



Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan Update

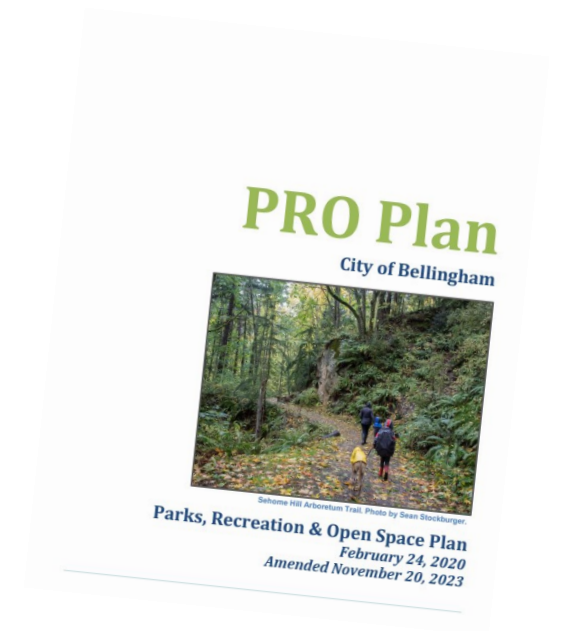
December 11, 2024



What is the PROS Plan?

The Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan is a 6-year guide for improving parks, open space, trails, and recreation programs specific to the Bellingham community.

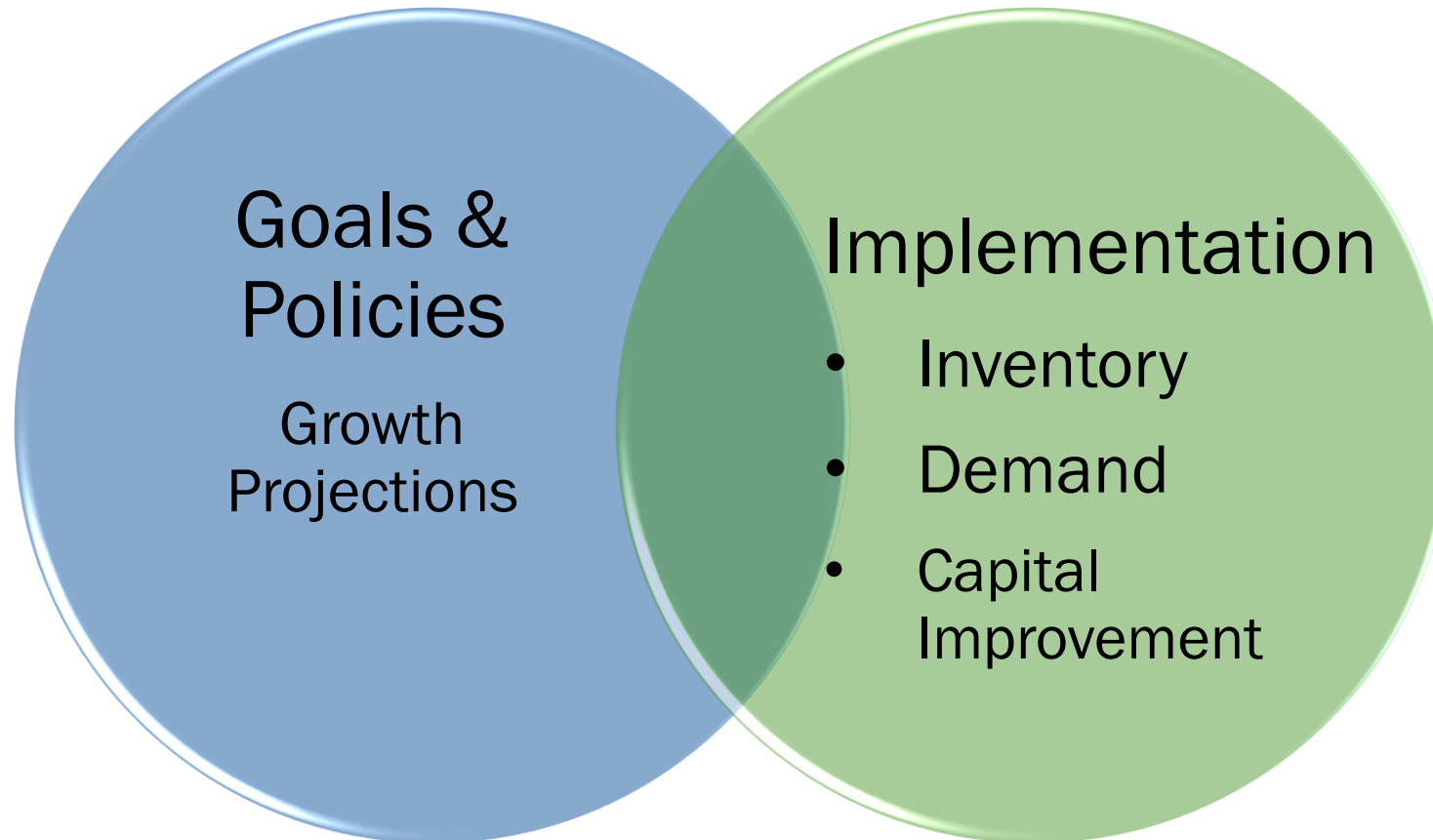
1. Growth Management (GMA) Element - Policy Guide
2. Functional Plan – PROS Plan
 - Development Guide
 - Communications Tool
 - Funding - Recreation & Conservation Office Grant, Impact Fees



