

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS)

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Kitsap County
Parks

PROS Plan

What is it?

- A 6-year strategic plan
- A guide for policy development
- A guide for departmental decisions
- A guide to park improvement and capital projects





2025

FEB – MAR

Draft PROS Plan released for public comment period (5-weeks)

Parks staff made edits to the Draft Plan

APR - JUN

Comprehensive Plan Consistency Review
Parks Advisory Board Recommendation

SEPA DNS & Public Comment
Planning Commission Process

JUN – AUG
(Dates TBD)

Board of County Commissioners Process

Recreation and Conservation Office Approval

DEC

The BOCC makes a decision on the proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments, including the proposed amendment to adopt the PROS Plan by reference.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Planning Commission Process

- April 15th – Briefing
- May 6th – Work Study
- May 20th – Public Hearing
- June 3rd – Deliberations**
- June 17th – Findings of Fact

Public Comment

- 2-week public comment period ran from May 5th – May 20th
 - 44 comments received
- Comment period extended by the Planning Commission through May 27th
 - 6 additional comments received
- Parks Department is not proposing changes to the Draft PROS Plan



Planning Commission Deliberations

- Opportunity for discussion on each chapter
- Particular emphasis on Goals, Objectives, & Actions
- Discussion should focus on Draft PROS Plan's consistency with 2024 Comprehensive Plan



Inventory & Analysis

“The purpose of this chapter is to gain a broad understanding of the current conditions of Kitsap County’s parks, recreation facilities, open spaces, and trails. It aims to provide insights into the demographics of the population served by these amenities and to situate these resources within the broader regional context and ongoing planning efforts that shape the system.”

- **Physical Context**
 - Topography
 - Hydrology
 - Forest and Tree Canopy
 - Wildlife
 - Soils
 - Climate
 - Climate Change Impacts
 - Critical Areas
- **Planning Context**
 - Existing Plans Working Together
 - Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan (2024)
 - Kitsap County Non-Motorized Facility Plan (2013/18)
 - Kitsap County PROS (2018)
- **Demographic Context**
 - Population and Projected Growth
 - Age & Gender
 - Race & Ethnicity
 - Disability
 - Income
 - Housing
 - Employment & Transportation
- **Existing System Context**
 - Existing Parks & Recreation Facilities
 - Park Classification Updates
 - Park Condition Assessment
- **Operations & Governance**
 - Kitsap County Governance
 - Department Operations & Staffing
 - Comparative Analysis
 - Volunteer/Stewardship Programs



Public Involvement

- Engagement Goals
- Public Engagement Plan
- Stakeholder Interview Participants & Summaries
 - Athletics
 - Events/Tourism
 - Environmental
 - Recreation
 - Stewards & Volunteers
 - School Districts
 - Parks Advisory Board
 - Board of County Commissioners
 - Parks Department Staff
- Public Survey #1 Results: Needs & Assessment
- Public Survey #2 Results: Project Visioning & Community Mapping
- Public Survey #3 Results: Capital Project Prioritization

“Central to the success of this plan is robust public involvement, which is critical in shaping a parks system that reflects the community’s desired quality of life. Through various engagement methods, residents and park users, including stakeholders and policy makers, were encouraged to share their ideas, goals, and aspirations for the parks system, ensuring it meets their needs and enhances their daily lives.”



Demand & Needs Analysis

“The purpose of the demand and needs analysis is to evaluate, quantify, and understand both the facility and recreational demand and identify the existing and future needs for providing parkland, facilities, and open spaces now and into the future.”

- **Quantifications vs. Qualifications**
 - National Recreation Guidelines as a Quantitative Measure
- **Levels of Service (LOS)**
 - Washington State Recreation Guidelines
- **Population Growth Projections**
 - Park Equity & Access
- **Recreation Trends**
 - Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2023)
 - RCO Assessment of Resident Demand (2022)
 - Trails
 - Canines
 - Pickleball & Padel
 - Youth Sports
 - Playground Trends
 - Electrification
 - Heat
 - Smoke
 - Climate Resiliency
 - Investments in Parks
 - Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)
- **Summary of LOS Demand & Need**
 - National and State LOS Metrics
 - Local LOS Metrics

Goals & Objectives

- **A New Vision for Kitsap County**
 - All Staff Meeting
 - Mission & Vision (Department)
- **A County-Wide Vision**
 - Foundational Values
 - Mission, Vision, and Values (County)
- **Policy Goals, Objectives, and Actions**
 - Goals are organized by Parks Department Program or a Specialized Focus
 - 6 Goals
 - 2-6 Objectives per Goal
 - 3-5 Actions per Objective

“Balancing the public’s desires and vision with the evolving goals of comprehensive planning, the following mission, vision, goals, and objectives should be seamlessly integrated into the Parks & Open Space Element of the County’s Comprehensive Plan. The elements are foundational to the County’s aspirations and will play a vital role in guiding development and enhancement efforts for parks, recreation, and open spaces.”



Kitsap County
Parks

Goals & Objectives

Goal

1. Promote a **sustainable parks system** that fosters opportunities for both active and passive recreation, encourages healthy lifestyles, safeguards natural habitats, and preserves and enhances significant environmental and historical resources.

