



# PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
**SUBJECT:** August 9, 2023, Board Meeting Agenda  
**TIME:** 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**LOCATION: CITY HALL, MAYOR'S BOARD ROOM WITH REMOTE OPTION**

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Public Meeting Link: <https://cob.zoom.us/j/99623052639?pwd=M1RIWENpc0ZGaWlnTENjNHJLVWhYdz09>

Meeting ID: 996 2305 2639

Password: 914391

## ITEM

## ACTION

### **I. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Parks and Recreation Department acknowledges that we gather on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Lhaq'temish – Lummi people – and the Nuxwsá7aq – Nooksack people – who have lived in the Coast Salish region Since Time Immemorial.

The Parks and Recreation Department honors our shared responsibilities to their homeland. We are grateful for the opportunity to learn from indigenous wisdom and ways of creating relationships that will sustain us all on this land for future generations.

### **II. AGENDA REVIEW**

Board Consent

### **III. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **V. JULY MEETING MINUTES**

Board Approval

### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Amendments
- b. Storybrook Park – Phase 1 - 50% Design Update
- c. Capital Projects Update

Board Recommendation  
Board Information  
Board Information

### **VII. DIRECTORS REPORT**

- a. Lake Padden Showers
- b. Campaign Memo
- c. Hundred Acre Wood Conservation Easement
- d. Community Shower Program
- e. Park Activity Update
- f. Woodstock Weddings

### **VIII. MEMBERSHIP**

- a. Field Trips

Board Information

### **IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board Recommendation

**X. BOARD REPORTS**

Arts Commission (Steve Walker)	Board Information
Big Rock Garden Park Friends (Zarah Manju)	Board Information
Chuckanut Community Forest Park District (John Blethen)	Board Information
Dogs Off Leash Task Force (Michael Kutcher)	Board Information
Greenway Advisory Committee (John Blethen & Ray Dellecker)	Board Information
Lake Padden Golfers Committee (Jed Holmes)	Board Information

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Consent

**Accessibility**

The City of Bellingham will provide a variety of accommodations and services for access and communications. Individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in City programs, services or activities and need an accommodation can submit a request for accommodation to the City by completing the online Request for Accommodation form (available at [www.cob.org/ADA](http://www.cob.org/ADA)) or by calling Holly Pederson at 360.778.7950, or Relay: 7-1-1 at least 3 days in advance of the event or activity.

The Mayor's Board Room is fully accessible. Elevator access to the second floor is available at City Hall's west entrance. Hearing assistance is available, and a receiver may be checked out through the Deputy City Clerk prior to the evening session. For additional accommodations, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 360.778.7000 in advance of the meeting. Thank you.



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## Parks and Recreation Department City of Bellingham

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### MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
**From:** Peter Gill, Planning and Development Coordinator  
**CC:** Nicole Oliver, Parks & Recreation Director and Laine Potter, Development Manager  
**Subject:** Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan Amendments  
**Date:** August 9, 2023

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On April 24<sup>th</sup> the City Council docketed a proposal by Bellingham Parks & Recreation to amend the 2022-2023 annual docket of Bellingham Comprehensive Plan amendments. On August 17, 2023 the Planning Commission is holding a public hearing to consider the Bellingham Parks & Recreation Department's request to amend the 2020 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PRO Plan). The PRO Plan is an adopted chapter of the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan.

These amendments were introduced to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) at the May 10, 2023 meeting. Comments from the Greenways Advisory Committee and the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission (MNAC) are now incorporated into the amendments. A recommendation from PRAB on the proposal will be conveyed to Planning Commission and City Council.

#### **Proposal Summary**

This minor amendment addresses PRO Plan Section 5.5 Trails, and Appendix D, the six-year Capital Facilities Plan. The proposal amends the Recommended Facilities Plan trail map to address updates in development since 2020, improve trail alignments to better reflect development patterns and geographic constraints, and align with proposed updates to the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans.

Significant private development in Bellingham is ongoing since the last PRO Plan update in 2020, with a large portion being new multifamily residential units. This is especially evident in the northern portion of the City and urban villages such as Samish Way and Barkley. In tandem with this private development, the City's Greenways Program has, since 2020, facilitated the acquisition of an additional 87 acres of property for parks, trails, and open space. The rate at which new trail corridors have been dedicated and/or constructed with private development projects has highlighted a clear need to ensure City planning documents are up to date and

consistent with the most current information regarding on the ground conditions and future trail alignment. New critical area reports prepared during project permitting, including wetland delineations, stream buffers, slopes, and other critical area information, have been carefully analyzed by staff during modification of the proposed trail corridors in an effort to better reflect environmental constraints and low impact trail alignment opportunities. These recommended trail corridors are an important component of the City's short- and long-range planning efforts to meet level of service and equity goals set forth in the PRO Plan. The proposed revisions to the recommended trail network attempt to equitably distribute trail corridors and connections between residential development and parks and open space, specifically in areas of multifamily residential development where access to private open space and recreational facilities is typically limited.

Additionally, the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans are being updated. Updates to these master plans are being coordinated with the proposed trail network included in this proposal and Parks Department staff have worked closely with project leads from Public Works to ensure consistency with regards to proposed crossings, recommended improvements to bike and pedestrian networks, unopened rights-of-way analysis, and green-gray connections.

The Section 5.5 Recommended Facilities Plan trail map and an amended map are included in the meeting materials for August 9<sup>th</sup>. The amended map labels the new trails according to the following categories:

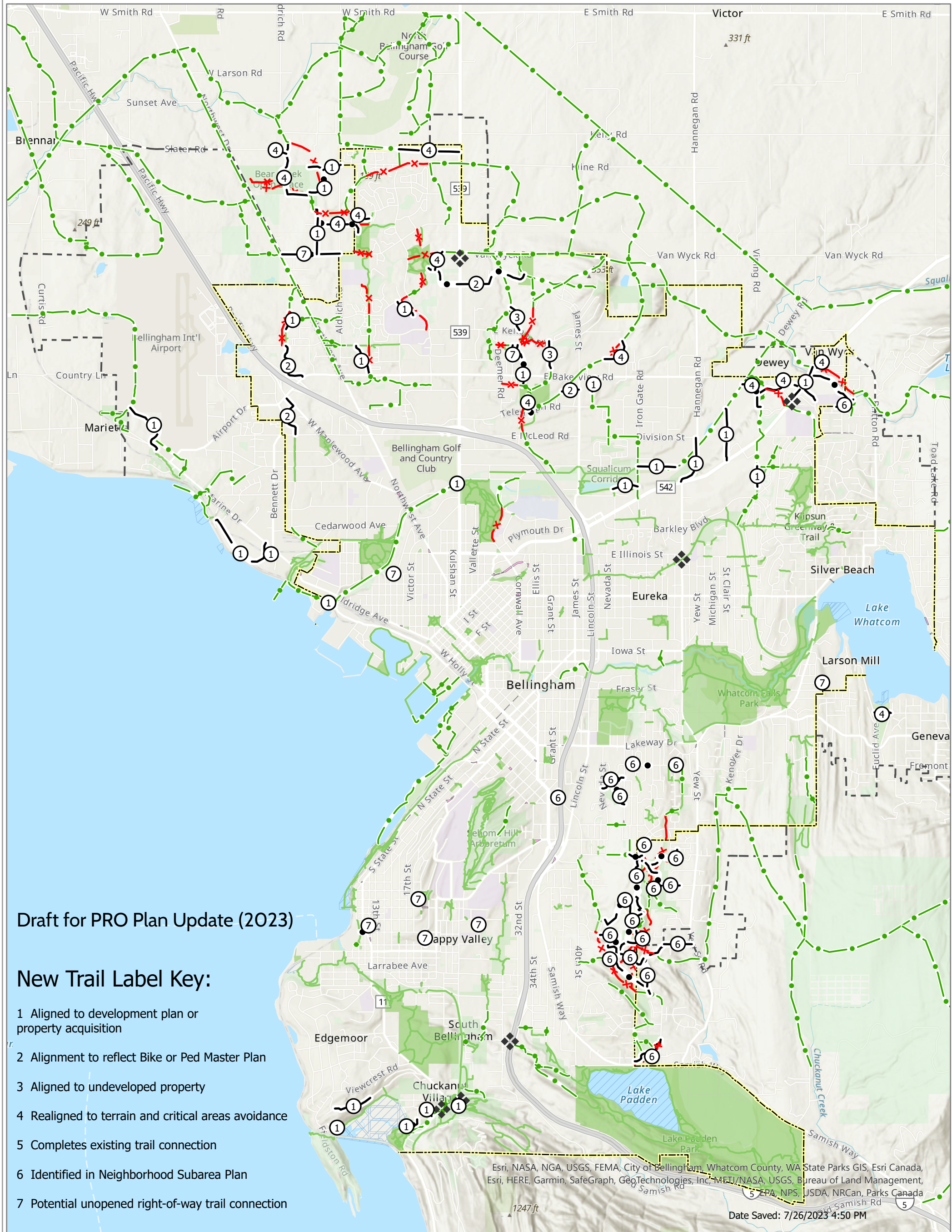
- Aligned to development plan or property acquisition
- Changes reflect current or proposed Bike or Pedestrian Master Plan
- Adjusted alignment to areas likely to sub-divide and develop
- Re-aligned to terrain and avoidance of critical areas
- Completes existing trail connection
- Identified in neighborhood plan
- Potential right-of-way trail connection

