

2026-2032



CITY OF HOQUIAM **Parks & Recreation Plan**

609 8th St, Hoquiam, WA 98550
(360) 532-5700
www.cityofhoquiam.com

City of Hoquiam
Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan
2026-2032

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

Chapter 1 – INTRODUCTION

Our Community.....	1
Progress Since Previous Plan	3
Plan Purpose	4
Plan Organization	4

Chapter 2 – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

System-Wide Goal	5
Recreation Sites	5
Recreation Facilities	6
Maintenance and Preservation	6
Recreation Programs.....	7

Chapter 3 – EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION INVENTORY

Existing Inventory.....	8
City of Hoquiam Sites and Facilities.....	8
Hoquiam School District.....	18
Other Local Sites	19
County Recreation Sites	20
State Recreation Areas.....	20
Federal Recreation Areas.....	22

Chapter 4 – PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public Involvement	23
Public Process	23
Hoquiam Phase Trail System	24
Sports Facility Needs Assessment.....	25
Mountain Bike Trail system	27
Hoquiam Community Forest.....	28
Final Draft Public Notification	29
Plan Adoption	29

Chapter 5 – NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Plan Inputs	30
Application of Classification Standards	31
Facilities	35
Park Budget and Maintenance	36
Relation to Local Plans	36

TABLE OF CONTENTS continued

Page

Chapter 6 – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Capital Improvement Plan	37
Site Recommendations Plan	38
Recreation Facility Recommendations	39
Recreation Maintenance Recommendations	41
Recreation Program Recommendations	41
Funding Park Projects.....	43

MAPS

Page

1.1 City of Hoquiam Vicinity Map	2
3.1 Existing City Recreation Sites.....	9

TABLES

Page

5.1 Hoquiam Park Classification System.....	31
5.2 Existing City Park Classification Inventory	33
6.1 Park and Recreation Six Year Capital Improvement Program.....	42
6.2 Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Programs	43

APPENDICES

A-1 Programs, Activities, Events
A-2 Related Planning Efforts
A-3 Final Draft Public Review
A-4 Plan Adoption
A-5 Park and Recreation Pathway Element
A-6 RCO Self Certification
A-7 Resources

City of Hoquiam
Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan
2026 - 2032

City Officials

Mayor: Ben Winkelman

City Administrator: Brian Shay

Community Services Coordinator: Tasha Parris

City Council

Ward 1	Brandon Pauley & Kaleb Blume
Ward 2	Steven Puvogel & Dave Smith
Ward 3	Richard Brooks Jr. & Bill Nelson
Ward 4	Greg Larsen & Rob Gillis
Ward 5	Denise Anderson & Brenda Carlstrom
Ward 6	Elizabeth Reid

Grays Harbor Council of Governments Contributing Staff:

Executive Director, Vicki Cummings

Office/Grant Coordinator, Natalie Jensen

Chapter 1 Introduction

City of Hoquiam Vision Statement

We are a progressive, friendly and welcoming organization that provides excellent service, facilities, infrastructure and abundant access to recreational opportunities which supports a vibrant year round economy; a destination that attracts visitors that want to return and encourages a diverse, clean, safe and family friendly community with engaged and proud citizens.



Our Community

The City of Hoquiam, Washington's Friendliest Town and Tree City USA, is located in Grays Harbor County in the southwestern corner of Washington State. Grays Harbor is on the Pacific coast of the State of Washington, 45 miles north of the mouth of the Columbia River and 110 miles south of the Strait of Juan de Fuca (Please refer to Map 1.1). The City of Hoquiam is located at the northeast end of the Grays Harbor Estuary encompassing the mouth of the Hoquiam River.

The City is favorably located between the two largest cities in the Pacific Northwest; Seattle 114 miles to the north, and Portland 138 miles to the south. Vehicle circulation is provided by US 101, SR 109, as well as a complete network of arterial and secondary streets. The Grays Harbor Transportation Authority supplies the city with mass transit opportunities through a variety of routes which include linkages to all adjacent communities.

Map 1.1
City of Hoquiam Vicinity Map



The Port of Grays Harbor provides a transportation link to national and international markets through the only authorized deep water navigation channel north of San Francisco. The Port also operates and maintains an airfield available for commercial flights.

The City was incorporated on May 21, 1890 and is governed by a 12 member city council and Mayor. The Hoquiam Planning Commission is activated on an as needed basis. Grays Harbor County is not a Growth Management Act (GMA) county. While our cities and county are required to follow some elements of GMA planning such as critical areas and shoreline management planning, Grays Harbor County nor the City of Hoquiam are required to fully plan under GMA.

The 2024 Office of Financial Management estimates for the City of Hoquiam show a population of 8,880. This number is a population increase from the 2020 Census count of 8,776. According to the 2024 American Community Survey the median age of Hoquiam residents is 40.2 years, compared to a state average of 38.7 years. According to the 2020 Census 22.5% of the population is aged 65 and over. (Note, newer data not available.) The state average for the same time period is 17.3%. These statistics show that Hoquiam's age characteristics are above that of the state as a whole.

According to 2024 American Community Survey statistics, the median income for Hoquiam was \$49,795 while that of the state was \$99,389. 2024 ACS statistics identify the poverty level in Hoquiam at 17% While that of the state is 9.9%. This information has significant impacts on travel patterns of Hoquiam residents suggesting the importance of local recreational opportunities.

Progress Since Previous Plan

Since the adoption of the 2020 - 2026 City of Hoquiam Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan the City has worked towards meeting needs identified in the Plan. Improvements include:

John Gable Park has had new lighting installed.

Delta Park, a previously unimproved pocket park, has been fully developed by the MG Eldon Bargewell Foundation as a memorial park. Improvements include ADA accessible walkways, lighting, landscaping, Major General Eldon Bargewell statue, and memorial plaques.

The City recently purchased 85 acres of land adjacent to the Endresen Boat Launch and 45 acres on IDD1 by the mouth of the Hoquiam River. These properties will be developed to provide active and passive waterfront uses.

The City has made several land purchases including the 380-acre Beacon Hill property which is scheduled for trail development and a total of 465 acres of forested land purchased through the Community Forest Program.

Maintenance of all recreational properties is ongoing.

Olympic Stadium has received nearly \$3M in upgrades including replacement of the exterior siding, a new ADA restroom at the front entrance, renovations to the concession stand buildings, expansion of the Babe Ruth concession stand to include new covered picnic area, on-field safety improvements, dugout renovations, sound system upgrades, Football Revolution historic memorabilia, and more.

Plan Purpose

The purpose of the City of Hoquiam Park and Recreation Plan is to establish a framework to guide the operation, development and maintenance of public parks and recreation facilities under city ownership. The plan is executed and organized in a way that meets the planning requirements for Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) grant programs. The planning process was implemented according to RCO planning requirements, which include goals and objectives, inventory, public involvement, demand and needs analysis, capital improvement program, and adoption:

- Review and update of the City's existing facilities.
- Provide opportunities for citizen input to express the needs and demands of the City's recreation resources.
- Review the recreational goals established for the City, and formulate a plan to achieve those goals, keeping in mind the financial constraints of the City.
- Adoption of the Comprehensive Park and Recreation plan by the City Council.

Plan Organization

The City of Hoquiam Park and Recreation Plan is organized as follows:

Chapter 1, Introduction – Provides an introduction of the plan including community background information, plan purpose, and organization of chapters.

Chapter 2, Goals and Objectives – Presents a vision and strategy for the City's recreation properties. Sites, facilities, and maintenance are addressed.

Chapter 3, Inventory – Identifies location and condition of City owned parks, facilities and amenities along with other recreational opportunities available to Hoquiam residents.

Chapter 4, Public Involvement – Describes the public outreach opportunities during plan development.

Chapter 5, Demand and Need Analysis – Compiles information and research garnered throughout the planning process to provide guidance in developing priorities and channeling investment in the City's parks and recreation facilities.

Chapter 6, Capital Improvement Plan – Lists recreation facilities capital assets, future needs for improvements and/or maintenance, costs, and likely fund sources over a six year period.

Chapter 2

Goals and Objectives

An analysis of existing park, recreation and open space facilities along with community input provide the basis for establishing goals and objectives. The goals and objectives are designed to guide park and recreational development in Hoquiam and help achieve the wants and desires identified in Chapter 4 Needs Assessment.

SYSTEM-WIDE GOAL:

To satisfy the recreational needs and desires of Hoquiam residents by providing the highest quality recreational resources and the widest range of recreational opportunities within the resources available to Hoquiam.

1. RECREATION SITES:

Maintain adequate park acreage to meet the present and future needs of the City's population.

Objective 1a. Acquire, preserve and develop land, water and waterfront areas for public recreational purposes based on area demand and public support.

Objective 1b. Maximize utilization of existing school, organizational or other recreation sites whenever possible.

Objective 1c. Develop, operate and maintain recreational areas that will afford maximum use on a year-round basis for City residents, tourists and visitors, including, but not limited to, multi-purpose recreation or community centers and parks.

Objective 1d. Remain in conformance with other locally adopted plans for consistent and coordinated recreational development as other development occurs.

Objective 1e. Encourage easements, long-term leases or land trades for land considered highly desirable for recreational developments.

Objective 1f. Encourage the preservation of high value scenic vistas, wildlife habitat areas, significant shoreline areas and other natural areas.

2. RECREATION FACILITIES:

Provide sufficient public recreational facilities that are planned and designed to meet the needs and desires of all the residents of Hoquiam.

- Objective 2a. Design and manage parks, recreational trails and facilities offering universal accessibility for residents of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age, income and activity interests ensuring such facilities accommodate all users with physical and mental disabilities.
- Objective 2b. Continue to actively seek state and federal funds and private donations for recreation facility development. Coordinate with community organization and sports groups that are fundraising to build infrastructure in City parks.
- Objective 2c. Coordinate with adjacent local governments, school district, service organizations and state agencies in providing recreational facilities which provide region-wide benefits.

3. MAINTENANCE and PRESERVATION:

To establish and determine innovative techniques to satisfy the growing demand for facility use while dealing with a decreasing supply of resources.

- Objective 3a. Maintain adequate park maintenance and operations funding.
- Objective 3b. Provide an on-the-job training program for park personnel in the areas of management, maintenance, aquatics, landscaping and general construction.
- Objective 3c. Encourage volunteer efforts to assist with park and litter clean-up, site enhancement and promote a local watch for vandalism and provide recognition for these efforts.
- Objective 3d. Seek to provide facilities which balance cost effectiveness, user safety and visual acceptance.
- Objective 3e. Seek to establish an endowment to help offset maintenance and preservation expenses of city owned facilities such as Olympic Stadium.

4. RECREATION PROGRAMS:

Establish and develop a year-round recreational program that will provide the opportunity for universal participation by all Hoquiam residents, regardless of age, income, race, sex or physical ability.

- Objective 4a. Provide, develop and operate recreational programs that meet the needs and desires of the greatest number of people within the City.
- Objective 4b. Encourage and promote a working relationship with the Hoquiam School District, the YMCA, other local service organizations and volunteer individuals for joint recreation programs and provide recognition for efforts made by these people.
- Objective 4c. Promote recreation programs that encourage growth, community spirit and civic pride.
- Objective 4d. Employ competent and experienced park and recreation personnel to administer, implement and manage the Parks and Recreation Department.



Chapter 3

Existing Parks and Recreation Inventory

Existing park and recreation sites and facilities provide the basis upon which the park and recreation plan for the city is built. This inventory of sites and facilities assesses their location, quantity and quality, and enables the comparison of existing supply against present and projected future demand for recreation sites and facilities. The inventory also facilitates comparison with park and recreation goals and strategies, thereby enabling judgments to be made on the adequacy of the present system.

Hoquiam residents benefit from a wide array of recreational opportunities. Local parks owned by the City of Hoquiam provide active recreation opportunities such as baseball, softball, basketball, soccer, tennis and general playground activities. They also provide for passive recreation opportunities such as walking, hiking, picnicking, and view shed activities. The city is also served by a system of other local and regional opportunities.

City owned parks and recreation sites are enriched by other recreation opportunities in and around Hoquiam. To meet community needs and balance maintenance costs, the service area for this plan only includes city owned parks and recreation facilities within the city limits.

Existing Inventory

The current park and recreation system in the City consists primarily of two main providers; the City of Hoquiam and Hoquiam School District #28. Map 3.1 identifies the spatial distribution of all sites included in the inventory of the current system.

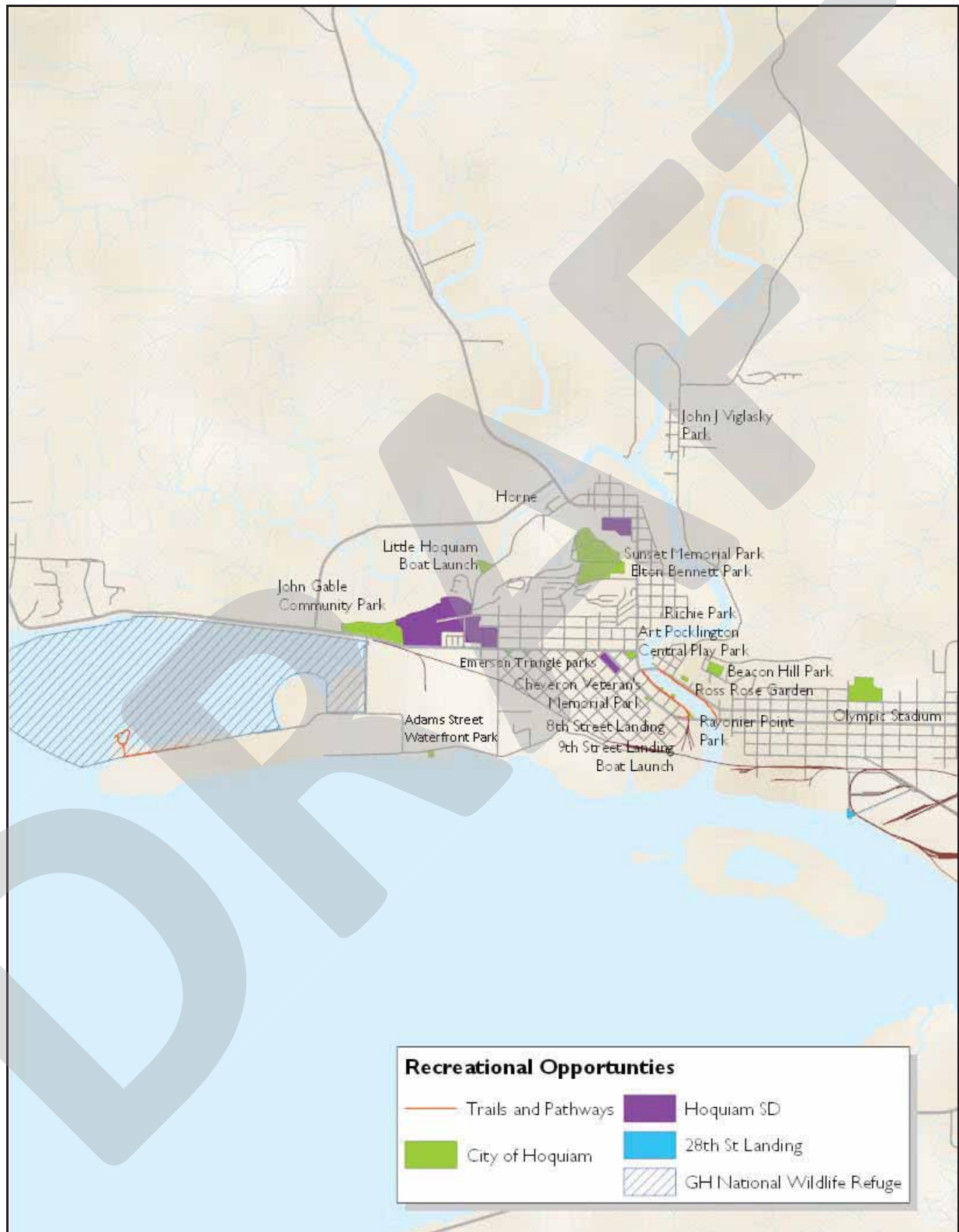
City of Hoquiam Sites and Facilities

Beacon Hill Park

This 2.5-acre park located in east central Hoquiam is situated on the permanent cover of the City's reservoir and includes one basketball court, playground equipment, and two tennis courts. Landscaping and support facilities provide for passive enjoyment of the scenic view of the Hoquiam River and Harbor. The City recently purchased 380 acres of land surrounding the park site for trail development.



