

Mount Vernon 2024-2030 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan



March 2024

Mayor Jill Boudreau/Peter Donovan

City Council

Ward 1 Juan Morales/Navor Tercero

Ward 1 Iris Carias

Ward 2 Mark Hulst/Andrew Vander Stoep

Ward 2 Gary Molenaar

Ward 3 Melissa Beaton

Ward 3 Mary Hudson

Council at Large Richard Brocksmith

Planning Commission

December 2024 Christian Carlson

December 2023 Kirk Johnson

December 2023 James Fikkert

December 2026 Adair Orr

December 2025 Morgan Curry

December 2026 Mary Mae Hardt

Park & Enrichment Services

Director Jennifer Berner

Recreation Coordinator Brooke Ahlegian

Recreation Coordinator Mandy Rovegno

Park Operations Manager Sean Corcoran

Grounds Foreman Michael Torres

Maintenance Foreman Reagan Mishler

Facilities Foreman Jose Rodriguez

Consultant Team

Team Leader Tom Beckwith FAICP

Landscape Architect Jennifer Kiusalaas ASLA LEED AP

Architect Dan Podoll AIA

Civil Engineer Eric Scott PE

GIS Jennifer Hackett

Contents

Chapter 1 Introduction				
	Objectives		1	
	Approach		1	
	Public involvement		2	
	Documentation		2	
Chapter 2 Goals and policies				
	Goals and policies		3	
Chapter 3 Context				
	Population projections		11	
	Recreation demand		11	
	Participation		14	
	Frequency		14	
	Recreation clearinghouse		19	
	Pricing and delivery criteria		19	
	Walkability park service gaps		21	
	Social equity		23	
Chapter 4 Community involvement				
	Resident outreach survey		25	
	Youth outreach survey		25	
	Athletic group workshop		26	
	Open house and workshop		28	
	Voter priorities survey		28	
	Public meetings		31	
	Key findings from community engagement		31	
Chapter 5 Citywide plan elements				
	Natural areas		33	
	Resource activities - water access, picnic		35	
	Trails - on and off-road		39	
	Athletic activities - playground, court, field		44	
	Indoor recreation activities		55	
	Special use activities		59	
	Support facilities		64	
Chapter 6 Park plan exhibits				
	South 6th Street Park		65	
	25th Street Park		66	
	Baker Court Park		67	
	Bakerview Park & Wetland		68	
	Beaver Pond Park		70	
	Bonnie Rae Park		71	
	Division Street Park		72	
	Edgewater Park		73	
	Emma Jarvis Memorial Garden		74	
	Fire Station 3 Park		75	
	Hillcrest Park		76	
	Kiwanis Park		77	
	Kulshan Creek Trail Corridor		78	
	Lions Park North		79	
	Lions Park South		80	
	Little Mountain Park		81	
	Maddox Creek Trail		82	
	Nemo Open Space		83	
	Pine Street Plaza		84	
	Riverbend Loop Trail		85	
	Sherman Anderson Field		86	
	Skagit Highlands Overlook		87	
	Skagit Riverwalk Park		88	
	Ted Reep Open Space		89	
	Trumpter Trail Corridor		90	
	Parks Storage Building		91	
	Milwaukee Shop		92	
	Parks Shop		93	
	Library Commons		94	
	Lincoln Theater		95	
Skagit County				
	Cleveland Park		96	
	Hoag/Big Rock Memorial Park		97	
	Skagit County Senior Center		98	
	Skagit County Fairgrounds		99	
	Skagit Valley Playfields		100	
Washington State				
	Skagit Valley College		101	
	Spud House Access		102	

	Young's Bar	103
Nonprofit		
	Skagit Valley YMCA	104
	Boys & Girls Club of Skagit County	105
	North 18th Street Park	106

Chapter 7 Implementation

	Adopt plan	107
	Adopt program finance strategies	107
	Adopt project finance strategies	108
	Initiate PROS projects	111
	Monitor progress	112

Appendix A Community setting

	Climate	
	Earth	
	Water	
	Wildlife habitats	
	Wildlife habitat concerns	
	Land use implications	
	Historical development	
	Socioeconomic characteristics	
	Socioeconomic projections	

Appendix B Existing lands and facilities

	Mount Vernon	
	Mount Vernon School District	
	Washington State	
	Private facilities	
	Inventory implications	

Appendix C Opportunities

	Environmental resources	
	Other public facilities	
	Nonprofit/private facilities	
	Conclusions	

Appendix D Public opinion

	Workshops	
	Online survey	
	Open houses	

Appendix E Land and facility demand

	Land requirements	
	Facility requirements	
	Future growth implications	
	Capital facility program (CFP)	

Appendix F: Finances

	Expenditures and revenues - General Fund	
	Revenue prospects - General Fund	
	Expenditures - PROS functions	
	Revenues - PROS functions	
	Revenue prospects - PROS public sources	
	Revenue prospects - PROS private sources	
	PROS funding strategies	
	Financial strategies 2024-2030	
	Financial strategies 2024-2044	
	Implications	

Appendix G Development costs

	Prototype facility costs	
	Prototype trail costs	

Appendix H Checklists

	SEPA Checklist	
	RCO LWCF Checklist	

Chapter 1: Introduction

The State of Washington Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) requires Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan updates at least every 6 years to qualify for certain state and federal park, open space, and trail grants. The PROS Plan update also provides the Parks & Recreation Chapter of the city's Comprehensive Plan which must be updated every 6-8 years for the city to qualify for utility, transportation, and community development grants and funds.

Mount Vernon has grown since the last Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan was updated in 2017. The choices that confront Mount Vernon at the present time are significant and could alter the character and quality of open space, trail, and park facilities, and recreation programs and services if not adequately planned.

This document outlines the choices that are available and the means for implementing preferred actions found to be beneficial to Mount Vernon residents.

Objectives

The specific objectives of this planning effort were to:

Define the setting - within Mount Vernon including climate, environment, wildlife habitat, history, culture, population changes, and current development conditions.

Inventory assets - existing public and private park facilities and recreational services that have been developed to-date by the city, Mount Vernon School District, Skagit County, Washington State, and private non-profit and for-profit organizations.

Forecast demand - for future park, recreation, open space, and trails that may be provided by the city or other agencies.

Identify appropriate roles and responsibilities - that should be undertaken by Mount Vernon to meet critical park, recreation, open

space, and trail facilities and recreation program needs.

Develop the elements of a citywide plan - for park, recreation, open space, and trail facilities and recreation programs including natural areas, resource activities, trails, athletic fields and facilities, community and recreation centers, and other special purpose facilities.

Determine the costs - involved in maintaining and/or improving park, recreation, open space, and trail facilities and recreation program levels-of-service (LOS), particularly the possible use of innovative financing tools or methods.

Define an implementation program - outlining the actions necessary to realize the plan and update park impact fees including supporting actions necessary for agreements with Skagit County, Mount Vernon School District, Washington State, and private non-profit and for-profit organization.

Determine public opinion - through a series of public participation events and resolve final project, plan, and financing components based on the results of public input.

Approach

This study analyzed the supply, demand, and need for public and private park, recreation, open space, and trail facilities and recreation services on a citywide basis and in the city's urban growth area. The analysis includes city, county, state, school district, homeowner association (HOA), and some private park and recreation assets to holistically determine needs and demands, and thereby the city's ultimate role in coordinating the development of park, recreation, open space, and trail facilities in the future including the city's role and responsibilities.

While HOA and other private facilities are included, that does not mean that these parks are available for public use. It is up to park

users to follow posted and adopted rules and make authorized use of HOA and other private facilities.

The proposed implementation strategies are the result of this comprehensive or holistic analysis. Generally, the proposed strategies recommend the city focus its resources where open park, recreation, open space, and trail facilities and recreation needs are most critical and the most effective.

Public involvement

The Mount Vernon Parks & Enrichment Services oversaw this planning process including a series of:

Workshops and open houses - with user groups and residents.

On-line surveys - conducted of city adult residents at the beginning and end of the process to determine their current park utilization practices, condition assessments, and priorities; and of middle and high school students at the beginning of the process.

Presentations - to the Planning Commission and City Council during the process to elicit comments and suggestions.

The proposals contained within this document represent the opinions developed from these public participation events.

Documentation

This report is organized into 7 chapters outlining goals and objectives, plan and program elements, and implementation measures.

Separate technical appendices detailing the city setting, facility inventories, park opportunities, land and facility demands, finances, and public opinion are available from the Mount Vernon Parks & Enrichment Services Department.

Chapter 2: Goals and objectives

Goals and objectives form the framework for the Parks, Recreation, & Open Space (PROS) Plan. A goal typically does not change over time unless community values or economic conditions make it necessary. Objectives are more specific statements that describe a means to achieving goals, are measureable, and may change over time.

Goal 1: Recreation Programs & Community Events

Provide a variety of recreation programs and community events that promote healthy and active lifestyles that benefit city residents with an emphasis on social equity. Promote, and work with other public, nonprofit, and for-profit agencies, organizations, and vendors including Skagit County, Mount Vernon School District, Washington State, and other public, nonprofit, and for-profit agencies.

Policy 1.1: Ensure recreation opportunities are equitably distributed around the City.

1.1.A. Consider offering free health and fitness programs in neighborhood parks during the spring, summer, and fall.

1.1.B Continue to offer a mobile recreation program and supervised playground program to meet the needs of the underserved populations during the summer when school is not in session. Consider a partnership to provide lunch in conjunction with these programs.

Policy 1.2: Promote active, healthy lifestyles through additional recreation programming.

1.2.A. Facilitate development of a network of parks, open space, and trail facilities that support recreation programming and encourage an active lifestyle involving walking, hiking, biking, playing, exercising, and other pursuits that provide physical conditioning, and mental and physical health.

1.2.B. Establish and operate specialized recreation facilities to respond to identified public needs that may include community gardens, a skate park, pump track, community center, etc.

Policy 1.3: Provide environmental education experiences.

1.3.A. Promote the operation of environmental programs providing instruction, volunteerism, and participation in habitat restoration, trail development, interpretive and outdoor programs.

1.3.B Continue to develop and enhance outdoor education programming for all ages, income and cultural groups that may include a nature preschool, free family nature programming, lecture and workshops, day camps, and interpretation programs.

Policy 1.4: Explore opportunities to increase and enhance community events based on demand, trends, and cultural opportunities.

1.4.A. Offer community building events in different sections of the city to contribute to a sense of community.

1.4.B. Develop a formal sponsorship program for events.

1.4.C. Develop relationships with community organizations (particularly those representing cultural groups) to collaboratively plan and offer community building events to the whole community.

Policy 1.5: Facilitate and promote a range of athletic opportunities for the community.

1.5.A. Continually coordinate with local recreation providers and league organizations to reduce duplication of services and maximize athletic recreation opportunities.

1.5.B. Ensure a variety of athletic programming, instruction and participatory programs for all ages, skill level, income, and cultural groups is provided in the community.

1.5.C. Explore partnership and collaboration to support under or unserved sports such as cricket, rugby, lacrosse, etc. as field capacity is added.

Policy 1.6: Continue to help ensure recreation programs and facilities are affordable for all community members.

1.6.A. Evaluate developing a scholarship policy and consider an outreach element with the scholarship policy.

1.6.B. Create a standard for offering a set number or percentage of free or low-cost programs as the budget allows.

Goal 2: Cultural Arts

Promote the development of high quality, diversified cultural arts programs that increase awareness, attendance, and participation opportunities.

Policy 2.1: Support opportunities for all ages, skill level, income, and cultural groups to participate in the arts.

2.1.A. Support successful collaborations with Skagit County, Mount Vernon School District, Skagit College, Mount Vernon Arts Commission, non-profit agencies, service groups, and artists to optimally utilize artistic resources and talents.

2.1.B. Include cultural and artistic recreation offerings in a variety of mediums that appeal to Mount Vernon's diverse population.

Policy 2.2: Support opportunities to increase the display of public art in the City of Mount Vernon.

2.2.A. Where appropriate, incorporate public artworks including paintings, sculptures, exhibits, and other media for indoor and outdoor display to expand resident access.

Goal 3: Natural Resources

Protect and conserve the natural environment for future generations. Assume a major responsibility for the planning, coordination, and preservation of unique environmental areas,

wetlands, wildlife habitat, open spaces, forestlands, and scenic areas.

Work with other public and mission related nonprofit and private agencies, to create an effective approach to conservation issues.

Policy 3.1: Identify parcels, research funding options, acquire property and implement park projects that promote, restore, and sustain the natural environment.

3.1.A. Identify and conserve critical wildlife habitat including nesting sites, foraging areas, and migration corridors within or adjacent to natural areas, open spaces, and the developing urban areas.

3.1.B. Preserve and protect environmental features including unique wetlands, open spaces, woodlands, and waterfronts that support wildlife especially in Edgewater, Little Mountain, Bonnie Rae, and Beaver Pond Parks.

3.1.C. Explore opportunities to partner with Stormwater and the Public Works Department for funding and development of open spaces that serve both stormwater and recreational purposes.

3.1.D. Provide non-intrusive public access to environmentally sensitive areas.

3.1.E. Increase natural area and open space linkages within the developed urban areas including along the Skagit River and the numerous creeks draining into the Skagit River.

Policy 3.2: Implement a tree management and maintenance plan to ensure management is proactive versus reactive.

3.2.A. Review and update the tree policy to ensure proper tree maintenance, care, replacement, and type will ensure a healthy tree canopy.

3.2.B. Provide tree education opportunities in Department marketing and class offerings to highlight benefits of a healthy tree canopy.

3.2.C. Work collaboratively with departments to support tree canopy preservation and monitoring.

Policy 3.3: Improve and enhance Department sustainability.

3.3.A. Identify resource agencies and volunteer partners to assist with weed and invasive abatement and stewardship of critical areas in parks and open spaces.

3.3.B. Consider horticultural practices that feature native and drought-resistant plants to conserve water.

3.3.C. Explore opportunities for food forests, and natural public gardens to steward the local ecosystem.

