



Parks, Culture, and Recreation Board Meeting Amended* Agenda

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for meeting information.

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Land Acknowledgment

We, the City of Lacey, are on the ancestral land of the Tribal People of the Treaty of Medicine Creek, including the Nisqually Indian Tribe and Squaxin Island Tribe. We acknowledge and remember those Tribal People not recognized today who were absorbed or relocated into other tribes for survival. We recognize the ancestors and their descendants who are still here. We recognize and respect the Tribal People of the Treaty of Medicine Creek as the traditional stewards of this land since time immemorial and their role today in taking care of these lands in perpetuity. We recognize and have the responsibility to call attention to the histories of dispossession, forced removal, and abridged treaty rights that allowed our nation, state, and city to develop as they have today. We recommend that community members read the [Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854](#).

4. Approval of Amended Agenda and Minutes

- A. Approval of the Amended Agenda*
- B. Approval of February 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes*

5. Public Comment

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for instructions on how to provide public comment.

6. Business Items

- A. **PARC Foundation of Thurston County**
Ashley Chandler and Jim Kainber
- B. **Director's Report**
*Item moved during March 5, 2025 Board Meeting
- C. **Parks Watch Program**
Scott Carter, Recreation Supervisor

D. **2024 Annual Report Draft***

Sue Falash, Recreation Manager

E. **Enhancements Program***

Jenny Wilson, Senior Parks Planner

7. Reports

A. Commissioners

B. Chair

C. Recreation Manager

D. Parks Maintenance Supervisor

E. Senior Parks Planner

8. Adjourn

***Vote Requested**

Next Meeting:

Parks, Culture, and Recreation Board Meeting: May 7, 2025 5:00 p.m., Council Chambers and Online

Attend Remote or In Person

There are several ways to attend the Parks, Culture, and Recreation Board meeting:

In Person: Council Chambers at Lacey City Hall
420 College Street SE, Lacey, WA 98503

Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OWwWgVS3TfOWZct9MK6gPQ

Website: <https://cityoflacey.org/government/public-meetings/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZtljr7lKmg>

Phone: (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 (Webinar ID 838 3113 7426)

Verbal Public Comment

Each speaker is limited to three minutes. Comments are welcome on matters connected to City business or specific agenda items.

Prior to starting your comments, please provide your:

- a. Name
- b. City of residence or connection to the City
- c. Topic or subject matter of your comments

The opportunity for verbal public comment is available in-person or by Zoom:

In Person: Use the sign-up sheet at the meeting location.

Zoom: Preregister using the following Zoom link no later than two hours prior to the meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OWwWgVS3TfOWZct9MK6gPQ

Instructions and access details will be provided once registration is complete.

Written Public Comment

Please submit written public comments to PRPublicComment@cityoflacey.org up to two hours prior to the start of the meeting. Public comments received by the deadline will be sent to Commissioners prior to the meeting, but will not be read at the meeting. Emailed correspondence that is received throughout the month will be included in the next available Parks, Culture, and Recreation Board packet under Correspondence.



Parks, Culture, and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

In absence of a presiding officer, Senior Parks Planner Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Laurie Davies, Hilary Dykstra, Bill Fosbre, Aram Wheeler, Gary Larson

Commissioners Absent (unexcused): Aryan Kumar (youth commissioner)

In the absence of a presiding officer, Commissioner Wheeler nominated himself as interim Chair. Commissioner Larson motioned to appoint Commissioner Wheeler as Interim Chair. Commissioner Davies seconded. Motion carried.

3. Land Acknowledgment

Commissioner Davies read the land acknowledgment.

4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Davies motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Larson seconded. Motion carried.

B. Approval of December 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Fosbre motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Larson seconded. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Business Items

A. Presiding Officer Nominations and Elections

Jenny Wilson

Commissioner Davies nominated Interim Chair Wheeler as Chair. With no other nominations, Commissioner Davies made a motion to elect Interim Chair Wheeler as Chair. Commissioner Fosbre seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fosbre nominated Commissioner Davies as Vice Chair. With no other nominations, Commissioner Dykstra motioned to elect Commissioner Davies as Vice Chair. Commissioner Larson seconded. Motion carried.

B. Off-leash Dog Data Presentation

Jenny Wilson

Senior Parks Planner Wilson provided updates on the City's efforts to promote dogs being on leash while in Lacey Parks.

C. Alcohol Special Event Applications

Justin Beard, Recreation Supervisor

Recreation Manager Falash reviewed the alcohol special event applications included in the agenda packet.

Commissioner Larson motioned to approve both applications as presented. Vice Chair Davies seconded. Motion carried.

D. Annual Report Message

Jenny Wilson, Senior Parks Planner

Commissioner Fosbre motioned to approve the annual report message. Commissioner Larson seconded. Motion carried.

7. Reports

A. Commissioners

No reports.

B. Chair

Chair Wheeler asked staff to investigate why a cell phone tower was removed in the City that osprey had built a nest in and if any efforts were made to support the birds during the transition.

