket Parks and Special Use Parks

1. Community Parks

Developed parks in Falls City have been designated as Community Parks because they serve the entire community, even though their size best match Neighborhood Parks.

Fay Wilson Memorial Park (Lower Park) is a 1.09 acre park located on South Main Street. The park is also known as the Riverside Park. The park is tree shaded and adjacent to the south bank of the Little Luckiamute River with a footbridge over the river with access to City Hall and downtown shopping. The park has a basketball court, playground equipment, and electricity. There are no sanitary facilities, except in summer months. This park is available for use without reservation between dawn and dusk. The Riverside Park was renamed Fay Wilson Memorial Park in 1989. The late Fay Wilson was city recorder for 25 years.

The Fay Wilson Memorial Park, along with the City Hall Open Space located across the 3rd Street footbridge, hosts several annual events: Bad to the Bone BBQ, Polk County Pride, Popsicles in the Park, and musical events.

Michael Harding Memorial Park (Falls Park) is a 1.0 acre portion of what is locally known as the “Old Mill Lot” located on Parry Road. The “Old Mill Lot has a total of 2.01 acres. This small park sits above the Falls for which the City is named on the south side of the Little Luckiamute River about a quarter mile from downtown. There are no sanitary facilities, except in summer months. This park is available for use without reservation between dawn and dusk. Michael Harding served as the city recorder for 2 ½ years before dying in a car accident at 29 years old in 1976.

George Kitchin Park (Upper Park) is a 9.40 acre park located on Park Street. The park sits atop a beautiful tree covered hill abutting the City’s north and northwest boundary. The park is the largest of the City parks and offers a wide array of recreational activities. The park has restroom facilities, playground equipment, horseshoe area, a baseball field and large gazebo area, large areas of lawn, all intermingled among towering Douglas fir trees that dominate the park’s landscape. There are picnic tables scattered throughout the park. There are limited electrical hook ups for the gazebo area. Soft surface trails meanders the property. The George Kitchin Park gazebo is the only park facility that can be rented and reserved. This park is available for use between dawn and dusk. Overnight dry camping is available with approval from the City of Falls City.

The George Kitchin Park hosts several long standing events in August: The Valsetz Reunion, the All School Reunion, and the Old Timers Picnic. The Old Timers Picnic was first established in 1938. The

Parks and Recreation Committee host the annual Easter Egg Hunt. In prior years, the Falls City Volunteer Fire Department hosted the 3rd of July firework show in the baseball field. The fireworks show was canceled in 2016 and did not take place in 2017. Various other events are held in the George Kitchin Park from time to time. Several limitations make it difficult to hold large events at the park; limited parking at the park combined with cars parking along the narrow dirt roads lead to the park has prevented emergency vehicle access.

The Upper Park was renamed George Kitchin Park in 1989. George Kitchin was the Public Works Superintendent for 18 years.

George Kitchen Park Ballfield is located in the northwest section of George Kitchin Park. The ballfield is used sparingly because the field is in poor condition. The top soil was removed, sometime ago, and relocated to the Falls City High School Football field. The field is fenced.

The Falls City Comprehensive Plan, Goal 5 under Significant Views identifies the two-acre (0.81 hectare) city park [Ballfield] in the northwest section as a Significant Resource. "Scenic views and sites" are lands that are valued for their aesthetic appearance (OAR 660-23- 230 (1))⁹.

2. Special Use Parks - Falls City Historic Cemeteries¹⁰

Both the Upper and the Lower Cemetery are owned by Falls City and are located east of Falls City, outside of City Limits.

Upper Cemetery. In the late 1800's a Cemetery Association was formed with the goal of locating an accessible site. The land for the Upper Cemetery was purchased from George Tice and is located on the hill north of the highway about one mile east of town. It was recorded in the Polk County Records on December 11, 1893 as the "Falls City Cemetery Grounds, and Unincorporated Association. Some bodies were disinterred from the Hubbard Cemetery and moved to the new City cemetery. On January 6, 1930, the Falls City Cemetery Association deeded the cemetery to the City of Falls City¹¹. Plots are no longer available for purchase at the Upper Cemetery.

Lower Cemetery. In 1907, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) established a cemetery on the south side of the highway, just south of the Upper Cemetery. It too was taken over by the City of Falls City when the lodge disbanded. Plots are available for purchase at the Lower Cemetery.

⁹ OAR 660-023-0230

Scenic Views and Sites

(1) For purposes of this rule, "scenic views and sites" are lands that are valued for their aesthetic appearance.

(2) Local governments are not required to amend acknowledged comprehensive plans in order to identify scenic views and sites. If local governments decide to amend acknowledged plans in order to provide or amend inventories of scenic resources, the requirements of OAR 660-023-0030 through 660-023-0050 shall apply.

¹⁰ The Development of Falls City, Oregon, 1845-1965 Historical Context Statement (Michelle L Dennis, 1997), 26

¹¹ Polk County Cemeteries, Volume Two: The Southwest Fourth (Polk County genealogical Society, 1988), 21

3. Open Spaces

Michael Harding Memorial Park South. Michael Harding Memorial Park South added 1.63 acres of open space on the north side of the river. The area includes two tax lots containing nine (9) lots of record. A Oregon Parks and Recreational Department (OPRD) Local Government Acquisition Grant was awarded to Falls City for the purchase of the vacant land overlooking the Falls on the north side of the Little Luckiamute River. A term of the acquisition grant requires the City to change the zoning of the land from Residential (R) to Public [Public Open Space (P)]. Additionally, land acquired using Local Government Grant funds are required to be dedicated for recreational use in perpetuity, by an instrument recorded in the county records, unless OPRD or a successor agency, consents to removal of the dedication. Rezoning this property to Public Open Space (P) will protect recreational use in perpetuity. The City took ownership 1.13 acres (Polk County Assessor Map and Tax Lot numbers 8621BB03600) on December 13, 2016. The zoning was changed to Public Open Space (P) by Ordinance 547-2017 adopted on August 10, 2017.

The adjoining parcels to the west are owned by the City of Falls City. The largest parcel is .050 acres (Map and tax lot: 08621BB03700, 0.050 acres) and borders the Little Luckiamute River and is zoned Public (P) will be included in the Michael Harding Memorial Park expansion.

This area is known for its outstanding beauty, biological and geological diversity. This open space is known for the Falls, for which the City is named, and a large rock outcrop called the Running Ramp, overlooking them. The property has a long history of recreational activity such as fishing, birdwatching, picnicking, walking the undeveloped trails and jumping in the deep pool at the Falls. Upstream from the Falls, big slabs of bedrock emerge from the river and are used for recreation.



Figure 3-1 Band at the Falls (1890's)

Much of Falls City's recreation was related to its natural resource. The River, with its scenic falls, were focal points in the area. The falls were a destination for groups having picnics or holidays celebrations and provided a dramatic backdrop for concerts by the Falls City band.

Citation: Dennis, Michelle L., Culture: Recreation. The Development of Falls City, Oregon, 1845-1965, Historical Context Statement, August 1997, page 27

Open space behind City Hall. The City Hall Open Space is approximately .47 acres with 175' of Little Luckiamute River frontage accessible by a gentle slope. There are several large cherry trees that offer shade in the summer and blooms in the spring; Big Leaf Maple, Alder, Willow and Ash trees also line the river. This area is used by the community for special events such as Bad to the Bone and the Polk County Pride event.



Figure 3-2 Open Space behind City Hall

Dutch Creek Open Space. This 1.42-acre steep parcel fronts Mitchel Street and overlooks the Little Luckiamute River, though it does not offer access to the River, but does share a boundary with “Scorpion Gorge”, a portion of abandoned railroad grade that does have river access. Scorpion Gorge was listed for sale in 2016.

Little Luckiamute River. The Falls City Comprehensive Plan, Goal 5 under Significant Views identifies the Little Luckiamute River Significant Resource. "Scenic views and sites" are lands that are valued for their aesthetic appearance (OAR 660-23- 230 (1)).

Falls City Stairs. Over 100 years ago steps were built into the side of the hill creating two levels in Falls City. The stairs were refurbished in 2014 by dedicated and skilled volunteers under HEAL grant. The stairs are furnished with hand rails, resting areas and benches.



Figure 3-3 Falls City Stairs

Falls City Footbridges. The 3rd Street footbridge connects downtown to the Fay Wilson Memorial Park and offers a stunning view of the little Luckiamute River. The wooden Dayton Street footbridge connects to South Main Street.

Detailed Park Inventory

The Parks and Recreation Committee and staff performed an on-site inventory of parks, open spaces and schools in 2016. The detailed inventory was used to determine the conditions of park facilities and evaluate Level of Service (LOS) State Standards.

Table 3-1 Detailed Park and Open Space Inventory

| Site / Park | Fay Wilson Memorial Park | George Kitchin Park | Michael Harding Memorial Park South | Michael Harding Memorial Park North | Open Space behind City Hall | Old Mill Lot Public Works Yard | Open Space near Dutch Creek | Erma Ferguson Pocket Park | Upper Cemetery | Lower Cemetery | Dayton Street Footbridge | Fay Wilson Memorial Park Footbridge | Falls City Stairs | TOTALS | |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|---|--------|--------|
| Type | Community | Community | Community | Open Space | Open Space | Open Space | Open Space | Pocket | Special Use Facility | Special Use Facility | Trail | Trail | Trail | | |
| Acreage | 1.09 | 9.4 | 1 | 1.63 | 0.47 | 1.01 | 1.42 | 0.002 | 3.27 | 2.5 | n/a | n/a | n/a | 21.79 | acres |
| Baseball fields (Number) | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | Number |
| Basketball courts (Number) | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | Number |
| Picnic shelters – small (Number) | cement pad | cement pad | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | Number |
| Picnic shelters – large (Number) | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | Number |
| Day-use picnic tables (Number) | 1 | 8 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | 10 | Number |
| Fire pit (Number) | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | Number |
| Children’s playgrounds – manufactured structures (Number) | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | Number |
| Community walking trail/path – dirt of other soft surface (miles) | 0.094 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.35 | 0.033 | | | | 0.2 | 0.4 | | | | 1.577 | Miles |
| Community walking trail/path – paved hard surface (miles) | 0.04 | 0.3 | | | | | | | | | 0.035 | 0.035 | 0.06 | 0.47 | Miles |
| Off-street bicycle trails/paths (Miles) | | 0.7 | | | | | | | | | 0.035 | 0.035 | | 0.77 | Miles |
| Bike Rack | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | Number |
| Dog Waste Stations | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | Number |
| Nature and wildlife viewing areas (Number) | 5 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 4 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 34 | Number |
| Description of nature and wildlife viewing | River, salmon, large trees, territorial view, birds | Forest, territorial View, birds and deer and sometimes elk | River, towns' namesake falls, flat rocks above falls perfect for picnic, birds | River, towns' namesake falls, territorial view, pockets of forest, rock outcropping, birds | River, swimming hole, salmon, birds | | Steep slope, view of river, no river access | | Open space dotted with trees | Open Space dotted with trees | Footbridge overlooks river, salmon, trees, birds | Footbridge overlooks river, salmon, trees, birds | Territorial view, brushes & flowers along stairs, birds | | |
| Public access sites to waterways (Number) | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | 6 | Number |
| Public access sites to waterways narrative | 420' of river frontage | | 525' of river frontage, view of falls, flat rocks | 4-525' of river frontage access to falls, favorite place to jump in the river | 175' of river frontage, gentle slope to river | | | | | | Overlooks the Little Luckiamute River | Overlooks the Little Luckiamute River | | | |
| Amenities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Benches (number) | 2 | 3 | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | 4 | 14 | Number |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-----------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|---|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----|--------|
| BBQ grills (Number) | | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | Number |
| Horseshoe Pits (number) | | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | Number |
| Restrooms (Number) | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | Number |
| Restroom availability | Seasonal portable toilet | Seasonal site built | Seasonal portable toilet | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Water fountains (Number) | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parking (Number of spaces) | | 56 | 11 | 20 | 14 | Public Works Only | | | | | | | 20 | 121 | Number |
| Description of parking | Street | 24 along 7th Street fence line, 22 at ballfield, 10 within park. Approximate | Approximately 11 spaces. | Street and designated dirt area | 12 street parking plus 2 Electric Car Charging Station | Event Parking with Permission from City Council | Street | Street | Limited Parking along lane that circles the cemetery | Limited Parking along lane that circles the cemetery | Street | Street | Street, Community Center | | |
| Other: | 235' soft surface trail along river to Bridge Street | Stands of Doug Fir. Several multi-use open grass areas. | | City purchased the land in 2016. | | | | N. Main Street/ intersection with Dayton. | | | 210' hard and soft surface trail | 210' hard and soft surface trail. | 325' long staircase. 119 steps, | | |
| Special Features | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Historical sites & structures* (Number) | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 2 | Number |
| Rivers or streams (Number) | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 8 | Number |
| Woodlots / Forests (Number) | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | Number |
| Other | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Added descriptions | Douglas Fir, Big Leaf Maple, Alders, Cherry, Hazel Nut. 15 cement stairs w/handrails | Several Areas. Large stands of Doug Fir, Oak Trees, vine Maple, | Large stand of Douglas fir. | Various species of Trees: Douglas Fir, Big Leaf Maple, Alders. Rock outcropping | 10 large trees Vine Maple overhangs river. Gentle slope to river. Footbridge | | Steep slope, view of river | 80 sq. ft. | Historic Cemetery | Historic Cemetery | Beautiful view of river | Beautiful view of river | Bird Watching, fitness training | | |
| Playground details | 1 swing set, 1 overhead climber, 1 slide, 1 curved balance beam, 2 semi truck tire tunnel, 1 free standing firetruck front, 1 single spring sit on fire truck | 1 climbing play system, 2 overhead climber, 2 swing set, 2 semi truck tire tunnel, 1 slide, | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Damage Reports | Picnic Table basketball hoops, play firetruck | Ballfield, Horseshoe pits playground | Fence | undeveloped | undeveloped | | undeveloped | | | | Bridge has exceeded its lifespan, To be replaced | | | | |

Table 3-2 Summary of Special Use Facilities Located Within City Limits

| Site / Park | Library Pocket Park | Falls City Elementary School | Falls City High School Football Field | The Rock School | TOTALS | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--------------|---------------|
| Type | Pocket | Special Use Facility | Special Use Facility | Special Use Facility | | |
| Acreage | 0.001 | 1.72 | 6.19 | 0.1 | 8.011 | Acres |
| Basketball courts (Number) | | 1 | | | 1 | Number |
| Football fields (Number) | | | 1 | | 1 | Number |
| Children's playgrounds – manufactured structures (Number) | | 1 | | 1 | 2 | Number |
| Community walking trail/path – dirt or other soft surface (miles) | | 0.18 | 0.53 | | 0.71 | Miles |
| Bike Rack | | 1 | 1 | | 2 | Number |
| Nature and wildlife viewing areas (Number) | 1 | 1 | 5 | | 7 | Number |
| Description of nature and wildlife viewing | Territorial views | Territorial views | River, swimming holes, rock formations, salmon, birds | | | |
| Public access sites to waterways (Number) | | | 1 | | 1 | Number |
| | 52 square feet | 941' trail downhill to Boundary Street ROW to Main Street. | 1,482' trail along river, 1,080' river frontage, .25 mile track | | | |
| Amenities | | | Ticket Stand, Concession Stand, Covered bleachers, composting toilets | | | |
| Benches (number) | | 2 | 2 | | 4 | Number |
| Restrooms (Number) | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | Number |
| Restroom availability | Located in Library | | Seasonal | | | |
| Parking (Number of spaces) | | 20 | 14 | | 34 | Number |
| Description of parking | Library parking | Gravel area | Approximately 14 parking spaces | Street | | |
| Other: | Kings Valley artist Raymond Hunter forged a 14-foot stainless steel monument to Falls City "The Sprit Within" 2003 | | | | | |
| Special Features | | | | | | |
| Rivers or streams (Number) | | | 1 | | 1 | Number |
| Woodlots / Forests (Number) | | | 1 | 1 | 2 | Number |
| Added descriptions | | 1- basketball hoop for small children | Beautifully placed next to the tree lined river bank. | 2017 - Building for sale | | |
| Playground details | | 1 swing set, 2 tetherball poles, 1 glide, 1 overhead climber, 1 large play structures, 1 play horn and drum, 1 floating bridge, 1 sit and spin. | | 1 swing set, 1 slide, 1 tetherball pole, 1 overhead climber (older play equipment) | | |