The updated map also includes grade separated trail crossings of roads. While the location of these bridges or underpasses is not precise at this time, including the crossings is an important first step is studying the feasibility of a project with state, federal, and private partners.

The proposed amendment to Appendix D of the 2020 PRO Plan removes the outdated 2019 - 2020 Parks & Recreation Department six-year Capital Facilities Plan (CFP). To keep public facilities appropriately budgeted into the future and allow for the use of park impact fees, updates to the CFP are done every two years with the biennial budget. Changes to Appendix D include removing the 2019-2020 CFP and updating references to the current Parks & Recreation six-year CFP found in the City's current adopted biennial budget.



# Amendments to Recommend Facilities Plan - Trails



## 2023 Trail Amendments

- 2020 Proposed Trail
  - Remove Proposed Trail
  - Add New Proposed Trail
- Proposed Crossings**
- Overpass/Underpass

## Existing Trails

- Existing Public Trails
- City Boundaries
- City Limits
- Urban Growth Boundary

## Parks and Open Space

- Park or Special Use
- Open Space
- Aquatic Lands
- Other Public

## Support for regional trails not completely shown on this map include:

- Coast Millennial Trail
  - Bellingham-Mt. Baker Trail
  - Bay to Baker Trail
- 0 0.5 1 Miles
-



## Exhibit A of Ordinance.

Proposed amendments to Section 5.5 of the 2020 PRO Plan, Chap. 7 of Bellingham Comprehensive Plan

### 5.5 Trails (TR)

Originally based on the North Bellingham Trail Plan, Bellingham's proposed trail map was updated extensively during ~~this planning~~ the 2023 Comprehensive Plan annual docket process to more accurately reflect development patterns, critical areas, Bellingham's Bike and Pedestrian Master Plans and ~~targeted corridors~~ Park property acquisitions. As a result of the 2020 public process and the needs analysis, specific recommendations for multi-purpose trails in Bellingham ~~include~~ remain:

#### 5.5.1 Policy Recommendations Trails (TR)

- Acquire and/or develop new trail connections as shown on the following map in order to provide an off-street trail within a half mile of every resident in Bellingham.
- Coordinate with Public Works to identify opportunities for better trail, habitat corridor, sidewalk and bike route connectivity.
- Institute a maintenance replacement program to monitor, maintain, improve and/or replace trail features, including bridges, boardwalks and stairs.
- Connect Cordata Park, Whatcom Community College and Van Wyck Park.
- Acquire and/or develop trailheads (parking, signage, restrooms, picnic areas, etc.) at Galbraith Mountain area, Woodstock Farm, Fairhaven Park's, Chuckanut Community Forest and North Chuckanut Trailhead.
- Acquire and develop a trail corridor to extend the Northridge Park Trail west.
- Pursue easements to connect Bay to Baker Trail to King and Queen Mountain Greenway.
- Pursue connections from Little Squalicum Park northwest to Alderwood/Airport area.
- Develop trails to fulfill the Waterfront District Subarea Plan.

#### 5.5.2 Project Recommendations Trails (TR)

Recommendations	Funded 2019/2020	High 2021/2022	Medium 2023/2024	Low 2025/2026
Acquire trail corridor along Squalicum Creek.				
Extend trail along Whatcom Waterway as development occurs.				
Samish Crest – complete connection to Lake Padden.				
Connect Riley Open Space and the Cordata Trail.		ADD		
Evaluate and replace bridges – Wildflower, Civic, Silver Creek.		ADD	ADD	
Acquire and improve trailhead parking and access to Galbraith from the north.			ADD	
Complete Locust Beach trailhead and trail improvements.				ADD

# Exhibit A of Ordinance.

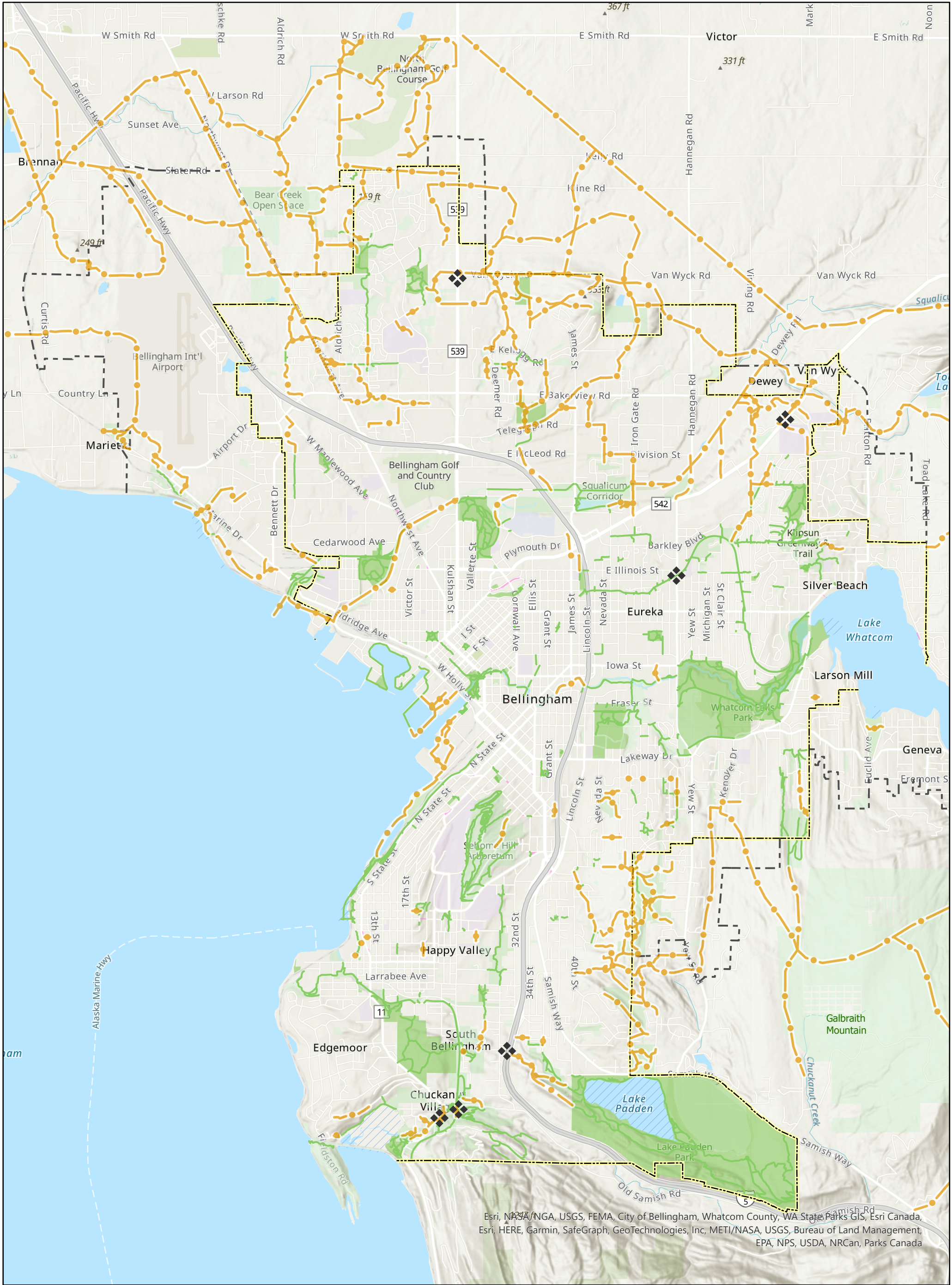
Proposed amendments to Section 5.5 of the 2020 PRO Plan, Chap. 7 of Bellingham Comprehensive Plan