C. Recreation Manager

Recreation Manager Sue Falash reported:

- The Quarterly Program Updates as presented in the agenda packet.
- Three staff members recently celebrated their one-year anniversary with Lacey Parks, Culture and Recreation.

D. Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Senior Parks Planner Wilson provided the Parks Maintenance Supervisor report. Since the last meeting, Parks Maintenance completed the following:

- Removed holiday lights from Huntamer Park
- Prepared for the 2024 holiday light display
- Drafted an Emerald Ash Borer response plan
- Toured athletic complexes in Southwest Washington for the Regional Athletic Complex Phase 3 concepts
- Updated planned response for park neighbors concerned about fire hazards
- Issued nine firewood permits
- Completed trail mapping project with Rotary groups
- Staff obtained certifications and an additional 200 hours of training
- Replaced synthetic turf in bullpens at the Regional Athletic Complex
- Re-built Parks rule sign frame at Rainier Vista
- Filled potholes in gravel lots at McAllister, Jacob Smith House and Depot Parks
- Designed irrigation for Civic Plaza re-landscape project that is planned for the spring
- Finished mapping Regional Athletic Complex assets
- Removed 103 hazardous trees
- Repaired a bollard and garbage can
- Added distance marker signs to Homann outfield fences
- Applied eight applications of de-icer to parks and facilities
- Mitigated eight acts of graffiti
- Hired four seasonal workers to fill positions at the Regional Athletic Complex and Rainier Vista
- Installed replacement wave climber slide at the Regional Athletic Complex
- Coordinated warranty replacement of soccer field 1 at the Regional Athletic Complex

E. Senior Parks Planner

Senior Parks Planner Wilson reported:

- The Parks Improvement Funding Workgroup recommendation was presented to City Council on December 17, 2024, with a follow-up meeting on January 14, 2025. The City Council unanimously approved for staff to

proceed with preparing a resolution for the metropolitan park district with Lacey City limits as the boundary.

- The Regional Athletic Complex kiosk is completed. A dedication ceremony is being planned.
- The wetland report for the McKinney Building is complete. A consultant is conducting research on both the McKinney Building and Long Lake House, determining the historic significance of both buildings.
- The Woodland Creek bridge replacement project continues to move forward.
- The advisory board stipend form and demographic survey are due by February 28, 2025.
- The City recently launched the Lacey Community Academy to provide community members with an interactive, hands-on overview of government operations and services. Lacey Park, Culture and Recreation will be presenting on March 13, 2025.

F. Director

Senior Parks Planner Wilson provided the Director's report.

- Construction bids for Greg Cuoio Park Phase 1A opened on January 23, 2025. The award was given to Midway Underground from Toledo, WA, as approved by City Council on February 4, 2025. The Council approved the budget at \$6,136.785.84. Work will begin in March 2025 and is intended to be complete by October 2025 due to long lead items; however, the majority of items should be done by the end of June 2025. The official groundbreaking ceremony will be held March 6, 2025.
- A landscape architect was hired to provide design options for Phase 3 of the Regional Athletic Complex. The consultants will be providing three concepts to present to the City Council in May 2025.

8. Adjourn

Chair Wheeler adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Park Watch information sheet:**Park Watch Mission**

- Lacey Parks, Culture, and Recreation Park Watch Program aims to collect valuable data that helps paint a picture of the city's community park use; while offering a valuable service opportunity for community members looking to better their Parks.
- Tagline: "Volunteering your time with Lacey Parks Watch is literally a walk in the park"

Goals:

- Sign 12 contracts for Park Watch in 2025
- Total 600 reporting hours in parks in 2025
- Conduct 4 Park Watch Meetings in 2025

Park Watch General Info:

- Park Watchers are assigned to observe and report dangerous, illegal, or other behaviors that violate park guidelines and policies.
- Park Watchers do not enforce park guidelines and policies.
- Park Watch will meet monthly on the second Wednesday of every other month, to discuss and report findings.
- Park Watchers will receive mandatory training after signing volunteer contracts.
- Park Watchers will sign contracts that assign them to a park and require 2hrs of park watch duty per month. However, we hope for more.
- Park Watchers are encouraged to sign up in pairs and conduct watch duty while in pairs.

Program Structure:

Starting in 2025 Park Watch will meet the 2nd Wednesday of every other month at City of Lacey City Hall to discuss current ongoings and reports from the parks. The March meeting will be dedicated to training sessions, this will allow training of new park watchers twice a year as well as allow room for additional trainings as park watchers see fit. Park watchers will be required to attend training meetings, as well as 2 additional meetings a year to stay in good standing.

The monthly meetings will provide opportunity for Park Watchers to share valuable information that may not come in the statistical reporting picture. These meetings may also offer educational opportunities about our parks if/when area specialists are available. Park Watch meetings will also be used to review trends of data that has been collected in previous months.