Table 3-3 Summary of Regional Parks Located Outside City Limits

| Name | Location | Intersection | Acres | Facilities |
|---|---|---|--------|--|
| Regional Parks | | | | |
| Independence Riverview Park | N. Main Street, Monmouth Oregon | D Street, Independence, Oregon | 80.65 | Willamette River boat launch, picnic tables, boater/biker campground, playground, amphitheater, disc golf, Willamette Trail System, Dog Park, New sports field, new boat launch |
| Independence Sports Park | Hwy 51 | Deanne Drive | 50 | Independence's newest park is still under development. After developing a concept plan for the property in 2008, the City entered into a partnership with the property owners to develop approximately 50 acres of ballfields and build a new boat ramp on the site. |
| Sarah Helmick State Recreational Area | 10485 Helmick Rd, Monmouth Oregon | Hwy 99 | 30 | Little Luckiamute runs through the park, picnic area and trails |
| Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge | Hwy 99 and Hwy 22 | Junction of Hwy 99W and 22 and can be accessed via Coville and Smithfield Roads off of 99W. | ≈2,480 | National Wildlife refuge, birding, trails, open area |
| Destination Parks | | | | |
| Blackrock Mountain Bike Area | Black Rock Road, Polk County | Mitchell Street | 1000 | Mountain bike trails network |
| Valley of the Giants | Valsetz Road | Call the BLM (503-375-5646) to receive a copy of the recommended driving directions | 51 | BLM Outstanding National Area, some of the largest Douglas-firs and hemlocks in the Oregon Coast Range between 400 & 500 years old |
| Champoeg State Heritage Area | 7679 Champoeg Road NE, St. Paul, OR 97137 | Off US 99W, 7 miles E of Newberg | 622.63 | Champoeg features a unique combination of history, nature, and recreation. The site where Oregon's first provisional government was formed by a historical vote in 1843. Trails, camping, Willamette River Access, disc freebie, visitor center, events |
| Minto-Brown Island Park | 2200 Minto Island Road SE, Salem, Oregon | River Road | 1205 | Off leash dog area, 18 miles of soft surface and multi-use trails, river frontage, playground, wildlife viewing blinds, benches and picnic tables |

Conclusion

Falls City is rich in parkland and open spaces. The Little Luckiamute River and the Falls are treasured and provide endless recreational opportunities. The City is surrounded by forestland, agriculture and the Oregon Coastal Mountain Range to the west. These assets help to retain residents and position Falls City to attract homebuyers, and become better known as a recreational destination for visitors.

Chapter 4 PARKS OVERSITE AND FUNDING

Parks and Cemeteries Oversight

The City Council appropriates funds to support Parks and Cemeteries. The Parks and Recreation Committee is a citizen committee that advises the Mayor and City Council on park-related matters. The City Manager is responsible for overseeing operations and maintenance of the parks system.

Parks and Cemeteries Budget

Parks and Cemeteries are a department within the General Fund. The Mission Statement of the Parks and Cemeteries department budget is to provide safe, attractive cemeteries and enjoyable parks and open spaces for the citizens of Falls City. The budget maintains basic park maintenance at current levels, and continues to support the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Table 4-1 Parks and Cemeteries Budget

| Description | Actual 2014-2015 | Actual 2015-2016 | Adopted 2016-2017 | Adopted 2017-2018 |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 3 rd of July | \$869 | \$0 | \$2,000 | \$2,000 |
| Operational Supplies | \$6,507 | \$158 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Equipment - O&M | \$555 | \$666 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Building - O&M | \$514 | \$83 | \$1,500 | \$1,000 |
| Utilities | \$4,210 | \$2,985 | \$5,000 | \$2,500 |
| Professional Services | \$675 | \$2,108 | \$2,500 | \$2,200 |
| Uniforms & Protective Gear | \$0 | \$0 | \$100 | \$0 |
| Education/Training/Dues | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Worker Comp Insurance | | \$510 | \$600 | \$220 |
| PROGRAM TOTAL | \$13,330 | \$6,510 | \$13,700 | \$9,920 |

General Funds Allocations

The general fund provides for basic city services including administration, fire department, city council projects, municipal court, planning, other/debt and parks and cemeteries (General Fund departments). The City is required to have a balanced budget. The State of Oregon defines balanced budgets as one in which total resources, including beginning balances (Net Working Capital), current resources (income) and debt proceeds, equal total requirements, including current year requirements (expenses), capital outlay, transfers, debt service and any other requirements such as debt service reserves. The present-day challenge is competing with other general fund departments for park funds. This is especially challenging because of a small population (950) and low assessed value on property within city limits.

Falls City permanent city property tax rate City is \$2.9202 per \$1,000 assessed valuation; the lowest tax rate of cities in Polk County (Salem \$5.5370, Independence \$4.2414, Willamina \$4.2039, Dallas \$4.1372, Monmouth \$3.4572). The 2017-2018 budgeted revenue from property taxes is \$104,000. Other revenue sources for the General fund include State of Oregon Shared Revenues, franchise fees, business licenses, and other administrative fees. These revenues are limited due to our small population (950).

Park and Cemeteries Maintenance

The Public Works Department is responsible for maintenance of the city parks and cemeteries. Primary duties and responsibilities include: turf care, tree pruning, clean up after windstorms, mulching around plants/trees, playground equipment maintenance, building maintenance, painting, preparation for special events and cleaning up after events, and keeping the parks clean. In addition, City of Falls City provides supervision for court appointed community service workers and supports volunteer groups and organizations who volunteer to provide park maintenance. The Parks and Recreation Committee coordinate the SOLVE clean up events which draws people from other areas of the state.

Public Works has two full-time positions responsible for maintenance of 11.49 acres of developed parkland and the two cemeteries combined are 5.77 acres, and 4.53 acres of open space. Public Works allocates a total of 0.07-0.22 FTE (full time equivalent) for park and cemetery maintenance and operations as follows.

Table 4-2 Public Works Staff Allocations

| Public Works | 2016 - 2017 | | | 2015-2016 | | | 2014-2015 | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| | Parks Hours | Cemetery Hours | Percentage work year | Parks Hours | Cemetery Hours | Total work year | Parks Hours | Cemetery Hours | Total work year |
| Public Works Lead Worker | 113 | 23 | 6.67 % or .07 FTE | 113 | 23 | 6.67 % or .07 FTE | 117 | 64 | 8.54 % or .09 FTE |
| Public Works Worker | 120 | 43 | 8.87 % or .09 FTE | 120 | 43 | 8.87 % or .09 FTE | 196 | 64 | 12.87 % or .13 FTE |
| Total | 233 | 66 | .07 FTE | 233 | 66 | .07 FTE | 313 | 128 | .20 FTE |

Grant and Volunteer Contributions

Grant funding, donations, and volunteer efforts have been responsible for the majority of park improvement and in some case, major maintenance of structures.

- 2017 Historic Landmark Commissioner McConnell and Commissioner Bajorins began the “Pink Pokey” Jail restoration project. Marion County Jail Commander Kevin Schultz donated mattresses, blankets and pillows for the jail cots. Marion County Community Service workers reroofed the jail.
- 2017 Councilor Cliff Lauder designed and constructed an on-site Park Host recreation vehicle site in the George Kitchin Park. The City purchased materials, rented equipment, and paid for a concrete finisher laborer.
- 2017 Donated large cement blocks were arranged by volunteers and city staff at the Michael Harding Memorial Park to prevent vehicles from driving into the park and to create an additional parking area on Parry Road.
- 2017 Community Services Consortium (CSC) cleared invasive species from Michael Harding Memorial Park North

- 2016 Volunteers clear invasive species from Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South
- 2016 City of Falls City was awarded a grant for the purchase of land owned by the Falls City Alliance. 1.13 Acres for the future expansion of Michael Harding Memorial Park Map and Tax Lot 08621BB0633
- 2016 Class of 64' donated a new George Kitchin Park sign carved in wood and installed on the Gazebo
- 2016 Old Timers Group purchased a large canopy for the August Valsetz Reunion, Old Timers Picnic & All School Reunion
- 2015 Falls City Stairs renovated by dedicated volunteer efforts lead by Cliff Lauder and Mayor Ungricht through a HEAL CITIES Grant
- 2015 The Old Timers Group added handicap access for the George Kitchin Park Gazebo
- 2014 Frink's Tractor Service volunteered to restore George Kitchen trails the trails on the south side
- 2014 Ford Foundation Leadership Project team installed electricity and lighting to the Lower Park, (Fay Wilson Memorial Park), and volunteers cleared invasive species from the river's edge and other portions of the park
- 2013 Falls City Alliance group purchased 1.13 Acres for the future expansion of Michael Harding Memorial Park Map and Tax Lot 08621BB0633, sold to the City in 2016
- 2013 The high school seniors class of 2013 resurfaced the existing basketball court in Fay Wilson Memorial Park and installed new basketball hoops
- 2012 Clint Vincent of Arcs and Angles Construction and additional volunteers, donated labor to replace the roofs of the George Kitchin Park Gazebo and restroom with a durable metal roof. Volunteers stripped the roofs. The City provided \$2,154.31 for materials.
- 2012 Erma Ferguson Pocket Park was constructed with volunteer efforts and donated materials
- 2012 Class of 1962 installed a Memorial Rock at the George Kitchen Park "*A memorial of all who lived in and loved Falls City*"
- 2011 Ford Foundation Leadership Project team designed a Pocket Park
- 2006-7 Three fundraising activities raised \$2,000 for Fay Wilson Memorial Park restroom. In February 2012, these funds were reallocated to help pay for materials needed for the new gazebo roof.
- 2003 Kings Valley artist Raymond Hunter forged a 14-foot stainless steel monument to Falls City "*The Sprit Within*" originally installed in the Bridge Street island; monument since moved to the Library
- 1990's The Volunteer Fire Association built the George Kitchen bathrooms
- 1990 The Third Street Footbridge was constructed by local volunteers and the SeaBees, a group of engineers from different branches of the military, and \$5,000 from the City budget
- 1984 Valsetz donated money towards the restroom, two picnic tables and the Flag Pole for the George Kitchin Park

1980's The Town of Valsetz donated the Valsetz Headstone and Flag Pole located in George Kitchen Park. Former residents of Valsetz gather at the Valsetz Headstone for an annual reunion in August.

1980's The Volunteer Fire Association installed two access gates. Gates donated by Willamette Industry. A large chain that came from a battle ship was purchased from surplus and installed

1980's The Volunteer Fire Association rebuilt the Horse Shoe Pits in the Upper Park

Conclusion

The challenge for the Falls City Park System is lack of funding resulting from limited General Fund revenues. This deficit is coupled with a minimal depth of staffing for park operations and maintenance (O &M). Volunteer efforts over the years have substantially contributed for park improvements by donation of money, materials, and labor; this type of generosity will continue to be important in years to come. It will be a requirement to estimate operations and maintenance (O&M) when considering park improvements.

Chapter 5 RECREATIONAL TRENDS

Priorities for the Future ¹²

Oregonians were asked their opinions about priorities for the future. Respondents were asked to rate several items for investments by park and forest agencies using a 5-point Likert Scale (1=Lowest priority need to 5 = Highest Priority need). The following priorities are based on number of individuals served, not on frequency of their participation in each activity.

STATEWIDE NEEDS

CLOSE-TO-HOME PRIORITIES

Community trail systems
 Children’s playgrounds
 Acquisition of trail corridors & ROWs
 Trails connected to public lands
 Public restroom facilities
 Picnicking / day-use facilities

DISPERSED-AREA PRIORITIES

Group campgrounds & facilities
 RV / trailer campgrounds & facilities
 Public restroom facilities
 Tent campgrounds & facilities
 Group day-use & facilities
 Acquisition of trail corridors & ROWs

Public Recreation Provider and Oregon Resident Identified Needs¹³

The following are recreation needs identified in the statewide survey of Oregon public recreation providers and the statewide survey of Oregon residents.

POLK COUNTY NEEDS

PUBLIC RECREATIONAL PROVIDER SURVEY

| CLOSE-TO-HOME PRIORITIES | Score | DISPERSED-AREA PRIORITIES | Score |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Acquisition of trail corridors & ROWs | 5.0 | Public restrooms | 4.0 |
| Community trail systems | 5.0 | Group day use & facilities | 4.0 |
| Trails connected to public lands | 5.0 | Picnicking / day use & facilities | 4.0 |

POLK COUNTY NEEDS

OREGON RESIDENT SURVEY

| | Score | | Score |
|---|-------|--|-------|
| Dirt/ other soft surface walking trails and paths | 3.9 | Off-street bicycle trails and pathways | 3.2 |
| Public access to waterways | 3.6 | Paved/hard surface walking trails and paths | 3.1 |
| Children’s playgrounds and play areas made of natural materials | 3.5 | Children’s playgrounds and play areas built with manufactured structures like swing sets, slides, and climbing apparatuses | 3.0 |
| Nature and other wildlife viewing areas | 3.5 | Community Gardens | 3.0 |
| Picnic area and shelters for small visitor groups | 3.3 | | |

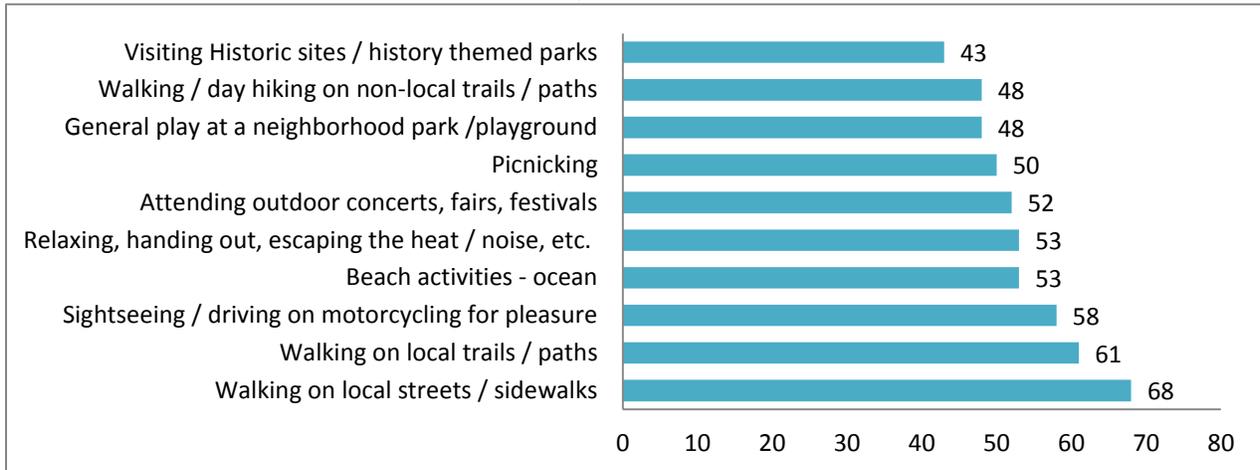
¹² Source: Oregon Resident Outdoor Recreation Demand Analysis