Map 3.1
Existing Recreation Sites



Adams Street Waterfront Park

The City received an RCO grant in 2019 to develop a waterfront park and viewing opportunity at the intersection of Adams Street and 5th Street Extension. Although the entire 10-acre site is under city ownership the majority of the acreage are tidelands. Approximately 2 acres of the uplands have been developed for public use. The site includes a large waterfront viewing area, paved and lighted parking, a covered shelter with two picnic tables, a bike rack and dog waste bags and a disposal receptacle.



Art Pocklington Central Play Park



Located in the central portion of the city, near the junction of US 101 and SR 109, this 1-acre site provides an open play area, playground equipment, a new spray park and covered picnic shelter, restrooms and an information kiosk. Pathways are ADA compliant. A new park entryway was developed at the corner of Highways 101 and 109.

Chevron Veterans Memorial

This 0.1-acre urban square, located in the central business district, provides shoppers and downtown residents an opportunity for rest. Landscaped and accessible, this memorial honors the veterans from the City of Hoquiam. Park amenities include three benches, two tables and trash receptacles.

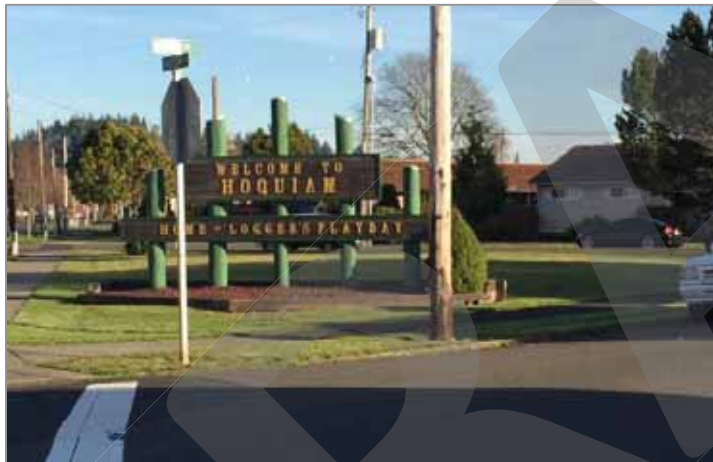


Eighth Street Landing

This site provides approximately 120 linear feet of public access to the Hoquiam River and enhances the downtown waterfront area. Amenities include four picnic tables a fishing and viewing dock.

Elton Bennett

This nine-acre site is located in north central Hoquiam and provides a picturesque one-mile hiking trail through the densely forested landscape. The steep terrain makes the trail a challenging experience for the disabled user. Maintenance to the trail system at Elton Bennett Park is ongoing.



Emerson Triangle Park

Emerson Triangle Parks consist of two small landscaped urban squares that provide attractive open space adjacent to busy Emerson Avenue. This particular triangle holds a landmark sign that welcomes visitors approaching from the west to the city.

Hoquiam Rail Depot

Constructed in 1911 this historical building operated as a passenger rail depot until 1956. The City received \$1.2 million in grant funding to restore the building to its original grandeur. Now that the restoration is complete it is on the Hoquiam Register of Historic Places and occupied by the Department of Licensing.





Horne

Located in northern Hoquiam this 0.1 acre park provides playground equipment, basketball goals and a small open play area.

John Gable



This 23-acre park is located in the western portion of the city. John Gable is directly adjacent to Hoquiam High School which compliments the facilities at this park. Facilities include two fast pitch softball fields, playground equipment, restrooms, walking path and skate park and support facilities. A new exit/entrance was added to the park, culvert upgrades were completed and new trees were planted.



John J. Viglasky

Located in northern Hoquiam, this 0.1 acre park provides playground equipment, basketball goals and a small open play area.

Johnny Green Dike

This landscaped dike is located between the Hoquiam River and Riverside Avenue. The park consists of open green space to maintain the dike. The pathway on the top of the dike was completed in the spring of 1996. Benches, sidewalks, curb and gutter have been added or improved for pedestrian safety. The dike pathway is approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length and feeds into the scenic 1.4-mile Hoquiam waterfront loop walk. Changes to the dike are under design as part of the North Shore Levee project.



Levee Street Boat Launch



Located at 9th and Levy Street, the Levy Street Boat Launch and Public Moorage site was made possible due to an RCO grant of over \$650,000. The Grays Harbor Community foundation and the Friends of Grays Harbor also donated to the project. The site replaces a former gravel launch with one paved lane, a concrete ramp, boarding float and 189 feet of moorage space. The site also provides a covered picnic area, grill, benches and on-site parking. The site and launch are ADA accessible.

Little Hoquiam Boat Launch

This public access to the Little Hoquiam River encompasses approximately one acre. Located in the northwestern portion of the city, this boat launch provides one paved launch lane and parking for about ten vehicles with trailers. Frontage totals about 120 linear feet. The site includes a large open space for picnicking and walking trails.





Mario Park

Located on Pacific Avenue in East Hoquiam adjacent to the Eastside Fire Station, this 0.1 acre park provides toddler playground equipment and a small fenced in, gravel play area.

Olympic Stadium



Olympic Stadium is a nine-acre athletic complex located in the eastern portion of the city. Facilities provided include the 8,000 seat all wood stadium, concession stand, baseball/football fields, youth sports fields, basketball courts, maintenance shop and support facilities. Olympic Stadium is the home for Hoquiam high school interscholastic athletics, Grays Harbor College baseball, Babe Ruth and youth sports programs including football, baseball and soccer. The stadium was upgraded in 1995 to provide disabled accessibility. In 2008 new structural supports were added along with a sprinkler system in the roof.

This facility is on the National Historic Register and received a \$515,000 Local Projects Grant from the Legislature to replace the sprinkler system under the grandstands, repair the siding and make additional repairs. Over the years the facility has also been home to semi-professional baseball and football teams, concerts, private events, Loggers Playday and many other community events.

Located behind Olympic Stadium on 28th Street, the Grays Harbor Sports Association maintains Mr. T's Bat-o-Rama batting cages. There are eight pitching machines and a small snack shack, two picnic tables and a soda machine. Mr. T's operates seasonally due to weather constraints.

Polson Museum

The Polson Park and Museum is a 26-room museum originally built as the private residence of F. Arnold Polson, a wealthy timber baron. The museum houses a collection of historic artifacts and logging memorabilia. A colorful rose garden is surrounded by examples of native trees and walking paths on this 2.5 acre site. The museum also houses a railroad camp project which is a replica of the Polson Logging Company's railroad camp.



Rayonier Point

This site offers an excellent passive waterfront experience. Located on the west bank of the Hoquiam River, this site provides a paved pathway over one-quarter mile in length and five picnic tables with shelters.

Richie Park

Located in central Hoquiam, this 0.1 acre park provides playground equipment, basketball goals, and a small play area.





Sunset Memorial Park/Cemetery

Sunset Memorial Park is located in north central Hoquiam and covers approximately 33 acres. This well-maintained area with large trees and shrubs has become a popular destination for walkers. There are several paved roadways along with off-road trails that are used regularly.

Sonshine Park

This park was a partnership between Immanuel Baptist Church and the City of Hoquiam. Amenities include a playground with play equipment, athletic fields that accommodate baseball and soccer, a riverfront walking trail, and a vast open area for picnicking and passive recreation.



NEW PARK ADDITION - Delta Park

Delta Park was developed on one of the city's existing triangle parks along Emmerson Street. The Park was installed to honor Major General Eldon Bargewell, a military hero from Hoquiam. All work on the park was paid for by donations, the MG Eldon Bargewell Foundation raised over \$330,000 to construct the park using volunteer labor. Amenities include ADA accessible walkways, lighting, landscaping, Major General Eldon Bargewell statue, and memorial plaques. To learn more visit www.eldonbargewell.org.



Hoquiam School District #28

Central Elementary: Located in the central portion of the city, this elementary school provides four basketball goals and two playground basketball hoops, two tetherball areas, open play areas, a picnic table, new playground equipment, a softball field and a covered outdoor event area with parking and restrooms.

Emerson Elementary: This school is located in the west central portion of the city and provides playground equipment, open play areas and two softball fields and a covered outdoor event area with parking and restrooms.

Lincoln Elementary: Lincoln Elementary is located in the northern portion of the city and provides four covered basketball goals, playground equipment, two tetherball areas, open play areas and two tennis courts.

Washington Elementary: This school site is located adjacent to Olympic Stadium and provides playground equipment, open play areas, four covered and six open basketball hoops, a baseball diamond, two picnic tables, and a covered outdoor event area with parking and restrooms. A new basketball court was added in 2009 on city property adjacent to the school. Although the school is now closed, the playground remains open to the community.

Hoquiam Middle School: The Middle School is located in the western portion of the city and provides two basketball goals, one football/soccer field, two baseball fields and open play areas.

Hoquiam High School: Directly adjacent to John Gable Park and Hoquiam Middle School the High School facilities provide a balanced recreation experience for a well-used complex. Facilities include: one baseball diamond, two basketball goals, two football/soccer fields, a one-quarter mile jogging track, and a stadium with support facilities.

In order to accurately assess recreational site and facility need, recreation sites and facilities not located in the city were also inventoried. Since Hoquiam is directly adjacent to the City of Aberdeen, parks and facilities located close to the corporate limit were examined.

Other sites and facilities which are regional-serving in scope and add recreational diversity to residents of Hoquiam were also inventoried. These sites are typically administered by the County, state or federal agencies.

Other Local Sites

28th Street Landing: Owned and operated by the Port of Grays Harbor, 28th Street Landing is located in the port's industrial area within the City of Hoquiam. The site includes two boarding floats, concrete plank ramp, viewing tower, benches, restrooms picnic tables and benches. Paved parking accommodates approximately 10 to 12 vehicles and eight trailers.

Friend's Landing: The 152-acre site is located about eight miles east of Aberdeen is owned and operated by the Port of Grays Harbor. Directly on the Chehalis River, facilities are designed specifically for disabled accessibility and include a boat ramp, fishing piers, picnic shelters, two covered fishing shacks, a paved pathway around portions of the 32-acre Quigg Lake, viewing docks, and piers. The site offers 18 RV sites with electrical and water hook ups, 11 tent sites, ADA accessible restrooms and showers, picnic shelters an expanded playground and several new sets of playground equipment.

Grays Harbor YMCA: Located within the Hoquiam city limits, this facility offers an aquatics center with a wave machine, bubble pool, a river channel and an eight lane lap pool. It also includes a three story slide, hot tub and steam room. The gymnasium offers volleyball, basketball, soccer, gymnastics and family night events. The YMCA has a full range of fitness and nautilus equipment, racquet ball courts, fitness classrooms, childcare, daycare, and many other youth programs.

Highland Golf Course: This eighteen-hole golf course is adjacent to the City of Cosmopolis' Mill Creek Park.

Hoquiam River RV Park: Located on Queen Street next to the river, the park offers 50 RV spaces. The club house has a meeting room, kitchen, rest rooms, a bath and showers.

Lake Aberdeen Park: Located on Lake Aberdeen Road, just north of Highway 12, this primitive area covers approximately 640 acres of timber with five acres of land developed for recreation and 100 acres of aquatic lands. Facilities include a large swimming area, several informal walking trails, a gravel boat launch, two boat docks, picnic tables, rest rooms, play apparatus and a playground area.

West End Playfield: This 3.5-acre park is located on the west side of Aberdeen. Facilities include: basketball goals, playground equipment, open play area, softball diamond and support facilities.

County Recreation Sites

Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds: Located east of Elma on the Old Olympic Highway, the site totals 63 acres and includes a 0.3 mile track for auto racing, a grandstand, and a multi-purpose pavilion of 55,000 square feet with a seating capacity of 3,000 people. There is a judging arena, poultry barn, 4-H building, FFA building, and Bennet Building. A graveled parking lot provides parking for 1,900 vehicles.

The fairgrounds are a multi-use facility, largely maintained by user fees and rentals. Horse stalls are rented on a regular basis. Besides the annual Grays Harbor County Fair, facilities are used for auto races, shows, bazaars and various entertainment and events. The Fairgrounds is also a training facility for the Washington State Racing Commission.

Grays Harbor ORV Park: Located about 40 miles to the east of Hoquiam on the Grays Harbor County/Thurston County boarder the site offers a directional trail system, single track trails, 4x4 trails and mud bogs, a 1/8 mile oval dirt flat track, plus three motocross tracks. From the site there is direct access to Capital Forest which offers an additional 100 miles of multi-use trails. The park offers over 300 campsites with amenities including restrooms, showers, picnic tables, concessions stand and a parts trailer.

Twin Bridges Park: Located just outside the City of Montesano at 29 County Farm Road the site offers direct access to the Wynoochee River with several hundred feet of gravel bar providing a gentle decline. This well maintained site also provides 6 metal picnic tables, an ADA accessible portable toilet and several natural trails.

Vance Creek Park: Located on Vance Creek, approximately 25 miles east of Hoquiam near the City of Elma, this site encompasses 88 acres of which about 50 acres consist of the three freshwater lakes. Facilities include ADA accessible restrooms, two swimming beaches, open play areas, picnic tables, covered picnic areas, barbeque grills, one concrete boat ramp, and paved pathways and paved on-site parking.

State Recreation Areas

Capitol State Forest: Administered by the Department of Natural Resources this 84,000+ acre forest provides camping, picnicking, and trail facilities for hiking, ORV, and equestrian uses. The forest is located in the southeast corner of Grays Harbor and southwest corner of Thurston Counties.

Lower Chehalis State Forest: Also administered by the WDNR this 22,000 acre forest is adjacent to the Capitol State Forest on the west side of the Chehalis River. This area provides visitors with linkages to many of the activities found in the Capitol State Forest.

Grayland Beach State Park: Located about five miles south of Westport on SR 105, this 411 acre state park provides rest rooms, 115 campsites including 16 yurts, 58 full service RV spots, 35 partial service campsites and 6 campsites with no service hook ups. Site activities include ocean fishing, beachcombing, and hiking. This park provides beach access, fishing, hiking, picnicking, tent and trailer camping.

Griffiths-Priday State Park: Located at the mouth of the Copalis River approximately 10 miles north of Ocean Shores, this park offers beach access and picnicking.

Lake Sylvia State Park: Lake Sylvia is located directly adjacent to the City of Montesano. A boat launch, fishing, hiking, row boating, swimming, tent and trailer camping, are provided at this park.

Ocean City State Park: Ocean City State Park is located about 20 miles west of Hoquiam. This park provides opportunities for beach access, fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, swimming, tent and trailer camping.

Pacific Beach State Park: This Park is located about 10 miles north of Copalis Beach and provides opportunities for beach access, fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, and tent and trailer camping.

Schafer State Park: Schafer State Park is located about 30 miles east of Hoquiam, in Mason County. Facilities include fishing, hiking, picnicking, tent and trailer camping, and swimming.

Twin Harbors State Park: Twin Harbors 172 acre park is located about five miles south of Westport and provides 143 standard campsites and 49 with trailer hookups, 5 basic cabins, shelters, picnic areas, rest rooms/showers. Activities include hiking, ocean fishing and beachcombing. A Discover Pass is required.