Park Watchers will be given a link to a Microsoft Forms to fill out every time they go out to a park for duties. The watchers only report violations that they see, there will be no enforcement of park rules from the park watchers. As data is collected, the Parks, Culture, and Recreation department will be able to use the data for decision making in the parks.

Additional Details:

Selection process

Send out email to current adopt-a-trail volunteers as well as department wide volunteers that have expressed interest in volunteering in the parks. Only have room for 10-20 contracts in the first year, so emailing the groups in stages to decrease the chance of having too many interested volunteers and having to turn someone away from volunteering.

Data to be collected:

Location:

Off Leash Dogs:

Date:

Dog poop Violations:

Total Users:

Drug Use:

Time Start:

Vending:

Time End:

Tents:

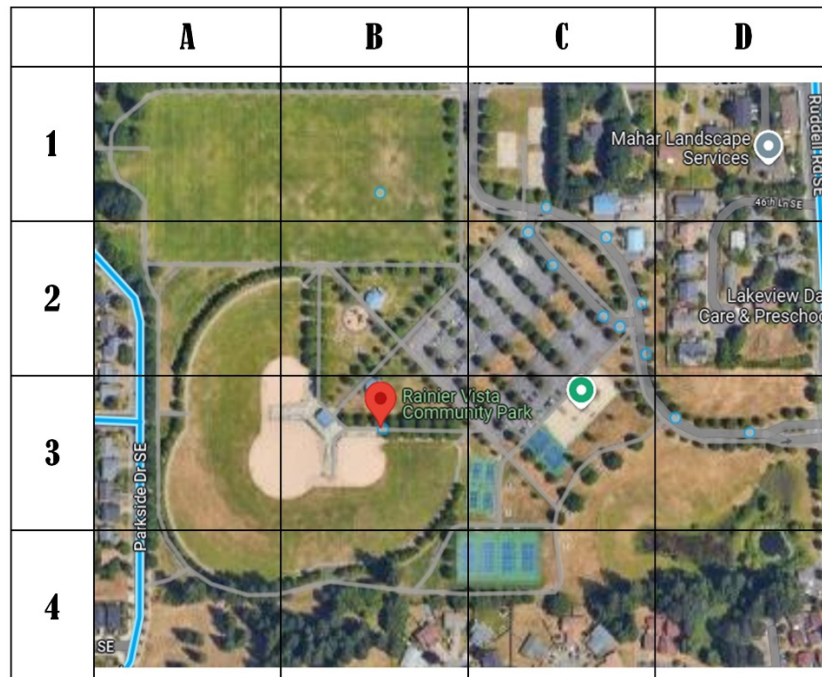
Total Dogs

Overnight Sleeping in Parks:

Sample Map:

Rainier Vista Park Map

List the letter first, followed by number. I.E. a unleashed dog in the top left of the map would be reported as A1.



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



LACEY PARKS
CULTURE & RECREATION



Accomplishments from:

- Parks, Culture and Recreation
- Parks Maintenance

Pictured:
3rd of July Celebration
Photo credit to Senza Photography

Lacey Parks

PARK INVENTORY AND FEATURES

35

PARK PROPERTIES
(9 NOT FULLY DEVELOPED)

1,269
Acres

518 DEVELOPED
751 UNDEVELOPED

26

DEVELOPED
PARKS & TRAILS



TRAILS

4

Trails

7.2

Miles of Trails



SPORT FIELDS

12

Baseball/Softball Fields
(4 more needed)

18

Soccer/Football/Rugby Fields
(4 more needed)

9

Tennis Courts

13

Basketball Half Courts



PARKS

23

Youth/Child Playgrounds

17

Picnic Shelters

5

Pickleball Courts

1

Youth Fishing Dock

1

Disc Golf Course

1

Skate Park

Athletic Facilities

The long-standing joint-use partnership with North Thurston Public Schools allows many sports organizations access to fields and facilities.

REGIONAL ATHLETIC COMPLEX (RAC)



94,700+

Tournament and League Attendance

360

Days Used at the Regional Athletic Complex

11,975.75

Hours Rented / Booked By Users / Tournaments

\$567,932

RAC Recreation and Rental Revenue



COMMUNITY FIELD AND FACILITY USE

9,627

Hours School Fields Scheduled

8,383

Hours City Fields Scheduled

1,798

Hours of Pool Use Scheduled to User Groups

Recreation

352,487

The Parks, Culture and Recreation Department includes 17.5 full-time staff responsible for implementing the wide variety of community recreation offerings such as;

- Aquatic Programs
- Community Buildings & Park Rentals
- Day camp & Teen Programs
- Lacey Museum
- Special Events
- Sports and Fitness Programs

HOURS OF RECREATION
GENERATED INCLUDING
EVENTS

90,411

PARTICIPATION IN
EVENTS/PROGRAMS



COMMUNITY EVENTS

245,070

Hours of
Recreation Generated

79,252

Attendance at Events

35

Events Offered

- 3rd of July Fireworks
- Breakfast with Santa
- Children's Day
- Children's Entertainment Series (6)
- Cultural Celebration
- Lacey in Tune Concerts (11)
- Lacey Loves to Read
- Lacey Holiday Lights
- Family Fish In
- Movies in the Park (4)
- Play in the Park Series (6)
- Lacey Spring Fun Fair
- Signing Santa



RECREATION PROGRAMS

107,417

Total Hours of
Recreation Generated

11,159

Total Enrollment

986

Programs / Classes Offered

\$726,802

Total Revenue

Recreation Sponsorships

Sponsors open avenues for new sources of revenue, allow the city to hold more community events and programs, offer residents the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs.