3.3.D. Where appropriate and practical convert Department’s gas-powered vehicle fleet to electric and gas-powered equipment with electric.

Goal 4: Trail Systems

Support the City’s efforts to be a connected, walkable, and bicycle friendly community. Collaborate with Public Works and Community Development for planning, development, and operation of an integrated system of trails.

Policy 4.1: Maintain and enhance waterfront parks to connect residents to the water and provide greater access.

4.1.A. Evaluate a system for kayaking, canoe, and other hand carry boat access landings and other improvements for appropriate access to the Skagit River.

4.1.B. Evaluate parking opportunities around waterfront parks to ensure the most efficient access.

Policy 4.2: Expand greenways, pathways, and trails connectivity that are accessible and inclusive to all.

4.2.A. Integrate continuous trail corridors and local spur or loop routes with parks, schools, other public facilities, historical sites, and Mount Vernon’s downtown district and residential neighborhoods.

4.2.B. Create a welcoming pedestrian and cyclist entrance to parks, with pedestrian and bike paths that are visually prominent and physically separated from parking lots.

4.2.C. Explore opportunities to improve the user’s trail experience, as feasible and appropriate, with artwork, benches, and interpretive exhibits on habitat, environment, and history.

4.2.D. Where feasible, furnish trailheads with improvements that include directory signage systems, rest stops, restrooms, parking and loading areas, and other services as appropriate.

4.2.E. Where appropriate, locate trailheads at or in conjunction with parks, schools, and other community facilities to increase local area access to citywide trail systems and reduce duplication of supporting improvements.

4.2.F. Develop trail improvements following design and development standards that make it easy to maintain and access by maintenance, security, and other appropriate personnel, equipment, and vehicles.

4.2.G. Where appropriate develop and support an Adopt-A-Trail program for citizens and organizations to help provide trail maintenance and litter pick-up.

4.2.H. Create and publish a map that shows connections to parks and other walking and biking opportunities.

Goal 5: Specialized Facilities: Playgrounds, Fields, Courts, Skate Parks, Pump Tracks, etc.

Develop plans to incorporate a variety of specific purpose activities and facilities into the parks system. Coordinate, partner, and assist as appropriate other public and private agencies including Skagit County, Mount Vernon School District, and other organizations.

Policy 5.1: Repair, upgrade, and/or replace playground amenities or entire playgrounds.

5.1.A. Replace or upgrade playground equipment based on life

expectancy and where appropriate replace with all-inclusive playground equipment.

5.1.B. Develop an asset replacement schedule to keep replacements up-to-date based on life expectancy, usage, and inventory assessments.

Policy 5.2: As resources are identified, expand capacity at existing fields by enhancing infrastructure and amenities.

5.2.A. Explore options to upgrade and expand athletic fields and sport courts to provide extended year-round use.

5.2.B. Evaluate the possibility of converting selected park athletic fields to lighted and multi-purpose fields with an artificial surface.

5.2.C. Explore a partnership with the Mount Vernon School District to enhance and improve athletic fields and their availability to the community through a City/School partnership.

Policy 5.3: As resources are available, expand capacity at existing sport courts.

5.3.A. Explore options to upgrade and expand the sports courts to include volleyball, basketball, tennis, and pickleball courts, and provide extended year-round use.

5.3.B. Develop a sports courts replacement schedule based on life expectancy, use, and community need.

5.3.C. Develop a network of park sites that provide a variety of recreational sports courts (such as basketball, sand volleyball, pickleball, and tennis courts) that are within walking distance for residents.

Policy 5.4: Develop park sites that provide specialized activities.

5.4.A. Develop a park plan that integrates specific activities such as skateboarding, in-line skating, pump tracks, disc golf, climbing walls, and challenge courses into the Mount Vernon park system to meet diverse recreational interests.

5.5: Evaluate dog off-leash opportunities in Mount Vernon.

5.5.A. Evaluate updates or renovations that are needed for the existing off-leash dog park.

5.5.B. Evaluate areas where dogs can be off-leash that provide controlled and convenient exercise opportunities for dog owners including appropriate segments of the trail system and parks.

5.5.C. Evaluate if an additional off-leash dog park is needed and the appropriate location.

Goal 6: Historical Resources

Assist where appropriate in the planning, coordination, and preservation of unique archaeological, historical, cultural, and scenic places. Work with other public and private agencies to create an effective approach to resource conservation issues and proposals.

Policy 6.1: Historical features and interests

6.1.A.1: Identify, preserve, and enhance the city's heritage, traditions, and cultural features including historical sites, buildings, artworks, views, and monuments within park sites and historical areas – especially Mount Vernon's historic downtown.

6.1.B. Identify and incorporate significant historical and cultural lands, sites, artifacts, and facilities into the parks, recreational activities, open space, and trail system to preserve these interests and provide a balanced social experience – especially including important Native American, homestead sites, and other places of interest in the city.

Goal 7: Recreation Facilities

If practical and economically feasible coordinate the planning, development, and operation of specialized indoor facilities including gymnasiums, arts and crafts, fitness, and enrichment classrooms, for all city residents of all ages, skills, incomes, and cultures.

Policy 7.1: As resources are available develop multiple use indoor and covered recreational facilities.

7.1.A. Evaluate diverse locations for indoor or covered recreational facilities that provide recreational courts, and other spaces for all ages, skills, income, and cultural groups and community interests on a year-round basis.

7.1.B. Research the possibility of developing a multipurpose community center, in partnership with another public or non-profit agency, that can provide a variety of activities year-round to include fitness, sports, the arts, classroom instruction, daycare, latch key, and other spaces for all ages and income levels.

7.1.C. Continue to develop a relationship with the Mount Vernon School District to provide facilities for school-age populations and community-at-large functions.

7.1.D. Develop and maintain special indoor and outdoor cultural and performing arts facilities that enhance and expand music, dance, drama, and cultural interpretations for the city-at-large.

Goal 8: Maintenance & Operations

Maintain and operate a modern, efficient park system that provides high quality park experiences, safety, aesthetic quality, and protects capital investments.

Policy 8.1: Continue to maintain, expand, and improve existing facilities and amenities.

8.1.A. Develop and maintain an inventory of assets and their condition; update as assets are added and removed, and periodically assess the condition of park and recreation facilities and infrastructure.

8.1.B. Enhance maintenance programs that ensure the intended function, life expectancy, safety, security, and appearance of parks and facilities.

8.1.C. Maintain parks and open spaces according to best practices to promote community pride.

8.1.D. When developing new facilities or redeveloping existing facilities, review and consider the projected maintenance and operations costs prior to and as part of initiating design development.

8.1.E. Pursue the acquisition of parks and open space in underserved areas of the city.

8.1.F. Continue to support and expand volunteer opportunities in parks for citizens and organizations to support park maintenance to include weeding, invasive plant removal, litter pick up and mulching planter beds.

8.1.G. Where appropriate, use low maintenance materials and designs to reduce maintenance costs in existing and new parks.

Policy 8.2: Prioritize and improve safety and security in parks and facilities.

8.2.A. Use Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in developing future parks and operating current parks. Complete a park security evaluation that includes sight lines, lighting, isolated areas, maintenance standards, and surveillance.

8.2.B. Consider upgrades to lighting in parks, parking lots, and around facilities.

8.2.C. Explore opportunities for fencing playgrounds to enhance safety for children.

8.2.D. Explore installation of additional security cameras in park areas of high crime and where vandalism, and graffiti occur.

Goal 9: Design Standards

Design and develop Mount Vernon facilities that are accessible, safe, and easy to maintain, with life cycle features that account for long-term costs and benefits.

Policy 9.1: Promote inclusion across all public spaces, facilities, and programs.

9.1.A. Design outdoor picnic areas, trails, playgrounds, courts, fields, parking lots, pathways, and other active and supporting facilities to be accessible to individuals of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age groups, income, and cultural interests.

9.1.B. Design indoor facility spaces, activity rooms, restrooms, hallways, and other active and supporting spaces and improvements to be accessible to individuals of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age groups, income, and cultural interests.

Policy 9.2: Develop and maintain parks and facilities for usability, safety, and beauty.

9.2.A. Design, retrofit, and develop facilities that are sustainable, of low maintenance, and high-capacity design to reduce overall facility maintenance and operation requirements and costs.

9.2.B. Where appropriate, incorporate low maintenance materials, settings or other value engineering considerations that reduce care and security requirements, and retain natural conditions and experiences.

9.2.C. Integrate pest management principles in the management of park landscape resources by utilizing a holistic approach to managing pests using biological, mechanical, and herbicide tools.

9.2.D. Develop a transition plan to address the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements.

9.2.E. Maintain safety standards, procedures, and programs that provide proper training and awareness for department personnel.

9.2.F. Maintain and enforce rules and regulations concerning park activities and operations that protect user groups, department personnel, and the public.

Goal 10: Financial Resources

Maintain organizational resilience, effectiveness, and sustainable

funding. Create effective and efficient methods of operating, maintaining, acquiring, and developing facilities and programs that accurately distribute costs and benefits to public and private interests.

Policy 10.1: Create effective and efficient methods of acquiring, developing, operating, and maintaining parks and facilities.

10.1.A. Investigate innovative available methods, such as impact fees, land set-a-side or fee-in-lieu-of-donation ordinances, and inter-local agreements, for the financing of facility development, maintenance, and operating needs to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match user benefits and interests, and increase services.

10.1.B. Work with the community to develop awareness of the need for park funding for both developing park facilities and for maintenance.

10.1.C. Consider joint planning ventures with other public, nonprofit, and private agencies including Skagit County, Mount Vernon School District, other non-profit, public, and private agencies including for-profit concessionaires, where feasible and desirable to reduce costs, and avoid duplication of services.

10.1.D. Actively pursue grants from both public and private sectors including State of Washington Recreation Conservation Office.

10.1.E. Explore alternative funding options to include a voter approved capital campaign to address maintenance needs and facility shortages.

Policy 10.2: Develop a cost/benefit assessment to evaluate and explore funding options.

10.2.A. Define existing and proposed land and facility levels-of-service (ELOS/PLOS) standards that differentiate Mount Vernon standards compared to composite standards that include the city, county, school districts, state, and other public and private provider agency efforts to effectively plan and program parks, recreation, open space, and trail facilities and recreation needs in the city.

10.2.B. Create effective and efficient methods of acquiring, developing, operating, and maintaining park, recreation, open space, and trail facilities in manners that accurately distribute costs and benefits to public and private user interests - such as the application of impact fees where new urban developments impact potential level-of-service (ELOS) standards.

10.2.C. Develop and operate recreational programs that serve the broadest needs of the population, recovering program and operating costs with a combination of registration fees, user fees, grants, sponsorships, donations, scholarships, volunteer efforts, and the use of general funding.

Goal 12: Human Resources

Develop, hire, train, and support a professional parks and recreation staff that effectively serves Mount Vernon in the realization of the above listed goals and objectives.

Policy 12.1: Personnel and development

12.1.A. Employ a diverse, well-trained work force that is motivated to achieve citywide goals. Encourage teamwork through communications, creativity, positive image, sharing of resources, and cooperation toward common goals.

12.1.B. Where appropriate, provide staff with education, training, technology, equipment and supplies to increase personal productivity, efficiency, and pride.



Skagit Riverwalk Park

Chapter 3: Context

Population projections

Skagit County's population - was 14,272 persons in 1900 located primarily along the Skagit River in Mount Vernon and Sedro Woolley. The county's population increased to 29,241 persons by 1910 or by an annual rate of growth of 7.4% as railroads extended into Skagit County and the area's logging, agriculture, and fishing industries grew in importance.

Recent growth rates, however, have been gradual averaging 1.1% between 2015-2020 due to the impact of the economic recession on area industries.

Washington State's Office of Financial Management (OFM) expects Skagit County's rate of growth will gradually decline from 1.1% on an annual average basis between 2015-2020 to 0.7% by 2050 due to the aging of the population.

Population components - OFM expects the number of deaths in Skagit County will increase from 6,231 between 2015-2020 to 9,637 by 2035-2040 due to the aging of the county population while births will only slightly increase from 7,461 between 2015-2020 to 9,063 by 2035-2040 due to a declining proportion of the population in child-bearing ages and a stable and low birth rate. Net migration will increase from 8,855 in-migrating persons in 2015-2020 to 10,025 persons by 2035-2040 contributing to Skagit County's gradual resident population growth.

Mount Vernon's population - was 1,120 persons in 1900 located along the Skagit River. Mount Vernon's population increased to 2,381 persons by 1910 or by an annual average rate of 7.8%. The city's population increased gradually to 1950 averaging between 1.0% and 4.2% as the city's agriculture, logging, and fishing industries stabilized.

Mount Vernon's population totals and rate of growth increased

gradually from 1960 to 2020 as the city's natural resource industries stabilized, retailing increased, and the area attracted housing, warehouse, and manufacturing industries.

The city's population and annual average rate of growth are expected to increase from 35,219 persons in 2020 to 61,944 persons by the year 2050 or by 75.9% due to the area's urban densification under GMA allocations and an assumption that the city will gradually annex the residential developments within its unincorporated urban growth area (UGA).