Westport Light State Park: Westport Light State Park is located about 35 miles southwest of Hoquiam near the City of Westport. The park covers 588 acres. Facilities include rest rooms, showers, viewing platform, picnic sites, and a 160 vehicle parking area. Overflow parking is allowed along the road side on Jetty Haul Road. Activities include ocean fishing, beachcombing, scuba diving, and surfing. The park also features views of scenic Half Moon Bay.

Federal Recreation Areas

Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge: The Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge is located at Bowerman Basin west of the City of Hoquiam. Administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this refuge provides 1,800 acres to preserve shorebird resting and feeding habitat. When developed, the site will provide a visitor center, boardwalk, viewing platforms, restrooms, and parking.

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary: The sanctuary, administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration extends from Koitlah Point on the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the south end of the Copalis Wildlife Refuge. The primary scope of regulations for the sanctuary include a prohibition against oil and gas development; restrictions on discharging or depositing any material; restrictions on altering the seabed; and a ban on flying motorized aircraft under 2,000 feet near the sanctuary's coastal boundaries and offshore wildlife refuges.

Olympic National Forest: The forest, administered by the U.S. Forest Service (Department of Agriculture) is located about 50 miles north of Hoquiam. The multi-use management objective of the U.S. Forest Service allows for agricultural, forestry, mineral extraction, and recreational uses. Natural areas have been protected offering an extensive variety of recreational opportunities including: boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking, lodging, picnicking, sailing, swimming, and tent and trailer camping.

Olympic National Park: The Park, administered by the U.S. Park Service (Department of the Interior) is located about 70 miles north of Hoquiam. The park encompasses and preserves in a natural environment the finest example of an Old Growth rain forest possibly in the world. The park also contains the majority of the Olympic Mountain Range featuring Mount Olympus which reaches an elevation of 7,965 feet as well as 57 miles of pristine coastline.

Recreational opportunities are designed to be compatible with the ecology and include backpacking, beach access, boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking, lodging, mountain climbing, picnicking, scenic vistas, and tent and trailer camping.

Chapter 4

Public Involvement

Public participation was an important part of the planning process and served as a key component in affirming the Goals and Objectives and determining the Capital Improvement Program projects and implementation recommendations.

The planning process for updating the City of Hoquiam Park and Recreation Plan included a series of processes, each of which provided the opportunity for public involvement. Public participation was an iterative process involving community discussions and City Council presentations culminating with a public review and comment period and formal adoption by resolution. Public participation was welcomed and incorporated at every opportunity.

Plan development was a cooperative effort between City staff and Grays Harbor Council of Governments staff. Principal staff included:

Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam City Administrator

Tasha Parish, City of Hoquiam Community Services Coordinator

Vicki Cummings, Grays Harbor Council of Governments Executive Director

Natalie Jensen, Grays Harbor Council of Governments, Office/Grants Coordinator

Public Process

PLAN REVIEW - A comprehensive review of existing plans and documents was completed. Please refer to Appendix A-2 Related Planning Efforts. Information within those documents and from the list of references (Appendix A-9) was incorporated into the City's Park and Recreation Plan as appropriate.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS COUNCIL MEETINGS – Planning progress updates were provided at Council of Governments meetings. All meetings are open to the public and public comment is a standing Agenda item.

CITY OF HOQUIAM COUNCIL MEETINGS – Since the prior recreation plan the City has undertaken several large planning processes that required many hours of citizen and City Council involvement over a two-to-three-year period. These include the following:

- **Hoquiam Phased Trail System** - The report represents the outcome of the initiative that began with *Blue Zones Activate Grays Harbor County* and focuses specifically on the Hoquiam trail system sections.

- Sports Facility Needs Assessment – Developed in coordination with the Grays Harbor Sports Association (GHSA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. A comprehensive survey was undertaken to assess the demand for new athletic facilities and identify the community’s most pressing needs.
- Mountain Bike Trail System (BMX) – Outlines the creation of a small system of mountain bike trails accessible at John Gable Park.
- The City’s purchase of several acres of forested land to be kept as community forests.

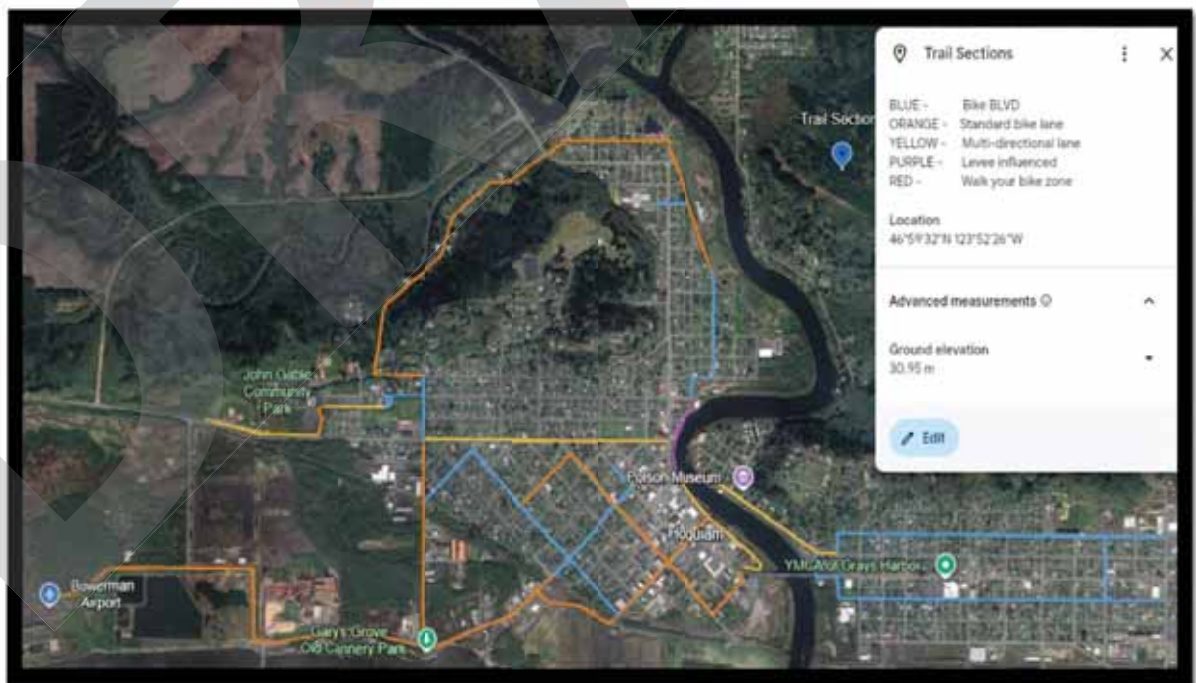
Hoquiam Phase Trail System

In partnership with the Blue Zones Activate Grays Harbor and its local outreach specialist Chris Frye, the City began a planning process in early 2023 that culminated in October of 2025.

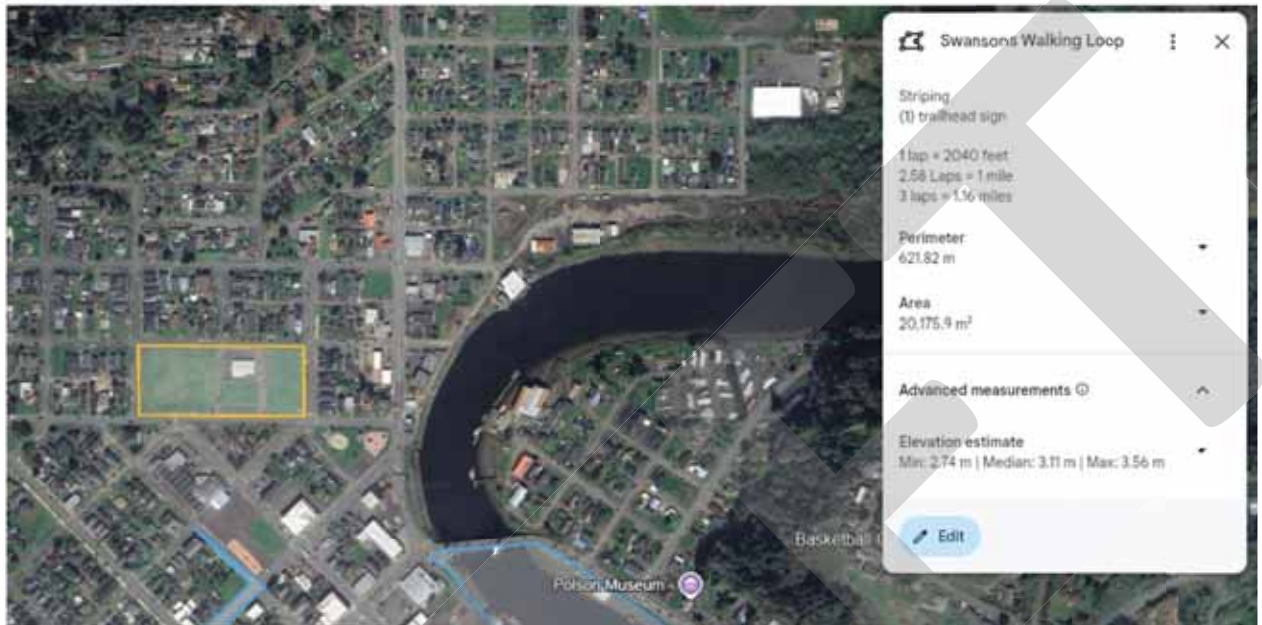
Working with the local Blue Zones organizing committee and community citizen volunteers, a complete trail system and general design were mapped out including bike trails, a walking loop, a 5K trail, wayfinding signage and amenities.

To implement the trail system the City will work with a local organizing committee consisting of Grays Harbor Sports Association, La Vouge Cyclery and community volunteers. Working with the local organizing committee, the Grays Harbor Council of Governments, community non-profits and special interest groups, a variety of funding mechanisms will be identified.

HOQUIAM TRAIL NETWORK MAP



WALKING LOOP -



HOQUIAM 5K TRAIL



Photos excerpted from Hoquiam Phase - Grays Harbor Trail System, October 13, 2025.
(Appendix A-3)

Sports Facility Needs Assessment

In order to assess community needs concerning athletic facilities and programming in the Aberdeen and Hoquiam metropolitan area, the Grays Harbor Sports Association (GHSA)

developed and administered a 12-question survey between January 15 and February 28, 2025. This survey was designed to gather both quantitative and qualitative insights from a cross-section of the community. To better understand the geographic distribution of responses, all participants were asked to provide their zip code. The survey was distributed through a combination of in-person and digital outreach methods to ensure accessibility and broad reach.

Key findings included the following:

OVERALL

- Nearly 50% (49.7%) of all respondents travel outside of the county at least 16 times per year to participate in non-school related activities/competitions.
- Overall, 59.5% of the respondents travel outside of the county at least 11 times per year to participate in non-school related activities/competitions.

OUTDOOR FACILITIES

- 58.1% of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with community outdoor facilities.
- Over one-half (58.8%) of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with **the number of available** outdoor facilities.
- 60.2% of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with the **quality** of outdoor facilities.

INDOOR FACILITIES

- 73.5% of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with community indoor facilities.
- Nearly all (92.4%) of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with **the number of available** indoor facilities.
- The **quality** of indoor facilities scored only slightly better, with 66.5% of the respondents claiming they were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied.”

MOST NEEDED INDOOR FACILITIES (percentage of responses)

- Baseball/Softball training and practice area - 20%
- Soccer/Football facility - 15%
- Field House/multi-sport venue - 14%
- Basketball/Volleyball facility - 14%

These responses were the result of open-ended questions. All four options describe the same category of facility. Meaning 63% of responses indicate a demand for a versatile indoor facility.

MOST NEEDED OUTDOOR FACILITIES (percentage of responses)

- Soccer/Football fields - 15%
- Turf multi-purpose fields - 14%

The first two responses could be considered the same facility. In this case, turfed multi-purpose fields would make up 39% of all responses.

- Baseball fields - 12.5%
- Turf infield for baseball - 7.5%
- Turf infield for softball - 7%
- Walking trails - 6.5%

The takeaways from the public survey indicate that a substantial indoor multi-functional facility is required. Sports and especially year-round sport centers can serve as a source of community revenue, contributing to economic growth. There is a need for additional sports fields. Turf fields are an essential need due to the significant rainfall in this area. For more information, please see Appendix A- 4.

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL SYSTEM

City staff worked with volunteers and La Vogue Cyclery to design a small system of mountain bike trails in the hills around John Gable Park. The park will serve as trailhead access and users can easily access existing amenities such as restrooms. La Vogue Cyclery will help build and maintain the trails and community volunteers have agreed to help build out the trails along with an excavator and backfill dirt.

The project is a two-phase process. Phase one will focus on the development of user access to the network of trails. This initial designated ride area will consist of a perimeter loop. Phase two will focus on more skill centered trails with progressive features aimed at increasing the skills of riders. The trails are designed to accommodate a wide range of users, from beginners to advanced mountain bike riders.

conceptual design



Yellow routes indicate two-way mountain bike traffic. Green routes indicate beginner level trails. The blue route indicates an intermediate level trail. The black route indicates an advanced level trail. Red area indicates course connections to facilitate changing difficulty levels. For more information, please see Appendix A-5.

CITY OF HOQUIAM COMMUNITY FOREST

Over the years city staff have worked with the city council and the community to purchase 465 acres of forested land within the city limits to provide recreational trails, outdoor activities and managed forest production.



Final Draft Public Notification and Solicitation for Comments

The draft plan was available for a public comment between _____ and _____, 2026. The public notification was issued by the methods listed below. Please see Appendix A-6.

- Posting the final draft plan for review on the City of Hoquiam web site.
- City of Hoquiam Facebook notifications.
- A hard copy of the plan was available at City Hall and at the Hoquiam Library.
- Public Service Announcements were issued to Grays Harbor Media.
- Draft plan availability and comment timeline were presented in Grays Harbor Council of Governments meetings, all of which were open to the public.

[Place holder for results of public comment period.]

Plan Adoption

A public hearing was held on _____. Legal notice was published in _____ on _____, two weeks in advance of the hearing.

The City of Hoquiam Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan was formally adopted via Resolution # _____ at the _____, 2026 Hoquiam City Council meeting. See Appendix A-7.

Chapter 5

Needs Assessment

This chapter examines the recreational needs for the City of Hoquiam. The needs assessment involves the comparison of the existing supply of recreation land to the anticipated recreation demand. Both demand and need are then balanced with the financial capacity of the City for improvements and maintenance. A six-year capital improvement plan is then developed to identify and prioritize needed improvements to the system.

Plan Inputs

Several inputs were utilized in the assessment of needs for park and recreation facilities.

- **Hoquiam Park and Recreation Needs Assessment** identifies deficiencies, if any, in the city's park system and applies need based on park classification standards:
 - Forwarded from the city's previous recreation plan 2020-2026
 - Recommended by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)
- **Hoquiam staff input** captures the planning and public works staff understanding and experience of the recreation needs of the community and associated maintenance and expansion costs.
- **Public Input** is the expression of personal and community wants and level of satisfaction. A complete public involvement discussion is found in Chapter 4.
- **Relation to Local Plans** which identify community recreational needs.

Examining the history of prior City recreation plans it is evident that trends in the community can and do affect the needs of its citizens. An aging population, economic instability, and social factors all affect the ways in which the park system is used. As populations age the demand for passive oriented activities and facilities usually increases. Economic instability has resulted in shorter vacations, closer to home making recreation facilities more desirable.

Community parks also provide many economic and social benefits to a community. Park and recreation facilities contribute to a local economy by appreciating land values and by stimulating private investment and tourism industry growth. Social benefits are also gained: A quality living environment, community partnerships, achieving mental and physical health, and a sense of community pride are all benefits of a well-planned and maintained park system.