Financial Assistance Program is made possible with thanks to private donations made by the community, grants and other dedicated funding.

SPONSORSHIPS

\$66,700

Total Revenue Generated
Special Events

\$16,500

Total Revenue Generated
RAC Banners

34

Total Sponsors

FINACIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

\$13,189

Financial Assistance
Allocated

60

Unique Households

144

Unique Participants

Museum & Community Buildings



LACEY MUSEUM

882
Visitors

2,122

Virtual Program Participation

456

Volunteer Hours

\$26,000

Grants and Donations

COMMUNITY FACILITIES



313

Days Used at Lacey Community Center

155

Days Used at Jacob Smith House

528

Individual Bookings of Rental Facilities

718

Park Picnic Shelter Reservations

3,644

Hours of Picnic Shelter Use

\$341,132

Revenue from Facilities and Shelters



Parks & Maintenance

PARK MAINTENANCE AT A GLANCE

Every day the maintenance team is working throughout the City to ensure the parks and facilities are in the best condition possible for the enjoyment of our community.



78

Parks, Trails, and Undeveloped Properties Maintained

544

Trees Planted in Parks and Streets

163

Removal of Hazardous Trees

721

Trees Pruned

1,656

Parks work orders issued

557

Yards of leaves removed from Parks and Right of Way

75

Graffiti removal from vandalism

14.56 tons

Rapid Response Team Debris removal



Parks & Maintenance

PARK MAINTENANCE STAFF

The Public Works Parks and Facilities Maintenance Division includes 22 full-time and 21.5 seasonal staff. This staff is responsible for maintaining the grounds of all City-owned parks and facilities.

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY

Plants and Shrubs

Weed control, pruning, and landscape bed cleanup.

Building and Structure Maintenance

Blowing and pressure washing shelters, sidewalks, parking lots, basketball courts, tennis courts, pickleball courts, and skate park.

Irrigation Maintenance

Install, repairs, and maintains the automatic turf irrigation systems.

Tree Maintenance

Prune, inspection and plant trees. stump removal, leaf pickup, and water.

Grounds and Trail Maintenance

Weed removal, invasive removal, and trail clearing.

Turf Maintenance

Mowing, edging, line trimming, aeration, and fertilizing

Sports Field Maintenance

Mowing, fertilizing, aeration, topdressing and renovation of sport field turf. Dragging infields, lining fields, moving bases, fences, pitching mounds, goals, and equipment necessary for user groups.

Pressure Washing

Routine cleaning of assets to prolong life and ensure sanitary conditions.

Equipment Maintenance

Routine preventative maintenance and repair of equipment.

Vandalism and Graffiti Removal

Repair or mitigation of vandalism and removal of all graffiti

Equipment Maintenance

Routine preventative maintenance and repair of equipment.

Janitorial and Parks Clean up

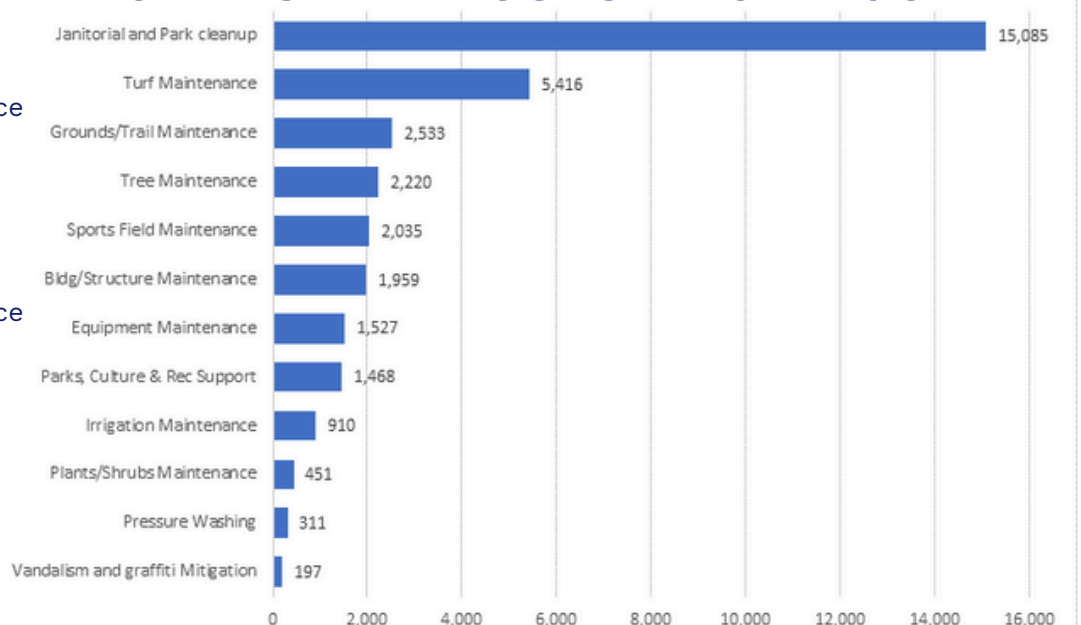
Cleaning restrooms, emptying garbage cans, safety checks, playground maintenance, and general park cleanup.