¹³ Source 2013-2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

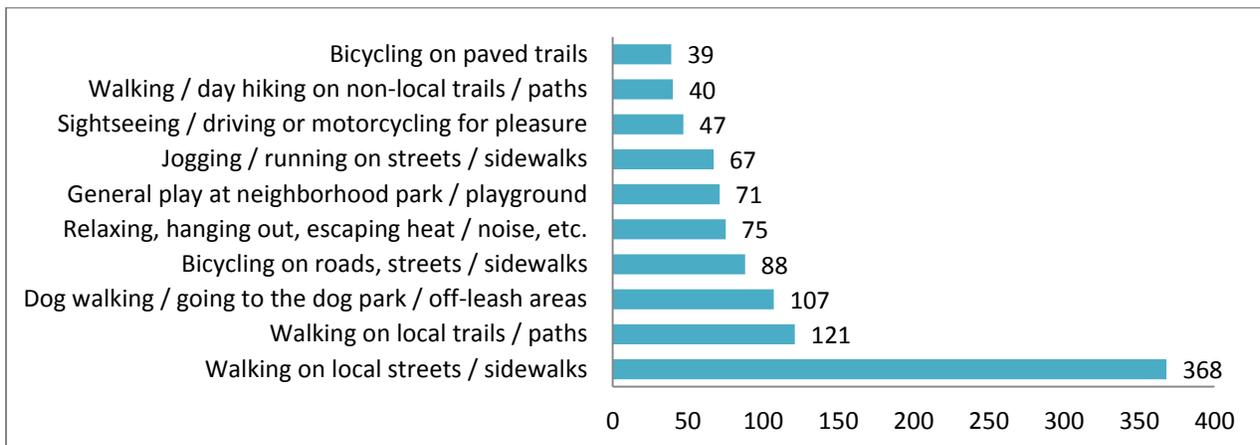
Outdoor Recreation Participation Trends

Recreational trends identified in the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department “2013-2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan”

TOP TEN ACTIVITIES FOR OREGON RESIDENTS, 2011 PERCENT POPULATION PARTICIPATING



TOP TEN ACTIVITIES FOR OREGON RESIDENTS, 2011 USER OCCASIONS (IN MILLIONS)



Conclusion

Trend information differentiates between park provider’s needs and park user’s needs. Park providers want services for park users; restrooms and group and picnic facilities. Park users want access to waterways, nature, and playgrounds. **Both park providers and users agree on the top priority: Trails.**

Recreational trends identified in the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department “2013-2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan” found the #1 and #2 activity in the State of Oregon was walking on local street/sidewalks and walking on local trails/paths. Falls City has an opportunity to provide a superior trail system with access to waterways (second priority for Polk County residents). The Falls City Parks Master Plan contains a conceptual drawing of the Little Luckiamute River Trail map (Appendix A-2).

Chapter 6 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Community Outreach

Parks provide a variety of recreational opportunities to the community. But will the future Falls City park system accomplish what the individual, the organization, or the community needs? This question is critical for a successful Parks Master Plan for the future of the park system.

The Falls City community outreach program began in 2012 and strived to gather the needs of the community in order to construct a Parks Master Plan that will guide city government to develop a park system that the community wants.

Past Planning Efforts

1. Comprehensive Plan: City of Falls City Natural Resources, Scenic and Historic Areas and Open Spaces Inventory; Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (2001)
2. Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment for Falls City, Oregon; Portland State University (2014) (Appendix F-1)
3. Oregon State University students prepared a SWOT analysis on Falls City and identified Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats for Falls City (2013) (Appendix F-2)

Falls City Alliance, a local non-profit organization

1. Falls City Alliance hosted public meetings in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2012 to discuss Falls City Park and Recreation District Proposal; Developed by Falls City Alliance and last updated in 2012 (Appendix F-3)
2. 2014 Falls City Alliance Park and Recreation Survey (Appendix B-1)

City of Falls City public outreach

1. Falls City Parks and Recreation Committee meetings where the Parks Master Plan was on the agenda: Monthly from February 2015 to November 2017
2. 2016 Falls City Park and Recreation Survey (Appendix B-2)
3. 2017 Falls City Park and Recreation Survey (Appendix B-3)
 - a. The Survey included in the 3/27/2017 Falls City Utility Bills (446 accounts). April Newsletter article.
 - b. Parks and Recreation Committee Members collected surveys at the Saturday April 15, 2017 Easter Egg Hunt
 - c. Park and Recreation Chairperson Anzalone hosted an information table and collected surveys at the April 18, 2017 Service Integration Community Night
4. Published articles in the Falls City Monthly newsletter (Appendix B-4)
5. Launch of Parks Master Plan Project www.fallscityoregon.gov web page on June 20, 2017 (Appendix B-5)

6. Parks Master Plan Open House Saturday, August 26, 2017 (Appendix B-6)
 - a. Invitation mailed with the June 26, 2017 Falls City Utility Bills (446 accounts)
 - b. Utility Bill Message on the July 26, 2017 Falls City Utility Bills (446 accounts)
 - c. Brightly colored bookmark invitation handed out at the Nation Night Out Block Party August 1, 2017, made available at City Hall, and distributed on N. Main Street the day before the event.
 - d. Open House invitation posters were on display at City Hall, Community Center, Post Office, Frink's General Store, The Boondocks and The Breadboard.
 - e. Posted Public Notice of Parks Master Plan Open House August 17, 2017
 - f. Advertised the event on the community Facebook group page.

References

Appendix B - Surveys and the Parks Open House Invitation

Appendix F - Prior studies

2014 Falls City Alliance Survey Results

Appendix B-1, 2014 Falls City Alliance Survey

Figure 6-1 2014 Falls City Alliance Park Survey Results

| Survey Questions: | | | | | | | | | Yes | | No | | Other* | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-----|-----|----|-----|--------|----|---|---|
| Do you like this idea? | | | | | | | | | 104 | 93% | 2 | 2% | 6 | 5% | | |
| Are you a Falls City citizen? | | | | | | | | | 77 | 69% | 28 | 12% | 6 | 5% | | |
| Length of residency? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 18 | 10 | 14 | 20 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Have you visited or recreated at either side of the Falls City Falls? | | | | | | | | | 97 | 92% | 3 | 3% | 5 | 5% | | |
| Generation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 6 | 44 | 31 | 22 | 1 | | | |
| Would you use the planned project? | | | | | | | | | 102 | 92% | 4 | 4% | 5 | 5% | | |
| Are you or someone you know handicapped that'd benefit from this | | | | | | | | | 75 | 69% | 29 | 27% | 5 | 5% | | |
| Would you use a trail along the Luckiamute? | | | | | | | | | 106 | 96% | 4 | 4% | | 0% | | |
| Do you enjoy birdwatching, photography, painting or drawing nature? | | | | | | | | | 101 | 86% | 16 | 14% | | 0% | | |
| Would this project motivate you to get outdoors and be more active? | | | | | | | | | 91 | 83% | 18 | 16% | 1 | 1% | | |
| Would you like more opportunities for outdoor activities? | | | | | | | | | 102 | 93% | 5 | 5% | 3 | 3% | | |
| Would you like to volunteer with others to help with routine maintenance? | | | | | | | | | 84 | 73% | 26 | 23% | 5 | 4% | | |
| * Maybe and unclear answers grouped in Other column. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Irrelevant answers omitted. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Survey Comments | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Provide trash cans in picnic areas | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Safety precautions for smaller kids | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Need more outdoor activities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-resident- Coming here gives me peace, childhood memories | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Having space to celebrate beauty in our community will enhance the health of it's members | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handicap trails would be great | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Concern with vandalism | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Install metal railings instead of cedar | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Safe and beautiful place to enjoy the Falls | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Turn property from potential liability to asset to bring tourism traffic, money and positive press for our community | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Perhaps partner will rails to trails to maximize impact | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Conclusions

The 2014 Falls City Alliance community survey focused on the need for a public park at the Falls Property on Mitchell Street. The survey narrative described a picnic pavilion and an ADA trail to the Falls. The survey received 117 responses. 92% would use proposed picnic pavilion, 96% would use a trail, 93% wanted more outdoor activities, and 69% responded that they or someone they know were disabled.

(Appendix A-1 Conceptual drawing of Pavilion Michael Harding Memorial Park South)

2016 City of Falls City Survey Results

Appendix B-2, 2016 City of Falls City Survey

Figure 6-2 2016 City of Falls City Survey Results

| Age | 1929-1945 | 1946-1964 | 1965-1982 | 1983-2001 | 2002-present | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|-------|-----|-----|----|
| | 14 | 21 | 12 | 3 | 0 | | | | |
| Recreation Ops | Trails | Dog Park | Baseball | Skateboard park | Frisbee golf | Total | | | |
| Number in Favor | 31 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 53 | | | |
| Percentage in Favor | 58% | 23% | 6% | 4% | 9% | | Yes | No | |
| River Trail Use | | | | | | 30 | 7 | | |
| Park Additions | Camping, Basketball Court Upper Park, more tables, lighting, history brochures, clean restrooms, paved roads, picnic area at Falls, updated equipment, routine maintenance of playgrounds and fences, guardrails and cameras at Falls, baby swings, signs, conservation, access to river, stair maintenance, trail connecting parks, garden area, dirt | | | | | | | | |
| Upper Park Camping? | | | | | | 30 | 15 | Yes | No |
| Percentage | | | | | | 67% | 33% | | |
| Comments | How could area be enforced without a code enforcement off Water and sewer issues priority | | | | | | | | |
| Priority Development | Fay Wilson | Michael Harding | Upper Park | | | Yes | No | | |
| | 8 | 15 | 24 | | | | | | |
| Priority Percentage | 25% | 47% | 75% | | | | | | |
| Approve Tax | | | | | | 21 | 22 | | |
| Percentage | | | | | | 49% | 51% | | |
| Volunteer Time | | | | | | 23 | 20 | | |
| Percentage | | | | | | 53% | 47% | | |
| Donate Time | | | | | | 23 | 18 | | |
| Percentage | | | | | | 56% | 44% | | |
| Total of number of surveys sent out to Utility customers: | | | | | | 445 | | | |
| Total number of returned surveys: | | | | | | 50 | | | |
| Return percentage rate: | | | | | | 11% | | | |

Conclusions

The 2016 Falls City survey focused on a trail system and six specific recreation uses. The survey received 50 responses (11% return rate). This survey began the discussion of the challenge of funding parks: 49% supported a park tax. Trails were their first priority (58%). 67% were in favor of a George Kitchin Park Campground. 75% identified George Kitchin Park the #1 development priority. 53% would volunteer time for maintenance and 56% would donate time for improvements.

2017 City of Falls City Survey Results

Appendix B-3, 2017 City of Falls City Survey

Residents returned 56 surveys. This is a 12% return rate (455 surveys mailed).

Resident priority for recreation

Responses

| | |
|---------------|----|
| High | 17 |
| Med | 28 |
| Low | 6 |
| Not specified | 8 |

Park Popularly

| | |
|--|--|
| # 1 Park visited by residents George Kitchin Park | # 1 Numer of visits – Michael Harding Memorial Park |
| # 2 Park visited by residents Fay Wilson Memorial Park | # 2 Numer of visits – George Kitchen Park |
| # 3 Park visited by residents Michael Harding Memorial Park | # 3 Numer of visits – Falls Property (Michael Harding Memorial Park North) |
| # 4 Park visited by residents Falls Property (Michael Harding Memorial Park North) | # 4 Numer of visits – Fay Wilson Memorial Park |

Citizen Priorities for Parkland Improvements

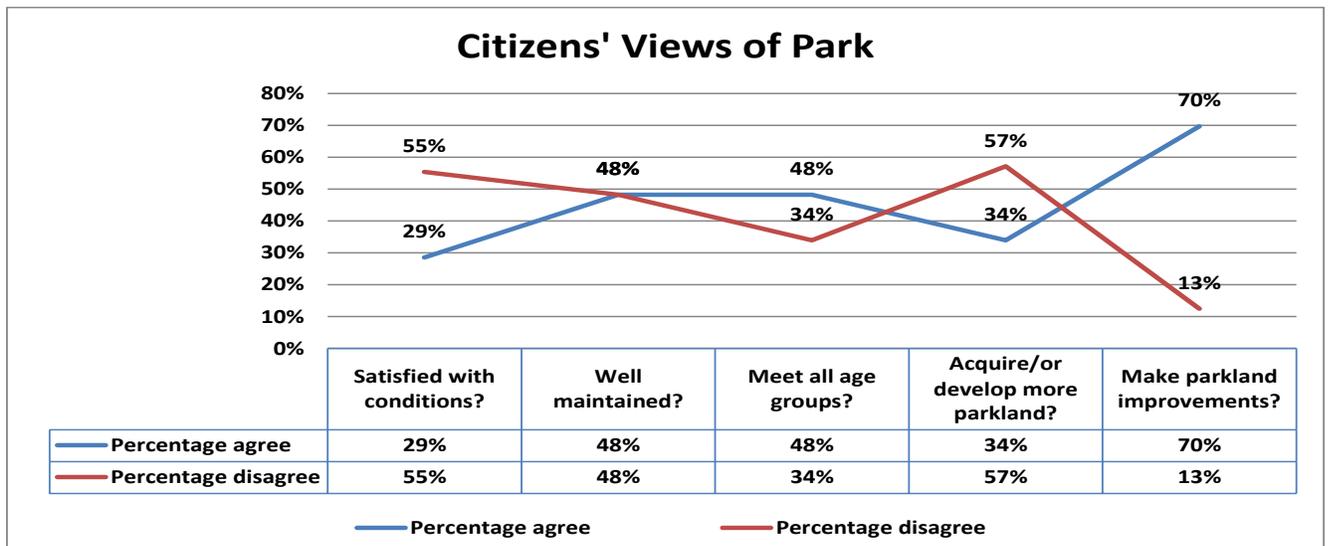
| Priority: | #1 | #2 | #3 | #4 | #5 | #6 | #7 | #8 |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Weighted Average: | 5.418182 | 5.163636 | 5.072727 | 4.327273 | 4.254545 | 4.127273 | 3.854545 | 3.781818 |
| Improve-ment: | Walking Trails | Children's Playground | Picnic Areas & Shelter | Restrooms | Nature/ Wildlife viewing area | Access to Waterways | Community Garden | Bicycling Trails |

| Priority: | #9 | #10 | #11 | #12 | #13 | #14 | #15 | #16 |
|-------------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Weighted Average: | 3.2 | 2.618182 | 2.145455 | 2.127273 | 2.072727 | 1.890909 | 1.836364 | 1.127273 |
| Improve-ment: | Campsites | Basketball Court | Off-leash dog park | Skateboard Park | Designate d Paddling Route | Sports Field | Disc golf | Tennis Court |

Citizen Reasons to Recreate

| Priority | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Weighted Average | 13.13 | 12.93 | 12.73 | 12.47 | 12.40 | 12.33 | 12.13 | 11.73 | 11.33 |
| Reason | Be in the outdoors | Reduce tension | Relax | Escape the daily routine | Have fun | Be with family & friends | Feel harmony with nature | Keep fit and healthy | Feel safe & Secure |

| Priority | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
|------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Weighted Average | 11.13 | 10.87 | 9.67 | 9.33 | 9.33 | 8.13 | 8.00 | 6.53 |
| Reason | Do something children /grand-children enjoy | Get away from crowded situations | Achieve spiritual fulfillment | Learn something new | Expose your children/ grand-children to something new | Experience challenge & excitement | Meet new People | Maintain ethnic identify/ traditions |



| Greatest challenges facing parks next 3-5 years | | Key words counts in survey comments | |
|---|----|-------------------------------------|----|
| #1 Need maintenance | 13 | falls | 24 |
| #2 Vandalism | 11 | walk | 23 |
| #3 Funding | 9 | vandalism | 14 |
| #4 Drugs | 4 | safe` | 10 |
| #5 Safety | 3 | hike | 8 |
| #5 Homeless | 3 | parking | 7 |
| #6 Crime | 2 | trail | 7 |
| #6 Alcohol | 2 | picnic | 7 |
| #6 Dated | 2 | baseball | 6 |
| | | swim | 6 |
| | | handicap | 5 |
| | | bike | 5 |
| | | accessible | 3 |
| | | softball | 1 |

Conclusions

The 2017 survey collected information on park usage, prioritized park improvements using general categories, evaluated the reasons for recreation and determined satisfaction levels. Word counts were used to weight comments.