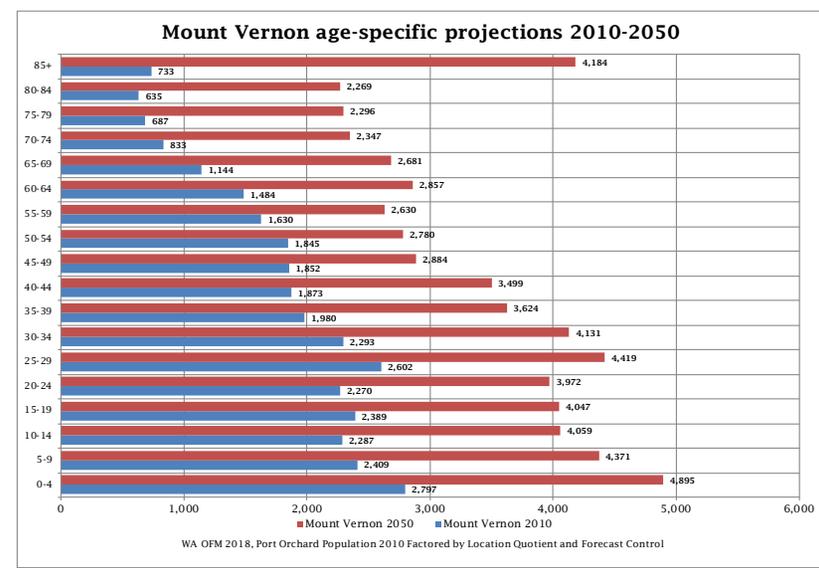
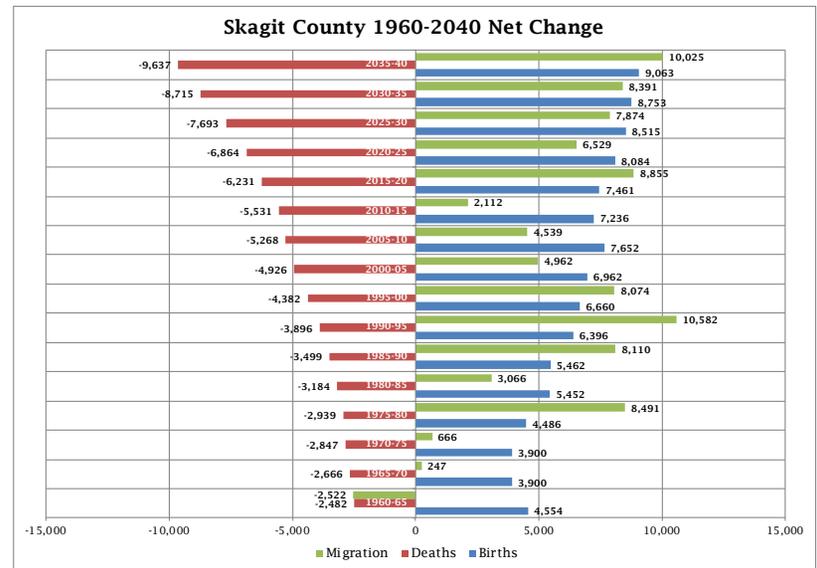
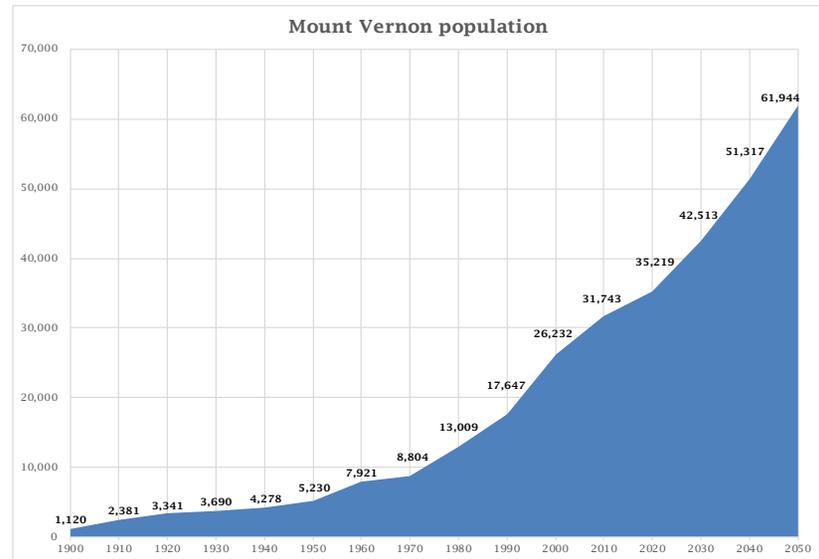
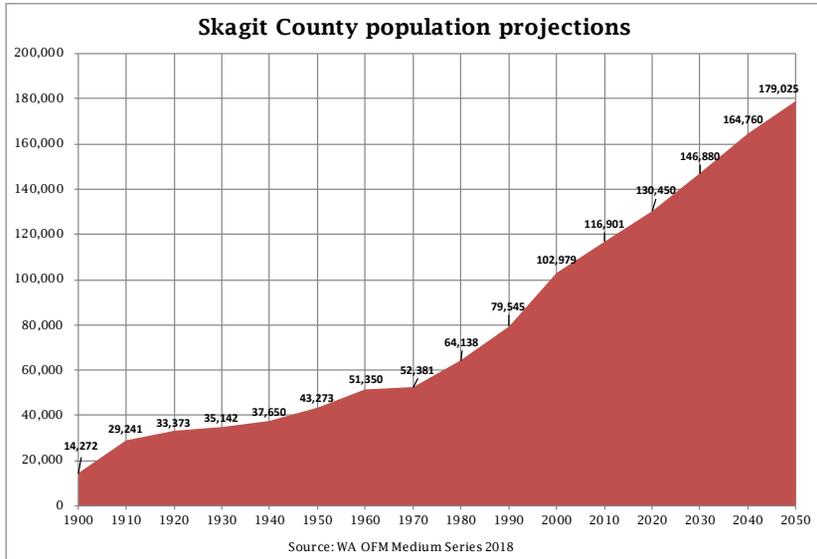
Most of Mount Vernon's growth is expected to be due to births and in-migration from households seeking to live in Mount Vernon's emerging urban center.

Age distribution - within Mount Vernon will continue to reflect a pyramidal form with a large concentration of the population in the child 0-19 ages. However, the city will retain or attract an increasing proportion of the population over 65 increasing from 4,032 persons in 2010 to 13,777 by 2050 or an increase of 9,745 people or by 142%. Persons over the age 65 will increase from 3.4% of the population in 2010 to 17.4% of the population by 2050 reflecting the continued aging of the population in the city like the trends nationally.

Recreation demand

Washington State's Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) develops a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) every 6 years to help decision-makers better understand recreation issues statewide and to maintain Washington's eligibility for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funds.

RCO conducted a series of 12-month diary surveys of a random sample of Washington State residents in 2000, 2006, 2012, 2018, and 2022 to determine the type of indoor and outdoor recreation



activities and events residents engaged in over the year including the resident’s age, gender, ethnicity, income, and regional place of residence.

The 2022 statewide survey was completed by 6,171 persons and collated and weighted by age, gender, region, race, and income of and weighted accordingly. The survey is within a 95% confidence level with a +/-5% confidence interval. Response by age, gender, region, race/ethnicity, and income varies.

The 2022 RCO SCORP survey recorded what residents participated in of 10 recreation categories consisting of over 88 different activities including the participation rate and number of occasions per year and generalized location of activity by city, county, federal, and tribal land. The surveys did not record the location of the activity.

Skagit County is in the North Cascades Region that includes Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, Okanogan, Chelan, and Kittitas Counties. For projection purposes, however, Mount Vernon recreation behaviors are likely more representative of the Seattle-King County Region given Mount Vernon’s level of urbanization and age distributed population groups. Projections for this analysis were made for 50 or the most urban oriented activities of the 88 activities correlated in the 2022 RCO SCORP survey.

The 2022 RCO survey elicited what participants did for recreational activities but not where the activity occurred. Survey participants from Skagit County may engage in activities but possibly outside of Skagit County, and conversely participants from other regions may travel to engage in activities in Skagit County. The survey did not control for user transpositions between regions.

Mount Vernon (Seattle-King County region)

Annual participation rates	Participation	Frequency
Scooter riding	9%	17.6
Inline skating, roller skating	11%	15.3
Volleyball	5%	19.5
Pickleball	12%	15.5

Tennis	13%	16.2
Basketball	11%	19.8
Skateboarding	4%	19.2
Ice sports - hockey, figure skating	5%	18.3
Golf	14%	18.9
Baseball/softball	8%	18.3
Track	9%	22.3
Ultimate frisbee	7%	20.3
Rugby	1%	22.0
Lacrosse	1%	23.2
Football	4%	22.4
Soccer	14%	20.7
BMX or pump track	10%	14.0
Drones, model aircraft	7%	15.4
Geocaching, virtual reality	10%	18.0
Yard games - horseshoes, bean bags	29%	13.4
Disc golf	8%	15.0
Dog park	32%	15.8
Hanging out	73%	17.4
Playground	34%	16.5
Picnic, BBQ, cook out	64%	10.5
Outdoor concert or special event	49%	9.2
Community garden, farmers’ market	67%	11.8
Splash pad or spray park	12%	12.2
Paintball	2%	17.2
Shell fishing	13%	13.1
Fishing from a boat	14%	15.6
Fishing from a bank, dock, pier,	17%	13.8
Visit outdoor cultural, historical site	63%	9.5
Volunteering restoration, science	37%	14.2
Gathering, collecting from nature	38%	14.9
Wildlife/nature viewing	83%	23.4
Sledding, inner tubing, snow play	22%	10.0
Inner tubing, floating	22%	11.6
Surfing, windsurfing, kiteboarding	3%	21.3
Snorkeling or scuba diving	9%	14.0
Canoe, kayak, paddle board	56%	13.3
Sail boating	13%	16.1

Annual participation rates	Participation	Frequency
Motorboats including water skiing	24%	15.2
Swimming - natural setting	59%	13.0
Swimming - public pools	28%	15.6
Electric bicycling	13%	23.4
Jogging/running on trails	34%	22.0
Jogging/running on roads/sidewalks	41%	26.3
Walk/mobility device on trails	95%	27.3
Walk/mobility device roads/sdwlk	95%	34.0

Participation rate - the percent of the population that participates in a recreational activity

Frequency - the number of times per year those that participate engage in the activity

Source: 2022 SCORP RCO Diary Based Survey

Participation

Top 5 activities with the highest percent of the population participating - in Mount Vernon (Seattle-King County) included walking or using a mobility device on a trail (95%), walking or using a mobility device on a road or sidewalk (95%), wildlife/nature viewing (83%), and hanging out (73%).

Bottom 5 activities with the lowest percent of the population participating - in Mount Vernon (Seattle-King County) included rugby (1%), lacrosse (1%), paintball (2%), skateboarding (4%), and football (4%).

Organized team sports - involved lesser percentages of the population of the Mount Vernon (Seattle-King County) ranged from the highest for soccer (14%) to the lowest for rugby (1%).

Environmental or cultural activities - involved a varied range of percentages of the population participating from wildlife/nature viewing (83%), visiting an outdoor, cultural, or historical site (63%), gathering or collecting from nature (38%), fishing from a bank, dock, pier, or jetty (14%), fishing from a boat (14%), and shell fishing (13%).

Annual Frequencies

The 2022 RCO survey determined the number of times or the annual frequency that an average participant would engage in each activity on a statewide level only and not by region. The frequency averages are for all kinds of participants. Enthusiasts or organized team players may engage more frequently than the average indicates but are included within the averaging, nonetheless.

Activities with the highest annual frequencies or occasions - in Washington State were walking or using a mobility device on a trail (27.3), walking or using a mobility device on a road or sidewalk (34.0), jogging or running on sidewalks (26.3), wildlife/nature viewing (23.4), and electric biking (23.4).

Activities with the lowest annual frequencies or occasions - in Washington State were attending an outdoor concert or special event (9.2), visiting an outdoor, cultural, or historical site (9.5), sledding, inner tubing, or other snow event (10.0), picnic, BBQ, or cook out (10.5), and inner tubing or floating (11.6).

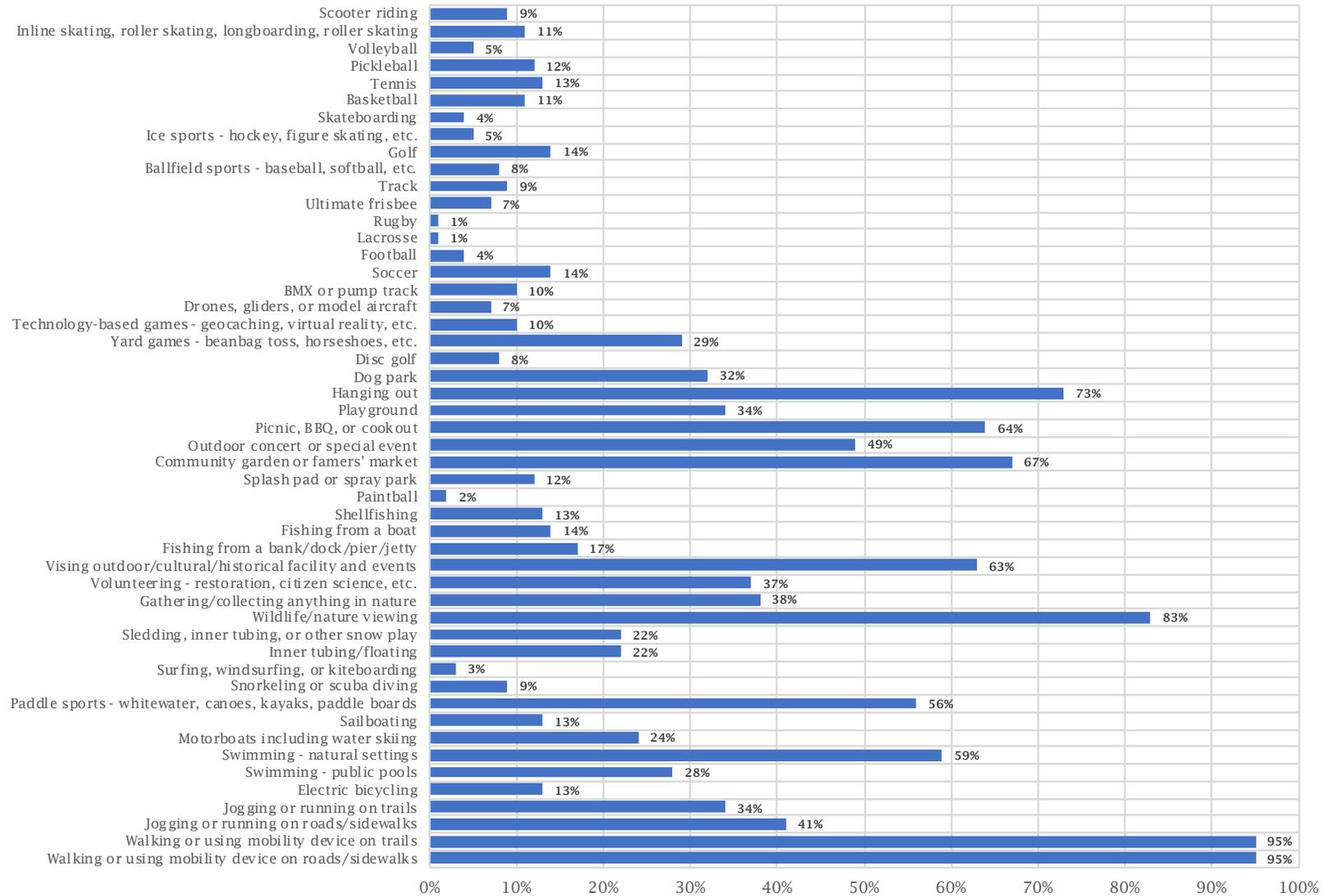
Organized team sports - in Washington State ranged from the highest for lacrosse (23.2 times) to the lowest for baseball/softball (18.3).