Parks, Culture & Recreation Support

Setup, cleanup and event support



TOTAL STAFF HOURS BY CATEGORY



2024 Highlights



PARKS MAINTENANCE

- Renewed security contract with PPS Security for 3 more years of locking and unlocking services
- Mapped majority of Parks assets in GIS
- Mapped all Parks trails in coordination with Rotary volunteers
- Installed a flag pole at the baseball fields at Rainier Vista
- Added 226 tons of sand topdressing at Rainier Vista
- Added 99 tons of sand topdressing at RAC
- Installed 24 new park rules signs
- Lowered benches at Bush Park to meet ADA standards
- Removed 9 bollards to mitigate liability per WCIA
- Installed buoys along Wanschers shoreline
- Removed 557 yards (129 tons) of leaves from Parks/ROWs
- Provided 176,000 dog poop bags for Park users
- Used 14,500 garbage bags
- Tree work:
 - Planted 520 seedlings
 - Planted 24 street trees
 - Removed 163 hazard trees
 - Pruned 481 City owned trees
- Rapid Response Clean-Up Team assisted with collection and clean-up of homeless camps. During 2024 the team responded to:
 - Removed 14.56 tons of debris
 - Cleaned 68 camp sites
 - Cleaned 131 Roadside cleanups
 - Sanitized and returned 485 shopping carts
 - Collected 445 carts from ROW
 - Removed graffiti from 47 acts of vandalism
 - Removed 320 hypodermic needles

CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT

- Concept design for Huntamer Park completed.
- Design for replacement bridge at Woodland Creek Park bridge is near completion
- Regional Athletic Complex parking lot construction project completed
- Regional Athletic Complex historic kiosk project is near completion
- Master planning for the 400+ acre Greg Cuoio Park & Greenways reached the 100% completion mark
- Consultant hired to complete a wetland delineation report for the McKinney Building
- Additional props were added to the Holiday Lights at Huntamer Park

2024 Highlights



PROGRAM & PARK ENHANCEMENTS

- Hosted 2024 Cascade National Championships. (70+ teams) from all over the country
- Directed 2024 USA 12u fastpitch with 18 teams
- Re-started Lacey A.C.T. Nights as Lacey Teen Late Nights
- Successfully restarted Teen Leadership group
- Relaunched National Girls and Women in Sports Day
- RAC won the bid to bring back 10U USA Fastpitch tournament, 3A State
- Increased swim lesson registration by 51%
- Changed Lighted Vehicle Parade to Lacey Holiday Lights
- Had 710 campers at 2 day camp sites over the course of 8 weeks

- Partnership agreements renewed:
 - North Thurston Public Schools
 - Senior Services for South Sound
 - Thurston County Parks and Recreation Specialized Recreation
- Parks Funding Workgroup established by Resolution 1148 made final recommendation to City Council.
- Direct impact of RAC to local economy \$13.6 million (calculated through partnership with Sports Commission)
- Dedicated Ken Balsley Memorial bench at Civic Plaza
- The Lacey Museum began exhibits move to Bell Towne Centre and establishment of research center at the Russell House
- Incorporated a 1/2 time position to focus on marketing

- Grants and Donations received:
 - \$5,000 from Hawks Prairie Rotary and Lacey Rotary for Trail Maps
 - Received \$15,000 for Diversity in Local History Grant
 - \$10,000 was from a bequest to Lacey Museum
 - \$10,000 Nisqually Charitable Funds
 - \$49,500 from North Thurston Public Schools for Playground Pals program
 - \$1,149 from Parks, Arts, Recreation & Cultural (PARC) Foundation of Thurston County for the Summer Playground Pals Program
 - \$5,000 from the PARC Foundation of Thurston County for the Financial Assistance Program
 - \$5,000 from Thurston County Pickleball Association for the Rainier Vista Park Pickleball & Table Tennis project (if funded through the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office)