Objectives

- 1.1 Park System Optimization
- 1.2 Land Acquisition Policies and Procedures
- 1.3 Park Development and Infrastructure
- 1.4 Accessibility Improvements
- 1.5 Trail Network Expansion
- 1.6 Enhance Resource Alignment & Strategic Partnerships



Goals & Objectives

Goal

2. Develop and implement **natural resource management** plans to protect biodiversity and cultural resources, establish buffer zones and wildlife corridors, adopt sustainable land management practices, and preserve cultural heritage sites through interpretive signage, education programs, and collaboration with local tribes and cultural experts.

Objectives

- 2.1 Natural Resource Management Planning
- 2.2 Conservation and Stewardship



Goals & Objectives

Goal

3. Integrate **sustainable design** into park planning and development to minimize environmental impact and enhance resource efficiency by incorporating green infrastructure, adopting native landscaping, and implementing energy-efficient practices.

Objectives

- 3.1 Promote Sustainable Park Design and Management
- 3.2 Environmental Assessments for Sustainable Planning
- 3.3 Trail Accessibility and Design
- 3.4 Water Trails Development



Goals & Objectives

Goal

4. Enhance visitor amenities and services to **improve accessibility and overall experience** in County parks by upgrading trail signage, expanding parking and accessibility features, and implementing technology solutions for better engagement.

Objectives

- 4.1 Visitor Services Enhancement
- 4.2 Community Engagement
- 4.3 Trail Outreach Programs
- 4.4 Volunteer Stewardship and Educational Programs
- 4.5 Cultural Heritage Preservation



Goals & Objectives

Goal

5. Enhance **event and athletic facilities** by upgrading and maintaining infrastructure, implementing efficient management operations, and exploring revenue-generating opportunities to attract regional events and support local recreation programs.

Objectives

- 5.1 Facility Management Efficiency
- 5.2 Recreation Tourism Development
- 5.3 Adaptive Event Support and Community Engagement



Goals & Objectives

Goal

6. Ensure high standards in **park maintenance and operations** by establishing standardized management practices and effectively allocating resources to sustain park facilities and natural settings.

Objectives

- 6.1 Standardized Management Practices
- 6.2 Resource Allocation and Management
- 6.3 Trail Maintenance Enhancement
- 6.4 Trail Maintenance and Sustainability
- 6.5 Facility Upgrades and Maintenance



Capital Improvement Plan

“This plan addresses the immediate needs of Kitsap’s diverse communities while preparing the parks system to meet future demands, delivering significant economic, social, and environmental benefits.”

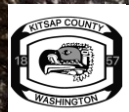
“In harmony with Kitsap County’s strategic goals and woven into the Comprehensive Plan’s principles, this plan promotes a safe, healthy, and walkable community, cultural appreciation, and environmental preservation, reflecting the aspirations and desired quality of life of the County’s residents.”

- **Public Feedback as a Foundation to the CIP**

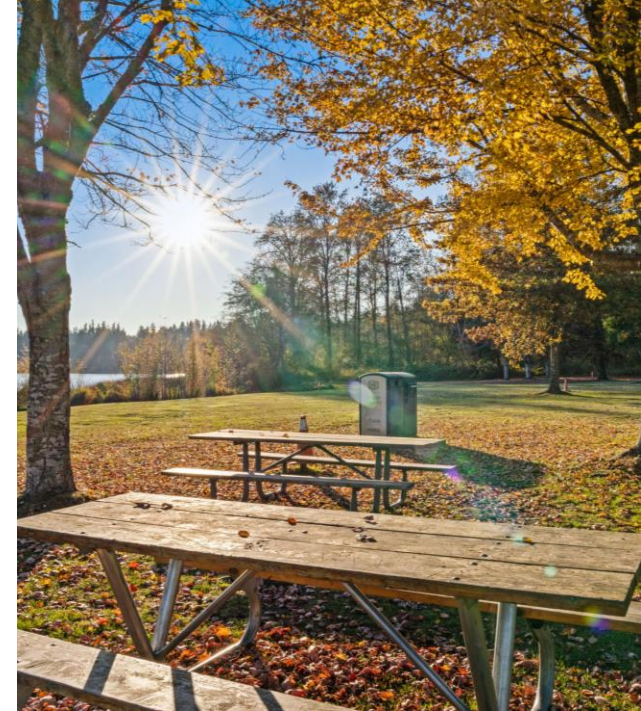
- Community Engagement Themes
 - Conservation and Landscape Resiliency
 - Connectivity and Trail Development
 - Access and Safety
 - Recreation Facilities and Amenities
 - Environmental Concerns and Open Space Protection
 - Community Engagement and Communication
 - Maintenance and Facility Upgrades

- **Developing the Capital Improvement Program**

- Kitsap County’s Financial Sources
- Estimate of Probably Cost
- Develop Strategic Projects to Maximize Funding Opportunities
- Performance & Monitoring
- Primary Funding Source Key
- CIP Project Categories



Kitsap County
Parks



Thank you!