Two Integrated Parts

Bellingham Plan

PROS Plan



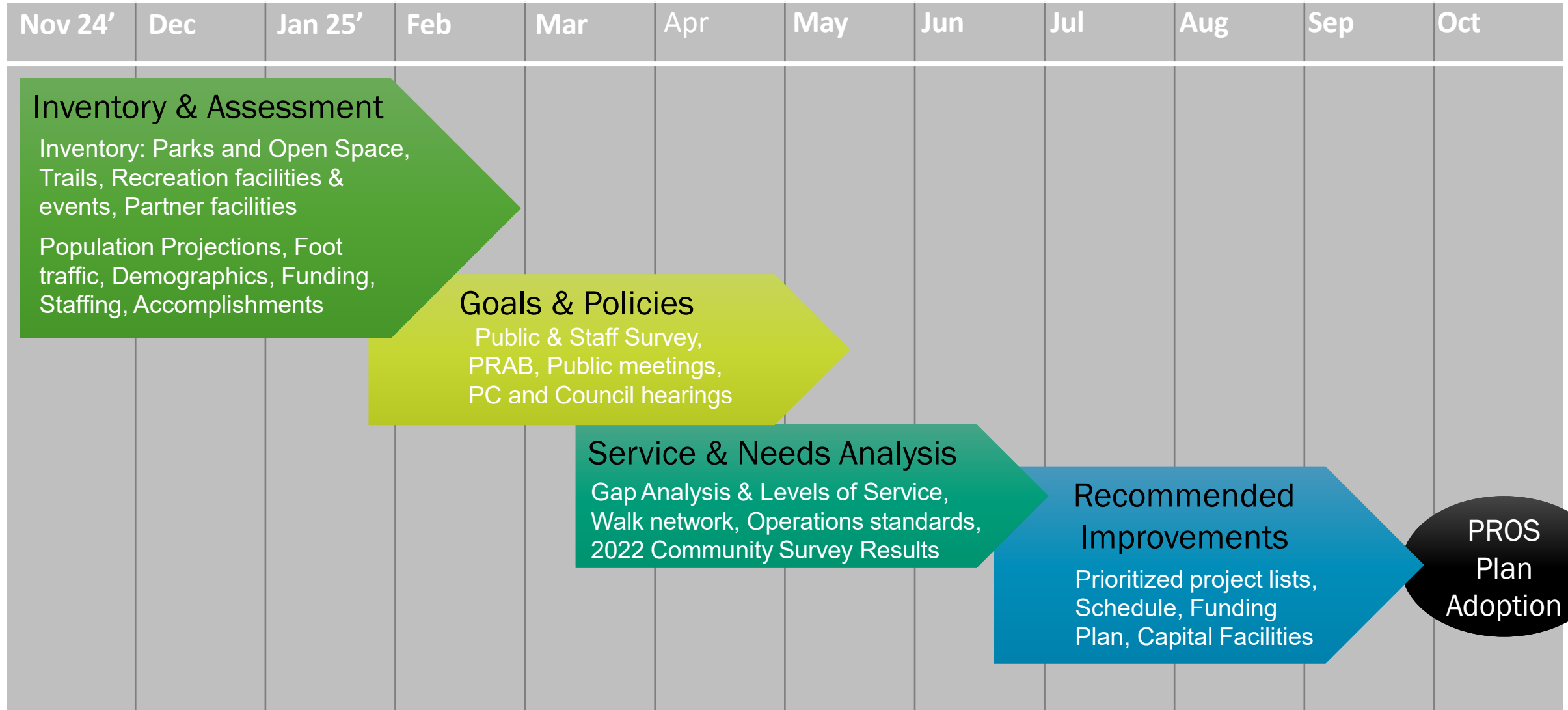
Required Elements

WA State
Recreation &
Conservation
Office

Growth
Management
Act



Data Development Timeline



Plan Updates

- Service measurement, access to: (¼ mi) parks, waterfront, trails, sports fields, playgrounds, gardens
- Prioritize capital projects and maintenance based on Goals, including: safety, service gaps, and equity
- Review of Park Impact Fees
- Regional coordination w/BSD, Port, Ferndale, Whatcom, and Lummi
- Review facility standards – trails and pocket parks
- Integration of Waterfront Subarea Plan
- Operations Chapter - standards for maintenance
- Parallel update of Greenways Strategic Plan

Public Input and Engagement

- Community Survey
- Virtual Open House
- Public Meetings: In-person/virtual
- PRAB & GAC monthly meetings
- MNAC, Neighborhood Associations
- Interest Group Meetings: WMBC, WRA, Mountaineers, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, AIROW Project, etc.
- Hearings: City Council; Planning Commission

Media Outreach

- Newspapers, March Playbook, Staff Meeting, Socials
- Online open House – Engage Bellingham
- Networks: Volunteers, Rec programs, Reservations, Neighborhood Associations
- Pop-ups and Tabling opportunities for underserved
 - YMCA
 - Involve Boys & Girls Club
 - Volunteer work parties
 - Farmer’s Market and major parks
 - Races and events
- Multilingual access

Primary Resources

- Staff:
 - Peter, Laine, Nicole, Recreation, Operations, Communications
 - Planning staff to manage GMA adoption process
- Advisory Committees: PRAB (primary), GAC (trails focus)
- Legislative: Planning Commission, City Council
- Consultant – Public meetings, survey, and outreach materials

Advisory Board Review

- Review of Existing PRO Plan
 - Goals & Objectives
- Inventory and Assessment Results
 - Accomplishments
- Parks Chapter of Bellingham Plan
 - Goals and policies
- Service and Need
 - Community Survey, public comments
 - LOS Analysis
- Project Recommendations

More to Come