Partnerships & Budget

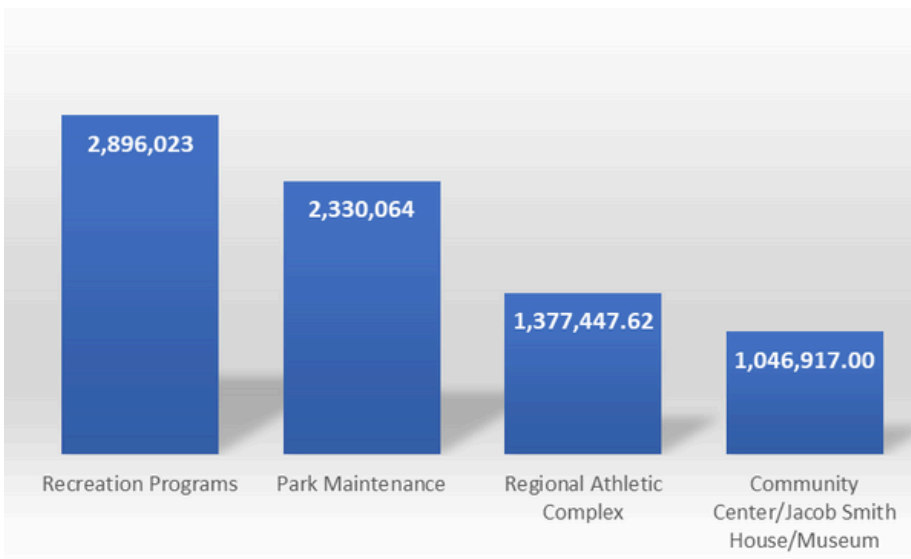
PARTNERSHIPS

Partners are essential so that the City of Lacey and the Parks, Culture and Recreation Department can provide programs to the community in the most cost-efficient way possible.



COST OF PARKS, CULTURE & RECREATION

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$7,650,452



Revenues are generated by program and rental fees, but Parks, Culture & Recreation is funded primarily by the City's general fund.

VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT



\$171,674

Value of Volunteer Time

4,443.75

Hours at Events / Programs

758.5

Hours in Parks



PARKS, CULTURE & RECREATION BOARD MESSAGE

PARKS BOARD



WENDY GOODWIN
CHAIR



KAMBER GOOD
VICE CHAIR



ARAM WHEELER



GARY LARSON



LAURIE DAVIES



HILARY DYKSTRA



BILL FOSBRE



NATE CLAY
YOUTH REP.



ARYAN KUMAR
YOUTH REP.

The annual report celebrates the outstanding 2024 accomplishments, but we want to highlight some of them:

Greg Cuoio Park. Greg Cuoio Park Phase 1A 100% design was completed and advertised for construction bids. Construction of the park is expected to begin in Early 2025. The park will include an inclusive playground, trails, picnic areas, and an 18-hole disc golf course.

Parks Improvement Funding Workgroup. City Council formed the Parks Improvement Funding Workgroup to provide direction on long-term funding for Lacey Parks, Culture, and Recreation (LPCR). The workgroup successfully identified several recommendations to improve parks.

Community Partnerships. Community partners are critical to ensuring the department's ability to serve the community. The 2024 renewed partnerships include;

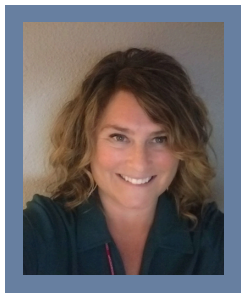
- North Thurston Public Schools - partnered to explore opportunities for a Young Child & Family Center Project. In addition, the Interlocal Agreement was renewed, providing LPCR and community access to facilities, fields, buses, and pools.
- Thurston County Parks and Recreation – Renewed the Specialized Recreation Agreement to provide activities for individuals with developmental and/or physical disabilities throughout Thurston County.
- Senior Services for South Sound - Renewed the agreement to provide vital services for local seniors at the Virgil S. Clarkson Senior Center.

Regional Athletic Complex. Construction of a new parking lot was completed, providing additional parking for tournaments and park users. The project also included bus parking, electric vehicle charging stations, and frontage/sidewalk improvements.

Sincerely,
Parks Board

PARKS AND PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

LEADERSHIP TEAM



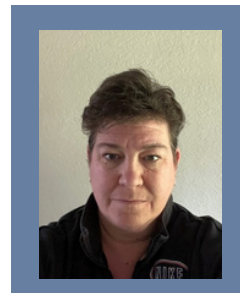
JENNIFER BURBIDGE
DIRECTOR
PARKS, CULTURE &
RECREATION



SCOTT EGGER
DIRECTOR
PUBLIC WORKS



SCOTT DEVLIN
OPERATIONS
MANAGER



SUE FALASH
RECREATION
MANAGER



JAMIE OAKLAND
PARKS MAINTENANCE
SUPERVISOR

We want to thank Public Works Parks, Facilities Maintenance, Water Resources, Project Management staff, and Lacey Parks, Culture & Recreation staff for their hard work, care, and dedication to the Lacey Parks system during 2024! We would also like to thank all the community members and stakeholders who visited Lacey parks, used the fields facilities, and attended the many programs offered in 2024. We also want to thank the Parks, Culture & Recreation Board for their dedication and vision.