Environmental or cultural activities - in Washington State were observing or photographing wildlife (23.4 times per year), fishing from a boat (15.6), gathering or collecting from nature (14.9), fishing from a bank, dock, pier, or jetty (13.8), shell fishing (13.1), and visiting an outdoor, cultural, or historical site (9.5).

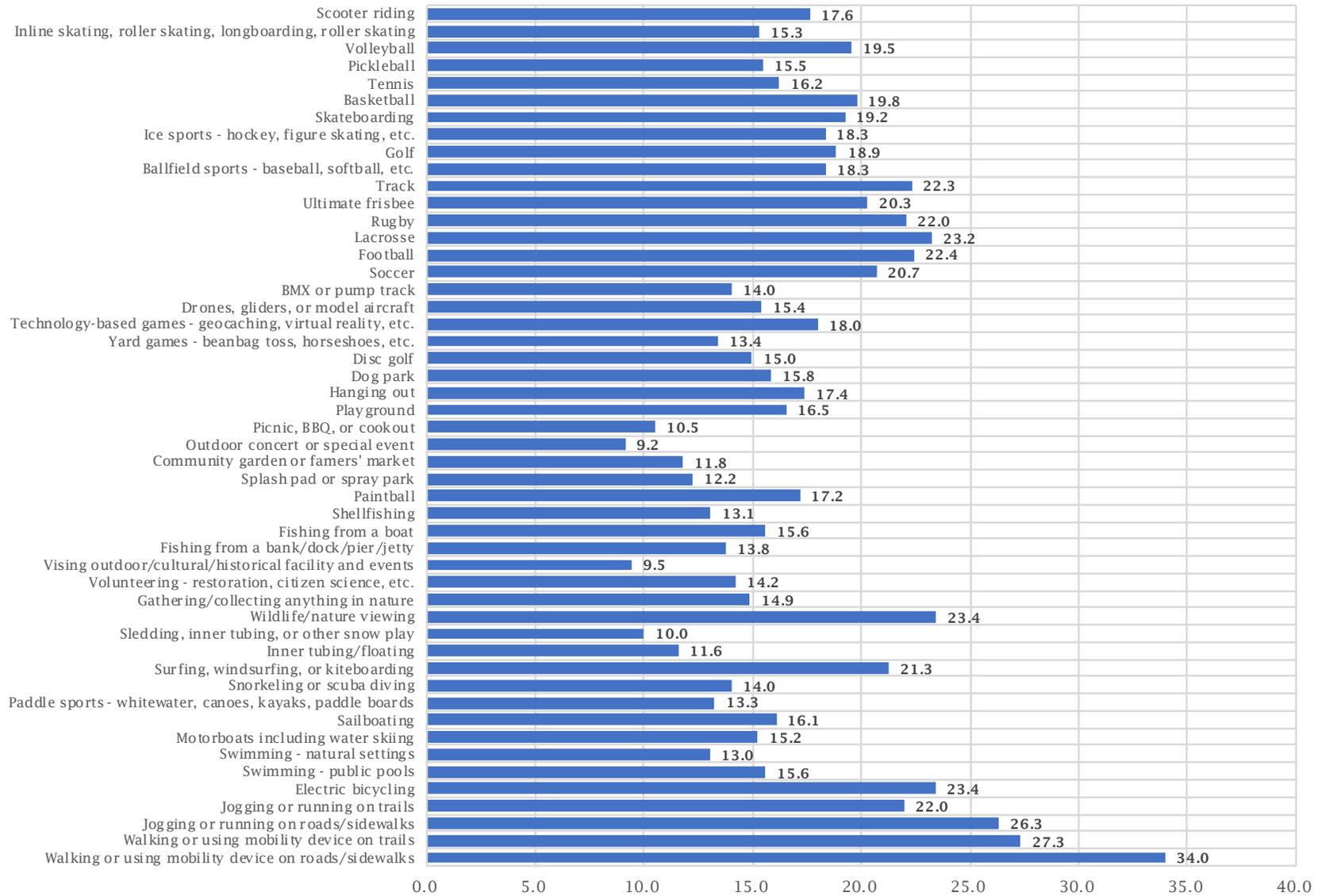
Mount Vernon's annual volumes 2020-2050

Mount Vernon's total volume of annual recreation activity is determined by multiplying the age-specific participation and frequency or occurrence rates by the number of persons projected to be in each age-specific category for the projection years.

Seattle-King County recreation participation rates



Washington State user days per activity participants per year



The following table itemizes the projected total annual volume in 2020, 2050, and the amount and percent of volume increase that will occur between 2020-2050.

Activity	2020	2050	Addnl	Pct
Scooter riding	49,263	79,978	30,715	62%
Inline skating, roller skating	51,660	84,511	32,852	64%
Volleyball	29,632	48,422	18,790	63%
Pickleball	53,371	90,937	37,566	70%
Tennis	62,066	102,571	40,505	65%
Basketball	64,656	107,199	42,543	66%
Skateboarding	23,889	38,558	14,670	61%
Ice sports - hockey, skating	30,002	48,838	18,836	63%
Golf	71,561	122,630	51,069	71%
Baseball/softball	44,349	73,992	29,643	67%
Track	61,132	99,572	38,440	63%
Ultimate frisbee	44,726	72,020	27,293	61%
Rugby	7,528	12,057	4,530	60%
Lacrosse	7,680	12,209	4,529	59%
Football	27,343	44,721	17,378	64%
Soccer	89,173	146,561	57,388	64%
BMX or pump track	45,615	74,225	28,610	63%
Drones, model aircraft	33,915	56,491	22,577	67%
Geocaching, virtual reality	51,848	85,653	33,804	65%
Yard games - horseshoes	102,826	177,680	74,854	73%
Disc golf	38,650	63,460	24,810	64%
Dog park	138,625	238,981	100,356	72%
Hanging out	326,221	571,212	244,991	75%
Playground	153,026	263,395	110,369	72%
Picnic, BBQ, cook out	169,046	300,233	131,187	78%
Outdoor concert/ event	116,516	204,164	87,648	75%
Community garden	202,594	359,048	156,453	77%
Splash pad or spray park	42,723	71,210	28,487	67%
Paintball	11,212	17,858	6,646	59%
Shell fishing	46,689	80,165	33,475	72%
Fishing from a boat	58,758	101,543	42,785	73%

Fishing from a bank, dock	62,495	107,743	45,248	72%
Visit cultural, historical site	151,225	269,802	118,577	78%
Volunteering restoration	136,316	240,206	103,890	76%
Gather, collect from nature	145,314	255,952	110,638	76%
Wildlife/nature viewing	480,477	862,990	382,513	80%
Sledding, inner tubing	60,865	102,308	41,442	68%
Inner tubing, floating	70,439	119,446	49,006	70%
Surfing, windsurfing	21,320	34,273	12,953	61%
Snorkeling or scuba diving	36,080	60,886	24,806	69%
Canoe, kayak, paddle board	196,752	343,766	147,014	75%
Sail boating	62,508	106,178	43,670	70%
Motorboats and water skiing	94,364	163,412	69,047	73%
Swimming - natural setting	200,126	346,672	146,547	73%
Swimming - public pools	118,080	202,949	84,869	72%
Electric bicycling	82,544	141,885	59,341	72%
Jog or run on trails	213,057	353,924	140,866	66%
Jog/run on roads/sidewalks	308,460	513,262	204,802	66%
Walk/mobility device trails	650,811	1,157,618	506,806	78%
Walk/mobility device sidewalk	814,871	1,451,480	636,609	78%

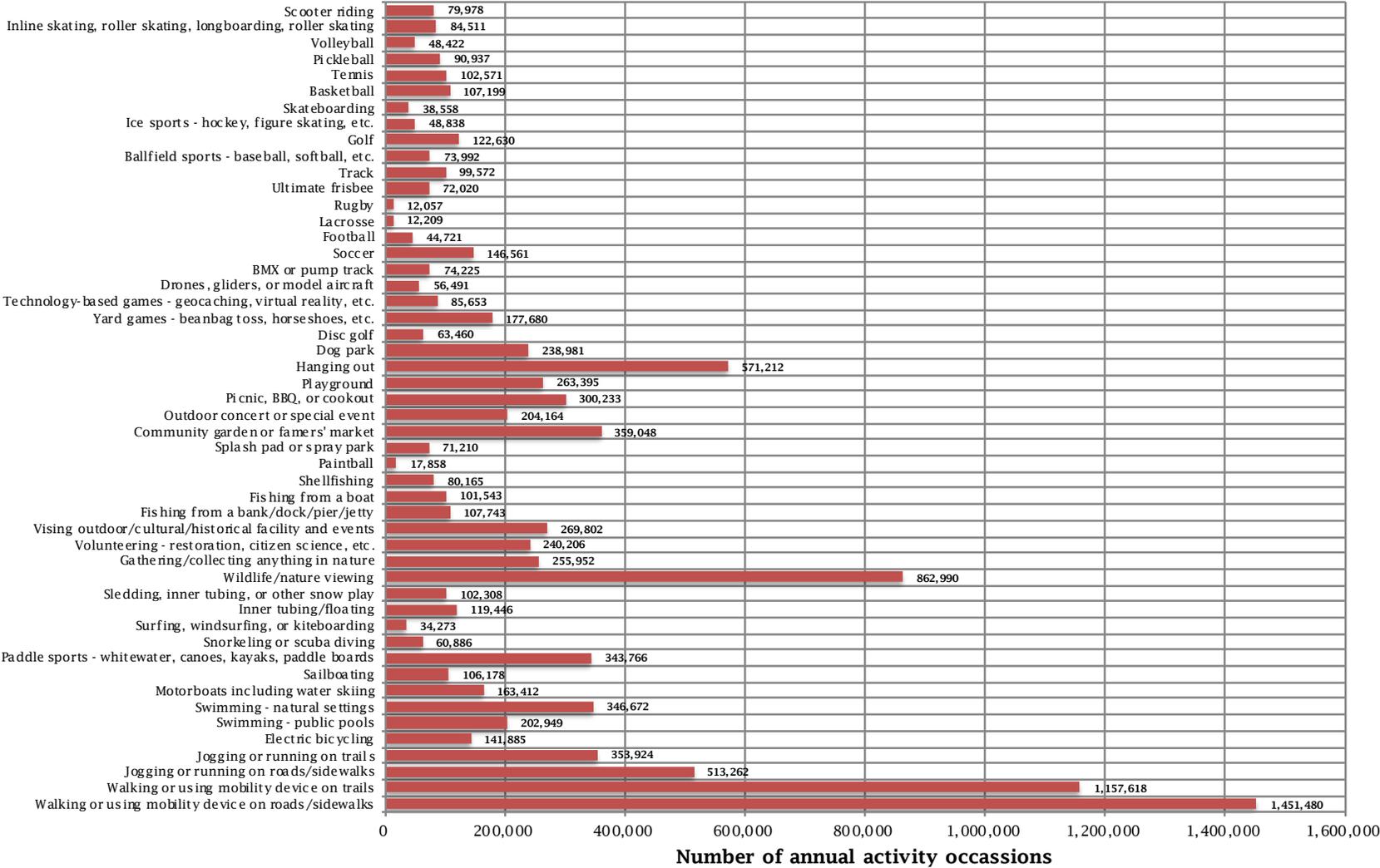
2040 - the total volume that will occur in 2040, Additional - the volume increase in volume over 2020 by 2050, Pct - the percent increase the additional volume between 2020-2050 represents

Source: 2022 RCO SCORP Survey

- **Greatest annual volume in 2050** - will be walking or using a mobility device on roads or sidewalks (1,451,480), walking, or using a mobility device on trails (1,157,618), wildlife/nature viewing (862,990), and hanging out (571,212).

Greatest percentage increase 2020-2050 - will be wildlife/nature viewing (80%), walking of using mobility device on

Mount Vernon activity volumes 2050



- trails (78%), walking, or using mobility device on roads or sidewalks (78%), picnic, BBQ, cook out (78%), visiting an outdoor, cultural, or historical site (78%), volunteering to restoration and science (76%), gathering and collecting from nature (76%) and hanging out (75%) due to high participation rates and high frequency rates for these activities.

Recreational clearinghouse

Mount Vernon could seek to operate a web-based recreational clearinghouse coordinating recreational program offerings that include as wide a variety of activities as there is an interest by city residents and tourists, regardless of age, skill level, income – or program provider.

Recreational program offerings offered through the clearinghouse should include activities providing health, education, social, recreational, and other welfare activities for children, teens, adults, seniors, and special populations.

Parks and Recreation staff or contractors can conduct programs to the extent possible, practical, and consistent with the city’s mission. However, depending on demand, cost, and feasibility, the clearinghouse can also coordinate programs to be conducted by other public, non-profit, or for-profit organizations and even vendors.