Application of Park Classification Standards

While the goals identified in Chapter 2 reflect the vision for the City of Hoquiam Park and Recreation system, specific standards exist to measure the level of service of the system and identify deficiencies. Park classification standards are set to determine how much parkland, relative to population, is enough to meet community need and support community expectations. Several criteria are used to guide the development of identified standards:

- They must reflect the needs of the residents.
- They must be realistic and attainable.
- They must be acceptable and useful to both the community and City management.
- They must be based on a sound analysis of the best available information.

The methodology used in this plan is the per capita acreage standard. The per capita acreage standard, expressed as the number of acres of a specific park category per thousand population, is intended to determine whether the overall number of park sites is sufficient to satisfy recreation demands. The development of this standard begins with the categorization of existing parks within the city.

Table 5-1 City of Hoquiam Park Classification System				
Type	Use	Service Radius	Recommended Acreage	Acreage per 1,000 population
Regional Park/ Reserve	Passive & Natural	Multi-Community 1 hour drive time	50 +	5 to 10
Community Park	Active & Passive	1.5 - 3 miles	10 +	2.5 to 5
Neighborhood Park	Active & Passive	0.25 - 0.5 mile	2 to 10	1 to 2.5
Special Use Sites	Unique Activities	Citywide	n/a	n/a
Urban Pathways	Trail Activities	Citywide	n/a	n/a
Urban Malls & Squares	Passive	< 0.25 mile	n/a	0.25
Open Space	Conservation	Variable	n/a	n/a

NOTE - There are no specific size limitations for special use sites, urban pathways, urban malls & squares and open space areas due to the uniqueness of recreational activities provided.

Regional Park/Reserve

Areas of natural quality for resource-oriented outdoor recreation, but typically 80 percent of the site is managed for natural resource preservation. Regional parks/reserves are generally over 50 acres in size. Typical features include hiking, boating, camping, swimming.

Community Park

Recreation areas that support a broad range of activities, both active and passive, at a single location. Users might access the facility by foot, bicycle, or vehicle. Community parks are generally over 10 acres in size. Typical amenities: Sports fields, nature trails, bicycle pathways, covered picnic areas, botanical gardens, swimming pool or beach.

Neighborhood Park

Recreation areas providing active recreation opportunities, within walking distance of residential neighborhoods. The primary users of the neighborhood park are children and young adults. These parks should be distributed in a manner that provides safe access for pedestrian and bicyclists. Neighborhood parks are generally small, a few acres or less. Typical amenities: Playground equipment, tennis courts, basketball court, picnic tables, playfields.

Special Use Sites

Single use facilities provided for unique activities. There is no recommended size for these sites. Typical features: Landscaping, community gardens, viewpoints, historic sites, public plazas.

Urban Pathways

Provide an opportunity within an urban setting for walking and bicycling. Where possible, they provide links to other recreational areas or community services. These pathways may be planned as a portion of a regional system. Trail systems service the entire community. Typical features: Greenway trail, hard scape or soft scape surfacing, separated from vehicle traffic.

Urban Malls and Squares

Small passive areas designed primarily to improve and maintain the urban environment. Urban malls and squares provide rest and relaxation areas and aesthetic improvements to adjacent developed areas, there is no recommend size. Typical features: Landscaping, benches, tables.

Open Space

Natural areas or open space with limited nature trails or no planned development. These lands may include but are not limited to; wetlands, wetland buffers, public access sites and wildlife habitat areas. They may also be undeveloped areas within existing parks. Typical features: natural areas, wildlife areas, wetland areas, area set aside for future recreation development.

Table 5-2
Existing City of Hoquiam Park Classification inventory

TYPE	SITE NAME	OWNERSHIP	ACREAGE
Regional Park/ Reserve	Grayland Beach SP	WA State Parks	210
	Griffiths-Priddy SP	WA State Parks	359
	Lake Sylvia SP	WA State Parks	233
	Ocean City SP	WA State Parks	170
	Twin Harbors SP	WA State Parks	172
	Westport Light SP	WA State Parks	212
	Total Acres		1,356
Community Park	Elton Bennett	City	9.0
	John Gable	City	23.0
	Sonshine	City/Immanuel Baptist	10
	Total Acres		42
Neighborhood Park	Beacon Hill	City	2.5
	Art Pocklington Central Park	City	1.0
	Horne	City	0.1
	John J. Viglasky	City	0.1
	Mario Park	City	0.1
	Richie	City	0.1
	Total Acres		3.9
Special Use Sites	Eighth Street Landing	City	.02
	Hoquiam Rail Depot	City	N/A
	Little Hoquiam Boat Launch	City	1.0
	Olympic Stadium	City	9.0
	Polson Museum	City	2.5
	Levee Street Boat Launch	City	N/A
	28 th Street Landing	Port of Grays Harbor	.5
	Adams Street Waterfront Park	City	2
	Total Acres		15.02

Table 5-2 continued
Existing City of Hoquiam Park Classification inventory

TYPE	SITE NAME	OWNERSHIP	ACREAGE
Urban Pathways	Johnny Green Dike	City	0.25 mi
	Rayonier Point	City	0.25 mi
	Sunset Memorial Park	City	Varies
Urban Malls/ Squares	Chevron's Veteran Memorial	City	0.1
	Emerson Triangle (2 sites)	City	0.08
	Delta Park	City	0.04
Total Acres			0.22
Open Space	GH National Wildlife Refuge	US Fish & Wildlife	1,800
School Sites	Central Elementary	Hoquiam School Dist.	1.4
	Emerson Elementary	Hoquiam School Dist.	8.0
	Lincoln Elementary	Hoquiam School Dist.	5.1
	Washington Elementary	Hoquiam School Dist.	3.3
	Hoquiam Middle School	Hoquiam School Dist.	4.8
	Hoquiam High School	Hoquiam School Dist.	12.6
Total Acres			35.2

Applying the classification standards for Hoquiam's Park system provides the following information about the city's park inventory:

Regional Parks/Reserves: 85 acres of regional park and reserve space is recommended. The City exceeds this recommendation with 1,356 acres of available space.

Community Parks: 42.5 acres of community parks are recommended. The City currently has 42 acres of community park space. The City has met the recommended acreage but may want to consider adding additional community park inventory to meet future need.

Neighborhood: 16 acres of neighborhood parks are recommended. The City currently has 3.9 acres of neighborhood parks. However, since facilities at school sites are similar to those offered at neighborhood parks, all school sites have been included in the classification

inventory. Due to these similarities, the 35 acres of school outdoor recreation area offsets the need for additional neighborhood park acreage.

Urban Pathways: Generally, one pathway system should be provided which provides linkages to parks, waterfront, community centers, and a regional pathway system. The City maintains a 1.4 mile Hoquiam Waterfront Loop Walk. Sonshine Park provides a passive walk along the river and Sunset Memorial Park provides miles of paved & off road trails. Hoquiam residents and City staff have a clear vision of the trail system they would like to see developed.

Urban Malls & Squares: 2.13 acres are recommended for Urban Mall or Urban Square space. The City currently has .22 acres dedicated for use in this category. In order to meet the need in this classification the City should develop an additional 1.91 acres.

Facilities

During the park classification process, city staff were also careful to note the facilities associated with each of the parks:

- **Baseball** (90' & 60') - The baseball diamonds at Olympic Stadium and Hoquiam High School provide sufficient access to all residents. With 2-90' and 2-60' diamonds the per capita standard of 1 per 5,000 residents is met.
- **Basketball** - Eleven sites provide 34 public outdoor basketball goals that are spread across the city. The per capita standard of 1 per 1,000 residents has been met. However, many backboards and rims are in need of repair or replacement for proper play.
- **Football/Soccer** - Four sites currently have fields adaptable for football or soccer play, Olympic Stadium, Emerson Elementary, Hoquiam Middle and High School (2 fields). This essentially meets the per capita standard of one per 6,000 residents. However, these fields are becoming increasingly unavailable for group soccer activities. There are no dedicated soccer fields within the City of Hoquiam.
- **Playground** - Playground equipment is provided at twelve sites across the City. The per capita standard of 1 playfield per 1,000 residents is satisfied.
- **Softball** - Five softball diamonds located at three sites: John Gable (2), Central Elementary (1), and Emerson Elementary (2) exist in the City. No additional need is identified when applying a per capita standard of 1 diamond per 2,500 residents.
- **Golf Course** - Golf courses are regional-serving facilities with a service radius of one-half hour to one hour drive-time. Residents of Hoquiam are within accessibility of the Ocean Shores Golf Course (18 hole) and Highland Golf Course (18 hole) in Cosmopolis.

- **Swimming Pool (indoor/outdoor)** – There are no outdoor pools within the City. Grays Harbor YMCA (located in Hoquiam) offers an aquatics center with a wave machine, bubble pool, a river channel and an eight lane lap pool.
- **Tennis** - Ten tennis courts exist at four sites: Beacon Hill, Olympic Stadium, Lincoln Elementary and Hoquiam High School. It should be noted that the two tennis courts located at Lincoln Elementary are in disrepair and presently unusable. The per capita standard of 1 court per 2,000 residents has been met.

Park Budget and Maintenance

The City's available budget for expansion and especially for ongoing park maintenance has a large impact on the City's park and recreation system. The City of Hoquiam's Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of public parks within the City. The City's 2025/2026 budget allocated \$10,000 for playground equipment and \$15,000 for repair and maintenance services. The allocation for Olympic Stadium over the same period is \$10,000 for repair and maintenance services and \$5,000 for miscellaneous improvements.

Over the years the allocated funding for maintenance and improvements has remained consistent. The City should carefully consider the increase in maintenance responsibilities and costs when improving park and recreation properties. In addition to regular maintenance, a budget for long-term preventative maintenance is also needed.

As the City's park system grows, it will be important for the City to sensibly use limited park budget dollars to plan for and manage the cost of parks maintenance with the City's desire to achieve and maintain a high standard of service for parks.

Relation to Local Plans

Local plans and regulations also affect the City of Hoquiam park and recreation system. The placement and use of land and facilities must meet the goals and policies established within the City's existing plans. This is especially true for properties in and near sensitive environmental areas of the City.

The local plans which have been prepared dealing with recreational goals and policies include the City's Comprehensive Plan and Shorelines Management Program. These documents identify broad policies providing:

- a safe and convenient environment for walking and bicycling

- a system of active parks and recreation facilities available to all segments of the population, and
- shoreline and water-related activities

In addition to the aforementioned plans, there are other planning efforts which assist in the identification of specific recreational needs in the City. These efforts are discussed in Appendix A-2.

Chapter 6

Capital Improvement Plan

A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), sometimes termed a Capital Facilities Plan (CFP), is an operational tool that includes:

- an existing inventory of all capital facilities
- a forecast of future needs
- the proposed location and capacities of new facilities, and
- at least a six-year financing plan showing fund sources for future facilities.

One element of the overall CIP is the Parks and Recreation Element. Once completed and adopted, the CIP can be easily updated by staff. Importantly, it can be integrated into the existing annual or semi-annual budget adoption process and updated along with each budget.

The CIP organizes and prioritizes all capital needs and costs for at least the next 6 years. This helps keep scarce capital budget expenditures focused on true system-wide, established priorities. CIPs are increasingly required to support state and federal loan and grant funding requests. Even though Grays Harbor County is not a mandatory Growth Management Act jurisdiction, and therefore its municipalities are not required to adopt Capital Improvement Plans, the awarding of grants and loans are increasingly competitive and local governments who can demonstrate careful planning for their capital needs will score higher on evaluations of their applications for grants and loans.

Park system classification and need analysis, Hoquiam's overall budget, City Council meetings, public participation, public comment, and staff recommendations all provided the information to establish the project array outlined in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

It is important to note that the six-year CIP is a living planning document and as such is open to changes as needed. For example, if an unforeseen funding opportunity becomes available the City may opt to move a project from one year to another to take advantage of the opportunity. Alternately if repair to a site or a facility becomes critical, the City may opt to rebalance funds and scheduling between projects to facilitate need. The following recommendations are categorized by the four specific goals of the Hoquiam park and recreation system.

Recreation Site Recommendations

The recreation site goal identified in Chapter 2 guides the City to "Maintain adequate park acreage to meet the present and future needs of the City's population".

As identified through the application of standards the City has met the community parks standard. However, consideration for additional parks will be needed as the City grows. About 1.91 acres are needed for an urban mall or square. This acreage could be satisfied by implementing the *Downtown Waterfront Redevelopment Plan*. In view of the site needs, recommendations include:

- **Waterfront Acquisition**
Pursue acquisition and development of waterfront site providing sufficient acreage to accommodate recreation facilities, public waterfront amenities, and user support facilities. With current residential growth patterns occurring to the north, site location along the Hoquiam River would serve existing and future residents.
- **Waterfront Development**
A long-term goal of the City is the continued focus on opportunities to implement the Downtown Waterfront Redevelopment Plan.
 - **Little Hoquiam (Endresen Boat Launch)**
To provide optimum access and use for the public this area park is in need of redevelopment. The City should develop a specific plan on how to best utilize this property and the surrounding area owned by the City. The City just purchased 85 acres of Community Forest Land adjacent to this park to be developed as a working forest with hiking and biking trails. Planned improvements include a small-covered picnic area, paved parking and the design and installation of trails. Additional improvements to the boat launch are needed for accessibility and access.
 - **IDD1 Waterfront Trail**
The City recently purchased 45 acres on IDD1 by the mouth of the Hoquiam River for the North Shore Levee West Project. This property will be enhanced to provide active and passive waterfront uses. Planned improvements to the IDD1 trail include paving, safety, access and maintenance improvements.
- **Community Forest**
The City has purchased 465 acres of forested property within the City limits to provide recreational trails, active and passive outdoor activities and managed forest production.

The City should continue to work toward developing appropriate site access, walking and biking trails and allowable amenities.

- **Mr. T's Bat-O-Rama**
The batting cages are operated seasonally due to weather limitations. Adding a roof or cover would allow for year-round use. There is also an opportunity for expanded site use to include additional activities such as a climbing wall and driving range.
- **Art Pocklington Park**
Planned improvements include updated playground equipment, a covered basketball court and outdoor fitness station providing year-round access. Because of its location the park would also serve as the hub for the planned Urban Pathway System.
- **Vigilaski Park**
The park would benefit from updated playground equipment and a regulation basketball court. Landscaping would improve the aesthetics and overall user experience.
- **Richie Park**
The park would benefit from updated playground equipment and fencing. Landscaping would improve the aesthetics and overall user experience.
- **John Gable Park**
The City should continue its ongoing improvements at John Gable Park Including: paving the parking lot, score board replacement, park enhancements and the development of BMX trails.
- **Olympic Stadium**
Olympic Stadium is in need of continued repairs and upgrades, namely, the addition of more restroom facilities, grandstand improvements, siding replacement on field side of grandstands, parking lot improvements on the east side, field turf on Babe Ruth infield and lighting.

Recreation Facility Recommendations

The recreation facility goal established in Chapter 2 encourages the "provision of sufficient public recreational facilities that are planned and designed to meet the needs and desires of all residents of Hoquiam".

As identified in the needs analysis, the City is served by regional facilities such as a golf course and an indoor swimming pool (YMCA). Demand has been expressed for dedicated soccer fields, a fenced off-leash dog park, and community-wide bike/pedestrian pathways. With these needs identified, the facility recommendations include:

- **Multipurpose Indoor Sports and Recreation Facility**
The City should undertake a feasibility study to provide preliminary engineering designs and cost estimates for the development of an indoor sport complex where users of all ages can participate in practices and sporting events during inclement weather. The facility should include four to six basketball/volleyball courts and a walking track.
- **Multipurpose Outdoor Sports Complex**
The City should undertake a feasibility study to provide preliminary engineering designs and cost estimates for the development of an outdoor sports complex consisting of one to three grassed or turfed fields to support the need for additional soccer, football, lacrosse and rugby practice and events.
- **Pathway/Sidewalk Segments**
The City has made a dedicated effort to improve the condition of existing sidewalks and install new where applicable. However there are still a few remaining areas in need of improvement. For example, the Little Hoquiam Boat Launch is not accessible by sidewalk. A connecting sidewalk should be added to ensure user safety.
- **BMX Bike Park**
In response to public desire the City should continue to pursue the funding and development of BMX bike trails near John Gable Park.
- **Trails**
The City should continue the development and funding of its planned Phased Trail System. The trail systems and general design should be followed to provide citizens with bike trails, a walking loop, a 5K trail, and wayfinding signage and amenities.
- **General Facility Development**
Existing facilities should be retrofitted to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards as the budget allows. All new facilities should be developed in accordance with current ADA standards.