## 2023 RECOMMENDED FACILITIES PLAN • TRAILS





# Recommended Facilities Plan Trails



Esri, NASA/NGA, USGS, FEMA, City of Bellingham, Whatcom County, WA State Parks GIS, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA, NRCAN, Parks Canada

## PRO Plan Trails

- 2023 Proposed Trails
- Existing Public Trails

## Proposed Crossings

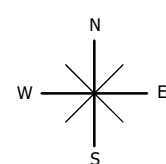
- Overpass/Underpass

## Parks and Open Space

- Park or Special Use
- Open Space
- Aquatic Lands
- Other Public

## City Boundaries

- City Limits
- Urban Growth Boundary



0 0.5 1 Miles

Support for regional trails not completely shown on this map include:

- Coast Millennial Trail
- Bellingham - Mt. Baker Trail
- Bay to Baker Trail

August 2023



## Appendix D-Amended 2023

### Capital Facilities Plan (6 Year)

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~~See the City's adopted 2019-2020 Parks and Recreation Department 6-year Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) on the following pages. Expenditures for 2019-2020 were authorized after budget adoption by the City Council. Expenditures identified for years beyond 2020 are included for information and review of potential future needs. Their inclusion is not a request for approval or budget authorization.~~

The City's adopted Parks and Recreation Department six-year Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) is incorporated into the City of Bellingham Biennial Budget. The CFP is a six-year rolling plan that is revised annually to reflect varying conditions. The CFP is authorized yearly through budget adoption by the City Council and establishes priorities by estimating costs, schedule, and funding sources for all facility or infrastructure-related capital projects and acquisitions.

The current Parks and Recreation Department six-year Capital Facilities Plan is found on the City's Budget page (<https://cob.org/gov/budget>) under the Capital Budget and Capital Facilities Plan Chapter of the adopted biennial budget.

**Capital Plan**

**Parks and Recreation**

Capital Item and Funding Sources	2019 Preliminary	2020 Preliminary	2021 Estimate	2022 Estimate	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate
<b>Birchwood Neighborhood Park Restroom</b>	<b>200,000</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Park Impact	200,000					
<b>Fairhaven Park - Master Plan Update</b>	-	-	-	<b>100,000</b>	-	-
Park Impact				100,000		
<b>Fleet and Equipment</b>	<b>97,000</b>	<b>36,000</b>	-	-	-	-
General	97,000	36,000	-	-	-	-
<b>Fountain Plaza</b>	<b>320,000</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Park Impact	320,000					
<b>Golf Course Capital Maintenance</b>		<b>80,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	-
Golf		80,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
<b>Greenway Land Acquisition</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	-
Greenways	1,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	
<b>Grounds Maintenance Projects</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	-
REET 1	10,000	10,000	10,000	16,000	10,000	
<b>Interurban Trail</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>	-	-	-	-
Greenways	300,000	300,000				
<b>Lake Padden Park Improvements</b>	<b>428,400</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Greenways	428,400					
<b>Maplewood McLeod Neighborhood Park</b>	-	-	<b>100,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	-	-
Park Impact			100,000	500,000		
<b>Boulevard Cleanup</b>	-	-	<b>8,000,000</b>	-	-	-
S. State St.			8,000,000			
<b>Maritime Heritage Park Slide</b>	<b>100,000</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Park Impact	100,000					
<b>Neighborhood Park Acquisition</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	-	-	-	-
Park Impact	100,000	100,000				
<b>Neighborhood Park Improvements</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	-
Park Impact	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
<b>Park Ops Office Addition and Repairs</b>		<b>200,000</b>				
REET 2		200,000				
<b>Playground Replacement</b>	-	-	<b>175,000</b>	<b>175,000</b>	-	-
Park Impact			175,000	175,000		
<b>Fencing at Maritime Heritage Park</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	-	-	-	-
REET 2	80,000	80,000				
<b>Restroom at Little Squalicum Park</b>	-	-	<b>250,000</b>	-	-	-
Park Impact			250,000			
<b>Samish Crest Trail</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>400,000</b>	-
Park Impact					400,000	
<b>Shuksan Meadows Park Upgrade</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>	-	-	-	-
Park Impact	50,000	200,000				

*Capital Plan*

Parks and Recreation (cont'd)

Capital Item and Funding Sources	2019 Preliminary	2020 Preliminary	2021 Estimate	2022 Estimate	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate
<b>Boulevard Park Utility Re-route</b>	<b>3,500,000</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Greenways	1,500,000					
REET 1	2,000,000					
<b>S. State Street Gas Plant - Clean Up</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>850,000</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>	-	-	-
Environmental Remediation	250,000	850,000	8,000,000			
<b>Squalicum Creek Park YAF Field</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	-	-	-	-
Grant Funding	350,000					
Greenways		500,000				
<b>Squalicum Pier</b>	<b>250,000</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Greenways	250,000					
<b>Structures/Facilities Maintenance</b>	<b>320,000</b>	<b>275,000</b>	<b>445,000</b>	<b>255,000</b>	<b>370,000</b>	-
REET 1	205,000	135,000	275,000	125,000	240,000	
REET 2	115,000	140,000	170,000	130,000	130,000	
<b>Trails, Repairs and Maintenance</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	-
Greenways	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
<b>Van Wyck Park</b>	-	-	-	<b>200,000</b>	<b>800,000</b>	-
Park Impact				200,000	800,000	
<b>Wetland Monitor &amp; Maintenance</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	-
Greenways	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	
<b>Wharf Street Trestle Repair</b>	<b>500,000</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Greenways	500,000					
<b>Whatcom Waterway Park</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	-	-	-	-
Park Impact	150,000	1,000,000				
<b>Civic Complex - Repair/Replacements</b>	<b>478,000</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	-
Greenways	246,000					
REET 2	202,000	85,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	
Park Impact	30,000					
<b>Downtown Plaza</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>	-	-	-	-
Park Impact	100,000	300,000				
<b>Comm. Garden Fencing &amp; Weeding</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	-	<b>10,000</b>	-	-
Park Impact	25,000	25,000		10,000		
<b>Cordata Community Park</b>	<b>7,500,000</b>	-	<b>400,000</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	-	-
Greenways	2,500,000		400,000	4,000,000		
Park Impact	5,000,000					
<b>Cornwall Beach Park - Design</b>	-	<b>200,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	-	-	-
Park Impact		200,000	1,000,000			
<b>Covered Storage Bins at Squalicum</b>	<b>25,000</b>	-	-	-	-	-
REET 1	25,000					
<b>Cordata Neighborhood Park</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>800,000</b>	-	<b>1,500,000</b>	-	-
Park Impact	200,000	800,000		1,500,000		
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,483,400</b>	<b>7,191,000</b>	<b>20,640,000</b>	<b>9,016,000</b>	<b>3,850,000</b>	-

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MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

**FROM:** JONATHAN SCHILK, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, PARKS/DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT DIV.

**VIA:** LAINE POTTER, MANAGER, PARKS/DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

**VIA:** NICOLE OLIVER, DIRECTOR, PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**SUBJECT: Storybrook Park Phase 1 update**

**DATE: August 9, 2023**

We are pleased to share the most recent design plans for Storybrook Park phase one development. This phase includes bicycle and pedestrian improvements along West Maplewood Avenue. This project update is for information purposes.