To the extent possible and practical, program offerings should include activities that will be conducted in Mount Vernon park and recreation facilities. However, depending on demand, the clearinghouse may also include program offerings that may be conducted in schools and other public facilities inside or out of the city, as well as at non-profit sites and facilities.

Vision

The web-based recreational clearinghouse may be realized through the coordination of:

- **Mount Vernon programs** - where there is sufficient demand to

meet the city’s park and recreation mission and pricing and delivery objectives.

- **Other jurisdictions** - including Skagit County and Mount Vernon School District.
- **Non-profit organizations** - such as YMCA, Boy and Girl Scouts, Campfire USA, Mount Vernon athletic leagues, Lions, Rotary, and Kiwanis Clubs, among others.

Pricing and delivery criteria

Mount Vernon will continuously assess the mission criteria illustrated in the program formula for all program offerings the city is considering of providing with staff, contract instructors, or vendors:

1: Is the program consistent with the city’s park and recreation mission and level of service proposals?

If not - the city does not offer the program but may facilitate the program to be offered by other providers including the option of partnering or brokering the program, and/or offering scholarships or other services, and/or publishing the program offering on the clearinghouse.

2: If yes – should the city directly provide the program?

If not - the city does not offer the program but may facilitate the program to be offered by other providers including the option of partnering or brokering the program, and/or offering scholarships or other services, and/or publishing the program offering on the clearinghouse.

3: If yes – what pricing policy or goal should the city establish for the program on a public good or benefit versus private good or benefit scale – full cost recovery, merit pricing, or full subsidy?

- **Full cost recovery programs** - will recover all direct costs (including full and part-time staff, supplies, materials, maintenance, and utilities) and indirect costs (including department overhead for staff benefits).

Example recreational programming model - a clearinghouse

Activity demands

What do you want to do?

Recreation

Aerobics
Athletics
Adventure outings

Social activities

Meetings
Speakers
Social gatherings

Arts

Arts and crafts
Music
Drama

Youth services

Daycare
Preschool
Before/after school

Teen services

Meeting places
Special events
Social activities

Senior services

Wellness
Meals/nutrition
Financial advice
Transportation

Mount Vernon website

Provider agencies

Where can you do it?

Mount Vernon

Parks & Enrichment Svs

Jurisdiction examples

Mount Vernon School District
Skagit County

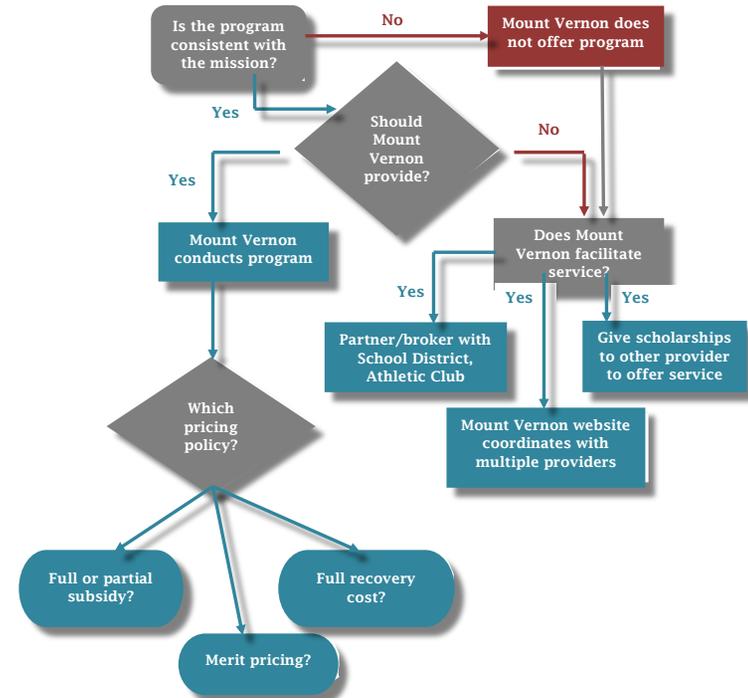
Nonprofit examples

YMCA/YWCA
Boys & Girls Clubs
Athletic leagues
Boy/Girl Scouts
Service Clubs
Senior services

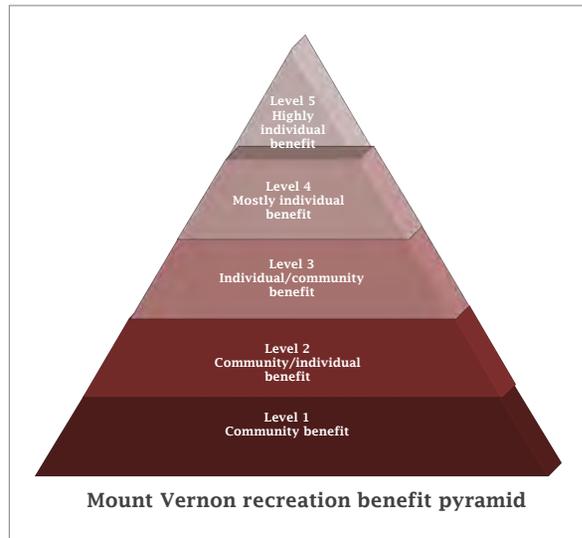
Facility examples

Theaters
Churches
Hotel conference centers
Nonprofits
Other facility providers

Proposed program pricing and delivery options



Generally, full cost recovery programs will include services that primarily provide private goods or benefits to a specialized user group, such as golf courses, marinas, RV parks, gun, and rifle



ranges, equestrian facilities, elite adult sports field rentals, and classes.

In some instances, the city may add a surcharge to recover a slight profit or return on investment with which to

defray long-term life cycle costs for maintenance and repair, and/or to reinvest in similar facilities elsewhere in the system.

- **Merit pricing (partial cost recovery) programs** - will partially recover direct and indirect costs based on a policy decision about the degree to which each program provides public versus private goods or benefits. Merit pricing programs may also include the providing of scholarships to eligible user individuals or user groups that would prevent the program from realizing full cost recovery.

Merit pricing program determinations will consider the degree to which the program provides a public benefit to the public at large or to special users within the general population (such as teens or seniors); whether the program can or is able to be offered by other providers at a reasonable cost; and the practicality of collecting fees for service.

Generally, merit price programs may include boat launches, facility rentals, day camps and field activities, youth sports field rentals,

senior health and nutrition programs, and safety and instruction programs of all kinds.

- **Subsidy (no or very low-cost recovery) programs** - will not attempt to recover costs as a fee, although it may ask for donations or grants from using individuals, groups, or organizations who benefit or are likely sponsors.

Generally, subsidy programs benefit the population at large sufficiently to justify the use of public funding and/or include activities that are not practical to effectively recover a fee or charge, such as special events or festivals, special need programs and playgrounds, interpretive exhibits, parks, and trail related activities.

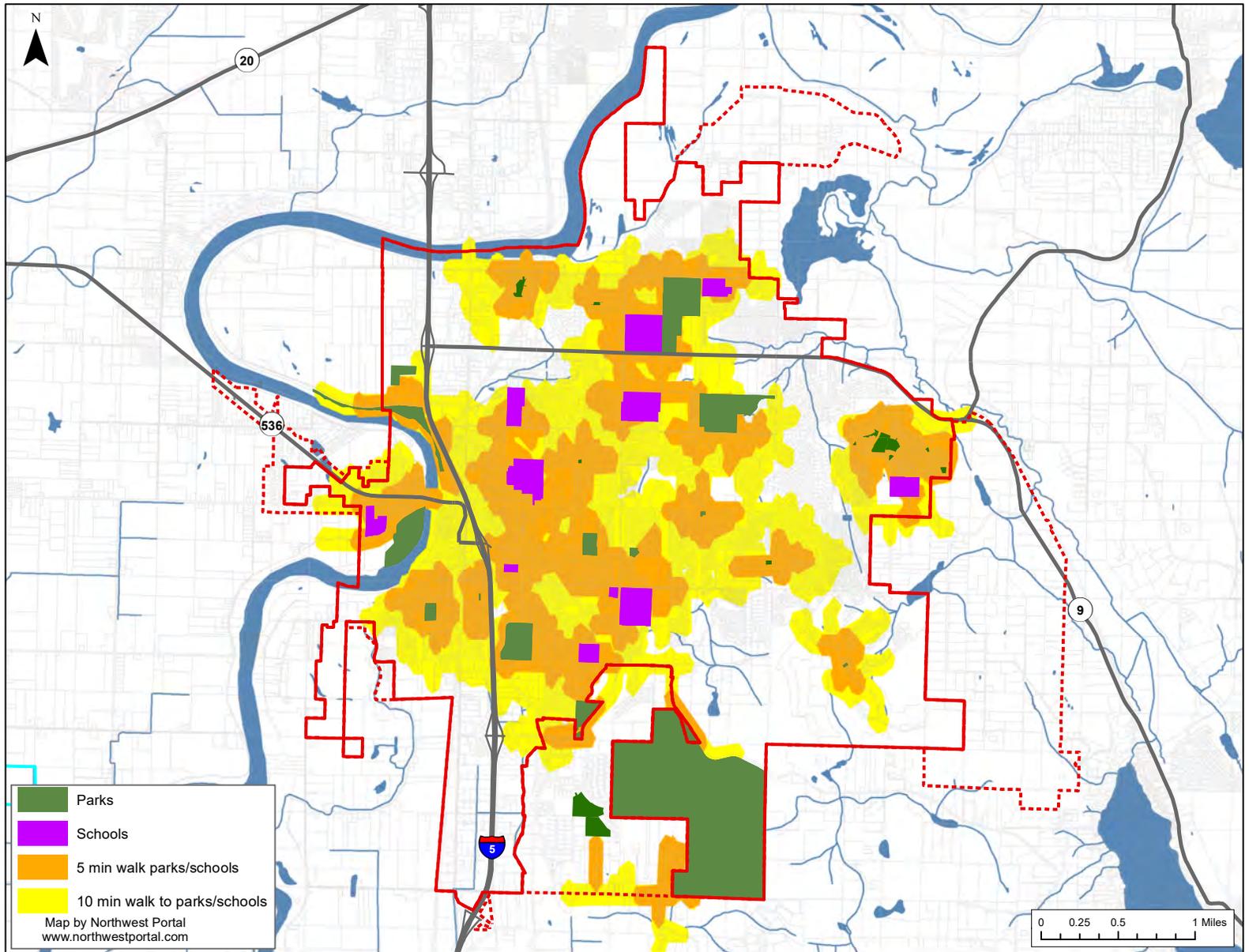
Walkability park service gaps

An effective park system should provide a picnic, playground, sport court, trail, or other recreation facility within a 5-10-minute walk of any residential area measured by actual walking routes on trails, paths, sidewalks, or other routes.

Natural features such as steep hillsides, water bodies, and other obstacles as well as manmade obstacles like limited access highways or major traffic corridors or the lack of safe paths, trails, sidewalk improvements affect a 5-10-minute walk measurement.

Walkability maps are generated by Geographic Information Systems (GIS) that calculate 5-10-minute walk distances using roads, sidewalks, paths, and trails that account for natural and manmade obstacles from existing park, recreation, school, and other community facilities.

Service gaps are areas that are beyond the 5-10-minute walk distances of residential developments indicating residents of these must walk further time-distances or commute by bike or vehicle or are blocked by natural or manmade obstacles from or to engage in a recreational activity.



A walkability map generated around existing city, Skagit County, Mount Vernon School District, and Homeowner Association (HOA) facilities indicates there are significant developed areas of the city and UGA that lack effective park and recreational services including neighborhoods:

- Northwest and northeast north of College Way
- Around Madison Elementary School
- South of Laventure Middle School
- East of Bakerview Park though there are numerous HOA parks in this area
- Southeast of Mount Baker Middle School
- West of Little Mountain Park

The plan proposes picnic, playground, sports court, and trail facilities to fill these service gaps.