Favorite Park: George Kitchin Park

Park with the greatest number of trip visits: Michael Harding Memorial Park

Top five improvement priorities: Walking trails, children playgrounds, picnic areas, restrooms and nature/wildlife viewing

Top four reasons for recreation: Be in the outdoors, reduce tension, relax, and escape the daily routine

| Satisfaction Levels | Satisfied with conditions? | Well maintained? | Meet all age groups? | Acquire/or develop more parkland? | Make parkland improvements? |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Percentage agree | 29% | 48% | 48% | 34% | 70% |
| Percentage disagree | 55% | 48% | 34% | 57% | 13% |

Percentage agree Percentage disagree

Tax increase for Improvements: 48% in favor, 32% opposed

Greatest Challenge: Need Maintenance, vandalism, Funding, Drugs

Emphasis determined by word counts: Walk, the Falls, vandalism, safe

Parks Master Plan Open House Results

Appendix B-6 Parks Master Plan Open House Invitation

Thirty (30) people attended the open house, including children and teens. All attendees participated by asking questions, sharing ideas, discussing options and voting for their #1, #2, #3 #4 priorities in several categories: Repairs, small improvements, bigger improvements, long term improvements. At the end of the Open House the remaining adults provided their yes/no/maybe votes for a dedicated revenue streams for park funding.

| Repairs | Votes cast | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Priority #1 | Priority #2 | Priority #3 | Priority #4 |
| Basketball hoops | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Slide at George Kitchin Park | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Swing sets at George Kitchin Park | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Picnic Table at Fay Wilson Park | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| Replace BBQ at Fay Wilson Park | 3 | 0 | 6 | 1 |
| Rehab baseball field (Major expense) | 0 | 5 | 0 | 4 |
| Horseshoe Pits | 2 | 2 | 0 | 5 |

| Small Improvements | Votes cast | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Priority #1 | Priority #2 | Priority #3 | Priority #4 |
| George Kitchin Park. Restore/build 1 small picnic and BBQ are on existing cement slab. | 1 | 1 | 8 | 2 |
| Michael Harding Memorial Park South Install two picnic tables and two BBQ. | 9 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Michael Harding Memorial Park South Install two benches. | 1 | 9 | 2 | 0 |
| WRITE-INS | | | | |
| Address Security Concerns | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| More trash cans | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Protective cages for electrical power outlets to prevent vandalism | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Large Improvements

| Item | Votes cast | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Priority #1 | Priority #2 | Priority #3 | Priority #4 |
| 9-Hole Disc Golf \$\$ | 7 | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Develop Michael Harding Park North Pavilion/BBQs/Bathroom \$\$\$\$ | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| George Kitchin Park Campground \$\$\$\$ | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Soft Surface Trails (Little Luckiamute River Trail Little by Little) \$\$ | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Rehab baseball field \$\$\$ | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Skateboard Park \$\$ | 4 | 5 | 0 | 2 |
| Equestrian Trails \$\$ | 3 | 5 | 4 | 0 |

Long-Term Improvements

| Item | Votes cast | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Priority #1 | Priority #2 | Priority #3 | Priority #4 |
| Develop Michael Harding Park North Pavilion, Bathroom, parking, trails, BBQ | 5 | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| Simple City Hall Open Space Amphitheater | 6 | 9 | 3 | 2 |
| Little Luckiamute River Trail North side of River | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 |

Funding Discussion

Staff reviewed the average annual funding for parks (\$3,000 to \$4,000) and the group discussed the impact of vandalism and repairs. Vandalism was labeled the elephant in the room and examples of costs were provided. Participants understood that vandalism and repairs ate away at the \$3,000 to \$4,000 annual budget.

Participant's response – new improvements should be vandalism proof

Park and Recreation Committee Chair Anzalone and City Clerk Protheroe reviewed options for dedicated revenue streams and asked participants if they wanted to be the dedicated revenue stream:

Support a Park and Recreation Tax District - Response: None in favor.

✓ Five (5) No. None in favor.

Pay an optional monthly Park Utility Fee – Response: Yes, proving it is optional

✓ Six (6) Yes. None opposed.

Support long term goal of State Park status for Michael Harding Memorial Park South and North (Falls Property).

✓ Four (4) Yes. One (1) No. One (1) Maybe

Participant Suggestions:

- ✓ Create a dedicated fund for fees collected for parks and for donations. Similar to the Capital Improvement Fund.
- ✓ Ask for tax deductible donations. Send a letter for large donations.
- ✓ Create a round up program¹⁴ on utility bills and allocate to the new dedicated park improvement fund.
- ✓ Parks and Recreation Committee to recommend a specific improvement with a specific fund raising time period/ Council to approve. Dedicate all optional Park Utility Fees and donations collected in the specific time period to the specified improvement. Staff to advertise detailed fundraising campaign information and status in monthly newsletter. Parks and Recreation Committee Members to solicit donations.

Participant Suggestion Box Ideas:

- ✓ Horse campground and riding trails
- ✓ Talk to large businesses for donation to fix parks
- ✓ Go Fund Me Page
- ✓ Corporate outreach to sponsor major repair of baseball field. Grossman Weston/supply fill dirt & Contractor. TBD blade, compact and seed in exchange for sponsorship and signs; they will supply own signage.
- ✓ Set up a reward system for turning in vandals, suggested punishment: community service in the location he/she vandalized.
- ✓ "I'm all about public engagement" So many ambitions and wonderful ideas, sadly, few citizens are aware. A plan to educate, engage & inspire people is critical. Mary (Kay) Greta volunteered and will be available in February 2018. She would like to meet with the Parks and Recreation Committee in February to discuss a public engagement plan.
- ✓ Install cast iron cage (designed specifically for public spaces) to cover power box in order to prevent vandalism in Fay Wilson Memory Park.
- ✓ Build/Install vandalism proof improvements

¹⁴ 2017 – City Utility Software program does not offer the roundup feature

Chapter 7 LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

Level of Service (LOS) guidelines were developed after a review of past National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) standards, results from a statewide survey of Oregon’s public park and 45 recreation providers, and a benchmarking report completed by Leisure Vision for the Oregon Recreation and Park Association (ORPA). While these statewide site guidelines provide a useful framework for evaluating jurisdiction resources, it is recognized that individual jurisdictions will customize LOS standards to reflect their unique conditions, resources and needs.

LOS standards are measures of the amount of public recreation parklands and facilities being provided to meet the community’s basic needs and expectations. For example, the amount of parkland currently needed in a particular jurisdiction may be determined by comparing the ratio of existing park acres per 1,000 residents to the cities desired level of park relative to the population. The gap between the two ratios is the acreage needed to meet community recreational needs.

To determine the adequacy of current Falls City park and recreations opportunities the Parks and Recreation Committee performed a Level of Service (LOS) Analysis in March 2017. Here they evaluated the sums of the Falls City detailed park and recreation ¹⁵inventory against the Level of Service standards and identified several gaps.

Conclusion

As a result of the LOS exercise, the Park and Recreation Committee selected several standard park and recreation features to include in the Parks Master Plan. The Level of Service (LOS) exercise emphasized the need for walking trails and strengthened the desire for a campground. This exercise revealed the need for a skateboard park, equestrian trails, amphitheater, and disc golf course. Lastly, this exercise shaped the desire for a designated paddle route on the Little Luckiamute River which would draw recreational tourist to Falls City.

¹⁵ Table 3-1 Detailed Park and Open Space Inventory

Table 7-7-1 Park and Recreation Level of Service (LOS) Analysis March 2017 provides the results of the LOS analysis exercise.

| Park and Recreation Feature | Falls City TOTALS | LOS Analysis | LOS Guidelines | Priorities for the Future 1=Lowest 5=Highest | Parks and Recreation Committee Analysis | Park and Recreation Feature | Falls City TOTALS | LOS Analysis | LOS Guidelines | Priorities for the Future 1="Lowest" 5="Highest" | Parks and Recreation Committee Analysis |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|--|---|---|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--|---|
| Acreage | 21.79 | Met | 6.25 - 12.5 acres | | | Off-leash dog parks | 0 | Not Met | 0.04 | 2.9 | |
| Baseball fields | 1 | Met | 0.20 | 2.4 | | Nature centers | 0 | Not Met | 0.03 | | |
| Basketball courts | 2 | Met | 0.20 | 2.4 | | Amphitheaters | 0 | Not Met | 0.03 | | Include |
| Soccer fields | 0 | Not Met | 0.20 | | | Disc golf courses | 0 | Not Met | 0.02 | | Include |
| Golf courses (Holes) | 0 | Not Met | 0.60 | | | Community walking trail/path – dirt of other soft surface | 2.057 | Not Met | | 3.8 | Include |
| Lacrosse fields | 0 | Not Met | 0.15 | | | Community walking trail/path – paved hard surface | 0.47 | Not Met | | 2.9 | |
| Equestrian facilities | 0 | Not Met | 0.01 | | Include | Off-street bicycle trails/paths | 0.77 | Not Met | | 3.4 | |
| Football fields | 1 | Met | 0.10 | | | Motorized boat ramps | 0 | N/A | 0.25 | | |
| Outdoor swimming pools | 0 | Not Met | 0.05 | | Swimming holes | Non-motorized boat launches | 0 | N/A | 0.25 | | |
| Beach area for swimming | 0 | River | 0.10 | | Swimming holes | Tent campsites (Number) | 0 | Not Met | 3.60 | | Include |
| Volleyball courts | 0 | School | 0.20 | | | RV/trailer campsites (Number) | 0 | RV Park | 3.60 | | Include |
| Tennis courts | 0 | Not Met | 0.35 | 2.1 | | Community gardens | 0 | | | 2.9 | |
| Picnic shelters small | 1 | Met | 0.30 | 3.3 | | Nature and wildlife viewing areas | 35 | | | 3.4 | |
| Picnic shelters large | 1 | Met | 0.30 | 2.8 | | Designated paddle routes | 0 | | | 2.8 | Include |
| Day-use picnic tables | 10 | Met | 10.00 | | | Public access sites to waterways (Number) | 12 | | | 3.6 | |
| playgrounds –natural materials | 0 | | | 3.4 | | Multi-Use fields for soccer, football, lacrosse, etc. | 1 | | | 2.8 | |
| playgrounds – manufactured structures | 4 | Met | 0.40 | 2.8 | | Off-highway vehicle trails/ areas | 0 | | | 2.3 | |
| Skateboard parks | 0 | Not Met | 0.04 | | Include | | | | | | |

Chapter 8 PARK SYSTEM GOALS and OBJECTIVES

Goals are broad-based statements that embody the values and hopes of the community. Objectives are a measurable step to achieve the goal. The Parks and Recreation Committee developed goal and objectives to guide the selection of park improvements and to shape funding strategies.

Goal: Ensure Falls City parks are maintained at a safe and sustainable level

Objective: Provide adequate funding for park maintenance and repairs

Objective: Engage Community Service Workers

Objective: Invite volunteer participation

Objective: Consider on-site full-time Park Hosts at City Parks

Goal: Preserve, protect, maintain, improve, and enhance natural resources, parkland, open spaces, and recreational opportunities

Objective: Each November, the Parks and Recreation Committee should review park improvements identified in the Parks Master Plan, necessary major repairs, and make recommendations to City Council in December for the next fiscal year budget

Objective: The Parks and Recreation Committee should research grant opportunities and seek approval from City Council to apply for grants

Goal: Ensure that all parks are accessible to everyone

Objective: Implement park system improvements and major repairs in compliance with ADA requirements

Objective: Develop parking spaces at all City Parks in compliance with ADA requirements

Objective: Implement trails in compliance with ADA requirements that lead to recreational improvements

Objective: Implement sections of the Little Luckiamute River Trail in compliance with ADA requirements

Objective: Design and implement restrooms in compliance with ADA requirements in all City Parks

Goal: Seek donations for park improvements

Objective: Create a dedicated Parks Improvements Fund (Non- Major Fund) to account for donations made specifically for park improvements and budget transfers to the General Fund Parks Department for fiscal year improvements and major repairs

Objective: Consider identifying and advertising specific improvements for fundraisers and set specific timelines. E.g., Funds donated between a given date range will go towards a new picnic area in Michael Harding Memorial Park South

Goal: Encourage volunteerism

Objective: Welcome and support volunteer leadership

Objective: Support citizen groups who wish to donate time and materials for improvements, repair projects and for maintenance of parks and open spaces

Objective: Invite citizens to become Park and Recreation Committee Members

Objective: Invite the public to Park and Recreation Committee meetings

Objective: Invite the public to volunteer for Park and Recreation Committee events and projects

Goal: Prevent vandalism

- Objective: Consider on-site full-time parks hosts for all parks
- Objective: Educate the community in Park Watch principles
- Objective: Support the Neighborhood Watch program
- Objective: Hold events in the City Hall Open Space and Fay Wilson Memorial Park to inspire family use of downtown park areas
- Objective: Keep parks and open spaces clean to avoid a neglected appearance
- Objective: Remove and/or repair vandalism as soon as possible because vandalism sends a signal of neglect
- Objective: Plan, design, budget and purchase or build public improvements made of durable materials that can stand up to daily wear and tear and some degree of vandalism. Consider materials with a protective coating that can be cleaned without destroying the integrity of the surface. Dark colors can help prevent graffiti since fewer paint colors contrast against dark colors

Goal: Realize the importance of the Little Luckiamute River by enhancing existing facilities and creating new facilities along the river, while protecting the riparian corridor

- Objective: Develop the Little Luckiamute River Trail section by section, and provide on-going maintenance of the trail
- Objective: Educate property owners adjacent to Little Luckiamute River on options for the Little Luckiamute River Trail: access easements, land dedications, and the option to convey the rights to create a trail (open a trail for public use, and maintain it without the owner giving up ownership and enjoyment of the land through which the trail passes)
- Objective: Seek funding for and support actions listed in the City of Falls City DEQ Total Daily Maximum Load (TDML) matrix to improve water quality of the Little Luckiamute River

Goal: Educate and promote removal of invasive, non-native vegetation and habitat restoration on public and private lands, and the riparian corridor

- Objective: Support the Parks and Recreational Committee annual SOLVE event
- Objective: Partner with Luckiamute Watershed Council (LWC) to support their mission "to engage and assist landowners and communities in the voluntary protection, restoration and enhancement of the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds."
- Objective: Partner with Polk County Extension Office for invasive weed eradication and control
- Objective: Encourage future leaders to develop a river restoration and erosion prevention plan and seek grant funding to implement the plan

Goal: Encourage community organizations to develop community events that provide opportunities for cultural celebrations and recreational activities

- Objective: Develop a standard Special Use Permitting process
- Objective: Encourage event organizers to train future organizers to provide stability for long running events
- Objective: Create a safety corridor for roadways leading to the George Kitchin Park by implementing public improvements for additional parking and by installing no parking signage along the narrow streets to safeguard emergency vehicle access to the park and nearby homes during special events

Goal: Encourage partnerships for recreation programs for youth, such as Little League and outdoor education

Objective: Encourage the Parks and Recreation Committee to seek grants for outdoor education

Objective: Restore the George Kitchin Park baseball field

Objective: Encourage District 7 Little League, West Valley Little League to expand district to include Falls City

Goal: Create a linked network of sidewalks, trails, footbridges, and public multi-use pathways to connect neighborhoods, schools, parks, natural landscapes, and the downtown

Objective: Develop and maintain a Community Trail Network

Objective: Seek funding for "Safe Routes to School"

Objective: Develop a walking map and install directional signage for a linked network

Goal: Create recreational opportunities for visitors that can enhance the city's economic vitality

Objective: Install directional signage for the Stairs, footbridges, parks, open spaces, and the Falls

Objective: Develop and maintain the Little Luckiamute River Trail

Objective: Encourage the Historical Landmark Commission to prepare and submit an application for the National Register of Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South and the Stairs under Criterion A (Event) or Criterion B (People)

Objective: Install kiosks at key locations that provide recreational maps and visitor information

Objective: Support the Historical Landmarks Commission goal to install historic plaques that show the historic view from vantage points within the city. For example, install a plaque at the top of the Falls City Stairs that has an enlarged historic photo of the same view from earlier days

Objective: Join efforts with the Historical Landmarks Commission to develop a Geocaching program in Falls City (outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices).