Recreation Maintenance Recommendations

The recreation maintenance goal identified in Chapter 2 promotes "innovative techniques to satisfy the growing demand for facility use while dealing with a decreasing supply of resources". Local park and recreation systems must expand to meet the future needs of a growing community. While focusing on acquisition and development, proper maintenance must be budgeted for and carried out to ensure the long term use of existing facilities. The City has placed a high priority on upgrading existing facilities for ease of access and user safety. The maintenance recommendations include:

- Elton Bennet Park - Trail maintenance is ongoing and performed annually.
- Citywide Pathway System
As the City moves towards the increasing development of bike and pedestrian pathways, maintenance along the Johnny Green Dike/Rayonier Point pathway system should be a priority. Along Rayonier point bank line erosion is jeopardizing the pathway, trees and picnic facilities. Several improvements have been made along the Johnny Green Dike (new benches, improved walkway) but continued maintenance is needed. It should be noted that once constructed the Northshore Levy/North Shore Levy West project may impact segments of the Johnny Greek Dike and Rayonier Point and that development should incorporate park plan priorities.
- Olympic Stadium
Recommended maintenance needs for this site include ongoing repairs to the siding, grandstands, lighting, restrooms, painting of all grandstands and bleachers, replacing the stadium walkway and foundation and fencing. The City has developed a master plan to look at additional enhancements to the facility that may include, field turf on Babe Ruth infield, additional restrooms, new dugouts, locker rooms, storage facilities, recreational buildings, and other improvements to the field of play.

Recreation Program Recommendations

This goal promotes development of recreation opportunities in which all Hoquiam residents can participate, regardless of age, income, race, sex, or physical disability and include:

- Continued coordination with Hoquiam School District, City and private organizations to provide recreation programs which satisfy local demand, while eliminating duplication.
- Develop recreation programs which provide a variety of recreation opportunities to all age groups from pre-school to senior citizens.
- Utilize volunteer efforts to operate the programs whenever possible.

Table 6.1
Park and Recreation Six Year Capital Improvement Program
For the City of Hoquiam

(All figures are in thousands)

Agency/Department Name: City of Hoquiam Address: 609 8 th St. City, Zip Code: Hoquiam, 98550 Telephone: (360) 532-5700							Date of Adoption: Completed By: Signature: Title:					
RECOMMENDATIONS												
PROJECT	YEAR	ACQ.	DEV.	REN.	FACILITY	FUNDING SOURCE ¹	ESTIMATED COST (Thousands)					
							2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Gable Park: Parking lot paving, mountain bike trails, score board, park enhancements	2026-2028		500K	40K	John Gable Park	G, I, L, P, U			540K			
Olympic Stadium: Lighting, additional restrooms, grandstand improvements, siding replacement on field side of grandstands, parking lot improvements on east side, field turf on Babe Ruth infield	2026-2028			3M	Olympic Stadium	G, I, L, P, U			3M			
Updated Equipment for playground & sports court, outdoor fitness station	2026-2030			500K	Art Pocklington	G, I, L, P, U					500	
Updated equipment for playground, regulation basketball, landscaping	2026-2030			100K	Vigilaski	G, I, L, P, U					100	
Updated equipment for playground, fencing, landscaping	2026-2030			100K	Richie	G, I, L, P, U					100	
Trails, small-covered picnic area, paved parking	2026-2030			250K	Endresen Boat Launch	G, I, L, P, U			250			
Paving, improvements to waterfront loop trail	2026-2030		500K		IDDI Waterfront Trail	G, I, L, P, U					500	
Urban multipurpose pathways (pedestrian & bike)	2026-2030		1M		City Wide	G, I, L, P, U					1M	
Expansion plus cover for batting cages	2026-2030		1M		Mr. Ts Bat-O-Rama	G, I, L, P, U					1M	
Multipurpose indoor sports facility	2030-2031		4M		Potentially Olympic Stadium Back Lot-TBD	G, I, L, P, U						4M
Multipurpose outdoor sports complex	2030-2031		2M		TBD	G, I, L, P, U						2M
Community Forest	2026-2030	2M			Watershed and Rayonier Properties	G, I, L, P, U			2M			

¹ Funding Source: G = Grants, I = In-kind Services, L = Local, P = Private, U = Unknown

Funding Park Projects

The funding of recommended improvements in the City of Hoquiam Park and Recreation Plan is an important consideration. There are variety of means to fund projects - grants, donations, City general budget, taxes, user fees, volunteers and community partnerships.

GRANTS

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) manages several grant programs, identified below, that would be a good fit for Hoquiam park system projects.

Table 6.2 Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Programs		
Grant Program		Description
ALEA	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	Funding for the acquisition, improvement, or protection of aquatic lands for public purposes, and to provide or improve public access to the waterfront.
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund	Funding to preserve and develop outdoor recreation resources, including parks, trails, and wildlife lands.
NCLI	No Child Left Inside	Funding for outdoor environmental, ecological, agricultural, or other natural resource-based education and recreation programs serving youth.
RTP	Recreational Trails Program	Funding to renovate and maintain recreational trails and facilities that provide a backcountry experience.
WWRP - Local Parks	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	Funding for local and state parks, trails, water access, state land conservation and restoration, farmland preservation, and habitat conservation.
YAF	Youth Athletic Facilities	Funding to buy land and renovate outdoor athletic facilities.

The Grays Harbor Community Foundation Community Building Grants supports nonprofit organization's projects - <https://www.gh-cf.org/grants/application/>.

Washington State Department of Transportation grants for pedestrian and bicycle and safe routes to school programs, transportation related programs.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/ATP/funding.htm>

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/SafeRoutes/funding.htm>

DONATIONS

The City should work with sport groups, local businesses, bike and pedestrian trail users and consider creating a formal program to collect funds and outreach to volunteers.

The National Recreation and Park Association suggests funding resources to assist communities and non-profit group with their park and recreation fundraising.

<http://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Grant-Fundraising-Resources/>

CITY FUNDS

The three basic options for City-based financing include the City's General Fund, Councilmanic or General Obligation Bonds, and the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET).

Given the many financial obligations of the City, the general fund cannot be depended upon to provide a significant stream of capital project funding. However, the City should allocate a small amount of general fund dollars annually to park improvements for projects where grant matches are needed or other funding is not available. Bonds are either approved by the voters (property tax levy) or by City Council (paid by general fund). REET funds must be used for capital purpose identified in a capital improvements plan which includes park projects.

USER FEES

User fees are charged to participating individuals or groups when utilizing city facilities. User fees are a method of offsetting the cost of facilities and reduce the burden on the general fund for the operations and maintenance costs.

APPENDICIES

A-1 Programs, Activities, Events

A-2 Related Planning Efforts

A-3 Hoquiam Phase Trail System

A-4 Sports Facility Needs Assessment

A-5 Mountain Bike Trail System (BMX)

A-6 Final Draft Public Review – added after plan adoption

A-7 Plan Adoption – added after plan adoption

A-8 Self-Certification – added after plan adoption

A-9 Resources

A-1

Programs, Activities and Events
Administered by the City of Hoquiam

DRAFT

A-1

Programs, Activities and Events Administered by the City of Hoquiam

- T-Ball, Minor, Major and Babe Ruth Youth Baseball Programs and Tournaments (stadium and field prep as necessary)
- Baseball – High School & College Season and Tournaments (stadium and field prep as necessary)
- Fast Pitch - Youth & High School season and tournaments (facility and field prep as necessary)
- Slow Pitch (facility and field prep as necessary)
- Football - High School & Middle School (stadium and field prep as necessary)
- Hoquiam Youth Football (stadium and field prep as necessary)
- Soccer – High School & Middle School (stadium and field prep as necessary)
- Healthy Hoquiam Walks
- Fun Runs (10K, 5K, 2-mile etc)
- Loggers Playday Parade (road closures/area prep, cleanup, vendor fair)
- Loggers Playday Logging Show (stadium and field prep as necessary)
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Wellness Program
- Arbor Day Tree Planting
- Spray park/splash pad-Art Pocklington park
- Push Rods Car Show (road closures/area prep)
- River Festival and other public festivals (road closures, area prep, cleanup and vendor fairs as necessary)
- Hiking and Walking Trails
- Waterfront Viewing, boat launches, moorage and waterfront access

Related Planning Efforts

- City of Hoquiam Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan, 2011-2017
- City of Hoquiam Comprehensive Plan, 2009
- City of Hoquiam Shoreline Master Program, 2017
- City of Hoquiam Downtown Waterfront Redevelopment Plan, 1986
- City of Hoquiam Waterfront Plan - Public Access and the Industrial Waterfront, 1987
- Hoquiam Economic Development Study/Alternative Uses for Mayr Brothers' Site, 1988
- Grays Harbor Regional Bike Plan, 1981

RELATED PLANNING EFFORTS

City of Hoquiam Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan – 2020-2026

The City completed a park and recreation plan in 2020. The plan utilized methods of public input to determine recreational needs. The prioritized action plan included:

- Waterfront acquisition and development.
- Purchase of forested property within the city limits.
- Beacon Hill forested property acquisition and trail development.
- Covered Sports Complex.
- Covered athletic facility.
- Continued development of pathways, sidewalks, and walking and biking trails throughout the City.
- Ongoing upgrades, repairs and maintenance at Olympic Stadium.
- The development of a BMX park at John Gable Park.

City of Hoquiam Comprehensive Plan, 2009

The Comprehensive Plan identifies the following development strategies for parks and open space.

Development Strategy 11.1: Parks for Everyone

Provide a comprehensive park system that meets the recreational needs of all citizens.

Land Use Action Steps

11.1.A The Comprehensive Land Use Plan adopts by reference the Hoquiam Parks and Recreation Plan.

11.1.B The city shall explore using a variety of funding tools and sources to maintain Level of Service standards for parks as the population increases.

11.1.C Update the Parks and Recreation Plan to plan for the anticipated growth projected in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, especially potential development in the Natural Resources Production District area.

Development Strategy 11.2: Managing Open Spaces

Manage Hoquiam's land base to assure an adequate supply of diverse open space for recreation and protection of critical areas.

Land Use Action Steps

11.2.A Encourage the retention of open space critical areas within the city, particularly in relation to wetlands, geologically hazardous areas, and fish and wildlife conservation areas.

11.2.B Use critical area ordinances and development incentives as tools to preserve open space on private property within the city limits.

11.2.C Amend the Parks and Recreation Plan to identify key open space areas to acquire through outright purchase or obtaining conservation easements.

11.2.D Explore creating a transfer of development rights or mitigation banking program for open space within the city limits.

11.2.E Coordinate the retention of open space to preserve fish and wildlife corridors.

City of Hoquiam Shoreline Master Program 2017

The Washington State Shoreline Management Act (SMA) of 1971 protects the shorelines in Washington State and promotes responsible shoreline use and development, environmental protection, and public access. Within the framework of the SMA, the City of Hoquiam is required to update a Shoreline Master Program (SMP) that is tailored to local conditions and based on citizen participation. The state ensures the City's SMP safeguards statewide public interests.

The waterbodies subject to the city of Hoquiam's SMP includes Grays Harbor, the East Fork Hoquiam River, the Hoquiam River, the Little Hoquiam River, and Fry Creek. The SMP governs water-dependent and water-related uses. Water-dependent means a use or a portion of a use, which cannot exist in any other location and is dependent on the water due to the intrinsic nature of its operations. Water-related use means a use or a portion of a use, which is not intrinsically dependent on a waterfront location but whose economic viability is dependent upon a waterfront location. Water-enjoyment means a recreational use or other use that facilitates public access to the shoreline as a primary characteristic of the use.

Shoreline set-backs for recreational uses:

Water-dependent structures and uses - 0 feet

Water-related and water-enjoyment structures and uses - 75 feet

Non-water-oriented structures and uses - 150 feet

All boating and water access facilities must adhere to the policies set forth in the City's SMP. This includes construction, modification or repairs to piling, piers, docks, and boat launches. Location standards must also be adhered to. For more in-depth information please refer to the City's Shoreline Master Program.

City of Hoquiam Pathway Element

The City developed a stand-alone Pathway Element that compiled documentation from multiple sources to support the development of city-wide multi-use pathways. The intent is to provide a safe, regionally significant integrated system to connect users to businesses, schools, medical and recreation sites and opportunities. The Pathway Element follows guidance from the City's own documents as well as the Washington State Department of Transportation, the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Planning Organization, and the Aberdeen-Hoquiam Corridor Project.

City of Hoquiam Downtown Waterfront Redevelopment Plan – 1986

The purpose of this plan was to provide the City of Hoquiam with an assessment of the existing conditions along its urban waterfront and to identify, describe and prioritize

specific waterfront public access, recreation and other projects. The plan identifies eight "design districts" which were individually analyzed and had proposed uses recommended.

City of Hoquiam Waterfront Plan - Public Access and the Industrial Waterfront - 1987

This plan was prepared as a companion document to the Downtown Waterfront Plan. It deals with the industrial waterfront lands between the Sixth Street bridge north to Arnold Avenue and from the Hoquiam River on the east to Lincoln Street on the west.

The basic recommendations in this plan were twofold: first, reserve waterfront land within the project area for water dependent and/or water related industrial development; and, second, provide public waterfront access at key points along the west bank of the Hoquiam River.

Implementation policies which deal with the public access recommendation include:

- **Policy 2** - Provide public waterfront access on Tyler Street (south) by the City of Hoquiam; and, within the industrial development area by the private sector at least one point along the waterfront where industry and public access will not conflict.
- **Policy 6** - Provide a pedestrian bridge crossing over Lincoln Street in the vicinity of the park and playgrounds.

Hoquiam Economic Development Study/Alternative Uses for Mayr Brothers' Site 1988

The purpose of this study was to examine the feasibility of the City acquiring the 21-acre Mayr Brothers' property and potential development alternatives of that site. The development study recommended that approximately 2.0 acres be developed into a public park, boat launch, small transient moorage area and access road along the south side of the Simpson Avenue Bridge. Facilities proposed at the park include; picnic tables, continuation of the waterfront pathway, open play area, restrooms, and parking.

An additional 5.0 acres would be developed into a recreational vehicle park. This RV park would provide 50 sites, many with full utility hook-ups. Other facilities include; laundry, restrooms with showers, a limited retail facility, and trailer dump station.

Approximately 1.5 acres would be reserved for the Aberdeen/Hoquiam industrial highway by-pass project. The remainder of the site would remain in private ownership and be promoted for light industrial development.

Grays Harbor Regional Bike Plan, 1981

The Grays Harbor Regional Planning Commission prepared the Grays Harbor Regional Bike Plan. The goal of the plan was to provide a framework to base the incremental development of a comprehensive bicycle network which will increase recreational amenities and enhance the capability of bicycling as an effective and safe mode of transportation.

The main linkages of this framework are State Designated Bicycle Touring Routes. As identified in the WSDOT Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan, specific improvement standards should be met to provide bicycle lanes or widened lanes along state-owned arterials, as part of a connected, regional bicycle route system. Improvements will be targeted where these routes have narrow shoulders to ensure at least a four-foot continuous shoulder for bicycle use.