The caliber of Lacey's parks system is among the best in the state. Lacey parks and programs are critical for the community. Free, convenient, and easy access to numerous parks and open spaces improves overall physical and mental health and the well-being of residents by:

- Encouraging active lifestyles and reducing health costs
- Growing job opportunities and local economies
- Building infrastructure resiliency (stormwater/flood management)
- Increasing community engagement and reducing crime
- Helping clean the air thus improving public health
- Providing a tool for cities to achieve equity goals

The Parks, Culture and Recreation Board message highlights some of the key accomplishments from 2024 such as the Greg Cuoio Park Phase 1A 100% design completion, the formation of the Parks Improvement Funding Workgroup, Community Partnership projects, and the completion of the Regional Athletic Complex (RAC) new parking lot including six new electric vehicle DC-Fast Chargers.

In addition, we are excited about the RAC Phase 3 pre-design process beginning after the Capital Area Regional Public Facilities District was extended by 15 years, and the long-awaited Greg Cuoio Park construction project, which is intended to open to the public in late summer of 2025.

Some maintenance highlights from 2024 include:

Parks:

- Renewed security contract for 3 more years of locking and unlocking services
- Drafted Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan
- Mapped majority of park assets in GIS
- Installed new rules signs at all Parks
- Installed buoys along Wanschers Park waterfront
- Installed gate at Long Lake House
- Worked with HOA to meet minimum safety standards and re-opened Arbors Park playground
- Continued multi-year conversion of Lacey's automated irrigation controller system.

RAC:

- Worked with vendor to determine that the artificial turf in Soccer field #1 at the RAC is failing and will be replaced, under warranty, in March of 2025.
- Moved irrigation for kiosk construction
- Closely monitored parking lot construction

Rainier Vista:

- Installed a flag pole near baseball fields

We look forward to continuing our efforts in 2025 to make Lacey the best place to live, work and play!

Sincerely,

Jen Burbidge and Scott Egger

Enhancement Program

Four applications were submitted for consideration for the February 2025 Enhancement Program. The committee suggests approving three applications as-is. One application was approved with some alterations to the original request.

Memorial Bench – Approved

The Enhancement Program Committee approved this request.

Request Summary: A commemorative bench to honor Lori Flemm, Lacey's former Parks, Culture, and Recreation Director and long-time Lacey resident. The bench will be located at the Depot Playground and will include a small plaque on the bench. The bench will be paid with donations from the Lori Flemm Memorial Fund.

Memorial Bench – Approved

The Enhancement Program Committee approved this request.

Request Summary: Glen Crandal, a long-time Lacey resident and former Parks Board member, proposed purchasing a commemorative bench. The preferred location is along a walking trail at the RAC. The bench will include a small plaque recognizing their contribution. The Crandal family will purchase the bench.

Spruce Tree - Approved

The Enhancement Program Committee approved this request.

Request Summary: Wendy Goodwin, a former Parks Board member and long-time Lacey resident, proposed donating a small spruce tree. The preferred location is Wonderwood Park, where it can grow. Ms. Goodwin can plant the tree once the staff selects a location.

Meadow Scape – Approved

The Enhancement Program Committee approved this request contingent on a more suitable location and reduced project scope.

Request Summary: Remove approximately 1,000 square feet of lawn and plant seeds for a meadow scape between the Community Center and White House at Woodland Creek Community Park. The project aims to attract kestrels, bluebirds, or screech owls. Staff approved the proposal in a less manicured lawn area (between the Community Center and Senior Center) and requested seeds be planted without disturbing the soil as it will erode into the