Objective: Consider State Park status for the Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South property

Goal: Make the City a better place to live, work and play

Objective: Implement the Parks Master Plan

Chapter 9 RECOMMENDED PARKLAND IMPROVEMENTS

Falls City is a nature-rich city that offers open spaces, parks and the treasured Little Luckiamute River. Nevertheless enhancements are needed to improve the level and quality of parks to meet the needs of current and future residents.

Inventory

A detailed inventory of recreational spaces and what each space offers was prepared by members of the Park and Recreation Committee and staff through a physical inspection of each recreational site within city limits (Chapter 3). This inventory served the baseline from which to assess improvement needs.

Process used to determine park improvements

The Park and Recreation Committee considered all Parks Master Plan Chapters during the quantitative assessment of park improvement.

- ✓ Executive Summary. The mission statement and the motto provided a test for all findings.
- ✓ Chapter 1 Planning Steps and methods were used to guide the planning process.
- ✓ Chapter 2 Community Demographics illustrated the need for facilities and trails compliant with ADA requirements because the U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates reported that 30.50% of residents have a disability (margin of rate +/-5.8).
- ✓ Chapter 2 Community Demographics reported that the results of 2014 Portland State University Income study and the U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year estimates noted the high percentage of people with low or moderate income levels suggests that the City should explore ways to target parks and recreation services, and their benefits, towards lower-income residents.
- ✓ Chapter 3 The Current Park System served as the logical baseline for planning by documenting recreation lands and facilities are currently available to residents.
- ✓ Chapter 5 Recreational Trends, Chapter 6 Community Needs Assessment, Chapter 7 Level of Service Analysis and Chapter 8 Park System Goals and Objectives drove the selection process and the prioritization of park improvements.

Conditional Assessment

- ✓ Some parks and all open spaces lacked amenities such as restrooms, picnic tables, benches, and BBQ's
- ✓ Playground equipment items need to be replaced or repaired
- ✓ Unhealthy trees
- ✓ The effects of vandalism

Vandalism Mitigation

Parks and open spaces should be inviting and welcoming to families and groups. The more people use park facilities, the fewer problems we'll see from criminals, who generally don't want witnesses to their crimes.

Chapter 8 Goals and Objectives identified several objectives, if met, will help to discourage vandalism including:

- ✓ Keep parks clean to avoid a neglected appearance. When graffiti or vandalism does occur, be sure to take care of it quickly. If you don't, it encourages further problems.
- ✓ Build or purchase products made of durable materials that can stand up to some degree of vandalism and daily wear and tear, such as patrons standing and jumping on picnic tables and benches.
- ✓ Look for materials with a protective coating that can be cleaned without destroying the integrity of the surface. Dark colors also help to deter graffiti artists, as their work will be less visible.

Minimal Park Standards

Many of our recreational areas do not meet minimal standards for recreation:

- ✓ Parks and open spaces without trash collection. Fay Wilson Memorial Park, Michael Hardy Memorial Park North and South and City Hall Open Space. Volunteer distribute blue trash barrels and collect trash during the summer season.
- ✓ Parks without picnic tables. Fay Wilson Memorial Park (picnic table vandalized), Michael Hardy Memorial Park North and South, City Hall Open Space.
- ✓ Parks without benches. Michael Hardy Memorial Park North and City Hall Open Space.
- ✓ Parks without bike racks. George Kitchen Park, Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South.
- ✓ Parks without site built restrooms connected to city sewer. All Parks and Open Spaces.
- ✓ Parks without ADA compliant restrooms. There are no restrooms in compliance with ADA requirements with one exception; Michael Harding Memorial Park South offers a seasonal ADA compliant portable toilet. George Kitchin Park is the only park that provides a site built public restroom, but it is not ADA compliant.
- ✓ Parks without ADA compliant parking. Fay Wilson Memorial Park, Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South, and George Kitchin Park.
- ✓ Parks and Open Space without signage. Michael Hardy Memorial Park North and South, Fay Wilson Memorial Park, City Hall Open Space and additional signage needed at George Kitchen Park. Improve directional signage for all parks, open spaces, and the Falls.
- ✓ Parks that can benefit from river restoration and erosion prevention projects. The Little Luckiamute River is part of the Luckiamute watershed. The river travels through the center of Falls City in an easterly direction. Fay Wilson Memorial Park, Michael Hardy Memorial Park North and South, Old Mill Public Works Yard, and City Hall Open Space combined have approximately 3560 feet of river frontage. This uniquely positions Falls City to contribute to protecting the Luckiamute watershed by restoring natural habitat including the planting native trees to shade the river to protect fish habitat.

Recommended Parkland Improvements

Request Trash Collection Service at all Parks and Open Spaces

Consider making a request to Republic Services for dumpsters and waste collection at Fay Wilson Memorial Park, Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South, and City Hall Open Space as this service is provided under the franchise agreement at no cost and with no penalty. Explore recycling. *Municipal Code CHAPTER 53: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT, Section 01.110 FRANCHISEE OBLIGATIONS. (E) City Service.*

(1) *The franchisee shall provide collection services to property owned, controlled or operated by the city at no cost to the city, including parks and bus stops.*

(2) *All services provided by the city (including the operating costs associated with provision of park and bus stop collection services) shall be considered a cost of doing business and part of the rate base to be considered in future rate adjustments. The franchisee shall provide documentation supporting said operating costs to the city.*

Repairs (priorities not assigned)

| Project # | Location | Repair |
|-----------|---------------------------|--|
| GK-R1 | George Kitchin Park | Replace Slide |
| GK-R2 | George Kitchin Park | Rebuild horseshoe pits |
| GK-R3 | George Kitchin Park | Inspect/Remove Douglas Fir Tree showing signs of disease located west of the restrooms on the left hand side of the road |
| FW-R1 | Fay Wilson Memorial Park | Replace basketball hoops with durable materials to deter vandalism |
| FW-R2 | Fay Wilson Memorial Park | Remove vandalized picnic table and replace with a picnic table made of durable materials |
| FW-R3 | Fay Wilson Memorial Park | Repair or replace toddler fire truck |
| FW-R4 | Fay Wilson Memorial Park | Inspect/remove two deciduous trees that are leaning |
| MS-R1 | Michal Harding Park South | Install parking bollards or parking stops to prevent someone from driving off the edge of the parking area located on Parry. |

Parkland Small Improvements

| Priority | Project # | Location | Improvement |
|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | FW-S1 | Fay Wilson Memorial Park | Relocate power above the kick zone and cover with a pedestal, designed specifically for public spaces, to cover power utilities. This applies to three areas. |
| 2 | MS-S1 | Michael Harding Memorial Park South | Plant grass seed in the open area near the fence line to define a picnic area. Initially install two picnic tables made of durable materials and two BBQ's with locking grills. |
| 3 | FW-S2 | Fay Wilson Memorial Park | Install a picnic table made of durable materials and one BBQ with locking grills on the existing cement slab. |
| 4 | MS-S2 | Michael Harding Memorial Park South | Install two benches made of durable area overlooking the river. |
| 5 | GK-S1 | George Kitchin Park | Install a picnic table made of durable materials and a BBQ with locking grill on existing cement slab west of playground. |

Table 9-1 Parkland Improvement Priorities

| Priority | Project # | Location | Improvement |
|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Dev-1 | All Parks | Site built ADA restroom connected to city water and sewer. The Park and Recreation Committee identified Restrooms #1 to resolve public health concerns, improve community livability and protect the Luckiamute Watershed. |
| 2 | Dev-2 | Little Luckiamute River | Develop a Little Luckiamute River Trail along the north side of the river. The Parks and Recreation Committee identified trails #2 due to interest expressed in surveys and because recreational trends position trails number one priority for both park providers and users. (Appendix A-2) |
| 3 | Dev-3 | Michael Harding Memorial Park North | Develop a picnic pavilion that includes site built ADA restroom connected to sewer, BBQ area, electricity, trails, ADA parking and general parking. (Appendix A-1) |
| 4 | Dev-4 | George Kitchin Park | Develop a campground |
| 5 | Dev-5 | City Hall Open Space | Construct a simple amphitheater and ADA trail leading to the amphitheater from Mill Street (Appendix A-3) |
| 6 | Dev-6 | City Wide | Develop Equestrian Trails |
| 7 | Dev-7 | George Kitchin Park | Develop a 9-hole Disc Golf Course |
| 8 | Dev-8 | Right-of-way | Develop a Skateboard Park in the right-of-way located between 217 and 281 N. Main Street |
| 9 | Dev-9 | To be determined | Develop a new playground or expand an existing playground. |
| 10 | Dev-10 | George Kitchin Park | Rehab the baseball field; add drainage, grade, add top soil, plant turf and install bases and benches. |
| 11 | Dev-11 | Little Luckiamute River | Create a designated paddle route |
| 12 | Dev-12 | To be determined | Create a dog park |

The Project # is referenced in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Little Luckiamute River Trail

Appendix A-2 – Conceptual Drawing of the Little Luckiamute River Trail

The proposed length of the Little Luckiamute River Trail will be approximately two (2) miles and will extend from the Falls City High School to the Dutch Creek Crossing on Mitchell Street at the west boundary of town. The trail will run along the north side of the river, except, a spur trail will run from the City Hall Open Space, across the 3rd Street footbridge to Fay Wilson Memorial Park. The path will travel along the river to Bridge Street, cross Bridge Street, and run along Parry Street to and through Michael Harding Memorial Park South. During summer months, trail walkers can cross the river and access the trail on the north side of the river. From Bridge Street the main trail will lead across the

bridge and along Mitchell Street to Michael Harding Memorial Park North. There the trail will enter the woods and run along the north side of the river to the Dutch Creek Culver.

The preferred trail alignment will roughly follow the Little Luckiamute River drainage on the north side of the river and will be entirely separated from roadways, except a section of the trail will cross over Bridge Street and travel to Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South. However, because the preferred alignment is a long-term vision and contingent upon future land use changes and/or private property owner cooperation, the Little Luckiamute River Trail will include on-street for sections until the preferred alignment can be fully implemented.

All trail sections do not need to be paved, but the system should offer diverse experiences to those who may be more physically challenged than others. Sections of the trail should be compliant with ADA requirements wherever possible.

1. Partner with the Falls City School District to restore the river trail that surrounds the Falls City High School Football Field
2. Work with private property owners adjacent to Little Luckiamute River to negotiate access easements, land dedication and inform the landowner they may convey the rights to create a trail, open it for public use, and maintain it without the owner giving up ownership and enjoyment of the land through which the trail passes.
3. Install benches, overlooks, trailhead kiosks, and interpretive/ directional signs, where funding is available

Community Trails Network

This improvement focuses on increasing connectivity between parks and points of interest in the city with the use of multimodal paths, sidewalks, footbridges, streets and public right-of-ways. It will ensure that all parks are accessible to everyone.

1. Priority should be given to Safe Routes to Schools.
2. Improve the George Kitchin Park trail along the north boundary of the park to the Alan Street right-of-way.
3. Design and construct paths and trails within parks, on public property, and within right-of-ways.
4. Expand the trail plan to include recommended walking routes that connect key services and landmarks, such as the stairs, schools and downtown.
5. Install benches, overlooks, drinking fountains, lighting, trailhead kiosks, and interpretive/ directional signs, where funding is available.
6. Construct paths and trails that are compliant with ADA requirement to connect parking areas to park improvements and event areas.

Consider the future of the old city dump site. The Parks and Recreation Committee recommends reevaluation of the 16.33 acre old city dump property (Map 8.6.17 Taxlot 01300) during the next full update of the Falls City Comprehensive Plan to determine if this property could better serve the community if zoned Public (P) instead of the current zoning of Commercial Industrial (CI).

Consider pursuing State Park designation for Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South. Mayor Terry Ungricht recommends pursuing State Park designation for the public open spaces surrounding the Falls. The land is zoned Public (P). The creation of a State Park would allow the land to be developed for recreation and would be operated under the State’s budget. The State could best protect the land for recreation use in perpetuity. Participants at the Parks Master Plan Open House on August 26, 2017 were asked if they supported a long-term goal of State Park status for Michael Harding Memorial Park North and South and responded: Four-Yes, One-No, One-Maybe

Chapter 10 POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Park system improvement can be tackled one or two items at a time while adhering to the typical annual budget for the Park and Recreation Department. For example, the purchase of an 8' metal picnic table and a locking BBQ grill is \$938.00 (2017 dollars, based on ULINE park furniture). Even small improvements, such as this, will provide greater recreational opportunities.

General Fund. The Park and Recreation Department is currently funded exclusively by City's General Fund, which receives its revenue primarily from property taxes.

Create a Dedicated Park Capital Improvement Fund to accumulate funds for park improvements. Deposit money raised by fundraiser activates, cash donations & bequests. Transfer funds to General Fund Park and Recreation Department for improvements through the annual budget process.

Dedicated Funding Source Falls City parks and recreation department would benefit greatly from a dedicated funding source to augment limited funding provided by the General Fund. Allocate funds acquired from new dedicated funding sources to the new dedicated Park Capital Improvement Fund.

An optional Park Utility Fee (PUF) or an optional Park Capital Improvement Fee (PCF) can provide a dedicated income stream. The additional revenue generated could be used for grant matching funds, park improvements and contribute to the cost of maintenance. These fees could be implemented by the City Council, provided they are optional. If not optional, a PUF or PCF would be considered a tax under state law and would require a ballot measure to go before the citizens of Falls City.