A-3

Hoquiam Phase Trail System

DRAFT

Hoquiam Phase- Grays Harbor Trail System

Chris Frye

October 13, 2025



Table of Contents

1

Introduction

2

Maps

3

Financials

4

Next Steps



Introduction

INTRODUCTION

This report represents the final outcome of the initiative that began with **Blue Zones Activate Grays Harbor County** in February of 2023. Following an in-depth Discovery process, the local organizing committee identified the development of a **Grays Harbor Trail System** as the priority project. This document focuses specifically on the **Hoquiam** section of that trail system.

GRAYS HARBOR TRAIL SYSTEM - HOQUIAM

The Hoquiam Section Report consists of:

- Mapping for the complete trail system
- General design (engineering may be needed)
- Bike trail, walking loop, and 5k course
- Wayfinding signage
- Public bicycle workstation, outdoor pump, and bike rack

MAPPING AND GENERAL DESIGN

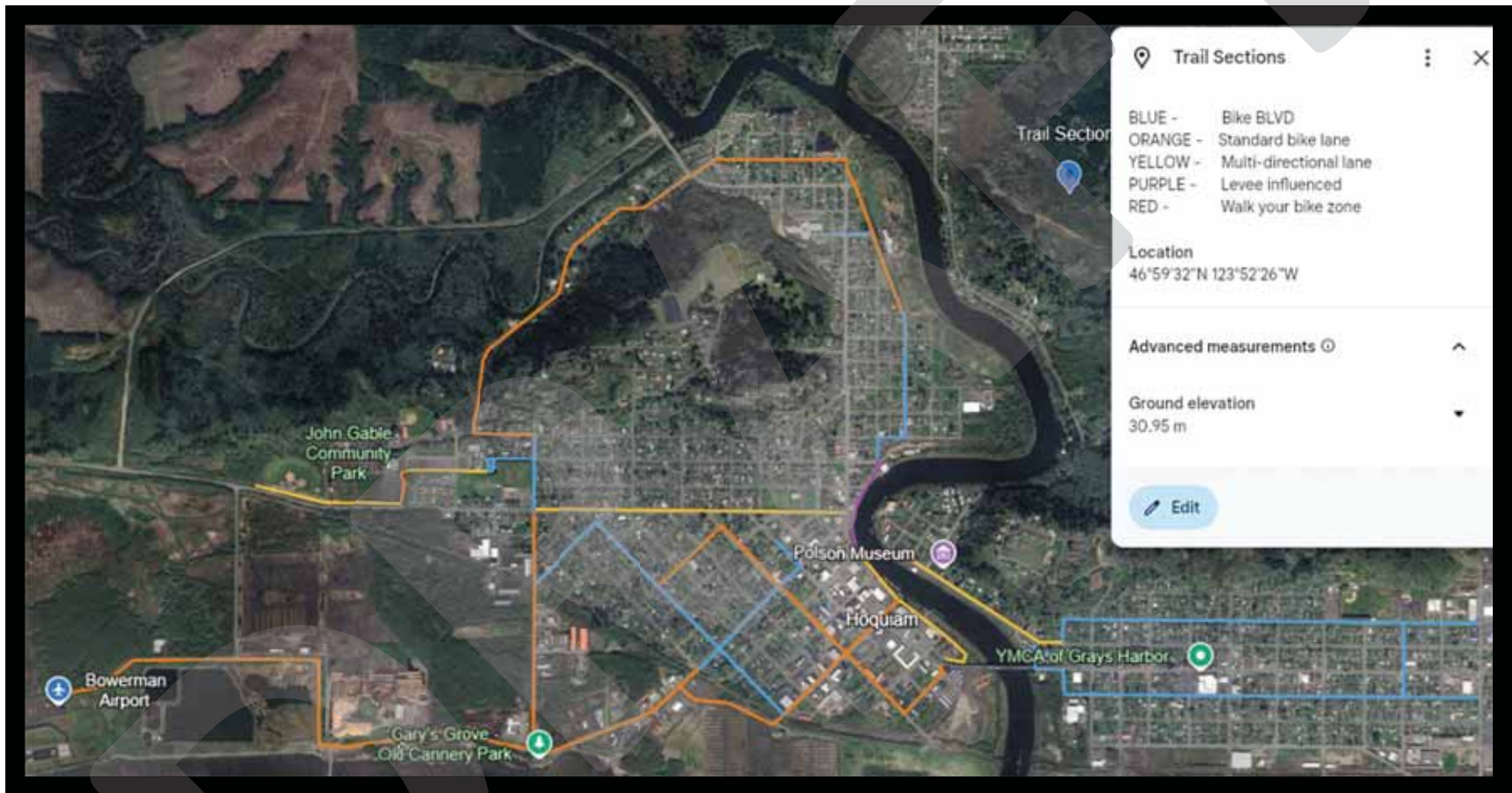
The objectives in Hoquiam were to:

- Design a SAFE bike trail that could "connect" all schools, most parks, downtown core, key activity locations, and tie-in to the Aberdeen section of the trail system.
- Identify an association that would work with the City of Hoquiam to make the design a reality.
- Create any additional "movement" opportunities.
- Install a public bicycle workstation, outdoor pump, and rack.



Maps

HOQUIAM TRAIL NETWORK MAP



BIKE BLVD



BIKE BLVD



STANDARD BIKE LANE



STANDARD BIKE LANE - STREET PARKING



MULTI-DIRECTIONAL LANE



WALK YOUR BIKE ZONE - RECOMMENDED

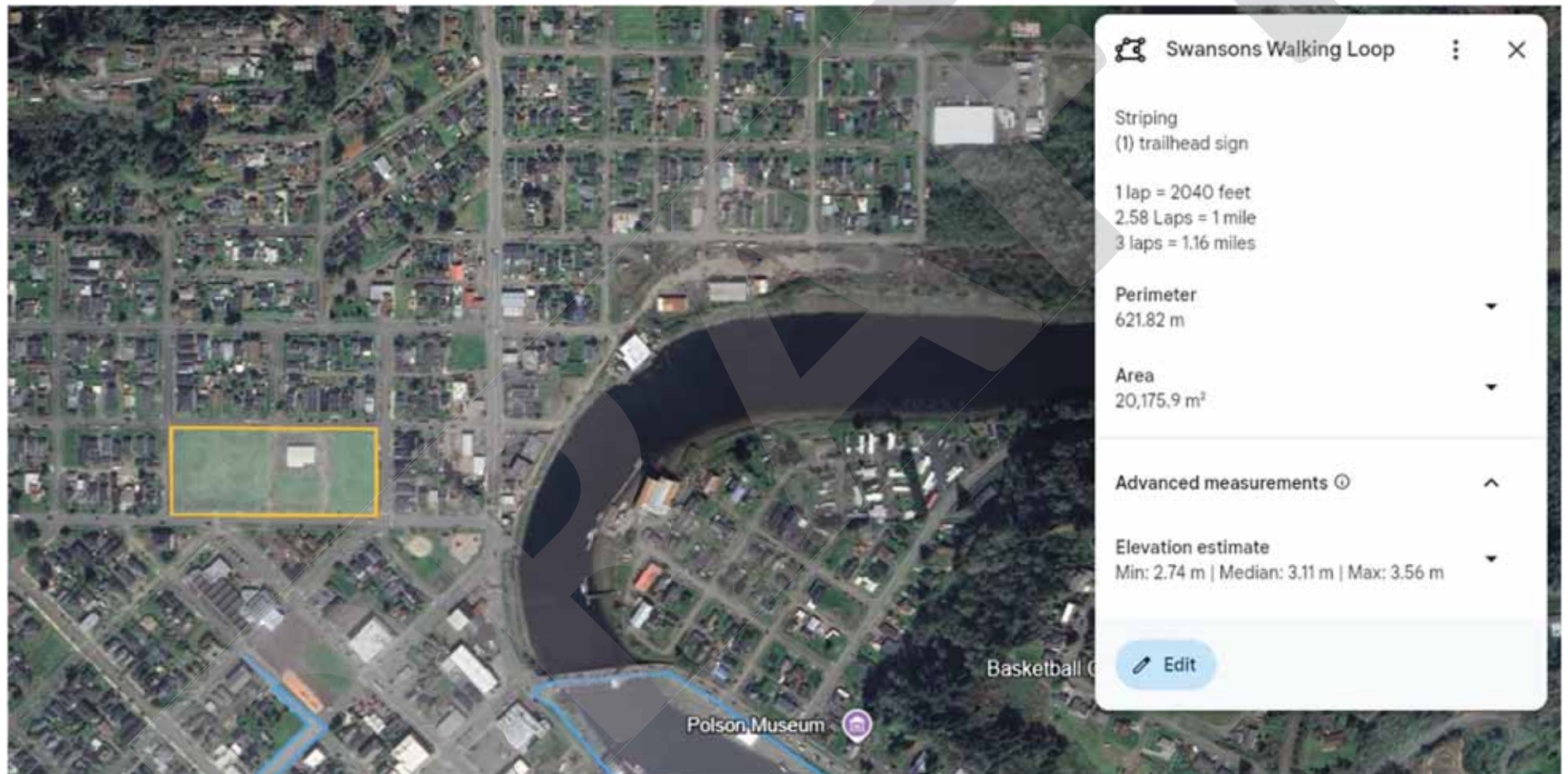


OTHER KEY DESIGN ITEMS



Additional Projects

WALKING LOOP -



Swansons Walking Loop

Striping
(1) trailhead sign

1 lap = 2040 feet
2.58 Laps = 1 mile
3 laps = 1.16 miles

Perimeter
621.82 m

Area
20,175.9 m²

Advanced measurements ⓘ

Elevation estimate
Min: 2.74 m | Median: 3.11 m | Max: 3.56 m

Edit

HOQUIAM 5K TRAIL



TRAIL STRIPING (NON-BICYCLE)



Wayfinding

WAYFINDING OPTION #1

- **Standard signage**
 - Uniform/MUTCD (Manual on Traffic Control Devices)
 - Lower cost



WAYFINDING OPTION #2

- Specialized
- Pickled Flower
- County-wide design
 - High quality and unique
 - More expensive



Public Workstation

PUBLIC WORKSTATION AND PUMP

- Choice Regional Health Network has gifted a public workstation and pump to Hoquiam
- Art Pocklington Park





Financials

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- All design work completed by myself and Dan Burden was free of charge (Blue Zones & Choice)
- Design work by Pickled Flower was free of charge (Blue Zones)
- Public workstation was free of charge (Choice Regional Health Network) - City will likely install
- Implementation of the trail network will occur via private donors and/or grants

COST CONSIDERATIONS

- **There are a variety of potential costs associated with a project like this (16-page spreadsheet), therefore, the following financials are just general benchmarks.**
- **Estimates have been secured from a mix of regional service providers and general AI research. AI was utilized when a regional vendor was unable to provide estimates.**
- **Engineering was not included.**

WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

- **Pickled Flower – TBD**
- **MTCD**
 - 62 Bike Routes
 - 100 Bike BLVD
 - 4 Watch for Traffic
 - 42 Directional
- **Expense range - \$12k - \$15K**
- **Does not include posts (some posts currently exist)**

STRIPING

- **Solid lines and dashes – 65,432' (12.4 miles)**
 - \$1.75 LF @ 65,432 = \$115K
- **Green crossbikes – 141 units**
 - \$600 @ 141 = \$85K
- **Green painted paths – 24 units (50' x 4')**
 - \$2750 @ 24 = \$66K
- **Bike lane symbols – 554 units**
 - \$300 @ 554 = \$167K

TOTAL

- Wayfinding signs \$ 15,000
- Striping \$ 115,000
- Cross bikes \$ 85,000
- Green sections \$ 66,000
- Bike lane symbols \$ 167,000
- **\$ 448,000**
- Does not include engineering



Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

- **Create Local Organizing Committee**
 - Grays Harbor Sports Association
 - Buck Giles, La Vogue Cyclery
 - Open to others
- **Confirm design (make changes)**
- **Discuss engineering with City**
- **Identify grants**
- **Apply for grants**
- **Phase implementation**

**SOMETHING TO ASK?
THANK YOU!**

A-4

Sports Facility Needs Assessment

DRAFT

Sport Facility Needs Assessment

Aberdeen & Hoquiam Metro Area



GRAYS HARBOR
SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Table of Contents



Executive Summary	03
About Us	12
Study Design	14
Review of Survey Questions	16
Facility Best Practices	31

Executive Summary

The Grays Harbor Sports Association (GHSA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is dedicated to expanding access to sports and recreational activities for all residents of Grays Harbor County. As part of its mission to create inclusive, community-driven opportunities for youth and adults alike, GHSA recently conducted a comprehensive survey to assess the demand for new athletic facilities in the Aberdeen and Hoquiam metro area. The primary objective of this research was to identify the community's most pressing needs, gather input directly from residents, and establish clear priorities for future development projects. The findings from this survey can serve as a foundation for planning, investment, and collaboration to help ensure that any new facilities reflect and respond to the voices and values of the Aberdeen and Hoquiam communities.

Key Findings:

- Nearly 50% (49.7%) of all respondents travel outside of the county at least 16 times per year to participate in non-school related activities/competitions.
- Overall, 59.5% of the respondents travel outside of the county at least 11 times per year to participate in non-school related activities/competitions.



Key Findings continued:

Outdoor Facilities

- Regarding **satisfaction**, 58.1 % of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with community outdoor facilities.
- Over one-half (58.8%) of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with the **number** of available outdoor facilities.
- 60.2% of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with the **quality** of outdoor facilities.

Indoor Facilities

- Regarding **satisfaction**, 73.5% of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with community indoor facilities.
- Nearly all (92.4%) of the respondents were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with the **number** of available indoor facilities.
- The **quality** of indoor facilities scored only slightly better, with 66.5% of the respondents claiming they were either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied.”

Key Findings continued:

The indoor amenities that participants deemed most crucial consist of:

1. Baseball/Softball training and practice area (20% of responses)
2. Soccer/Football facility (15% of responses)
3. Field House/Multi-sport venue (14% of responses)
4. Basketball/Volleyball facility (14% of responses)

Given that this question is open-ended rather than multiple choice, it can be argued that all four options describe the same category of facility. If this reasoning holds true, then 63% of the responses, which constitutes the majority, would indicate a demand for a versatile **indoor** facility.