Parks, Culture & Recreation Correspondence

Date	From	Correspondence	Response
1.24.25	unidentified call	There is a van that regularly uses power from one of the RAC shelters.	Response from Senior Maintenance Tech. Julie McFadden: The power to the shelters are on consistently for the cameras. Yes, we do have a van who does come and use the power. We also have regular use from other park patrons as well for power (speakers, cell phone charging etc.) and power is available to all.
1.28.25	Cedric P.	Since it will be one of the largest community parks, can it be named something that sounds better and have Greg Cuoio be the subtitle. Something easier to say out loud. Wonderwood and Rainier Vista are good examples	Reply from Senior Parks Planner Jenny Wilson: Hello Cedric, Thanks for reaching out about Greg Cuoio Park. The park is named for our former city manager of 24 years who was instrumental in securing the property for the park. Park names are selected by Lacey City Council. In this case, the council selected the name in 2011 so it is already established. In practice, the community often refers to parks by just the last name for example Bush Park (William A Bush Park) and Huntamer Park (Thomas W. Huntamer Park). Thanks again for the suggestion, Jenny
2.10.25	Steven	Hi there! I recently watched a presentation you folks did about dogs off leash and your staff noted that you are getting fewer complaints. May I suggest you add an email to your signs? Until this presentation I had no idea you were keeping track of this statistic and I can affirm that almost every single time I am at wonderwood park, I encounter at least one off leach dog. I just walked my dog today and there was an off leash dog. You have a "give dogs space" sign near the baseball fields that is a bit worn out now and I have actually pointed to it and told someone next to it that this is not an off leash park. Maybe refresh this sign (make it more waterproof) & add an email? Last year, my wife and I had to call the police because two off leash dogs at Wonderwood were aggressive and preventing us from getting to our car. Best of luck in your efforts. Steven	Reply from Senior Parks Planner Jenny Wilson : Hi Steven Thanks for reaching out and for the suggestion. Off-leash dogs are a challenging situation. Our plan is to remove the signs and have them put out again in the Spring and Summer. They don't hold up very well when they are out year-round and it certainly shows.I am so sorry to hear about your experience with the aggressive dogs. Out of curiosity – what was the police response? All the best, Jenny
2.12.25	Pat. O.	Hello, I am a deer antler collector- I search for shed antlers in the late winter/early spring and use them for projects, crafts, etc. I live near several Lacey park properties and would like to explore them and search for antlers. I see in the park rules that generally speaking, nothing may be taken from Lacey parks: "Do not willfully mutilate, damage, injure, deface, destroy, or take any tree, shrub, timber, plant, turf area, or natural object, or any synthetic turf area, guidepost, notice, table, fence, enclosure, structure, facility, or any other park improvement." However, WA state allows the collection of naturally shed antlers from public properties, and it's a generally low-impact recreation activity: Shed antler collecting Permits: In Washington, there are no seasons or permits required to collect shed antlers. However, shed hunters must follow state regulations for land use, such as searching for sheds on public lands or private land with permission. People should also always follow posted closure signs. Can you please provide clarification whether or not shed antler collecting is permitted in Lacey parks, and/or what limitations or opportunities may exist for specific park properties?Thank you,	Reply from Senior Parks Planner Jenny Wilson(phone call): Thanks for checking in advance, unfortunately, antler collection would fall within the "Natural object" of our rules so we are unable to grant special permission.
2.19.25	Conrad M.	I was told you were the person I should talk to about permission to launch a model rocket at one of our Lacey parks. I'm a grad student at UW, and I have built a flight data computer for one of my classes. The computer goes into a low-flying model rocket that should not exceed 80 meters height in flight. I was hoping to be able to launch it tomorrow at one of our large parks, like Rainier Vista or the Regional Athletic Complex, so that I can collect the flight data for my Saturday morning class. It looks like tomorrow will be the best bet for a break in the rain. Would this be possible? Thank you for your time.	Reply from Senior Parks Planner Jenny Wilson: Spoke via phone and explained that there is a rule against launching or detonating any object in parks.

2.20.25	Kurt S.	Hello Jenny, https://www.instagram.com/p/DFs8eC0RMEW/?hl=en I'd like to present to the Lacey Parks & Recreation office the idea of developing an "Incline" where citizens can cardio-work out their legs and lungs and loose weight! The link above is regarding the Manitou Incline in Manitou Springs CO. https://manitousprings.org/where-to-play/manitou-incline/ The point I would like to make is how the lady who posted the IG link remarks about loosing weight and feeling a lot better with herself. I think Lacey citizens would feel the same way. The "Incline" at Lacey would not need to be as high as the one in Colorado. It just needs to be high enough to get a proper uphill workout. There could be a "Summit" area as well as a ADA ramp on one side to get to "The Top". The Incline can be a trail, boulders to hop, RxR ties or concrete stairs or a little of everything! It could include plantings and trees to hold the soil and to shade users in the summer. AND it can be a draw to the city, where events and races can occur. I work for the state DOT and provide 3D modeling, animation and visualization for infrastructure projects (here is the one we did for Lacey's DDI). I would be happy to chip-in visualization, drone footage, etc. for the marketing of this project. So, I hope you see value in this and would like to discuss further my idea for a "Incline at Lacey". It will take materials, it will take work, it will take donations, BUT it will provide generations of healthy fun and exercise! Just ask that Instagram lady!	Reply from Senior Parks Planner Jenny Wilson: Hi Kurt – Thanks for reaching out and for sharing. This would be really cool. I'm curious if you have a location in mind because I don't know if we have any park property with much elevation? Unfortunately, our most significant challenge is funding. We are currently working to determine stable funding for parks as we have a backlog of deferred maintenance (about \$6.5 million). In addition, we have an expansive list of community requests for new park amenities (about \$56 million). These project were identified during our parks comprehensive plan update through community surveys and meetings. I will add your suggestion to the list of amenities to consider in our next plan survey so we can determine community-wide interest. Thanks again! Jenny
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