Several communities in Oregon have established a parks utility fee. For example, the City of Medford established a park utility fee ordinance that imposes a per unit/monthly fee that is billed via the utility bill.

Table 10-1 Park Utility Fee illustrates the estimated revenue generation, based upon the number of dwelling units and business units with City services (water and/or water and sewer) within Falls City City Limits. For comparison, the baseline General Fund 2016-2017 Budget for the Park Department \$13,700.

Table 10-1 Park Utility Fee (PUF)

| Services within City Limits | Active & Inactive Services | \$2.00 | | \$3.00 | | \$4.00 | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | | # | Month | Annual | Month | Annual | Month |
| Residential ¹⁶ | 392 | \$784 | \$9,408 | \$1,176 | \$14,112 | \$1,568 | \$18,816 |
| Residential Commercial ¹⁷ | 3 | \$6 | \$72 | \$9 | \$108 | \$12 | \$144 |
| Non Residential Commercial ¹⁸ | 8 | \$16 | \$192 | \$24 | \$288 | \$32 | \$384 |
| Business with Water Agreement | 1 | \$2 | \$24 | \$3 | \$36 | \$4 | \$48 |
| Totals | 384 | \$808 | \$9,696 | \$1,152 | \$13,824 | \$1,616 | \$19,344 |

Fees

The City collects a small user fee for the reservation of the George Kitchin Park gazebo; this is the only park facility that can be reserved or rented. As the number and quality of park amenities increase the amount of user fees should increase. User fees, however, do not reimburse the cost to operate the facility, not to mention the park system.

Anytime a fee is charged Recreational immunity must be examined. Recreational immunity is provided to the holder of any legal or equitable title of land where fees are not charged. Where fees are charged consult CityCounty Insurance Service (CIS) to examine options to reduce liability such as additional signage.

Consider new fees

Special Use Permit Fee: The City should consider a special use permit policy for large events. The special permit process would allow staff and City Council to move liability to the event organizer, road closures, requirements for temporary restrooms, public safety, security, and the effect on the community as a whole. The associated fee and cleaning deposit should pay for administration, operational, and public works costs associated with such events. Without fee and cleaning deposit, the tax payers are burdened with the cost for public works staff to prepare the venue and clean up after the event.

Campground Fees: The Parks Master Plan identifies the need for a campground in the George Kitchin Park. An Enterprise Fund should be established for the campground facility. An Enterprise fund would require fees to pay for the operation and maintenance of the facility; if they do not, the burden will fall to taxpayers.

Transient Lodging Tax (TLTs) is one of the most direct means for jurisdictions to collect revenues from visitors. A Transient Lodging Tax is a tax on temporary lodging at hotels, motels, campgrounds, and other temporary lodgings. Oregon has a statewide TLT of 1.8% and cities and counties can charge a local TLT subject to certain limitations. The state regulations governing lodging

¹⁶ Includes Churches, Post office, as of May 2017

¹⁷ Includes businesses with residential units May 2017

¹⁸ includes Businesses without residential units, excludes schools and city properties May 2017

taxes in Oregon can be found in ORS 320.300 to 320.350. A brief summary of state and local lodging taxes follows.

For new or increased local lodging taxes:

- 70% must be used for tourism promotion or tourism related facilities
- 30% is unrestricted in use and can be applied to a city fund such as the street fund
- Exempt Persons: Lodgers who spend more than 30 days at the same facilities and Federal employees on federal business

As of August 2016, there were 85 cities and 15 counties in Oregon imposing a transient lodging tax. In 2013 the local transient lodging tax rates ranged from 3% to 12%¹⁹.

State law requires that seventy percent (70%) of the funds raised through TLT must be used to promote tourism and or used for tourism related facilities. Increased tourism, as a result of marketing and with park improvements, would benefit the local economy and residents will benefit from park improvements.

A new City Ordinance is required to implement a Transient Lodging Tax. Additionally, the creation of a new fund, accounting and front office procedures, and the creation of TLT reporting forms.

Public/Government Grant Programs include Community Development and Block Grants (CDBG), Land and Water Conservation Grants, Federal Transportation Grants, State of Oregon Local Government Grants, Urban Forestry Grants, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Grants and other grant offerings. Grants often require a percentage of local funds to match the request to the granting agency, which depending on the grant program can be as much as 50% of the total project budget (Appendix C: Potential Grant Funding Sources).

Seek tax deductible donations and create fundraising campaigns. Design fundraising campaigns for specific improvements or matching grant funds for large improvement projects. During such campaigns, consider the allocation of the optional park utility fees/ park improvement fees towards the specific improvement or matching grant funds by a motion of the City Council. Establish a newsletter communications program that includes advertising the improvement goal, funds needed, and fundraising time period, and report on the amount raised and still needed. Park and Recreation Committee members and City Councilors can solicit donations. Issue a thank you letter for large donations.

Donations seeking naming rights for park structures, parks, open spaces and trail segments. Adopt a naming rights policy resolution for major donations of land or cash to encourage such donations.

Subdivision and partition developer contribution of park and recreation facilities is required under the Falls City Zoning and Develop Ordinance 2.207.09.

¹⁹ League of Oregon Cities, Legal Guide to Collecting Transient Lodging Tax in Oregon April 2017

Consider volunteer labor from service organizations for the development of park improvements. The National Guard builds improvement if engineered plans are available. Eagle Scouts build improvements for special badges.

Supportive Landowners may provide consent for a trail corridor across their private lands. Altering proposed trail alignments is suggested to capitalize upon these opportunities as they arise.

Land Trusts are local, regional, or statewide nonprofit conservation organizations involved in protecting natural, scenic, recreational, agricultural, historic, or cultural property. The Greenbelt Land Trust of Corvallis is one example of a land trust dedicated to protecting land, creating trails and other recreational opportunities, partnering with local governments, and creating organizational effectiveness.

Joint Public/Private Partnership In this approach, a public agency enters into a working agreement with a private corporation to help with funding, building, or operating a public facility. For this agreement, the public agency generally offers three incentives: Free land to place a facility, certain tax advantages, and access to the facility. This is one way to reduce the cost of obtaining a public facility.

Parkland Donations & Dedications from private individuals or conservation organizations could occur to complement the acquisition of park and open space lands. Gift deeds or bequests from philanthropic-minded landowners could allow for lands to come into City ownership upon the death of the owner or as a tax-deductible charitable donation. Parkland dedication by a subdivision developer is required by the Falls City Zoning and Development Ordinance.

Local Improvement District (LID) or “Bancroft” bonds are bonds that are issued to finance the costs of local improvements that are assessed against neighboring property. Assessed property owners are entitled to pay the assessment, with interest, over at least ten years. Cities use those payments to pay the local improvement district bonds. Local Improvement District Assessments are levied on properties benefited by the park, trail or greenspace and based on the amount of benefit received by the property. Formation of a local improvement district and imposition of an assessment require preparation of plans, public hearings, and notice.

Funding options that require a ballot election

The following funding options are authorized by a ballot election and therefore should only be used if the community has expressed strong support for the park system.

General Obligation Bond permits the City to levy an additional property tax that is sufficient to pay the bonds. General obligation bonds are usually the most secure form of borrowing available to a city, and therefore usually have the lowest cost.

Parks and Recreation District Forming a parks and recreation district is a common funding tool. A park and recreation district would establish a tax on real property within a specified area (e.g., City Limits, Falls City School District). This provides a long-term and stable revenue stream to be used for either maintenance or capital improvements. Parks and recreation districts establish a set rate, or tax, on local residents to support the park system. A parks and recreation

district requires a majority vote from property owners or electors within the proposed district area and therefore should only be used if the community has expressed strong support for their park system. Once established, all or partial control of a parks and recreation district is given to a local organization or board. This loss of management could be considered a benefit or drawback for local government.

Decisions regarding the exact amount of the tax within the service district need to be determined before the petitions can be circulated to place the Park and Recreation District on the Ballot. The maximum tax rate of real property valuation within the service district needs to be set before the impact of the tax increase can be determined. Additional compression in the service district resulting from this tax increase can then also be estimated.

Information on the formation of special districts can be found through the Special District Association of Oregon (SDAO). SDAO was formed to pursue the common interests and concerns of special districts. More information can be found at: <http://www.sdao.com/>

Local Option Levy is a property tax assessment that can be used for the construction, operation, and/or maintenance of parks and facilities, and for recreation programming. This type of levy is established for a given rate or amount for up to five years, or, in the case of capital only, up to ten years. Passage requires a double majority (a majority of registered voters must vote and a majority of those voting must approve the measure), unless during a general election in even-numbered years, in which case a simple majority is required.

Other Options include exchange of property, conservation easements, lifetime estates and the National Tree Trust programs.



Figure 10-1 Fay Wilson Memorial Park Basketball

Parks provide intrinsic environmental, aesthetic, and recreation benefits to our cities. They are also a source of positive economic benefits. They enhance property values, increase municipal revenue, bring in homebuyers and workers, and attract retirees.

At the bottom line, parks are a good financial investment for a community. Understanding the economic impacts of parks can help decision makers better evaluate the creation and maintenance of urban parks. (Megan Lewis & mlewis@planning.org, 2002)

Chapter 11 PURCHASING POWER

City of Falls City is a member of The Oregon cooperative procurement program (OrCPP) and may purchase goods and services from state contracts. The aggregation of State government, local governments, nonprofits, national partners provides unmatched buying power. Through this program the City will save time and money and benefit from OrCPPs' ability to drive the best value, maintain compliance with State procurement laws and tackle vendor performance issues.

The Oregon Procurement Information Network ("ORPIN") is an Internet-based, on-line system that is the State's official publication forum for procurement notices and advertisements. OrCPP/ORPIN members search State of Oregon price agreements (contracts) that members may purchase from. ORPIN has several agreements for playground, parks and recreation equipment, and other related services.

Services provided:

- Program Manager will respond to ORCPP Member questions regarding ORCPP membership and resources;
- Designated Price Agreements available for ORCPP Member reference on the DAS Procurement Services and Policy website;
- Program education and outreach to ORCPP Member through trade shows, statewide events and the ORCPP listserv;
- ORCPP listserv is also used to notify members of opportunities of free items and new contracts.

Continued membership requires annual dues based on the City of Falls City annual budget; dues are currently \$200.00/year.

Chapter 12 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) consists of the project description, estimated project cost, and project priority.

The CIP sections include Park repairs and improvements under \$5,000 grouped and subtotaled by Park, and Park Development Projects over \$5,000 grouped and subtotaled by project number assigned in Chapter 9. Recommended funding sources, source of cost estimate are listed for each item. Each development project has an Individual project sheet.

The CIP provides costs and estimates for parkland improvements in 2017 dollars. Park furniture costs are based on ULINE 2017 pricing for consistency. Pricing provided by vendors other than ULINE are indicated. The City Engineer provided general cost estimates for parkland improvements as indicated in the CIP.

Benefits of the CIP

1. Enhances opportunities for participation and for award in federal and/or state grant programs
2. Focus attention on community goals
3. Guides future improvements

Reducing the General Fund CIP costs for improvements:

1. Donations, volunteer labor and partnering with service organizations for construction will considerably reduce the costs for public improvements. Such savings are not considered in the CIP
2. Grants will significantly reduce the cost impact to the General Fund
3. Utilize The Oregon Procurement Information Network (“ORPIN”) and the Oregon cooperative procurement program (OrCPP) to leverage lower item costs

Limitations in the CIP

There are a significant number of limitations involved in gathering cost estimates for park and recreation improvements.

1. Improvement costs will vary widely based on the final design, conditions, economic factors, and environmental constraints. There will be additional costs for engineering and for the development of detailed plans in some cases. Baseline estimated costs in the CIP do not consider these variations.
2. Because large improvement detailed designs will be developed in the future, quantities and estimated are highly generalized.
3. Trail building, site preparation, surfacing are the most difficult to estimate accurately without site-specific details. Accurate cost estimates are dependent on site-specific variables and trail segment final design. The City Engineer provided estimated costs for trail categories:
 - ADA Trail design/construction: 10 feet wide, hard surface, \$65 per lineal foot

- Soft Surface Trail design/construction: 10 feet wide, soft surface, \$50 per lineal foot
- 4. Site preparation cost estimates are not included, because they require technical expertise and on-site consulting.
- 5. New development will occur on publicly owned land, so land value is not included in cost estimates.

Operations and Maintenance.

The CIP does not provide estimates for the cost of operation and maintenance of additional parkland development.

Cost estimates are intended to be general guidelines for establishing priorities and budgeting. Before any implementation of any recommendation, the City should re-evaluate these figures with more detailed site-specific cost estimates.

| Project Totals²⁰ | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Park | Project | Total Cost | Project # |
| George Kitchin Park | Small Improvement and Repairs | \$2,331 | |
| Fay Wilson Memorial Park | Small improvements and repairs | \$5,701 | |
| Michael Harding Memorial Park South | Small improvements and repairs | \$4,337 | |
| Michael Harding Memorial Park North | Small Improvements and repairs | \$524 | |
| City Hall Open Space | Small Improvements and repairs | \$563 | |
| George Kitchen Park | Restore community Trail Section & replace slide | \$43,897 | GK-R1 |
| Fay Wilson Memorial Park | Site Built Restroom | \$50,000 | DEV-1 |
| Michael Harding Park South | Site Built Restroom | \$50,000 | DEV-1 |
| Trail | Little Luckiamute River Trail | \$545,760 | DEV-2 |
| Michael Harding Park North | Picnic Pavilion, restroom, trails | \$266,927 | DEV-3 |
| George Kitchen Park | Campground | Estimate when Plan is available | DEV-4 |
| City Hall Open Space | Simple amphitheater | \$158,039 | DEV-5 |
| City Wide | Equestrian Trails | Estimate when plan is available | DEV-6 |
| George Kitchin Park | 9-hole disc golf course | \$10,000 | DEV-7 |
| N. Main Street right-of-way | Skateboard Park | \$135,000 | DEV-8 |
| To Be Determined | New Playground | \$50,000 | DEV-9 |
| George Kitchin Park | Rehab baseball field | \$150,000 | DEV-10 |
| Trail | Designated paddle route | Estimate when plan is available | DEV-11 |
| To be determined | Dog Park | \$5,655 | DEV-12 |

²⁰ See Appendix E for the Detailed Capital Improvement Plan

Chapter 13 PARKS MASTER PLAN CONCLUSION

With the delivery of the Parks Master Plan to the City Council the Parks and Recreation Committee has fulfilled one of its the primary purposes as defined in Municipal Code Chapter 32.02.050: Review and make recommendations on parks and recreation projects.

The Parks Master Plan is the first step toward realizing the defined goals and improvements. Upon the implementation of individual improvements, residents and visitors alike will have new places to gather, celebrate, play, and enjoy the beauty of this remarkable place we call home. Implementation of the large improvements such as the Michael Harding Memorial Park Picnic Pavilion complex and the Little Luckiamute River Trail have the potential to draw visitors and new residents to Falls City and in turn, help downtown businesses and overtime increase property tax revenue.

Remember the Parks Master Plan motto and do not get discouraged

“Bit by bit, little by little, step by step”

General recommendations.

As a first priority, the City should continue to allocate General Fund monies to the Park and Recreation Department to ensure parks are maintained at a safe, sustainable level consistent with the community’s expectations.

The repetitive costs associated to vandalism rob the limited funds available for park improvements. To mitigate vandalism, consider the objectives listed for the Prevent Vandalism Goal listed in Chapter 8.