Social equity

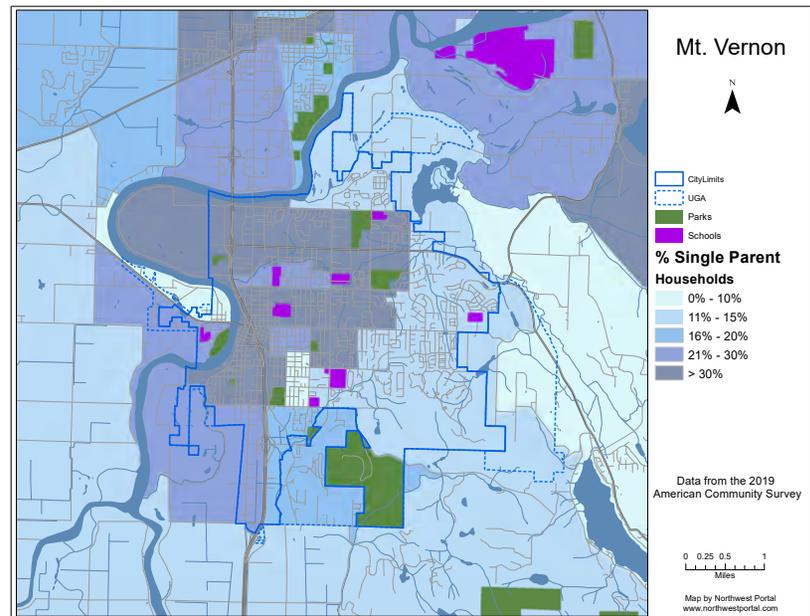
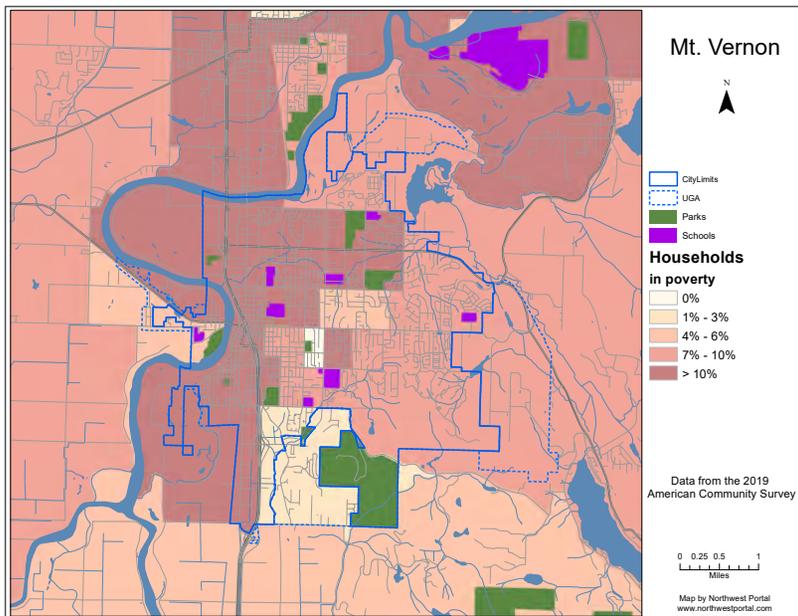
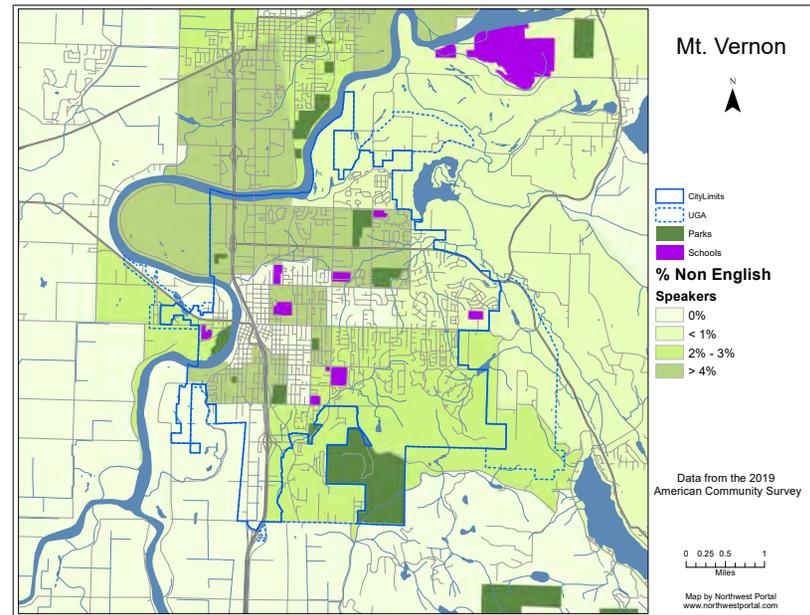
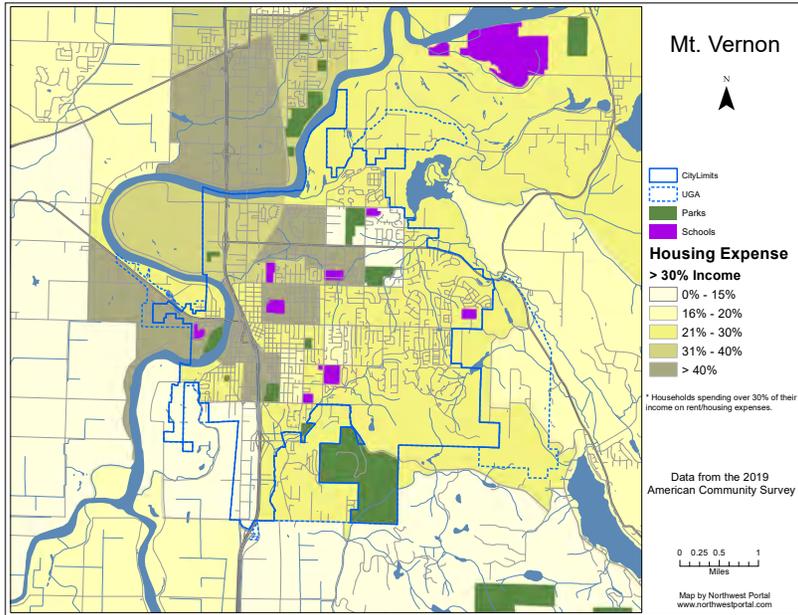
An effective park system should also ensure that park and recreational services and facilities, including those that provide health, nutrition, childcare, education, employment, and socialization as well as recreational activities are provided residents in areas of the city that are less advantaged than the general population due to:

- **Poverty** - particularly for families with children under age 18
- **Single parent households** - headed by a male or female with children with no other spouse present
- **Non-English speaking** - defined by immigrant households where members do not speak English very well or not at all
- **Housing cost stressed** - of households paying more than 35% of gross income for rent or mortgage payments

GIS maps generated for the city using the US Census Bureau's 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) Block Groups indicate:

- **Households with high housing costs** - are more than 31%+ of all households located in the older neighborhoods of the city along the west portion of College Way and in West Mount Vernon.
- **Households headed by single parents** - are 21-30% of all households located in the in the older neighborhoods in central Mount Vernon.
- **Households with incomes below poverty lines** - are more than 10% of all households located in the older neighborhoods on College Way and south along Main Street.
- **Households of non-English speaking** - are more than 4% of all households located along older neighborhoods along College Way, around Mount Vernon High School, and south of the downtown.

The plan proposes to increase picnic, playground, sports courts, and trail amenities in these areas to provide social equity.



Chapter 4: Community involvement

Public opinion was gathered from a variety of outreach methods including workshops, open houses, public meetings, and a series of online surveys of residents and school students.

Resident outreach survey

The City of Mount Vernon posted an online survey link in English and Spanish on December 7, 2022, and closed it on February 28, 2023. A mail-back option was provided as well. The results have been statistically weighted and ranked to provide meaningful findings. Details are included in the Appendix.

Survey questions sought to obtain information on park and recreation behavior, use of programs and parks, and opinions and priorities for potential future improvements. The City received 625 responses with 81% living in Mount Vernon and 44% residing in the city for over 16 years or more. Little Mountain and Skagit Riverwalk Trails are the most used providing access to natural areas and downtown amenities.

Mount Vernon needs safe pedestrian and bicycle paths within the parks and routes that link residents from where they live to where they recreate.

When asked how often you engage in certain activities in the parks, walking, jogging, and running was rated the highest. Additionally, when asked to what extent certain factors had on using the trails and parks more often, having the ability to safely walk or ride a bike was the second highest rated factor. Trails and open spaces and walking and biking paths on hard surfaces are most important.

Community members need family spaces, trails, and outdoor recreation.

Trails, family spaces for picnicking, and open spaces (trees, trails, habitat) are very important to the community. When asked how often they engaged in certain activities while in Mount Vernon

parks, family spaces for picnics and hanging out was ranked the second highest. Additionally, family programs for all ages are the highest priority and will have the most impact on households participating more.

It is important to maintain, repair, and replace the city's physical recreation assets and maintain and restore natural park assets to ensure the spaces are available for future generations to enjoy.

If the city were to invest more money in parks the number one response was increasing maintenance, the number two response was adding a greater variety of features to existing parks and the number three response was taking care of urban forestry.

Safety and security are important elements to a positive experience when visiting parks and trails. Better improved safety

in the parks was rated as the second highest factor that would encourage more people to visit a park more often. Many comments were submitted stating they felt nervous bringing their children to a park where homelessness issues were present. Better/improved safety in the parks would make the most difference increasing use of city parks and trails.

Explore opportunities to expand outdoor recreation, environmental education, and community garden spaces.

When asked now and over the next 5 years how important the following recreation programs were outdoor recreation was rated first and environmental was rated second. Landscape and gardening classes were rated fifth. Additionally, community gardens and interactive interpretive stations were rated fourth when asked the importance of types of facilities to households.

Youth outreach survey

The City of Mount Vernon coordinated with the Mount Vernon

School District to provide an opportunity for the two middle school and high school students to participate in a youth-oriented PROS Plan survey. Students had the opportunity to take the survey during their P.E or Health Classes. The survey was offered in English and Spanish, and 743 students participated. The results have been statistically weighted and ranked as noted to provide meaningful findings. Details are included in the Appendix.

Survey questions sought to obtain information on park and recreation behavior, use of programs and parks, and opinions and priorities for potential future improvements. Mount Vernon High School students accounted for 49% of the surveyed youth. 57% of the youth stated they had lived in Mount Vernon between 11 and 18 years. There was equal participation from male and female students, 48% male, 44% females responding to the survey.

Key findings from the survey:

- Students are interested in participating in recreation programming with the highest interest categories in the arts, active sports and fitness, and camping/hiking activities.
- Use of the large parks that have numerous amenities were most popular with the students. Bakerview Park rated the highest which has baseball & soccer fields, picnicking areas, the dog park, playground, restrooms, links to the Kulshan trail, volleyball courts, a disc golf course, skateboarding area, and basketball courts.
- Meeting friends and hanging out at the parks was the most popular way students utilized the different parks. Hiking, walking, and active sports activities ranked second.
- Having safe routes to walk and bike would make the most difference increasing school student use of city parks and trails.
- Students would like to see facilities for active recreation added to the parks such as sport courts, dog park or off leash opportunities, splash parks, and more hiking trails.

- Unaware of events is the major reason why school students have not attended special events.

Athletic group workshop

The City Parks & Enrichment Services Department developed a new field scheduling policy in 2021 that allocated a priority classification of use and priority in-season use. The policy states Mount Vernon youth be given first priority in scheduling and provided an open to all application window allowing for a greater diversity of use. Not a first-come-first served process. The new process is a success as multiple groups are using the fields. In the past just 3 groups monopolized the field use year-round, currently 8 different groups are sharing use of the fields.

The Parks & Enrichment Services Department maintains and mows all the grass fields at Bakerview Park. The City maintains all the infields at Bakerview Park. The City lines all the baseball fields for games only. All soccer fields are lined by the user group.

A workshop was conducted with representatives of area recreation leagues, including soccer, baseball, and football on 3 May 2023 in the Lodge in Hillcrest Park. The following is a summary of major findings.

Mount Vernon Parks & Enrichment Services Department

The City's Recreation Division operates a co-ed T-ball and Coach Pitch league for ages 3 - 8 years. The programs run late March through the middle of May and offer 2 weeks of just practice, 2 times per week, and then 6 weeks of practice (time a week) and one game on the weekend. There were 187 participants in the program which is up 20 participants from 2022. Practices are held at Hillcrest Park and games are played at Kiwanis Park.

The City's Recreation Division also operates a co-ed Little Kickers soccer program for ages 3 - 6 years. The program runs for 5 weeks starting early July and running through early August. Teams practice 2 times per week for two weeks and then there are 3 weeks of games only, that occur during the week. There were 267 youth

who participated in the program, which was up 40 participants from the previous year. Practices and games are held at Bakerview Park.

Mount Vernon Youth Soccer Association (MVYSA)

Mount Vernon Youth Soccer (MVYSA) is under the umbrella of Skagit Valley Youth Soccer (SVYSA). Current league groups are co-ed 6-8 years old and not co-ed age 9 and up. There were 300 players when MVYS was started that increased to 400 players pre-COVID. Last year picked back up to approximately 350 players. MVYSA is growing but not rapidly.

MVYSA league practice and games are from August 1st to mid-November. MVYSA currently conducts 2 practices for each team per week and a game on weekends. Practices are 1 hour in length per team between 4 pm and 7 pm without lights. Most practices are held at Bakerview Park that has the space for three full-sized fields and four baseball outfields used for smaller fields for younger age groups. 50% of MVYSA games are played elsewhere.

Field access for games is currently satisfactory at Bakerview Park but MVYSA has had to use Christian Community School for some practices, though there may soon be a capacity issue for practices.

Mount Vernon/Conway Youth Baseball League

The Mount Vernon/Conway Youth Baseball League (MVCYBL) is under the umbrella of Cal Ripken Baseball. MVCYBL is continuing to experience post-COVID growth and currently is at field capacity at Bakerview Park.

MVCYBL organizes 6-7 teams for 5-6-year-old age groups. Older age groups play others and can form all-star teams. Younger age groups practice 1-2 times per week for 1 hour with 1 game per week. Older age groups practice and play 4-5 days a week.

The MVCYBL teams use the following fields for practices and games; Bakerview Park in Mount Vernon, the Conway Fire Hall, Mount Vernon School District fields, and occasionally the Skagit County Playfields. All fields are natural turf with no lights except Skagit County Playfields that are synthetic turf and lighted.

Mount Vernon High School Baseball

Mount Vernon High School Baseball program uses the City's Sherman Anderson Park Ballfield as their home field primarily for their varsity and jr. varsity programs. The C Team plays at the high school. The City rents Sherman Anderson Park Ballfield and batting cage to the High School during the baseball season, they have exclusive use of the park field during this time, January through May.

Mount Vernon High School Softball

Mount Vernon High School Softball program has used the Kiwanis park ballfield for practices and games. The use depends on the number of players they have each year. When they use the field, it is for the months of January through May.

Skagit Family YMCA flag football

The YMCA, in partnership with the NFL, sponsors flag football teams for Mount Vernon and Sedro Wooley for 60 co-eds age 6-9 years and expects to increase to co-ed ages 10-14 in the future for an 8-week season.

The YMCA Flag Football program uses one city field at Bakerview Park in Mount Vernon and the Winnie Houser Playfields in Sedro-Woolley. The Flag Football League is continuing to grow and will outgrow field availability in the next 1-2 years.

South Skagit Little League

This group was not able to attend the Field User Workshop but has a significant impact on baseball field use at Bakerview Park in Mount Vernon. They are a chartered Little League organization that provides a softball program and a baseball program to include T-ball to youth.

Little Leagues numbers are continuing to grow post-COVID, and current field use is at capacity. They book and pay for time on other Cities fields to accommodate all the practices and games that are needed.

Suggestions

- The City will continue to research other ways to work with the

user groups to see how they can be more transparent with field scheduling and availability.

- The city needs to see how they can build more fields and/or increase existing field capacity with lighting and synthetic turf.
- Is there a way the School District and City can work together to maintain the fields and improve scheduling of school district fields?
- School District fields are not maintained to the same standard as the city fields and are reserved on a first-come-first served basis which does not allow for maximum use of the fields by a variety of user groups.
- Sherman Anderson Park Ballfield lighting needs to be replaced and the field should be converted from grass to synthetic turf to increase practice and play capacity.