Phase one park development includes:

- site work, earthwork
- new playground, fall surfacing
- gathering area and walkways
- park furnishings
- signage
- lighting
- forest trail loop
- improving the existing trail between Cherrywood Avenue and the park core for accessibility
- driveway widening for emergency vehicle access and turnaround and enhanced pedestrian access from Maplewood Ave.
- tie in to water and sewer services
- stormwater facilities
- onsite mitigation of impacts to wetlands and related wetland buffers

This project includes design and construction of street improvements along the west side of West Maplewood Avenue, between McLeod Road and Alderwood Avenue, including clearing, grubbing, striped bike lane, curb, gutter, sidewalk, retaining walls and guard railing, utility pole and mail box relocation, and pocket parking at the driveway entrance into the park.

Phase one park design and construction is funded with Park Impact Fees. Bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the West Maplewood Avenue and McLeod rights of way (ROW) are funded with 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Real Estate Excise Tax. The City's Public Works Dept. is funding the construction of the improvements in the right of way from the end of the park property to Alderwood Avenue.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommended approval of the park master plan and new park name November 9, 2022. City Council approved the park master plan and new park name, Agenda Bill 23574, on December 12, 2022.



# Storybrook Park Plan Sheets

## Park Information

Area: 7 acres

Purchase: Three parcels purchased in 2008 & 2010 for \$481,000 total

Purchase Funding: Greenways Levy

Designation: Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood: Birchwood

Zone: Public 7

Context: Single family development, multi residential 800' as the bird flies

Schools: Shuksan, Birchwood, Alderwood

Wetland/buffers: ~5 ac

## Project Schedule:

Task Name	Duration (WD)	Start	Finish
50% Phase	50 days	5/15/23	7/26/23
P&R Review	10 days	7/27/23	8/9/23
90% Phase	30 days	8/10/23	9/20/23
P&R Review	10 days	9/21/23	10/4/23
Engage Bellingham 02	10 days	10/5/23	10/18/23
Park Committee Meeting 02 Float	5 days	10/5/23	10/11/23
Playground Committee 02 float	7 days	10/12/23	10/20/23
100% Phase	20 days	10/12/23	11/8/23
Permitting	143 days	9/21/23	4/19/24
Bid Phase	42 days	4/15/24	6/12/24
Construction Phase	140 days	6/13/24	1/6/25

## Current project funding:

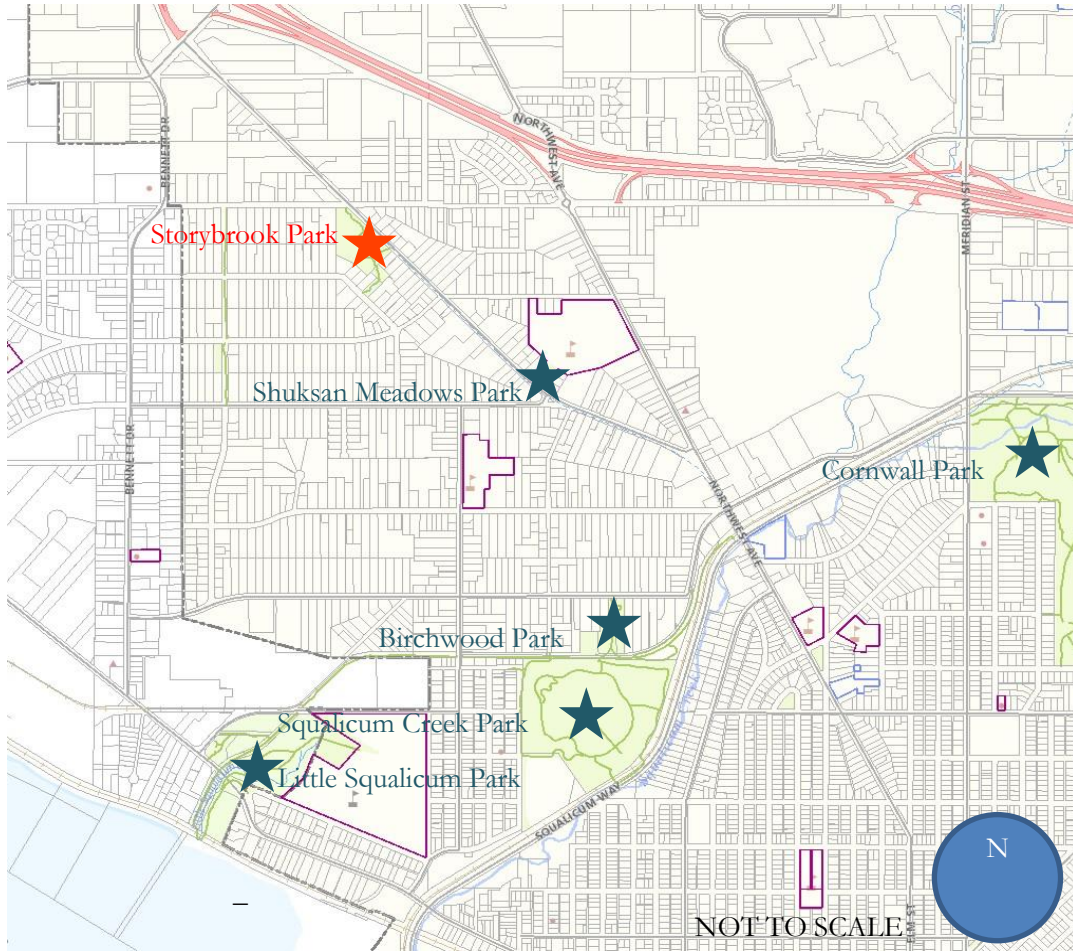
- Park: \$1,818,053.55 PIF
- ROW/Park frontage: \$202,053.50 REET
- ROW/Park to Alderwood: TBD

## \*Current cost estimate:

- Park: \$2,065,288.89 PIF
- ROW/Park frontage: \$787,723.00 REET
- ROW/Park to Alderwood: TBD Construction cost paid by PW Dept.

\*A mid-biennium budget request is in progress to supplement existing funding with an additional \$250,000 of park impact fees and an additional \$585,669 of REET.