For years the City has had to focus on core services because of ever increasing pressures on the General Fund. The City faces additional pressures related to limited staffing. In order for the City of Falls City to achieve the Parks Master Plan’s expectations and goals, the City will need to actively seek donations, apply for grants, pursue new funding strategies, and seek partnerships, such as the Eagle Scouts and the National Guard, to implement improvements.

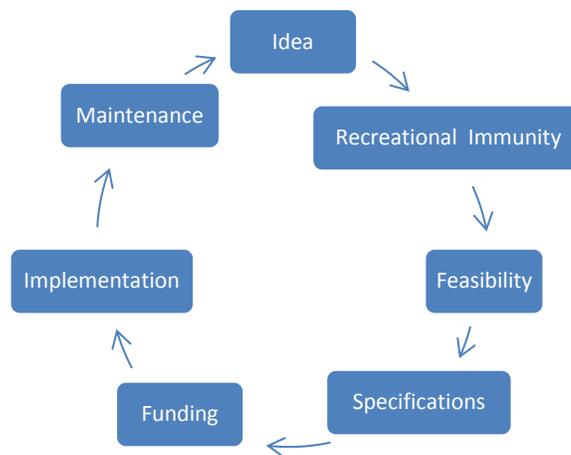
Provide the Park and Recreation Committee education on the budget cycle to empower the committee to fulfill its duty to advise on city budget for operations and capital improvements (Municipal Code 32.02.050.D). Create standardized committee agenda reports that request the Committee to identify improvements and fundraising strategies each budget cycle. Conduct this exercise in September, or earlier in the year, to allow sufficient time for the Committee to select Parks Master Plan projects and identify project costs for the Budget Officer and Budget Committee. This practice made routine will help pave a path towards the implementation of improvements by helping the Parks and Recreation Committee become better equipped to develop strategies that can overcome the limits of the General Fund.

Create a Parks Improvements Reserve Fund to account for money raised through donations, fundraisers and new revenue sources.

Public Improvement Live Cycle. Consideration of the improvement's "life cycle" is especially important because of budget constraints and limited staffing levels.

When planning recreational improvements, consider the entire "life cycle" of the improvement. City Council, Park and Recreation Committee and staff must consider risk management (recreational immunity), identification of cost to insurance, calculation of the budget to maintain the facility or property, and staffing level allocations for operations and maintenance

Figure 13-1 Public Improvement Life Cycle



Pursue grant opportunities for capital improvement projects and trails. State, regional, and federal grants can provide funding for a variety of recreation projects. Because of limited available funds in the General Fund, grants have become an even more important part of the City's overall resource picture, especially funding trails and capital improvements. Although grant programs themselves are being reduced and becoming more competitive, the City should actively seek out grants to achieve identified improvements while considering the following guidelines:

1. The Parks Master Plan and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) enhance opportunities for participation and for grant award in federal and/or state grant programs.
2. Grantor agencies consider prior grant successes and failures when awarding grants. The City should only seek grants only when sufficient staff resources are available to effectively administer the program in compliance with grant requirements and successfully perform the grant work scope and provide necessary matching requirements (both cash and in-kind matches).
3. Evaluate benefits and costs of specific grant programs on a case-by-case basis.

Consider implementation of an optional Parks Utility Fee or optional Parks Capital Improvement Fee. The Parks Utility Fee can be used to stabilize funding for the on-going maintenance needs which represent a large long-term cost to the City and would free General Fund money for park improvements. Alternatively, the Parks Capital Improvement Fee can be used to fund park improvements and free up the General Fund for maintenance and operations. Implementation of either fee would relieve the park system from relying exclusively on the City's General Fund. The new optional fee could be billed through the Utility System. Consult the City Attorney when implementing new fees. City Hall procedures will be required to process the optional fee.

Consider the implementation of a Transient Lodging Tax to generate funds to support recreational tourism for which both tourist and citizens would benefit.

Continue to invite community donations of materials and labor. Volunteer labor and donated materials have enriched the Park System and continue to give a deep sense of pride in the Community.

Take advantage of the purchasing power of The Oregon Procurement Information Network ("ORPIN") when purchasing park furniture, equipment and facilities.

Develop the Little Luckiamute River Trail. Such a trail would be treasured by residents and tourist alike for generations to come. Start with public land, including right-of-ways, and build one section at a time. Show success then work with private property owners adjacent to Little Luckiamute River to negotiate access easements, land dedications, or conveying the rights to create a trail. A landowner may convey the rights to create a trail, open it for public use, and maintain it without the owner giving up ownership and enjoyment of the land through which the trail passes.

Develop relationships with landowners. The City should cultivate relationships with landowners who may be interested in donating land to the City.

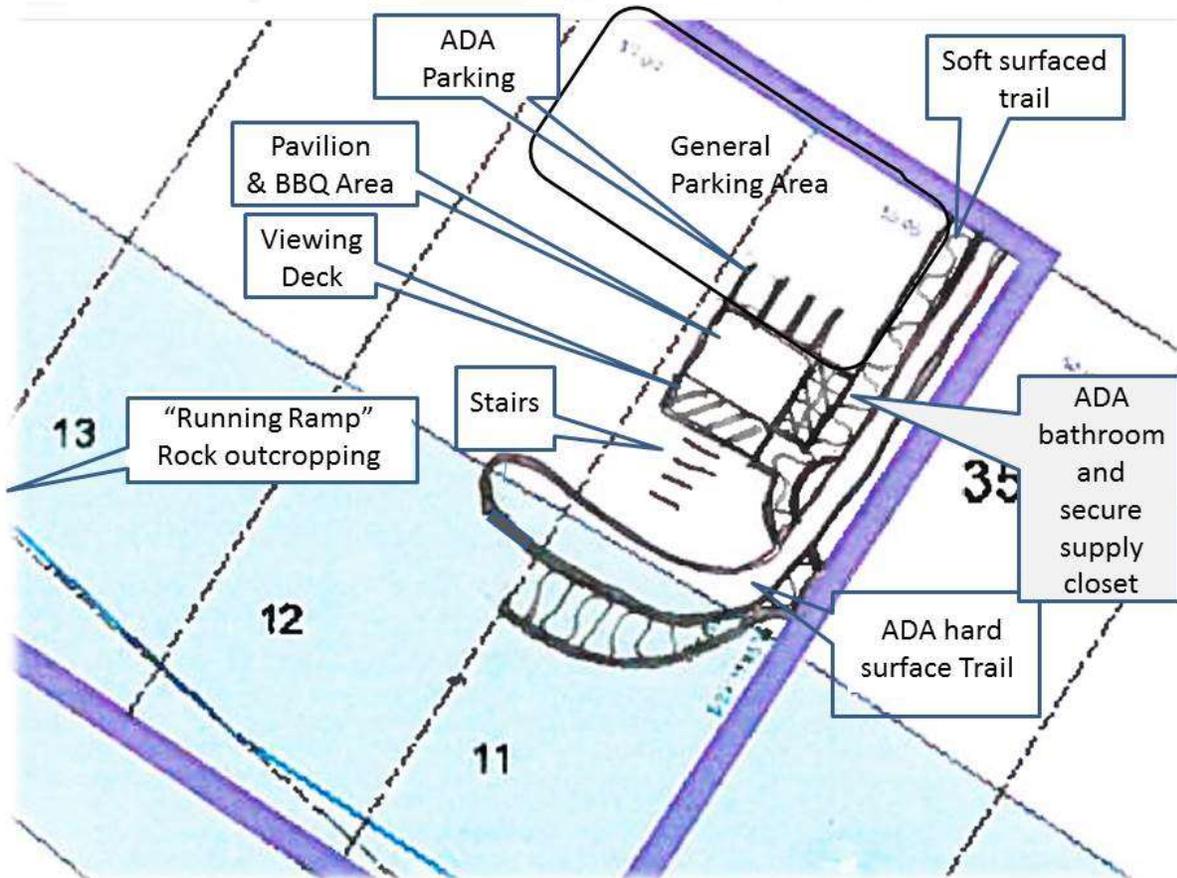
Develop partnerships. Explore a partnership with the Falls City School District and/or a non-profit group for environmental education summer programs that promote environmental awareness for children. Encourage and support the reestablishment of a local Little League Program after the baseball field has been restored. Consider contracting with National Guard for projects where engineering documents have been prepared. Consider creating a park improvement implementation project for which Eagle Scouts can earn a badge.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Conceptual Drawings

Appendix A-1 Pavilion Michael Harding Memorial Park North

- Pavilion with BBQ area and electricity
- ADA parking area, bathroom, and hard surface trail
- Secure supply closet for restroom
- Soft surface trail, viewing deck, stairs, and general parking area



Appendix A-2 Little Luckiamute River Trail

Little Luckiamute River Trail Conceptual Drawing



WHAT The proposed length of the Little Luckiamute River Trail is approximately two (2) miles and extends from Waymire Rd/or Falls City High School to the Dutch Creek Crossing on Mitchell Street. A spur trail will run from Bridge Street, along Parry Street, to and through Michael Harding Memorial Park South and North.

WHY Realize the incredible potential of the Little Luckiamute River by enhancing existing facilities and creating new facilities along the river, while protecting the riparian corridor.

HOW Build one section at a time. Start with public land. Show success then work with private property owners.

WHO Work with private property owners adjacent to Little Luckiamute River to negotiate access easements and land dedications. A landowner may convey the rights to create a trail, open it for public use, and maintain it without the owner giving up ownership and enjoyment of the land through which the trail passes.

WHEN The preferred trail alignment will roughly follow the Little Luckiamute River drainage on the north side of the river and will be entirely separated from roadways, except a section of the trail will cross over Bridge Street. However, because the preferred alignment is a long-term vision and contingent upon future land use changes and/or private property owner cooperation, the Little Luckiamute River Trail will include on-street for sections until the preferred alignment can be fully implemented.

Little Luckiamute River Trail CD East



Little Luckiamute River Trail CD Town Center



Little Luckiamute River Trail CD West



Appendix A-3 City Hall Open Space Simple Amphitheater

Conceptual drawing of City Hall Open Space simple amphitheater



Pavers

Cement

Grass



Open Space behind City Hall



Conceptual drawing of City Hall Open Space amphitheater with stage area

Appendix B: Public Outreach

Appendix B-1 2014 Falls City Alliance Park and Recreation Survey

The city of Falls City and the Falls City Alliance are in the process of seeking grants to turn the falls property at the Mitchell Street into a public park. We also want to develop a trail along the Little Luckiamute River. We would like your input about the project. Please help us by filling out this survey

We want to erect a small open picnic pavilion on the upper, far eastern side of the property. The pavilion design is a 24 by 30' wooden structure with a metal roof and rock fire pit. There would also be a deck extending out with a perfect view of the Falls. This deck will be equipped with a permanent seating and a built in easel. Stairs would be extended down to the edge of the river rock outcrop (eastern side of the running ramp). The decking and stairs would be made of concrete for lowest possible maintenance with cedar railings. The entire project is ADA compliant and does include a gentle path down the side of the properties to the Falls.

Question and Options:

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Do you like this idea? You can elaborate below and on back. | Yes/No |
| 2. Are you a Falls City Citizen? | Yes/No |
| 3. How long have you lived here? | _____ |
| 4. Have you visited or recreated at either side of the Falls City Falls? | Yes/No |
| 5. What generation are you? Luck Few (1929-1945) Baby Boomers (1946-1964) Generation X(1965-1982) Millennial (1983-2001) Generation Z (2002-present) | |
| 6. Would you or your children use the planned project? | Yes/No |
| 7. Are you or do you know someone handicapped that would benefit from this project? | Yes/No |
| 8. Would you like a walking trail that runs all along the Little Luckiamute River? | Yes/No |
| 9. Do you like bird watching, photography, painting or drawing nature? | Yes/No |
| 10. Would this project motivate you to get outdoors and be more active | Yes/No |
| 11. Would you like more opportunities for outdoor activities? | Yes/No |
| Would you be willing to volunteer with others to help with routine maintenance? | Yes/No |

Appendix B-2 2016 Falls City Park Survey

The Falls City Parks and Recreation Committee is currently drafting a Master Parks Plan, this plan will help guide development of our City parks for the next 20 years. The Committee would appreciate everyone take the time to answer the questions and to return to City Hall; you can return with your water bill or drop in mail slot to right of City Hall entrance.

1. What Generation are you from?
The Lucky Few (1929-1945) Baby Boomers (1946-1964) Generation X (1965-1982)
Millennials (1983-2001) Generation Z (2002-present)
2. What recreation opportunities would you like to see in our City? (Examples are developed walking trails, Frisbee golf, Dog Park, etc.)
3. Do you feel you would use a developed walking/biking trail along the Little Luckiamute River?
Yes/No
4. What additions would you like to see added to Falls City Parks?
5. Would you be in favor of developing a Camp Ground with restricted stays in the Upper Park? Yes/No
6. With the limited resources the City has for Park development, which Park would prioritize for development? Wilson Faye Park (Lower Park) Michael Harding Park (Falls Park) or Upper Park.
7. Would you vote to approve an additional tax to pay for development and improvements to the parks? Yes/No
8. Would you be willing to volunteer time to help perform maintenance in the Parks? Yes/No
9. Would you be willing to donate time on improvements? Yes/No

If willing to donate time to the Parks fill in your contact information below:

Thank you for submitting your comments.

Appendix B-3 2017 Falls City Park Survey

Please drop off your survey at City Hall, or the Utility Payment Drop Box, or return by mail at
 City of Falls City 299 Mill Street, Falls City 97344 503.787.3631

The City Council has requested that the Parks and Recreation Committee and City staff prepare a Park Master Plan. We are seeking input **from each member of your family**. Your family input is very important to this long-range planning process and to the future of our parks. Additional copies of the surveys can be picked up at City Hall, or printed from our website www.fallscityoregon.gov Thanks in advance for your participation!

1. Do you live in the city of Falls City? Yes__ No__
2. Do you consider recreational a **(circle one)** High Priority / Medium Priority / Low Priority?
3. Which parks did you visit in 2016?

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| George Kitchin Park (Upper) | Yes__ No__ | If yes, how many times in 2016__ |
| Michael Harding Park (Parry Street) | Yes__ No__ | If yes, how many times in 2016__ |
| Falls Property (Mitchell Street) | Yes__ No__ | If yes, how many times in 2016__ |
| Fay Wilson Park (Riverside/Lower) | Yes__ No__ | If yes, how many times in 2016__ |
4. Did you access the falls area from Mitchell Street? Yes__ No__ If yes, how many times in 2016__
5. Are you satisfied with the current condition of the parks in Falls City? Yes__ No__
6. Do you believe park properties are properly maintained? Yes__ No__
 Comment:_____
7. Do existing parks meet the needs of all age groups? Yes__ No__
 Comment:_____
8. Should the City acquire or develop more parkland? Yes__ No__
 Comment:_____
9. Should the City of Falls City make Park Improvements? Yes__ No__

If yes, please identify up to 10 priorities below

High priority # → 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ← Low Priority #

- | | |
|---|---|
| Priority #__ Children’s playgrounds | Priority #__ Restrooms, Where_____ |
| Priority #__ Picnic areas & shelters | Priority #__ Designated paddling route |
| Priority #__ Walking trails | Priority #__ Public access to waterways |
| Priority #__ Bicycling trails | Priority #__ Off-leash dog park |
| Priority #__ Community gardens | Priority #__ Skateboard park |
| Priority #__ Nature & wildlife viewing areas | Priority #__ Disc golf course |
| Priority #__ Sports field for _____ | Priority #__ Campsites |
| Priority #__ Tennis court | Priority #__ Basketball court |
| _____ | Other: _____ |

10. What is the location and name of your favorite area to recreate on the river within City Limits (Waymire Rd/Palmer Road to Dutch Creek culvert on Mitchell Street)?
11. What is your favorite outdoor recreation activity that you do in Falls City?
12. People do outdoor recreation activities for a number of reasons. For your favorite activity, how important are the following reasons to you?

| REASON | Very Important | | | Not important | |
|---|----------------|---|---|---------------|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To relax | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To keep fit and healthy | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To experience challenge and excitement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To have fun | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To meet new people | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To be with family and friends | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To do something your children or grandchildren enjoy | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To maintain ethnic identity and traditions | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To learn something new | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To expose your children or grandchildren to something new | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To escape the daily routine | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To get away from crowded situations | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To be in the outdoors | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To feel harmony with nature | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To achieve spiritual fulfillment | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To feel safe and secure | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To reduce tension | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

13. What are some long-range goals that you recommend the City Council and Parks and Recreation Committee consider for the next 3 to 5 years?