Open house and workshop

The City of Mount Vernon hosted a community workshop to ask the community their desires for park improvements. An open house and workshop were conducted with the community on 17 May 2023 in the Lodge in Hillcrest Park. The 22 people who participated were briefed on PROS Plan progress including proposals for Bakerview, Bonnie Rae, Edgewater, Hillcrest, Lions, Little Mountain Parks, and Sherman Anderson Field. Participants were then divided into 5 groups with staff and consultant facilitators at each table. Following is a summary of major themes.

- **Trails** - within the parks and connections around the city are important and should be expanded within the parks with ADA improvements and connected to existing multipurpose, cross-city trails.
- **Safety** - needs to be improved with better lighting, homeless management, and more positive elements within the parks.
- **Bonnie Rae Park** - should be improved as an Environmental

Learning Center (ELC) with community gardens and ADA trails.

- **Playgrounds** - need to be upgraded with new ADA compliant equipment and inclusive elements and access.
- **Sherman Anderson Field** - should be retained as a city park and improved with new lighting and synthetic turf to increase capacity.
- **Dog parks** - should be expanded and off-leash areas should be designated throughout the city.
- **Athletic fields** - should add lighting and in some locations convert grass fields to synthetic turf which would expand capacity. Fields are limited, so maximizing capacity is vital.

Voter priorities survey

Like the initial resident outreach survey, an online with mail-back option survey was conducted of all Mount Vernon households within the city zip codes. However, with this survey a postcard notification was mailed out through USPS's Every Door Direct Mail (EDDM). The zip code boundaries are imperfect matches to city limits with some extending beyond and some not completely covering corporate boundaries.

The survey questions sought to verify the data that had been gathered to this point and obtain information on opinions and priorities for proposed park and trail future improvements and financing options. 618 people completed the survey. The results have been statistically weighted and ranked as noted to provide meaningful findings. Details are included in the Appendix.

The Priorities Survey had a good cross-section of residents from all three wards and a wide range of ages who were represented in the survey. Residents who completed the survey:

- Are proportionately distributed throughout the city, with 13% indicating they live outside of the city.

- Are recent residents of Mount Vernon for 2-5 years (24%) or have lived in Mount Vernon for 21+ years (30%).
- Include a significant percent of retired persons (27%) and residents who work in Mount Vernon (36%).
- Are primarily owners (85%) though with a suitable representation of renters (15%).
- Include significant percentages of person under 18 (79%) and middle-aged adults (73%) with representative over age 65+ (65%).
- Include registered voters (85%) and non-registered (15%).

Connections to parks, trails, and community destinations are of highest importance to the community to include access for all community members.

- Walking and biking trails throughout the city are the highest priority when asked to prioritize acquisition and development of park facilities.
- On-road bike lanes and sidewalks throughout the city was a high priority.
- A proposal to develop an on-and-off-road non-motorized trail network received a very high/highest priority rating.

In general respondents gave a better than average rating to location, quantity, and quality of parks, trails, open spaces, and recreation provided in Mount Vernon.

- Even though 33% of all respondents indicated the walking time to the nearest park is over 15 minutes, which is longer than the 10-minute objective, they rated location of parks slightly above average.
- Respondents were generally happy with the number and size of the existing parks and trails. Through the PROS Plan process

the city has identified some areas that have gaps in services and will be evaluating how to address these needs.

- The physical condition of the park system had the lowest rating and coincides with other comments regarding the need to upgrade play areas and many statements of taking better care of existing amenities. When asked about replacing and updating playgrounds specifically, respondents ranked this a high priority.

When asked to prioritize the acquisition and development of park facilities to meet projected population growth requirements and needs, the top 5 answers corresponded with other survey and workshop data.

	Weight
Walking and biking trails throughout the city	4.11
Habitat preservation along creek corridors	3.78
Universal playgrounds	3.51
On-road bike lanes and sidewalks throughout city	3.44
Community gardens/pea patches	3.21

Of highest importance are facilities and activities that offer connections to the community to include parks and trails, support people being outdoors, and are family oriented.

The community rated enhancing access to the Skagit River as a high priority.

- 83% of respondents wanted improved access to the Skagit River.
- Many commented that the river is a great resource and better access could drive economic growth in the downtown area.
- There were also some comments regarding concerns about additional access adding pollution and trash to the river.

	Weight
Improve and develop waterfront access	3.41

Improving and/or acquiring sports courts, indoor facilities and athletic fields are important, and were ranked as moderate priorities.

	Weight
Add and improve sport courts	3.06
Improve multiuse athletic fields	3.08
Develop multi-generational indoor facilities	3.16

There is an interest in the City exploring a possible partnership with the Mount Vernon School District to enhance community use of the ballfields and converting exiting city fields to synthetic turf and adding lights where possible.

Concern was expressed about not having any covered space to play basketball. The need for a multi-generational indoor space was expressed. The skate park is of concern, it is very old and outdated.

The survey indicated that the community was in favor of having growth (i.e., housing projects) pay for the costs associated with maintaining the same standard for parks, recreation, and opens spaces in the future.

The existing inventory of the City of Mount Vernon open spaces, trails, parks, and recreation facilities is estimated to be worth \$13,846 per an average single-family house. This amount is approximately what it would cost to add park facilities for each newly developed single-family house. Based on this information, residents were asked to rate the following methods for dealing with the impact of new residential development on park acquisition and development.

	Weight
Collecting a one-time park growth impact fee from new housing projects received a high priority rating.	3.80

If a park growth impact fee were to be charged to developers of new residential construction, 34% were in favor of charging 100% of the

\$13,846 and 21% stating to only charge 25% of the total fee. There were comments about rising housing costs and charging 100% would only add to the already high housing market.

Mount Vernon residents value their parks and recreation programs and are curious about alternative funding sources and would want to know how the money would be spent.

Growth impact fees cannot be used to add or improve park facilities for existing residents - or for maintenance or recreation programs. Additional funds will ultimately be necessary to meet Mount Vernon’s projected park and recreation development, maintenance, and operating requirements, A proposal to approve a limited duration levy (typically 7 years) received slight priority over a bond or resetting the property tax rate.

	Weight
<u>Approve a limited duration levy (typically 7 years)</u> - to acquire, develop, maintain, and operate existing and future park facilities.	3.04
<u>Approve a bond</u> - to pay for acquisition and development of existing park facilities - bonds cannot pay for maintenance and operations.	2.90
<u>Approve resetting the property tax rate</u> - with the increase dedicated exclusively to acquire, develop, maintain, and operate existing and future facilities until the needed amount has been raised after which the property tax rate reverts back.	2.38

If City Council placed a bond or a limited duration 7-year levy or a property tax reset on the ballot to finance park and recreation acquisition, development, maintenance, and operations 55% of the households stated they would be willing to pay \$100 or more per year.

Bond/levy amount

\$0	14%	\$125	4%
\$25	14%	\$150	10%
\$50	12%	\$175	3%
\$75	5%	\$200+	14%

\$100

24%

Surveyed respondents were supportive of the city providing recreation programming.

Programs for teens, middle and high school students received the highest rating with elementary age ranked second and families third.

Outdoor recreation was the highest rated program of interest with afterschool programs ranked second, and free/paid youth summer programs third.

Currently most but not all costs are recovered for providing recreation programs. If the programs require more money than can be currently budgeted from city funds respondents ranked soliciting other funding from sponsorships and donations highest and selectively increasing user fees as the second highest.

Public meetings

Planning Commission Meeting - 12.6.22 and City Council Meeting 12.7.22

- Mount Vernon characteristics, recreation demand and needs, city park and trail assets

Planning Commission Meeting - 3.21.23 and City Council Meeting 3.22.23

- Overview of Community and Student Survey results, park assets city, county and state, school assets

City Council Meeting 5.24.23

- Athletic User Group meeting outcomes, Open House Workshop outcomes, Voter Priorities Survey

Planning Commission Meeting 7.18.23

- Athletic User Group meeting outcomes, Open House Workshop outcomes, Voter Priorities Survey

Key findings from community engagement process

- There is very heavy use of Mount Vernon’s system of parks, trails, and recreation programs.
- Connectivity is very important through non-motorized access to parks, trails, schools, and points of destination.
- Emphasis on making more routes ADA accessible.
- Connections to the river are important.
- Promote active, healthy lifestyles in the parks by providing spaces for people to gather, play, and enjoy nature.
- Family activities are important.
- Expand outdoor environmental education and programming.
- A high priority is the concern over an aging park system.
- Strong emphasis on maintaining and improving existing parks, trails, facilities, and amenities.
- Playgrounds, the skate Park, and walking paths are of high priority.
- Alternative funding options need to be explored.
- A focus on making parks safer is important to the community.
- There is a lack of athletic field capacity for current and emerging sports.
- Explore partnerships with School District or Skagit County.
- Explore opportunities to convert current fields to synthetic turf and add lighting.
- Diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility are now and will continue to be of importance.



Bakerview Park

Chapter 5: Citywide plan elements

The following proposals concerning components of the Parks, Recreation, & Open Space (PROS) Plan are based on the results of environmental inventories, field analysis, demand analysis, workshop planning sessions, and surveys of resident, school student, and voter households that outline a vision for the next 20 years.

The plan proposals are organized into separate components including natural areas, resource activities, trails, athletic activities, indoor activities, and special uses that are part of a holistic approach to the total PROS Plan.

Each section of this chapter defines the vision for the separate plan component, inventories existing amenities, and projects proposed new amenity developments that reflect population growth and change including an increase in non-family young and old households, address social inequities, fill walkability gaps, mitigate heat stress, and account for increased redevelopment densities.

The components combined provide a holistic vision for providing parks, recreation, and open space in a community that is rapidly evolving from the rural suburban character that existed at the time of incorporation into an urban community providing a variety of natural and active PROS interests for an increasingly diverse population.

The component plan proposals are **CONCEPTUAL**, in some instances, subject to further study and coordination with public participants including Mount Vernon School District, Skagit County, Washington State, and private participants including neighborhood residents, businesses, and developers that may modify eventual project particulars.

The proposals refer to a site or property that may provide a specific type of park, recreation, or open space activity. A particular site or property, however, may include one or all the described component plan features.

Natural areas

Natural areas protect, preserve, and conserve lands that have environmental features of critical area significance (floodplains and landslide hazard), ecological importance (shorelines, wetlands, and watersheds), forestland (old growth, woodland cover, and prime productive), wildlife habitat (threatened and endangered species), and green space.

To the extent possible and practical, natural areas link lands (even though these lands may not be publicly accessible) to greenway networks and corridors. These linked areas will visually define the developed urban area in accordance with the objectives of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA).

Natural areas may provide nature and trails, exhibits, and interpretive facilities to increase public awareness and appreciation for significant and visually interesting environmental, wildlife, and forest features.

Natural areas may be located on independent properties or include portions of other sites that provide resource activities, trail corridors, athletic activities, or other public facilities. Natural areas may also be developed on other publicly owned lands subject to public use agreements or easements; or on lands acquired for other public purposes including stormwater management, groundwater recharge, potable water storage, and wastewater treatment.

Vision

Natural area conservancies may be realized through:

- **Acquisition of development rights and/or title of natural area lands** - that would otherwise be developed or used for other urban land use.
- **Provision for public access and interpretive use** - that would not be possible if the lands remained in private ownership without such provisions.

- **Provisions for signing and interpretation** - subject to appropriate security measures and underlying property owner agreements,

Existing natural areas

The following sites provide natural areas through easements, land use agreements, or purchase. In most instances, the natural area open spaces and parks conserve wetlands, woodlands, steep slopes, and other features.

	Existing natural area acreage
Mount Vernon	714.6
1 Bakerview Park Wetland	12.0
▪ Wetland restoration, stream enhancement, salmon rearing pond	
2 Skagit Highlands Overlook	4.9
▪ Forested hillside overlooking Skagit Valley farmland	
3 Beaver Pond Park	30.0
▪ Forested wetland	
4 Bonnie Rae Park	11.0
▪ Maddox Creek salmon bearing, deep ravines, open grassy area	
5 Edgewater Park	38.1
▪ Wooded shoreline and wetlands with a salmon stream enhancement and restoration area on Skagit River	
6 Hillcrest Park	30.8
▪ Wooded hillside	
7 North Lions Park	15.4
▪ Wooded shoreline on Skagit River	
8 Little Mountain Park	522.0
▪ Extensive wooded hillside	
9 Nemo Open Space	3.0
▪ Wooded hillside overlooking I-5	
10 Ted Reep Open Space	47.4
▪ Wooded shoreline and riparian corridor along Skagit River	
Skagit County	10.0
11 Hoag's/Big Rock Memorial Park	10.0
▪ Wooded hillside with Native American significance	

Washington State	86.9
12 Spud House Access	86.3
▪ Wooded shoreline and riparian habitat along Skagit River	
13 Young's Bar	0.6
▪ Sandy shoreline along Skagit River	
Skagit County Dike District 1	86.9
14 Skagit River	3.2
▪ Sand bar extending out into the Skagit River	
HOAs	7.8
15 Firwest Common Area	3.9
▪ Wooded open space	
16 Skagit Highlands Park	3.5
▪ Woodlands	
17 Summersun Trail	0.4
▪ Wooded riparian corridor	
Total existing natural area acres	822.5*

* Total site acreage may also provide for other park activities.

Resource activities

Resource activities provide public access to significant environmental features including shorelines, woodlands, and scenic areas. Where appropriate, resource sites will be improved with a variety of outdoor facilities including shorelines, beaches, and individual and group picnic facilities. Supporting services may include parking lots, restrooms, and utilities.

Resource activities may be located on independent properties or include portions of other sites provided for natural area conservancies, trail corridors, athletic activities, indoor activities, or other public facilities. Resource activities may also be developed on other publicly owned lands subject to public use agreements or easements.