# Storybrook Park Vicinity Map



VICINITY MAP

# Storybrook Park Plan Sheets

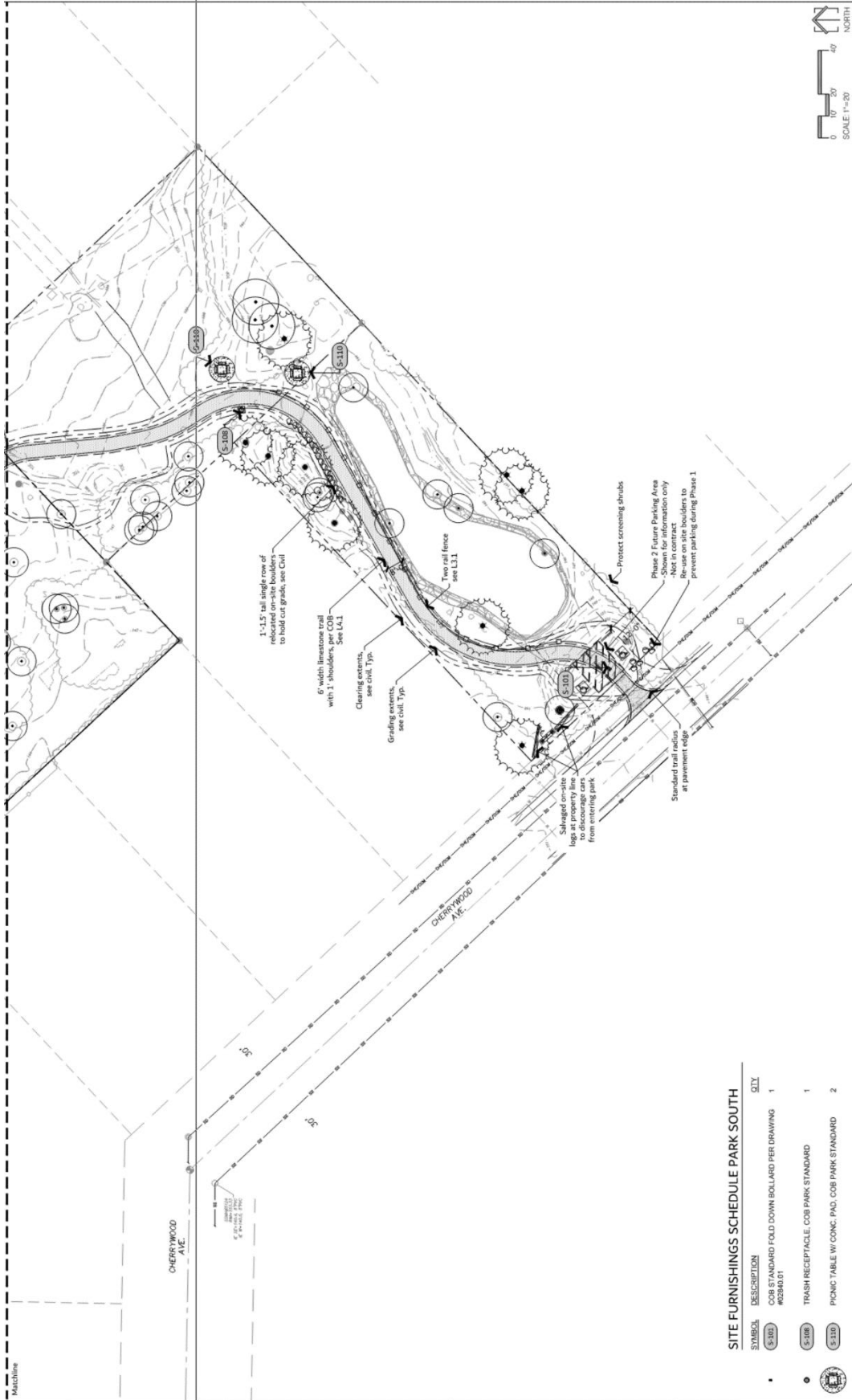


Figure 1 STORYBROOK PARK PHASE 1 CHERRYWOOD AVE

# Storybrook Park Plan Sheets

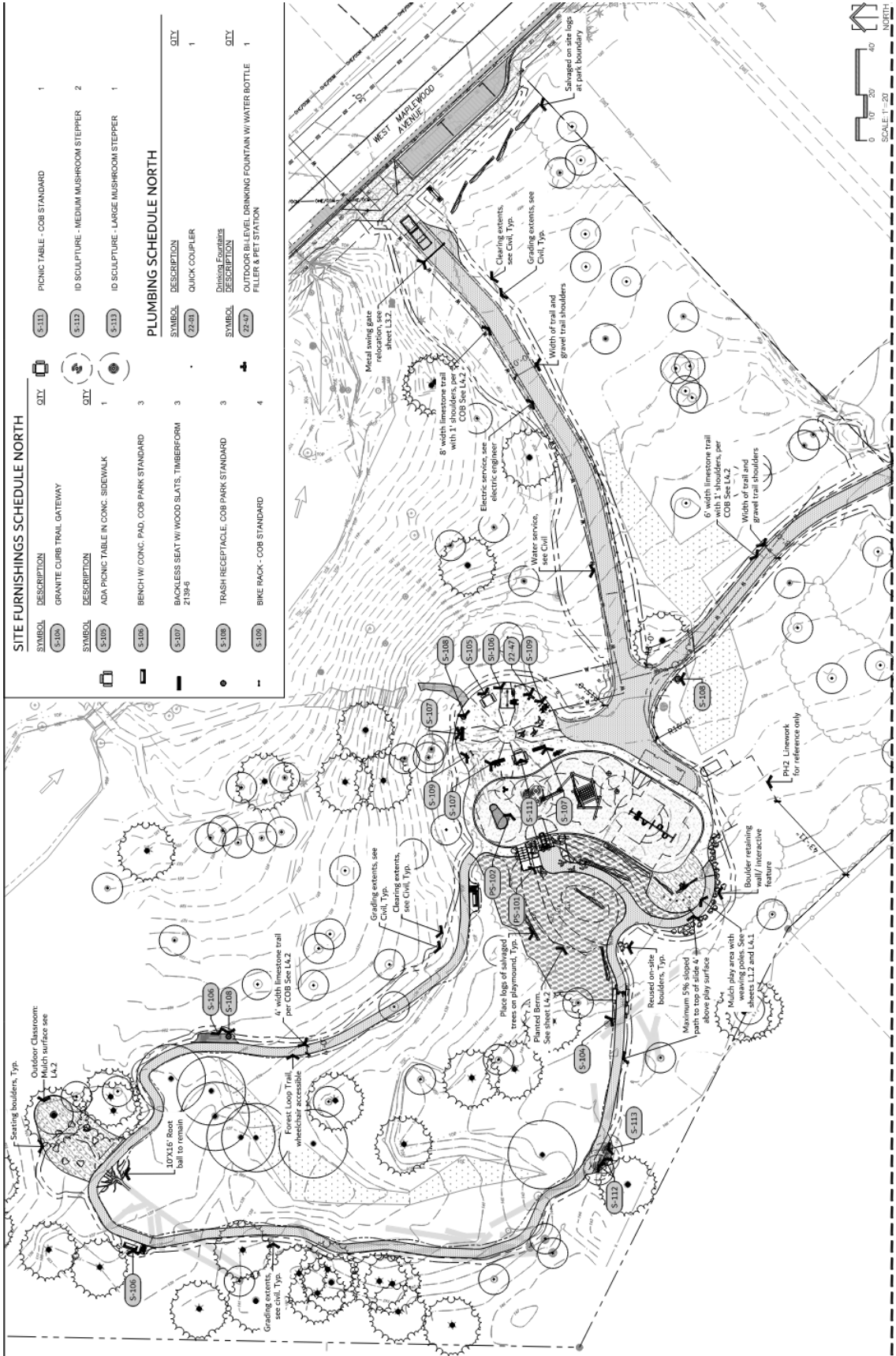


Figure 2 STORYBROOK PARK PHASE 1



Storybrook Park Plan Sheets