14. What are the greatest challenges facing the city parks in the next 3 to 5 years?

15. Would you support a tax increase for park capital improvements? Yes__ No__

16. Additional Comments:

Name _____

Address _____

Birth Year: 1929-1945 1946-1964 1965-1982 1983-2001 2002-2010 2011-present

Thank you for your input. Survey results will help form the 2017 Parks Master Plan. Watch for upcoming workshops!

Appendix B-4 Falls City Newsletter Articles

March 2016 Newsletter

The Parks Committee is working on a Parks Master Plan that will guide the City in programs and projects for our local parks. This is the time to let the policy makers know your desires in how you want the Parks to be developed. Your input will help guide the City Council in setting Park policy for the next 20 years.

April 2016 Newsletter

The Parks Committee is working on a Parks Master Plan that will guide the City in programs and projects for our local parks. This is the time to let the policy makers know your desires in how you want the Parks to be developed. Your input will help guide the City Council in setting Park policy for the next 20 years.

February 2017 Newsletter

We have officially taken ownership of the Mitchell Street side of the Falls property and will be working to rezone the property to a park. We received the grant to help with the costs from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department; this is funded through the lottery. Staff working with volunteers should have the parking barricades installed by May and volunteers are working at cleaning up the invasive plants at the Michael Harding Park. The Parks Committee will be issuing a survey in the next water bill and will host a table at the Service Integration Teams Community Night out which will be on April 18th at 5 pm. We will use these surveys to complete the Master Park Plan that the committee has been putting together.

March 2017 Newsletter

We are including a Survey from the Parks Committee, please fill out and return to City Hall. This will help the Committee identify goals and needs for the Master Parks Plan they are putting together, they will also have a table at the Community Night to encourage citizens to fill out the survey.

July 2017 Newsletter

The Falls City Parks and Recreation Committee and staff are working on a Park Master Plan that will set goals for what the citizens of Falls City want for development in our Parks over the next 20 years. Master Plans are critical to prioritize our citizen's wishes for our Parks and they help secure funding to accomplish the development goals.

The Committee will provide information and ask for your help to define goals at the Parks Open House on Saturday August 26 @ Community Center. There will also be an informational booth at the Saturday, July 1st Independence Day Celebration.

July 2017 Newsletter Don't miss out on Summer Fun in the City

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Tuesday August 1, 5 - 9 PM | National Night Out Block Party! Free | Meeting your first responders! Food, activities, kicks the can HS tournament, life flight helicopter, extrication demo, child ID Kits, and more! | 320 N. Main Street at Falls City Fire Department and 3 rd Street |
| Friday August 4-Sunday August 6 | Polk County Pride Weekend | Friday 5:30 Emerson Winery Saturday Noon - 5, Fay Wilson Park Additional events scheduled | See Boondocks or The Breadboard for more information |
| Saturday August 5 (Friday Aug. 4 - Sunday Aug 6) | Valsetz Reunion Free | A long standing event with overnight camping. See friends and hear stories. | George Kitchin Upper Park Top of 7 th Street |
| Friday August 11-Sunday August 13 | All School Reunion Free | This event has been held for over four decades! Overnight camping. | George Kitchin Upper Park Top of 7 th Street |
| Sunday August 13 - all day | Old Timers Picnic Free | For over 70 years, Falls City current and former residents have gathered to remember and celebrate their time in Falls City. | George Kitchin Upper Park Top of Seventh Street |
| Monday August 21 | Solar Eclipse! | Enjoy and wear eye protection. | Outside! |
| Saturday August 26, 11 AM | Parks Master Plan Open House Good Food and Great Conversation! | Add your voice to the future of our parks! Vote for your priorities big and small. Lunch donated by The Boondocks and The Breadboard. | Community Center 320 N. Main Street |
| Last Saturday August - October beginning at 4 PM (time is still tentative) | It's HAPPENING! At Fay Wilson Memorial Park | New community get-together! Bring your family, chairs, snacks, musical instruments and your bathing suite. Let's make fun summer memories Together. | Fay Wilson Memorial Park (Riverside Park) Access from the 3 rd Street walking bridge or S. Main Street |
| Saturday September 9 10 AM - 2 PM | Arbor Day Celebration and the Annual SOLVe Event Little Luckiamute River Clean up! | Remove litter from the river and river banks. Plant native trees. Volunteers will be treated to post SOLVe event BBQ, sponsored by Mayor Ungricht. This year's SOLVe event will be in honor of past years event coordinator, the late Johnny Ungricht. | Meet at 10 AM at the Community Center at 320 N. Main Street |



FALLS CITY PARKS MASTER PLAN PROJECT



The Falls City Parks and Recreation Committee and staff are working on a Park Master Plan that will set goals for what the citizens of Falls City want for development in our Parks over the next 20 years. Master Plans are critical to prioritize our citizen's wishes for our Parks and they help secure funding to accomplish the development goals. **Draft chapters linked below – read all about it!**

- ✓ Parks Masterplan introduction
- ✓ Parks and Open Space – Map and Descriptions
- ✓ Community Demographics
- ✓ Park Oversight and Funding
- ✓ Recreational trends
- ✓ Goals and proposed improvements (Work in Process)
- ✓ Funding Options
- ✓ Recreational Survey Results! Need more 2017 response!

Click on
Links
← →

Add your voice
to the future of
our parks!



Your Invited! (link)
**Attend the Parks Master
Plan Open House
Saturday August 26
@ 11 AM at the Community
Center 320 N. Main Street**

**Fill out the Parks and
Recreation Survey! (link)**

**Check out the conceptual
drawings and provide
feedback (links)**
**Little Luckiamute River Trail
Falls Property Pavilion
City Hall Amphitheater
Michael Harding Park**

**Attend a Park & Rec
Committee Meeting!**



The Master Plan is a 20 year plan for Falls City Parks. Come see concept drawings for Michael Harding Memorial Park, the Falls property, City Hall simple amphitheater, Luckiamute River Trail and pick your priorities big and small. We only received 56 park survey responses and really want to hear from you.

Add your voice to the future of our parks!



Please join us for
good food and
great conversation
at the

FALLS CITY PARKS MASTER PLAN OPEN HOUSE



Check out park concept drawings, draft Master Plan Chapters at the new Parks Master Plan website tab @ www.fallscityoregon.gov

Your Invited!

**Saturday August 26
@ 11 AM at the
Community Center
320 N. Main Street**

Appendix C: Potential Grant Funding Sources

Oregon Park and Recreation Department (OPRD) Grant Programs:

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grants - The State Side provides matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

Local Government Grant Program assists city and county park and recreation departments, METRO, park and recreation districts and port districts with funding for the acquisition, development major rehabilitation of, and planning for park and recreation areas and facilities; cities and districts under 5,000 population a 20% local match.

Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provides up to 80% federal funding assistance for land acquisition, development, restoration and rehabilitation of both motorized and non-motorized recreation trails(including water trails) to federal, state and local government agencies and not-for-profit organizations.

Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL Grants)

The HEAL Cities Small Grants competition is an annual grant opportunity for HEAL cities to seek funding to implement HEAL policies. An explicit and significant goal of the HEAL Cities Campaign is to advance equity; successful applications are required to direct resources to neighborhoods experiencing the greatest disparities and are encouraged to do so in partnership with community organizations serving residents that have the most need for HEAL programs. Grant requests can range from \$5,000 to \$15,000. In 2015, the City was awarded a HEAL grant to refurbish the Stairs because the use of the stairs benefits the health of residents. See: Falls City is a HEAL City (Resolution 15-2014)

Tony Hawk Foundation (skate parks)

The primary mission of the Tony Hawk Foundation is to promote high quality, public skate parks in low-income areas throughout the United States, and to support International programs that enrich the lives of youth through skateboarding. Only organizations seeking to build free, public skate parks in low-income communities in the United States may apply for a grant from the Tony Hawk Foundation.

<https://tonyhawkfoundation.org/skatepark-grants/>

Playground Equipment Grants

KaBOOM! is an American non-profit organization that helps communities build playgrounds for children. <https://kaboom.org/>

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

To qualify for A&H funding, a project **must improve wildlife habitat**, increase public hunting access to private land or solve a wildlife damage issue. Some examples of projects that have been approved and

implemented to date include development of wetland habitat, noxious weed control, improving wildlife forage on private lands, developing water in arid regions, riparian fencing, seeding after wildfire, hunting leases, land acquisition, seasonal road management and hunter access through private lands to inaccessible public lands. Projects may be on private or public lands, though preference is given to projects on private lands.

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/AH/grants/>

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)

OWEB invests in variety of grant types which help Oregonians take care of local streams, rivers, wetlands and natural areas.

The regular Board grant program includes grants for watershed restoration, monitoring, watershed assessment and action planning, watershed council support, watershed outreach, land and water acquisition, and small grants. In addition, the Board may from time to time, as funds are available, request proposals for other types of grants.

http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/pages/grant_applications_main.aspx

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)

NFWF supports more than 70 grant programs to protect and restore our nation's wildlife and habitats. Federal, state, and local governments, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations are welcome to apply twice annually for matching grants from our conservation priority programs. For other funding opportunities, application timelines, scope and guidelines vary.

<http://www.nfwf.org>

Home Depot Community Impact Grants

The Home Depot Foundation offers grants, up to \$5,000, to IRS-registered 501c designated organizations and tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are given in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services. The primary goal is to provide grants and volunteer opportunities to support the renovation, refurbishment, retrofitting, **accessibility modifications**, and/or weatherization of existing homes, centers, schools and other similar facilities.

Lowe's Community Partners Grants

Lowe's Community Partners grant program helps build better communities by providing monetary assistance to nonprofit organizations and municipalities looking for support of high-need projects such as: building renovations/upgrades, grounds improvements, technology upgrades as well as safety improvements. Grants range from \$2,001 to \$100,000. Our Lowe's Heroes employee volunteer program is another opportunity for support, which Lowe's can provide to some grant recipients to help supplement the labor of projects.

| Other Potential Funding Sources: Funding Source | Program Name | Web Address | Project Types |
|--|---|---|---|
| American Academy of Dermatology | Shade Structure (Sun Smart) Grant Program | https://www.aad.org/public/spot-skin-cancer/programs/shade-structure-program/eligibility-application | Permanent shade structures for playgrounds, pools, or recreation spaces |
| Americorps | Various programs | http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/index.asp | Grantees use the funding to support AmeriCorps members for intensive service in their community |
| Bikes for People | Community Projects | http://www.peopleforbikes.org/pages/community-grants | Community bicycling projects |
| Government Grant Clearing House | Applicable grant categories: Natural Resources | https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html | Habitat protection & restoration & natural resource management |
| Centers for Disease Control | Preventive Health & Health Services Block Grant Program | http://www.cdc.gov/phhsblockgrant/index.htm | Address important health concerns |
| Charlotte Martin Foundation | Youth & Wildlife & Habitat Programs | http://www.charlottemartin.org/ | Youth athletics programs and wildlife & habitat protection |
| FishAmerica Foundation | Conservation Grants | http://www.fishamerica.org/ | Grants to local communities & government agencies to restore habitat for marine & anadromous fish species |
| Gannett Foundation | Community Action Grant | http://www.gannettfoundation.org/ | The Gannett Foundation supports local organizations in communities served Gannett Co., Inc. (Statesman Journal) |
| Gray Family Foundation | Environmental Education Program | http://grayff.org/ | Supports youth environmental education programs |

Appendix D: Resources for Community Walking Trail the Little Luckiamute River Trail

American Trails is a national, nonprofit organization working on behalf of all trail interests, including hiking, bicycling, mountain biking, horseback riding, water trails, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, trail motorcycling, ATVs, snowmobiling and four-wheeling. AmericanTrails members want to create and protect America's network of interconnected trails.

Website: <http://www.americantrails.org/ee/>

Resources: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/land/>

Oregon Park and Recreation Department Recreational Trails Grants (RTP) are national grants administered by OPRD for recreational trail-related projects, such as hiking, running, bicycling, off-road motorcycling, and all-terrain vehicle riding. Yearly grants are awarded based on funds voted on by the U.S. Congress.

Website: <http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/GRANTS/pages/trails.aspx>

The National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program supports community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation projects across the nation. Our national network of conservation and recreation planning professionals partners with community groups, nonprofits, tribes, and state and local governments to design trails and parks, conserve and improve access to rivers, protect special places, and create recreation opportunities.

Website: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm>

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy transforms unused rail corridors into vibrant public places—ensuring a better future for America made possible by trails and the connections they inspire.

Website: <https://www.railstotrails.org/our-work/united-states/oregon/>

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is all about creating safe, convenient, and fun opportunities for children to bicycle and walk to and from schools. This is important for the health and safety of our kids and to foster the creation of livable, vibrant communities. SRTS programs increase physical activity and improve unsafe walking and bicycling conditions on routes to and from school and throughout the community.

Website: <http://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/>

Oregon State Laws

2015 ORS 105.682 Liabilities of owner of land used by public for recreational purposes, gardening, woodcutting or harvest of special forest products

Website: <https://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/105.682>

Website: https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors105.html

2015 ORS 105.688 Applicability of immunities from liability for owner of land

Website: <https://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/105.688>

Website: https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors105.html

Appendix E: Capital Improvement Plan

Funding requirements are the expenses that the City of Falls City is projected to incur to improve the parks system in the future. These expenditures include (1) repairs, (2) parkland improvements, and (3) capital improvements.

Parkland improvements are less than \$5,000 generally encompasses the removal, replacement of equipment or installation of new small features such as benches, tables, BBQ's, and bike racks.

Capital improvements are projects that require a larger financial investment (greater than \$5,000), create major changes to a park's functionality, and may require upgrading of infrastructure. Examples of capital improvement project include new restrooms, installation of the trail systems, and picnic shelters.

Reducing the General Fund CIP costs for improvements:

1. Donations, volunteer labor and partnering with service organizations for construction will considerably reduce the costs for public improvements. Such savings are not considered in the CIP.
2. Grants
3. Utilize The Oregon Procurement Information Network ("ORPIN") The Oregon cooperative procurement program (OrCPP).

Appendix F: Past Planning Efforts

The following pages contain:

Appendix F-1 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment for Falls City, Oregon; Portland State University (2014)

Appendix F-2 Oregon State University students prepared a SWOT analysis on Falls City and identified Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats for Falls City (2013)

Appendix F-3 Falls City Alliance hosted public meetings in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2012 to discuss Falls City Park and Recreation District Proposal; Developed by Falls City Alliance and last updated in 2012