Key Findings continued:

The most needed **outdoor** facilities according to the respondents are:

1. Soccer/Football fields (15% of responses)
2. Turf multi-purpose fields (14% of responses)
3. Baseball fields (12.5% of responses)
4. Turf infield for baseball (7.5% of responses)
5. Turf infield for softball (7% of responses)
6. Walking trails (6.5% of responses)

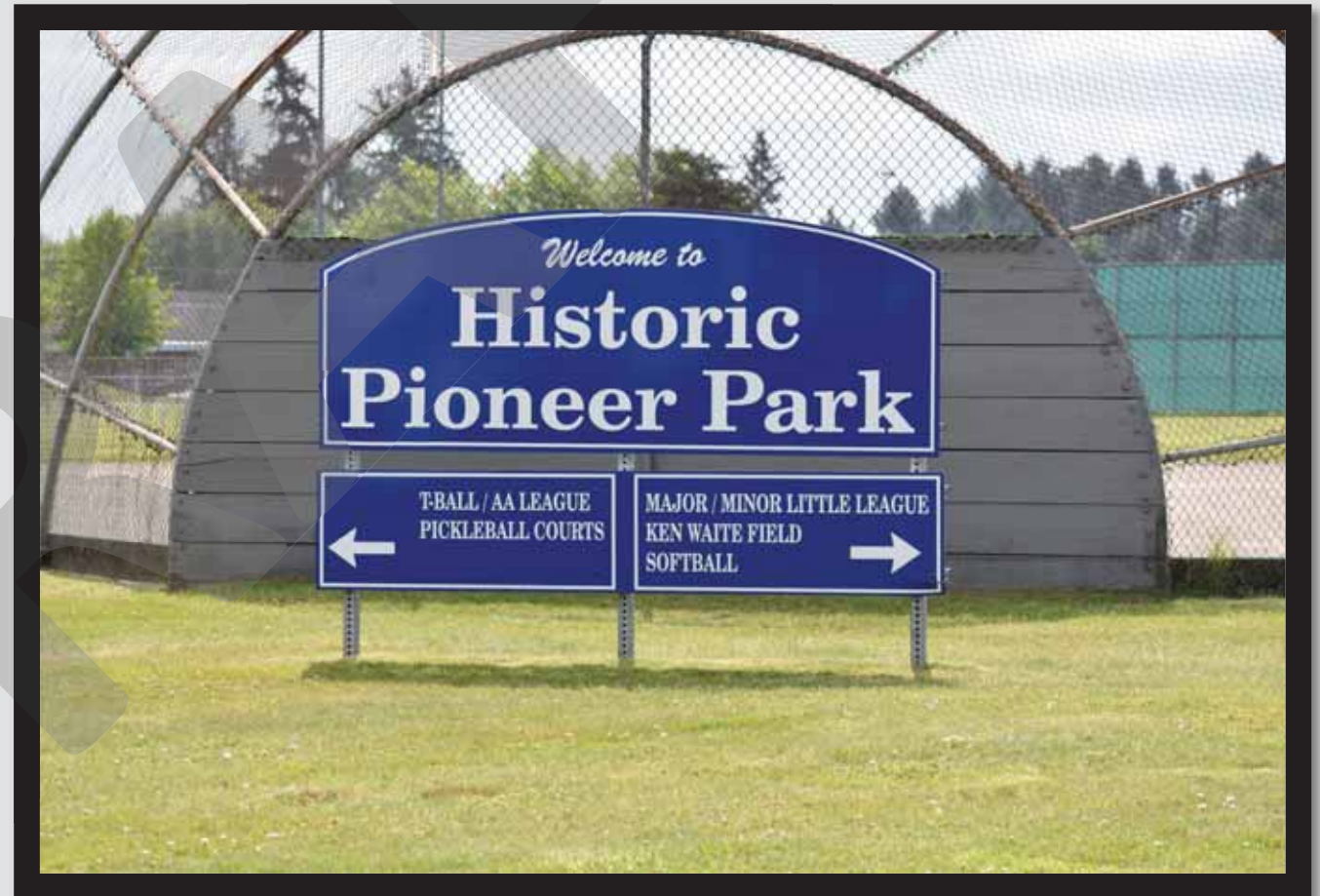
The first two responses could be considered the same facility. If this is the case, turfed multi-purpose fields would make up 39% of all responses.



Key Findings continued:

Survey question #12 allowed participants to share their views on the facilities available in Grays Harbor County. The most common responses were:

1. A call for a substantial multi-purpose facility akin to the HUB in Centralia or the Podium in Spokane.
2. A need for turf fields.
3. The opinion that sports have the potential to generate local revenue.



Interpretation of Findings

1. Survey results show that 50% of respondents leave Grays Harbor County at least 16 times per year for non-school-related sports and recreation. An additional 10% travel outside the county at least 11 times annually. By developing new facilities within the county, we can reduce this "leakage," keeping more activity — and spending — local. This investment could not only minimize the need for residents to travel elsewhere but also attract more visitors from outside the area, boosting the local economy.
2. Survey results reveal that both **indoor** and **outdoor** facilities are inadequate and/or in poor condition. A significant majority of respondents rated them as "dissatisfied" or "very dissatisfied" across all Likert scale questions. These findings strongly suggest that there is a widespread and pressing need for new sports facilities in the Aberdeen and Hoquiam metro area.

Interpretation of Findings continued...

3. Survey results highlight the community's top priorities: a large multi-purpose indoor facility and turf fields for outdoor use. The primary driver of this need is the region's high annual rainfall, which limits use of existing facilities. Focusing on these two core investments makes the most sense, as they address the most urgent challenges while also creating opportunities to incorporate additional requested amenities that can complement and be supported by these primary venues.

Researcher's consideration: In the context of sporting events, cumulative attraction refers to the idea that clustering similar or complementary events or attractions in a single location or area enhances their overall pulling power. This means that the presence of one sporting event or attraction in a location benefits other proximate events or attractions, leading to increased visitation and engagement for all involved. This type of planning should be considered regarding this project.

Suggestions/Proposed Next Steps

Suggestion #1 - Establish a local organizing committee responsible for selecting and designing the facilities, developing operational plans, identifying management entities, and obtaining funding.

Suggestion #2 - Determine the types of facilities to pursue based on the findings of this report.

Suggestion #3 - Investigate existing facilities in other communities to gather best practices.

Suggestion #4 - Develop architectural renderings of potential venue(s).

Suggestion #5 - Create operational plans, offering multiple alternatives.

Suggestion #6 - Identify potential locations, which could be done earlier in the strategic process.

Suggestion #7 - Secure sources of funding.

About US

The Grays Harbor Sports Association (GHSA) is a dedicated 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a clear mission: to provide opportunities for all Grays Harbor residents through sports and activities. Operated by a committed six-member team, GHSA has already made a meaningful impact in the region by re-opening the beloved Mr. T's Bat-O-Rama, organizing youth sports leagues such as basketball and wrestling, and serving as an incubator for emerging sports organizations. With a strong foundation in community engagement and program development, GHSA is now focused on expanding its reach by supporting the development of new athletic facilities, introducing a broader range of activities, and creating events that keep the community active while enhancing overall quality of life across Grays Harbor County.



Sport Business Interests

Sports Business Interests is a consulting group specializing in the intersection of sports, community development, and strategic planning. Since its founding in 2013, the firm has partnered with a diverse range of clients—including the Tacoma Sports Commission, Northern Quest Casino, Visit Billings, the Northwest Athletic Conference, and the Tahoe Chamber—on projects spanning economic development, event solutions, survey research, and facility planning. The company is led by Chris Frye, who earned his doctorate in Sport Management from the University of Northern Colorado in 2003. In addition to his consulting work, Dr. Frye has served as a long-time adjunct professor at Gonzaga University and Virginia Commonwealth University's Center for Sport Leadership, teaching Sport Finance, Economics of Sport, Sport Marketing, Facility Management, and Sport Law. He currently lives in Hoquiam, Washington, with his wife Nicole and their two daughters, Cecelia and Iza.



Study Design



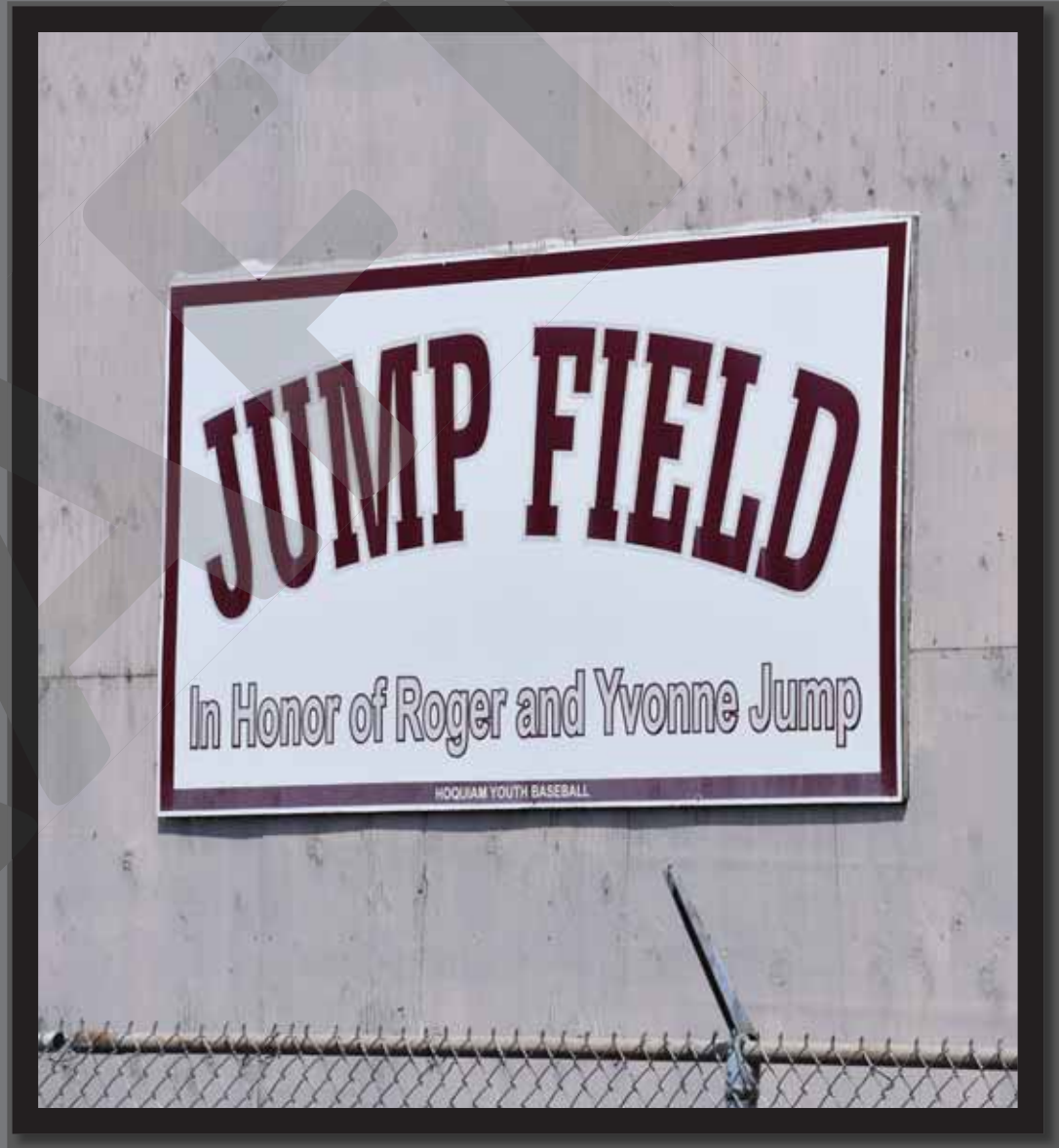
In order to assess community needs concerning athletic facilities and programming in the Aberdeen and Hoquiam metropolitan area, the Grays Harbor Sports Association (GHSA) developed and administered a 12-question survey between January 15 and February 28, 2025. This survey was thoughtfully designed to gather both quantitative and qualitative insights from a cross-section of the community. It included one multiple-choice question, six items employing a 5-point Likert Scale to assess levels of agreement or significance, and four open-ended questions allowing respondents to provide up to three answers each. This mixed-methods strategy encouraged participants to express a broad spectrum of viewpoints, effectively capturing both structured assessments and more detailed, personalized feedback.

To better understand the geographic distribution of responses, all participants were also asked to provide their zip code. The survey was distributed through a combination of in-person and digital outreach methods to ensure accessibility and broad reach. A QR code linking directly to the survey was printed and handed out to attendees of a Hoquiam High School vs. Aberdeen High School girls' basketball game. Additionally, the same QR code was shared electronically via email with a targeted list of coaches, sport administrators, and parents of youth athletes. Social media distribution further expanded the reach, with the QR code posted on the Facebook pages of the Grays Harbor Sports Association, Hoquiam 98550, and Aberdeen 98520 communities.

This multifaceted distribution strategy successfully yielded 143 completed responses, providing a meaningful dataset for identifying trends, community priorities, and areas of opportunity for facility development and program expansion.