Figure 3 and 4 Playground

# Storybrook Park Plan Sheets

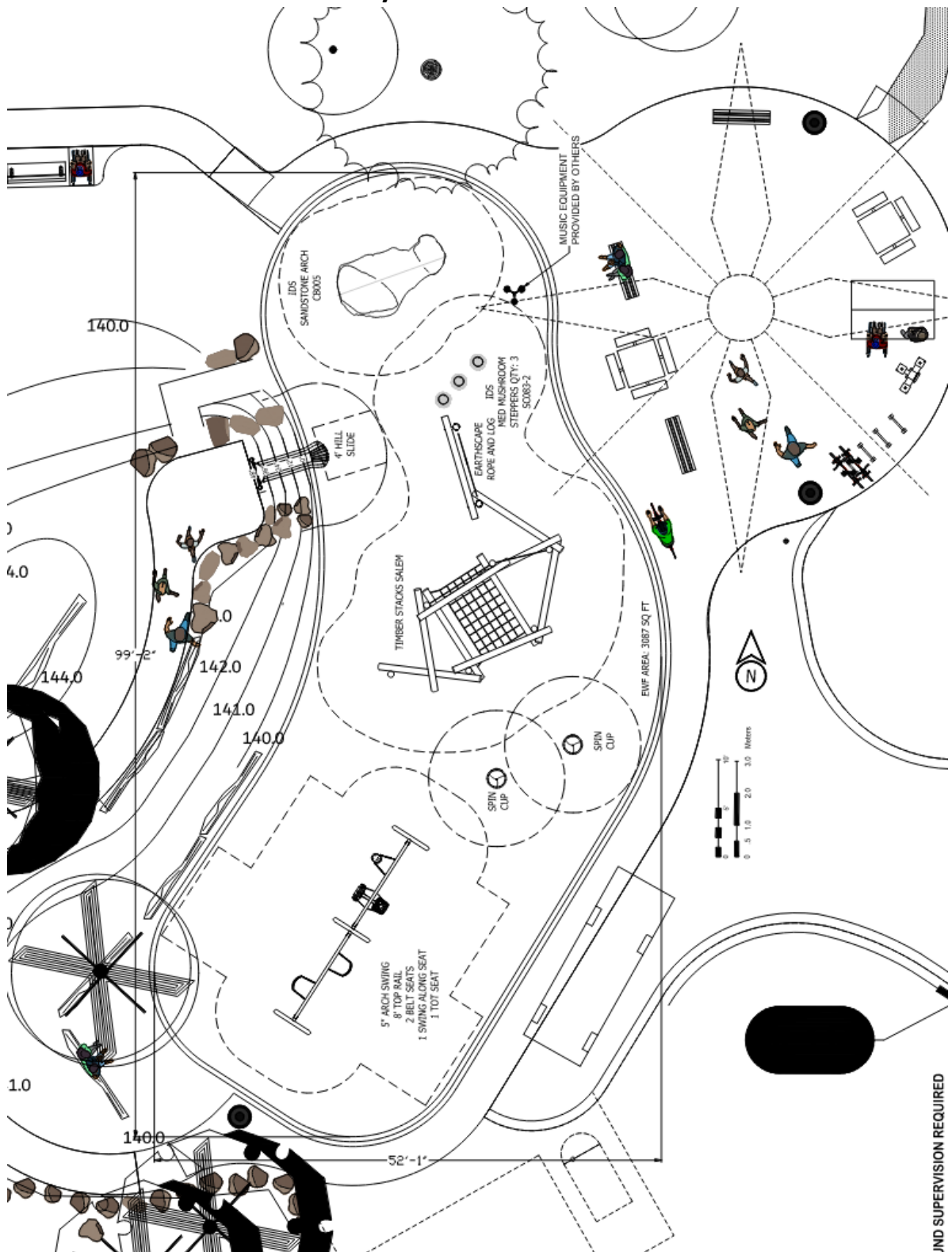


Figure 4 Playground layout



# Storybrook Park Plan Sheets

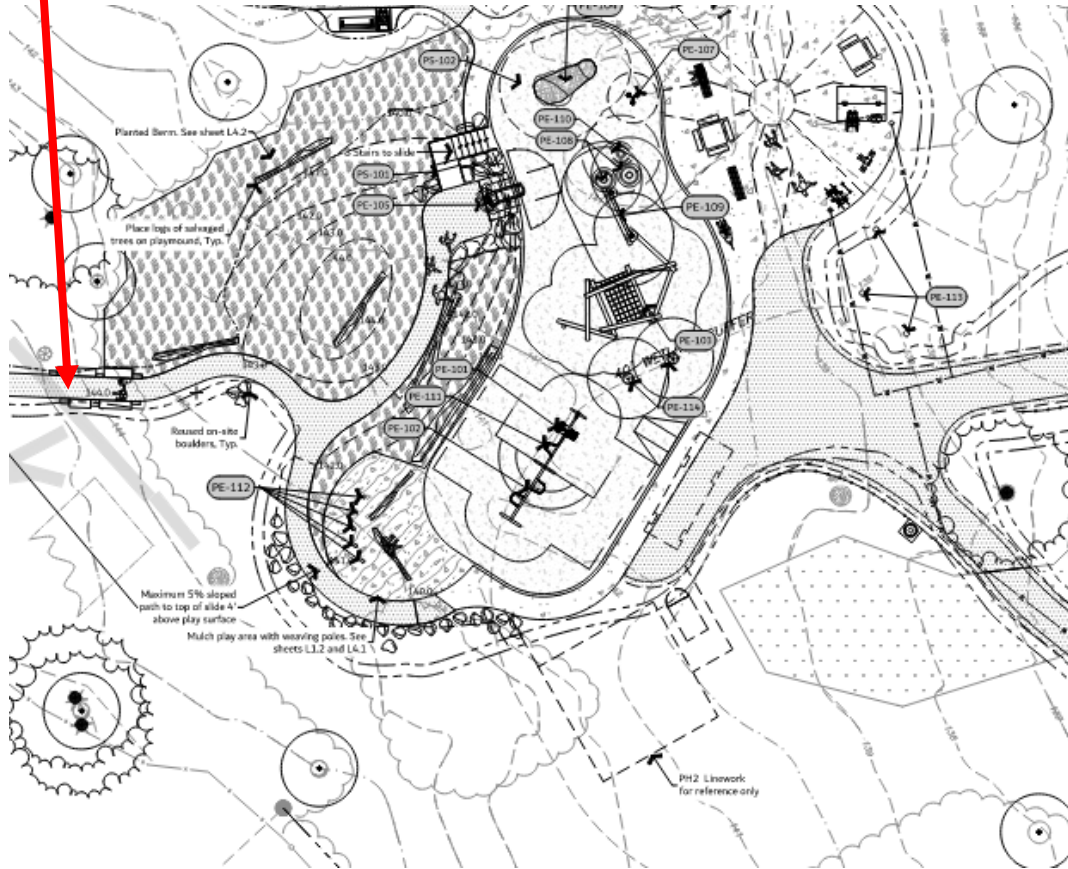
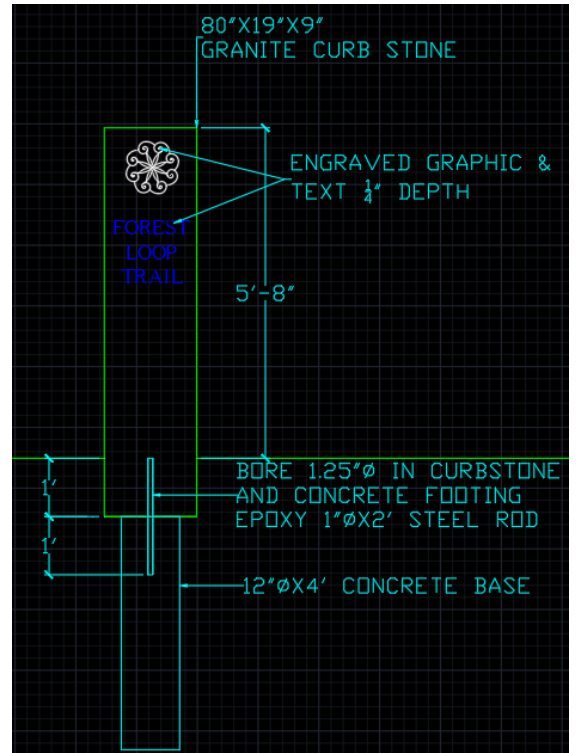
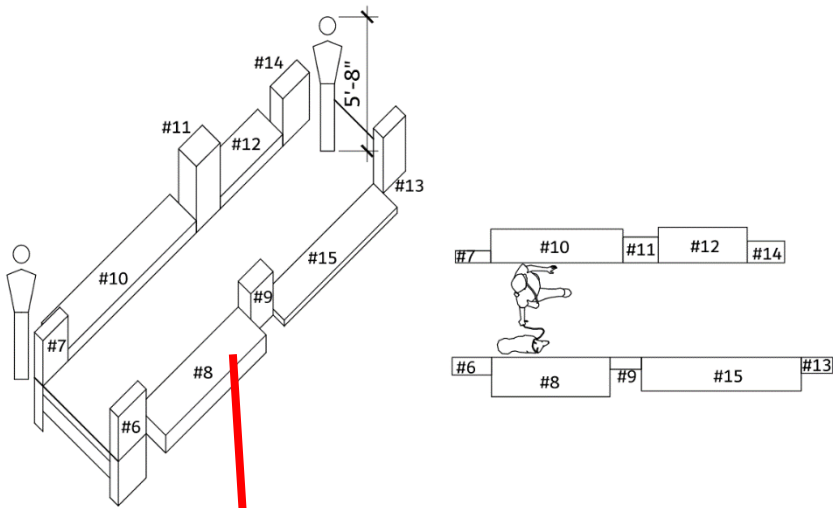
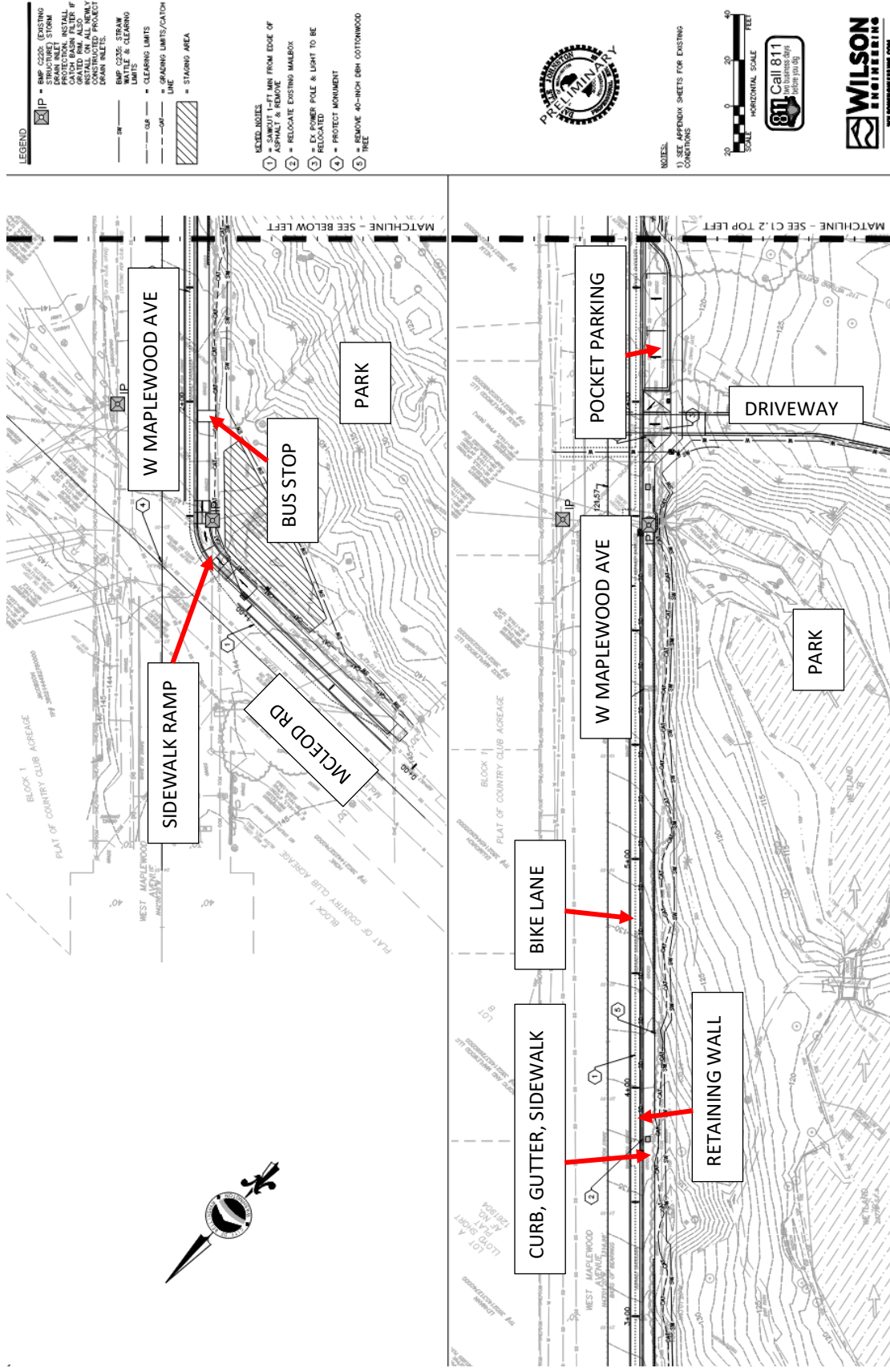


Figure 5 GATEWAY CONCEPT

# Storybrook Park Plan Sheets



- LEGEND**
- ◻ IP = BMP CATCH BASIN (EXISTING STRUCTURES) STONE PROTECTION. INSTALL CATCH BASIN FILTER IF INSTALL ON ALL NEWLY GRADED AREAS. PROJECT DRAIN INLETS.
  - BM = BENCHMARK
  - GP = GRADING LIMITS/CATCH
  - CL = CLEARING LIMITS
  - L = STAGING AREA

- RELOCATED UTILITIES**
- ① = SAW CUT 1'-FT MIN FROM EDGE OF ASPHALT & REMOVE
  - ② = RELOCATE EXISTING MAILBOX
  - ③ = EX EXISTING POLE & LIGHT TO BE RELOCATED
  - ④ = PROTECT MONUMENT
  - ⑤ = REMOVE 40-INCH DBH COTTONWOOD TREE



**NOTES:**  
1) SEE APPENDIX SHEETS FOR EXISTING CONDITIONS

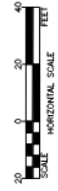


Figure 6 W MAPLEWOOD FRONTAGE IMPROVEMENTS



# Storybrook Park Plan Sheets

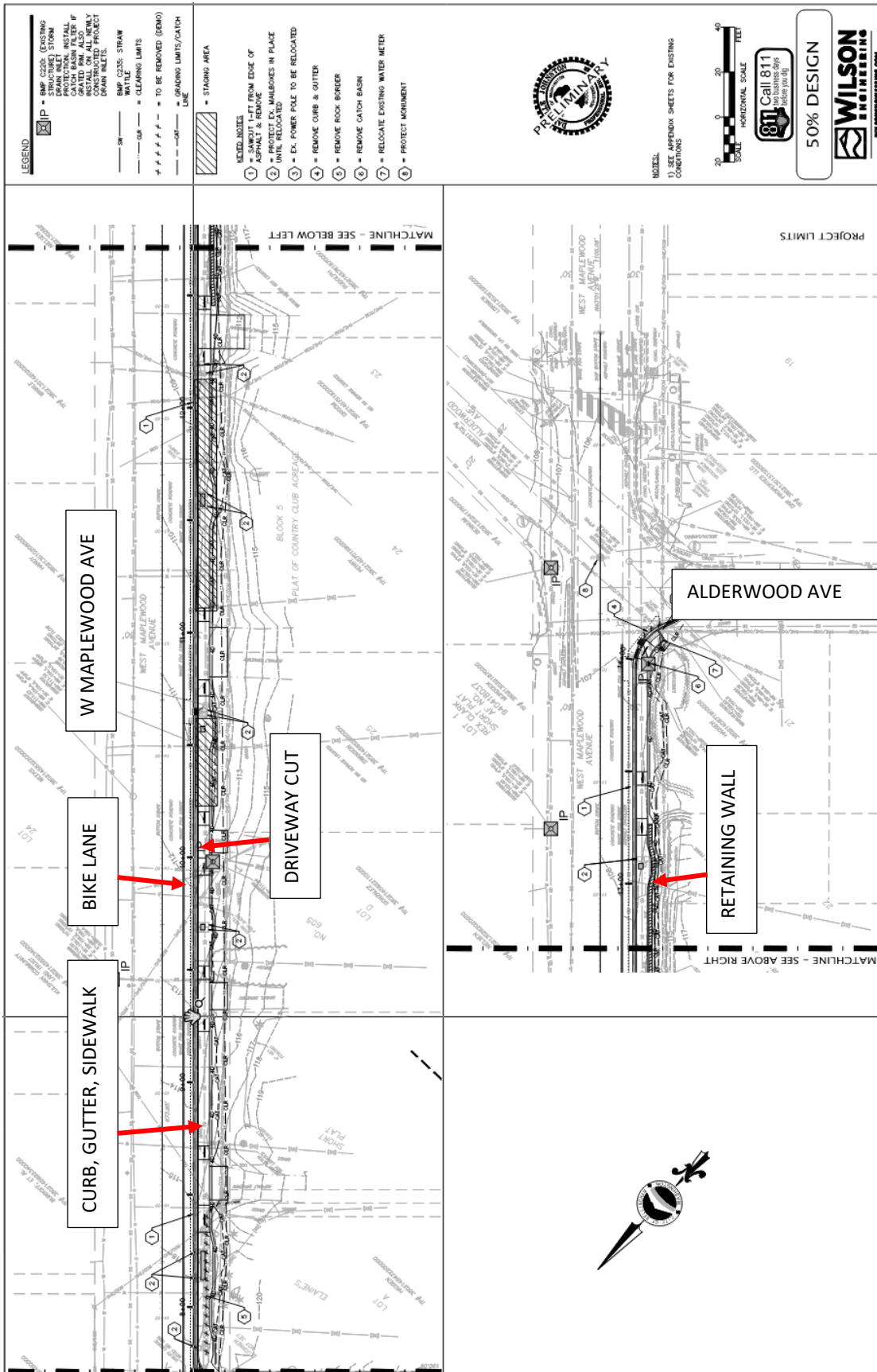


Figure 7 WEST MAPLEWOOD IMPROVEMENTS PARK TO ALDERWOOD



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**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
**FROM:** LAINE POTTER, PARKS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
**CC:** NICOLE OLIVER, PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** PROJECT UPDATE  
**DATE:** AUGUST 9, 2023