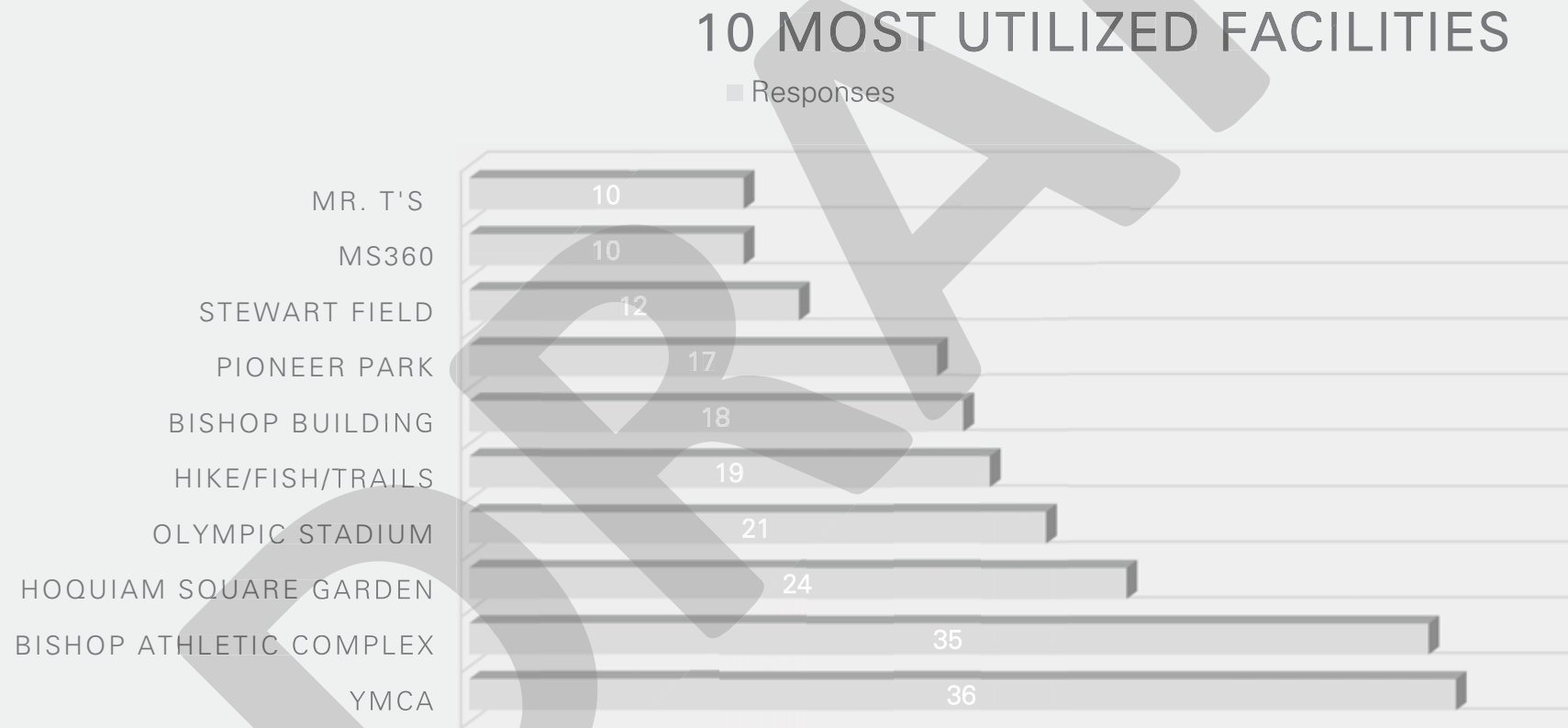


Survey Questions



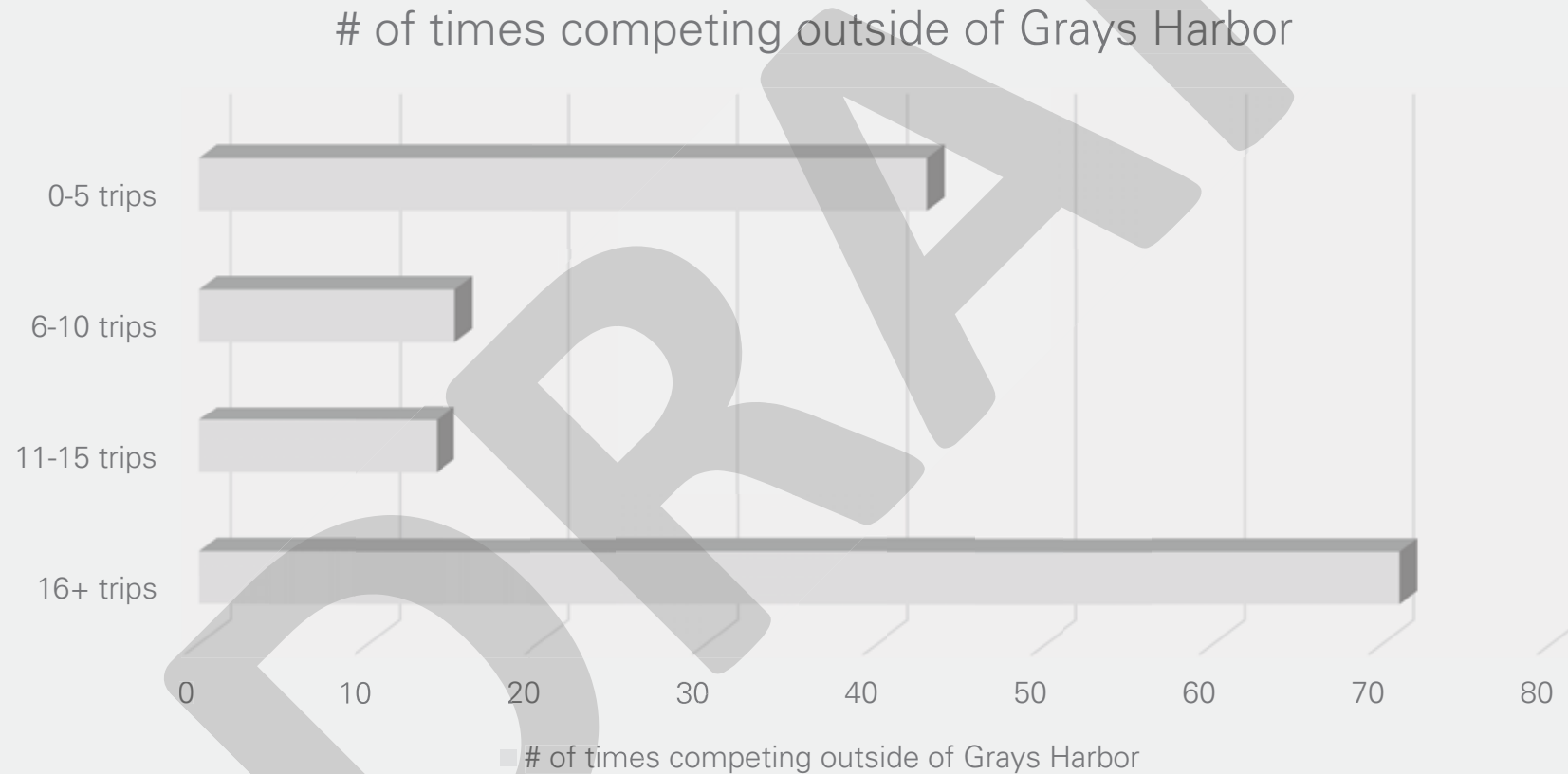
Question #1

Over the last year, which three recreational or sports facilities have you used in Grays Harbor County?



Question #2

How often do you leave Grays Harbor County to participate in recreation/sport activities per year? Please do not include school sponsored events.



Question #3

Are the INDOOR recreation/sport facilities in Grays Harbor County satisfying your needs?



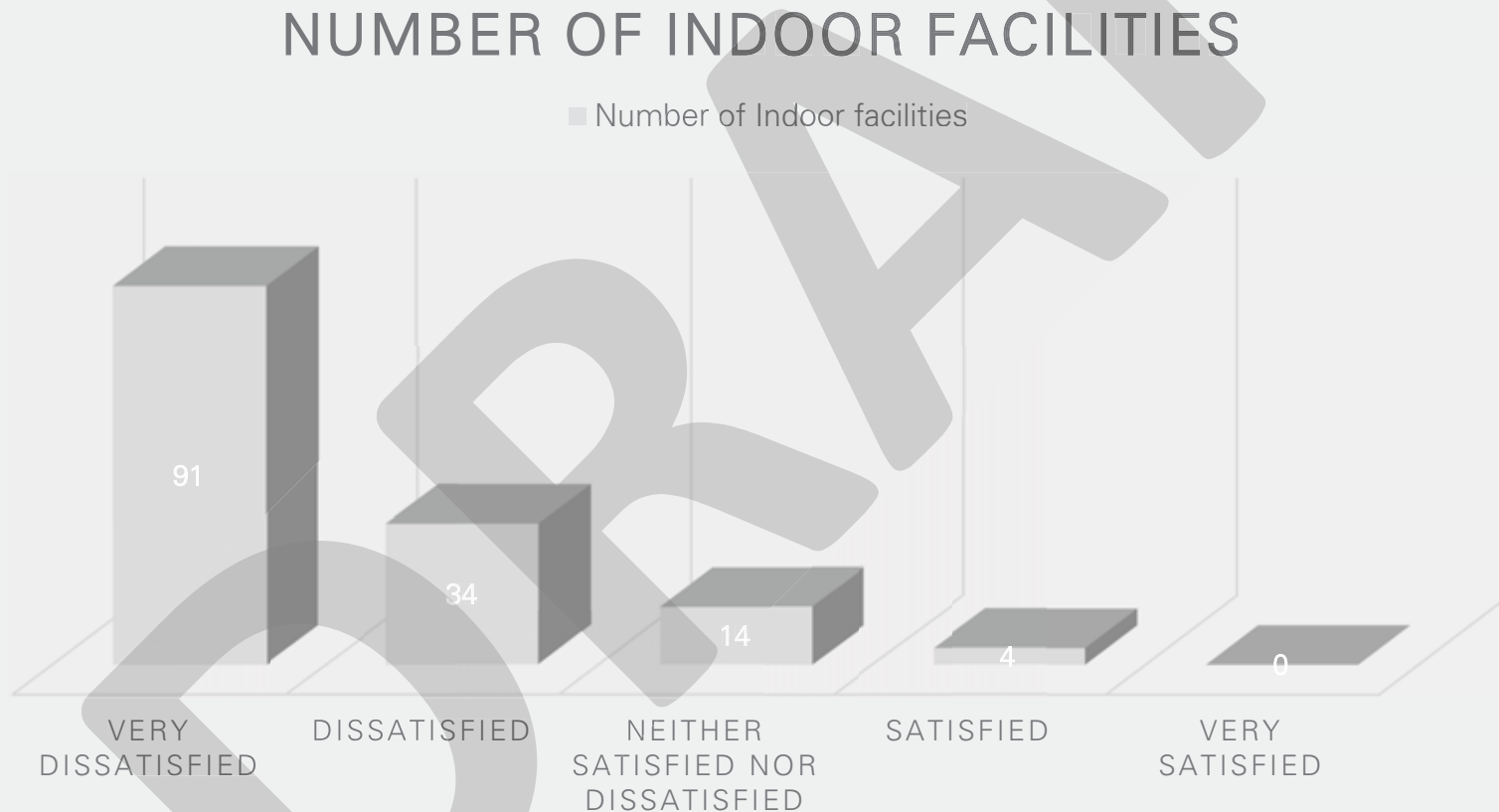
Question #4

Are the OUTDOOR recreation/sport facilities in Grays Harbor County satisfying your needs?



Question #5

How satisfied are you with the NUMBER of INDOOR recreation/sport facilities in Grays Harbor County?



Question #6

How satisfied are you with the QUALITY of INDOOR recreation/sport facilities in Grays Harbor County?



Question #7

How satisfied are you with the NUMBER of OUTDOOR recreation/sport facilities in Grays Harbor County?



Question #8

How satisfied are you with the QUALITY of OUTDOOR recreation/sport facilities in Grays Harbor County?



Question #9

In your opinion, what types of INDOOR facilities do we need in Aberdeen/Hoquiam? Please list up to three types of indoor facilities.

10 MOST NEEDED INDOOR FACILITIES



Note from the researcher: Because this was an open-ended question in which respondents often used different terminology to describe similar concepts, the top four most frequently mentioned responses may, in fact, refer to variations of the same type of facility. If these responses are interpreted as referencing a single concept—a large indoor multi-purpose facility—the combined total would represent 172 mentions, accounting for approximately 63% of all responses.

Question #10

In your opinion, what types of OUTDOOR facilities do we need in Aberdeen/Hoquiam? Please list up to three types of outdoor facilities.

10 MOST NEEDED OUTDOOR FACILITIES



Question #11
What is your zip
code?



Question #12

Please feel free to provide any additional thoughts on this topic.

Researcher's Note: The researcher has chosen to paraphrase certain responses. The responses can be found on the subsequent two pages. The number in parentheses indicates how many respondents conveyed similar sentiments. All other responses were referred to only one time.





Top 5 Suggestions:

1. (15) A substantial indoor multi-functional facility is required, similar to the Hub in Centralia (WA) or the Podium in Spokane (WA).
2. (10) Turf fields are essential due to the significant rainfall in this area.
3. (4) Sports can serve as a source of community revenue, contributing to economic growth.
4. (2) There is a need for additional sports fields.
5. (2) A trail system is necessary.

- The Bishop Building needs to be expanded threefold.
- Local educational institutions should provide gym facilities.
- Additional indoor gym space is required for Senior basketball.
- Enhance the lighting at Olympic Stadium and install lights at Seabreeze Oval.
- The condition of the Bishop Complex fields is inadequate.
- There is a demand for more soccer fields.
- More hotels and motels are necessary.
- Focus on youth, high school, and college athletics.
- Coordinate youth track teams throughout the summer.
- Grays Harbor possesses current facilities, but improvements in quality and accessibility are necessary.
- The decision to close the ORV was a poor choice.
- The top priority should be creating a playground for children.
- There is a need for cost-effective indoor gym facilities.
- Turf the infield at Gable.
- The absence of adequate facilities is negatively impacting student-athletes.

Facility Best Practices

The subsequent pages present an initial compilation of facilities that may act as case studies to inform the design of new venues, especially regarding the services provided, layout, amenities, and operational approaches. These examples have been selected based on feedback from respondents, their geographical closeness, and expert recommendations.

1. The NW Sports Hub - nwsportshub.com
2. The Podium - thepodiumusa.com
3. The Hub Sports Center - hubsportscenter.com
4. The Warehouse, Spokane - warehouseathletics.com
5. Auburn Fieldhouse USA - auburn.fieldhouseusa.com
6. Sirius Sport Complex - siriusportscomplex.com
7. Starfire Athletic Center - starfiresports.com
8. Aurora Sports Park - auroragov.org
9. All American Park - lasvegasnevada.gov



10. Advance Soccer Complex -
advancesoccercomplex.com
11. Southridge Sports and Events
Complex -
go2kennewick.com
12. Great Park Sports Facilities -
cityofirvine.org
13. Foley Event Center -
foleysportstourism.com
14. Upward Sports Star Center -
visitspartanburg.com
15. Myrtle Beach Sports Center -
myrtlebeachsportscenter.com
16. Rocky Top Sports World -
rockytopsportsworld.com





Chris Frye, Ph.D.
509.869.0299
SbiFrye@me.com

BREAK

Recommendations



Indoor Multi-Purpose Facility



Outdoor Softball/Baseball turfed fields



Outdoor Soccer/Football turfed fields

Indoor Multi-Purpose Facility

- Land Requirements = 2.5 acres
- Estimated construction cost = \$5 million - \$8 Million

4-6 basketball courts

6-8 volleyball courts

Batting cage

Climbing wall

Golf simulator

Indoor and outdoor walking trails

Spectator seating for one "championship" court

Concessions, two offices, equipment storage

Restrooms/locker rooms

Study hall

Outdoor Baseball/Softball Turfed Fields

- Land Requirements = 6-7 acres
- Estimated construction costs = \$3.4M - \$5.1M



1 full-size turf baseball field



1 full-size turf softball field



Possible dual-purpose fields



Shared concession & equipment shed



Dugouts, bullpens, bleachers



Lighting for both fields

Outdoor Soccer/Football Turf Fields

2 full-size turf
multi-use
fields

Concessions
stand

Equipment
shed

Lighting for
both fields

Bleachers at
one field

Outdoor
fitness
station

Walking trail

- Land Requirements = 7-8 acres
- Estimated construction costs = \$2.5M - \$4.2M

Summary Table

 <u>Project</u>	<u>Land Needed</u>	<u>Cost Estimate</u>
 Indoor Multi-Purpose	2-2.5 acres	\$5M - \$8M
 Outdoor (baseball/softball)	6-7 acres	\$3.4M- \$5.1M
 Outdoor (soccer/football)	7-8 acres	\$2.5M- \$4.2M

This is just a
starting
point.....

There will be many questions.....

- Is this at one location, two locations, or three?
- Can we share parking?
- Is there a way to have baseball and softball share fields?
- Who will operate the facilities?
- And of course, funding.....

We will discuss these topics and more as we proceed!

A-5

Mountain Bike Trail System (BMX)

DRAFT

Conceptual Trail Network Design



Yellow = two-way mtb traffic, 0.61 mi of trail or 3,272 ft

Green = Beginner difficulty trails, 0.37 mi of trail or 1,998 ft

Blue = Intermediate difficulty trails, 0.11 mi of trail or 580 ft

Black = Advanced difficulty trails, 0.11 mi of trail or 580 ft

Design Elements: Phase I

Initial build will focus on accessing the designated ride area that will create a perimeter loop that will be the focus of user access to the network of trails. These trails, yellow for two-directional general traffic use and green for beginner skill designated mtb trail. Total Phase I linear ft of trail built 4,690 ft or 0.87 mi



Examples of Trail Elements: Yellow Trails



Examples of Trail Elements: Green Trails



Design Elements: Phase II

Continuing the build will focus on more skill centered trails with progressive features aimed at increasing the skills of riders. These trails would include another beginner (green), introduce an intermediate (blue), and allow one advanced (black) trail. These trails would include elements such as bermed turns, rollers, table-top jumps, and other difficulty graded features. Total distance built 1,740 ft or 0.33 miles.



Examples of Trail Elements: Blue Trails



Examples of Trail Elements: Black Trails



Examples of Trail Elements: Additional Potential Features



A-6

Public Comment — Added after plan adoption

DRAFT

A-7

Plan Adoption — Added after plan adoption

DRAFT

A-8

Self-Certification — Added after plan adoption

DRAFT

A-9

References and Resources

DRAFT

Resources & References

2023 Recreation and Conservation Plan for Washington State (Draft)

<https://wa-rco-scorp-2023-wa-rco.hub.arcgis.com/pages/final-plan>

28th Street Landing Recreational Lands and Facilities Plan: 2009-2014, Port of Grays Harbor, 2009

Blue Zones Activate Grays Harbor –

https://www.bluezones.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Blue-Zones-Activate-Grays-Harbor-County_7.pdf

City of Hoquiam Park and Recreation Plan 2020-2026, City of Hoquiam, 2020

Feet First, promoting walkable communities - <http://www.feetfirst.org/>

Grays Harbor Community Foundation - <https://www.gh-cf.org/grants/application/>

Grays Harbor Sports Association - <https://www.graysharborsports.org/>

Harpers Playground – <https://www.harpersplayground.org/>

NRPA Park Metrics, compare standards with other communities.

<http://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/ParkMetrics/>

Rails to Trails - <https://www.railstotrails.org/our-work/united-states/washington/>

Recreation and Conservation Office - <http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/index.shtml>

The National Recreation and Park Association

<http://www.nrpa.org/>

<http://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Grant-Fundraising-Resources/>

Trust for Public Land

<https://www.tpl.org/how-we-work#sm.00000xevvwthm3cwlvdtrmhzbryn4>

Washington State Department of Transportation grants for pedestrian and bicycle and safe routes to school programs, transportation related programs.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/ATP/funding.htm>

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/SafeRoutes/funding.htm>