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For the most recent updates, please visit project pages here: [City Projects - City of Bellingham \(cob.org\)](https://cob.org)

1. [Arroyo Park](#) bridge repairs
  - a. Work starting this month and anticipated to be complete by September
  - b. Smaller bridge on north side of creek to be replaced later this fall
2. Bakerview Neighborhood Park
  - a. Site planning and infrastructure assessment underway; kick off meeting with consultants this month
  - b. Master plan and park design in 2024
3. Bloedel Donovan Park multipurpose room renovation
  - a. Work September 1<sup>st</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> (tentative): earthwork, stormwater improvements, electrical trenching, and new service
  - b. Reroof, plumping, and mechanical in 2024
4. [Birchwood Park](#) pump track
  - a. Construction complete
  - b. Grand opening late summer 2023
5. [Boulevard Park shoreline enhancement and public access improvements](#)
  - a. Design underway
  - b. DNR land lease underway
  - c. Grant agreement with WA Recreation and Conservation Office underway
  - d. Construction 2024
6. Civic
  - a. [Sportsplex](#)
    - i. Phase 1 – roof is 95% complete; new electrical service, ventilation, and electrical panels planned for Fall 2023 pending PSE and material availability
    - ii. Phase 2 proposal – interior options – scoping underway
  - b. [Civic athletic complex planning](#)
    - i. Design charette with Bellingham School District on August 22<sup>nd</sup>

- ii. Next phase of work to include master plan update, public engagement, and design concepts
- 7. [Cordata Community Park Phase 2](#)
  - a. Construction underway with anticipated completion January 2024
  - b. Phase 2 includes park pavilion with restroom and covered outdoor stage, picnic shelter, pickleball courts, basketball court, 50-car parking lot, children’s activity area, park benches, picnic tables, bike parking, park signage, landscape planting, wetland mitigation planting and utilities, and trail extension to East Bear Creek bridge.
- 8. [Fairhaven Park gateway sign](#)
  - a. Permits issued; waiting on contract and notice to proceed
- 9. [Hundred Acre Wood](#) phase 1 improvements
  - a. Early implementation includes signage, wayfinding, dog waste stations, planting, and trail decommissioning
  - b. Design underway and construction in 2024
  - c. Conservation easement has been assigned to Whatcom Land Trust
- 10. Jill’s Court trail
  - a. Final design and permitting underway
- 11. Lake Padden Park recreational assessment
  - a. Kick off meeting with consultant scheduled for this month
  - b. PW is leading the surface water study
- 12. [Little Squalicum Pier](#)
  - a. Whatcom County Shoreline permit granted; waiting on permits from Department of Fish and Wildlife and Army Corps
  - b. Information about the Little Squalicum Estuary restoration project can be found here: [Little Squalicum Estuary - City of Bellingham \(cob.org\)](#)
- 13. [Lorraine Ellis playground](#)
  - a. Construction underway – anticipated completion end of August
- 14. Rainier Ave. / Chuckanut Creek house demo
  - a. Underway
- 15. [Salish Landing](#)
  - a. Design underway in coordination with clean up
  - b. Easement and lease negotiations in progress
  - c. JARPA submittal is on hold pending permit strategy discussion with Port of Bellingham
  - d. Construction in 2024/25
- 16. Sport court resurfacing at Fairhaven Park and Cornwall Park
  - a. Bid over winter and construction summer 2024
- 17. SSSMGP
  - a. Engineering design & permits 2022/23, construction 2024

18. [Storybrook Park](#) phase 1
  - a. Design underway – 50%
  - b. Construction in 2024
  - c. Phase 1 includes trail improvements to Cherrywood Ave and Maplewood Ave, accessible forest loop trail, playground, park furnishings, outdoor classroom, lighting, emergency vehicle access, utilities, onsite mitigation, and street improvements to Maplewood Ave. between McLeod Rd and Alderwood Ave.
19. [Sunset Pond trail](#)
  - a. January 2024 bid and summer 2024 construction
  - b. Grant agreement with WA Recreation and Conservation Office underway
20. North Haven tiny home village
  - a. Consolidation of two existing tiny home sites + new trail from Meridian/Stuart intersection west to Cordata Park
  - b. Construction fall 2023
21. [Waypoint Park phase 2](#)
  - a. Portland Loo installation winter 2024
  - b. Other project elements on hold pending GP Wharf/Whatcom waterway cleanup work
  - c. 90% design pending
22. [Whatcom Falls Park trestle demo](#)
  - a. Work planned for August 2023
  - b. Interpretive signage and historic material curation being managed by planning and community development staff
23. [Woodstock Farm](#)
  - a. Cultural Resources Management Plan in 2024
  - b. Accessibility improvements and cook's house renovation in budget for 2025

**WHATCOM COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

**CHIEF CRIMINAL DEPUTY**

Erik Sigmar

**ASST. CHIEF CRIMINAL DEPUTY**

Dona Bracke

**CRIMINAL DEPUTIES**

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Kellen Kooistra  
Benjamin Pratt  
Gordon Jenkins  
Kacie Emerick  
Jesse Corkern  
Evan Sterk  
Maggie Peach  
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Janelle Wilson/Lead

**APPELLATE DEPUTIES**

Kimberly Thulin  
Hilary Thomas

**ADMINISTRATOR**

Louise Trapp

**TO:** County Council, Advisory Committee Members  
**FROM:** Karen N. Frakes, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
**RE:** Use of Public Facilities for Campaign Purposes  
**DATE:** July 20, 2023

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As another election season begins, it is important for all public officials, employees, and committee members to get reacquainted with the law regarding the use of public facilities for campaign purposes. State law prohibits the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues. [RCW 42.17A.555](#) provides, in part:

No elective official nor any employee of his or her office nor any person appointed to or employed by any public office or agency may use or authorize the use of any of the facilities of a public office or agency, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of assisting a campaign for election of any person to any office or for the promotion of or opposition to any ballot proposition. Facilities of a public office or agency include, but are not limited to, use of stationery, postage, machines, and equipment, use of employees of the office or agency during working hours, vehicles, office space, publications of the office or agency, and clientele lists of persons served by the office or agency.

This means local government officials and employees may not use or authorize the use of employee time, computers, copiers, appointment books, paper, stamps, telephones, office space, vehicles, lists of persons the agency serves, or similar items or services to assist in an election campaign. Activities directly or indirectly involving a campaign for office or a ballot measure should not be conducted during public work hours or with public resources. Committees and their subcommittees should also not conduct such activities at any time while performing their official duties.

A [Municipal Research and Services Center \(MRSC\) article](#) provides additional guidance for the handling of public comment during election season:

Generally, no one should be allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a political campaign during an open public meeting. The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) advises that the following behavior violates [RCW 42.17A.555](#):

- Allowing members of the public to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during public comment time; and
- Allowing members of a legislative body or public employees to raise such issues during an open public meeting, except as allowed under [RCW 42.17A.555](#)(1), (2), and (3).

While this advice is directed towards legislative bodies and public employees, it should also be followed by County advisory committees and their members. Individuals chairing a committee meeting held during election season should caution the audience and the members not to raise such issues.

To learn more about campaign rules in the context of local government, the following MRSC articles provide helpful insight:

- <https://mrsc.org/explore-topics/governance/elections/use-of-public-facilities-in-elections>
- <https://mrsc.org/stay-informed/mrsc-insight/july-2018/answers-to-common-election-season-questions>