Vision

As described herein, the resource park vision will be realized through:

- **Acquisition of resource parklands** - that would otherwise be developed for other land uses,
- **Provision of public access** - and use of natural features which would not be possible if the lands remained in private ownership,
- **Conservation for public access** - and use of unique and available natural features that visually define and separate developing urban areas.

Waterfront access

Existing waterfront access sites

The following sites provide access to significant access to freshwater access points that include fishing, wading, hand-carry boating, and other waterfront access activities.

	Existing waterfront access sites
Mount Vernon	1
3 Edgewater Park	1
▪ Boat launch with 14 trailer parking stalls	

Washington State	2
2 Young's Bar	1
▪ Fishing and wading beach on Skagit River	
4 Spud House Access	1
▪ Boat launch ramp	
▪ Hand-carry launch	
Total waterfront access sites	3

Proposed waterfront access sites

The following sites will provide access to significant freshwater access points that include fishing, wading, hand-carry boating, and other waterfront access activities.

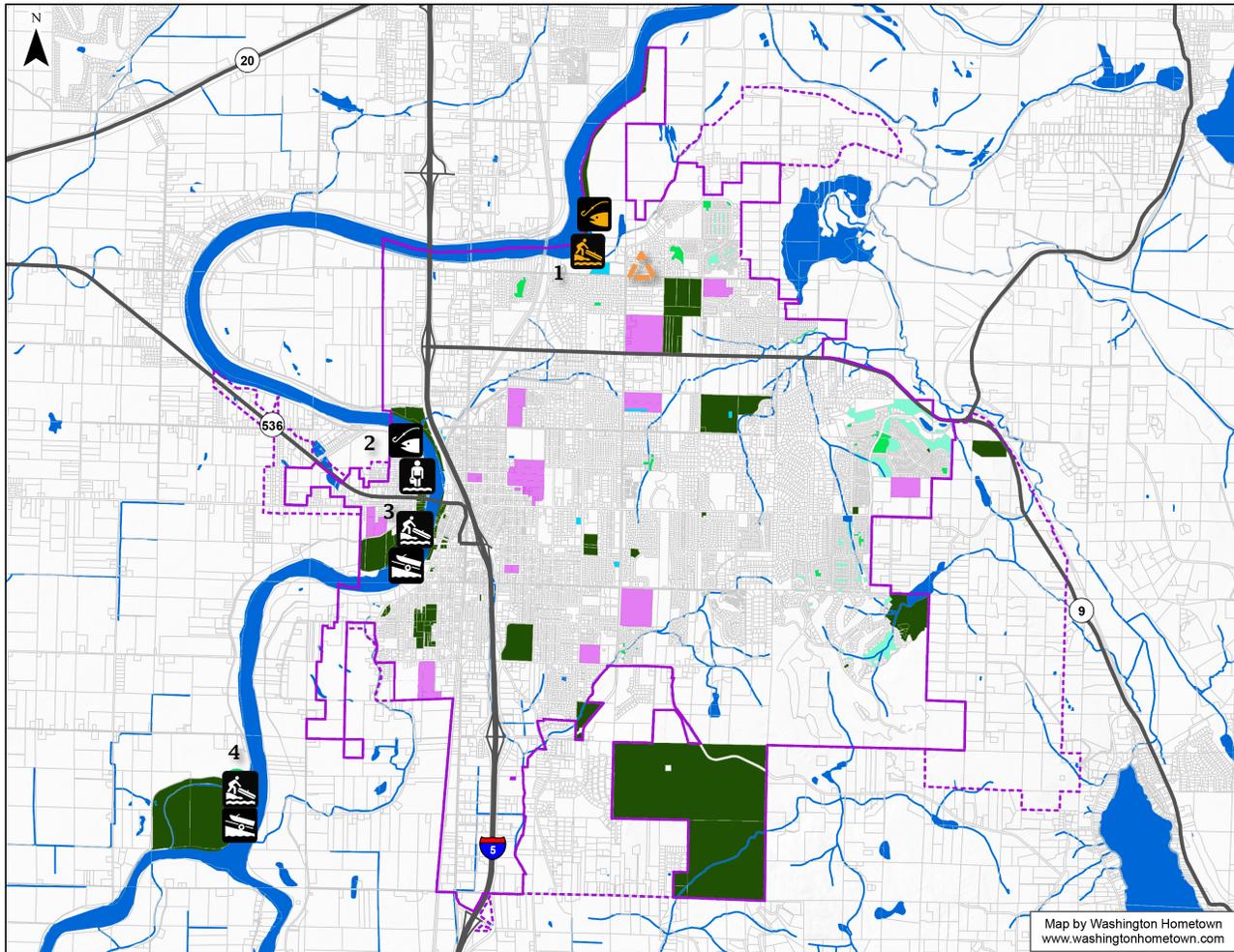
	Proposed waterfront access sites
Mount Vernon	1
1 Ted Reep	1
▪ Install fishing access to Skagit River	
Total proposed waterfront access sites	1

Picnic facilities

Existing picnic tables and shelters

The following sites provide day-use picnic table and shelter facilities for group activities in existing parks.

	Existing picnic tables - shelters
Mount Vernon parks	64-12
5 Bakerview Park	6-1
▪ 6 picnic tables	
▪ 1 picnic shelter	
11 Lions Park South	7-4
▪ 7 picnic tables	
▪ 4 picnic shelters	
16 Edgewater Park	2-0
▪ 2 picnic tables	
17 Skagit Riverwalk Park	6-0
▪ 6 picnic tables	
18 Pine Street Plaza	1-0
▪ 1 picnic table	



- Mount Vernon**
- 3 Edgewater Park
- Washington State**
- 2 Young's Bar
- 4 Spudhouse Access
- Proposed waterfront access**
- 1 To be determined

Waterfront access

- Public parks
- City Limits

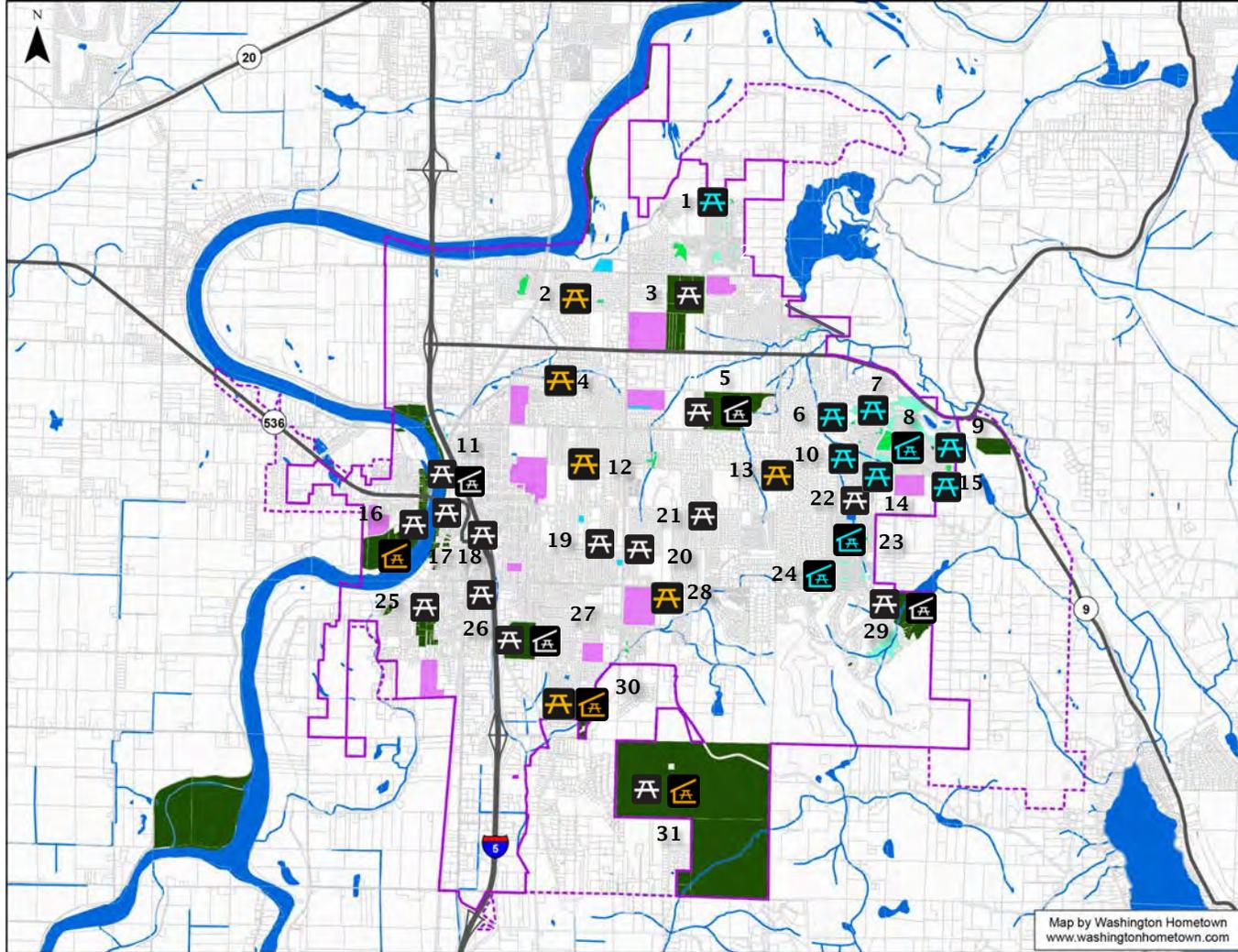
19	Kiwanis Park	9-1
	▪ 9 picnic tables	
	▪ 1 picnic shelter	
20	25th Street Park	1-0
	▪ 1 picnic table	
21	Division Street Park	2-0
	▪ 2 picnic tables	
22	Fire Station 3 Park	3-0
	▪ 3 picnic tables	
26	South 6th Street Park	1-0
	▪ 1 picnic table	
27	Hillcrest Park	14-5
	▪ 14 picnic tables	
	▪ 5 picnic shelters	
29	Beaver Pond Park	3-1
	▪ 3 picnic tables	
	▪ 1 picnic shelter	
31	Little Mountain Park	5-0
	▪ 5 picnic tables	
32	Maddox Creek Trail	2-0
	▪ 2 picnic tables	
33	Baker Court Park	3-0
	▪ 3 picnic tables	
	Skagit County	9-0
3	Skagit County Playfields	7-0
	▪ 7 picnic tables	
25	Cleveland Park	2-0
	▪ 2 picnic tables	
	HOAs	13-2
1	Horseshoe Park	1-0
	▪ 1 picnic table	
6	Skagit Highlands Basketball	1-0
	▪ 1 picnic table	
7	Mount Baker Park	3-0
	▪ 3 picnic tables	
8	Skagit Highlands Park	1-0
	▪ 1 picnic shelter	
9	Panorama Park	1-0

	▪ 1 picnic table	
10	Hidden Lake Park	2-0
	▪ 2 picnic tables	
14	Monarch Park	2-0
	▪ 2 picnic tables	
15	Tahoma/Swift Creek Park	2-0
	▪ 2 picnic tables	
23	Woodside Clubhouse	0-1
	1 picnic shelter	
24	Montreaux Neighborhood Park	0-1
	▪ 1 picnic shelter	
	All total picnic tables	93
	All total picnic shelters	14

Proposed picnic tables and shelters

The following sites are to provide day-use picnic table and shelter facilities for group activities in locations to fill gaps beyond 10-minute walking distance of Mount Vernon neighborhoods.

	Proposed picnic tables, shelters
Mount Vernon	20-3
3	Edgewater Park
	▪ Install picnic shelter
2	@ Continental Place
	▪ Install 4 picnic tables
12	@ 18th Street
	▪ Install 4 picnic tables
13	@ Waugh Road
	▪ Install 4 picnic tables
31	Little Mountain Park
	▪ Install 4 picnic tables
	▪ Install picnic shelter
34	Bonnie Rae Park
	▪ Install 4 picnic tables
	▪ Install picnic shelter
	Total proposed picnic tables
	20
	Total proposed picnic shelters
	3



- Mount Vernon**
- 5 Bakerview Park, shelter at Dog Park
- 11 Lions Park South
- 16 Edgewater Park
- 17 Skagit Riverwalk Park
- 18 Pine Street Plaza
- 19 Kiwanis Park
- 20 25th Street Park
- 21 Division Street Park
- 22 Fire Station 3 Park
- 26 South 6th Street Park
- 27 Hillcrest Park
- 29 Beaver Pond Park, covered area
- 31 Little Mountain Park
- Skagit County**
- 3 Skagit County Playfields
- 25 Cleveland Park
- Homeowner Associations (HOAs)**
- 1 Horseshoe Park
- 6 Skagit Highlands Basketball
- 7 Mount Baker Park
- 8 Skagit Highlands Park
- 9 Panorama Park
- 10 Hidden Lake Park
- 14 Monarch Park
- 15 Tahoma/Swift Creek Park
- 23 Woodside Clubhouse
- 24 Montreaux Neighborhood Park
- Proposed picnic facilities**
- 2 To be determined
- 4 Kulshan Creek Trail, benches
- 12 To be determined
- 13 To be determined
- 28 Trumpeter Trail
- 30 Bonnie Rae Park
- 31 Little Mountain Park

Picnic facilities

Public parks HOA parks Schools

— City Limits

Trails

Trail systems link major natural area assets, park and recreational facilities, schools, community centers, commercial, and transit stations throughout Mount Vernon. Generally, trails provide for several modes of recreational and commuters use including bicycles, scooters, skateboards, in-line skates, and pedestrians where appropriate.

Park walking trails

Park walking trails will be developed within major parks and open spaces to provide internal access to wetlands, woodlands, picnic areas, playgrounds, courts, fields, and indoor facilities with parking lots, restrooms, and other supporting facilities.

Park walking trails will be developed to Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) or US Forest Service (USFS) walking trail standards with a crushed rock, bark, or compacted dirt base usable by all age and skill groups. Park trails will be developed in urban park sites with an asphalt or concrete surface to be ADA accessible.

Vision

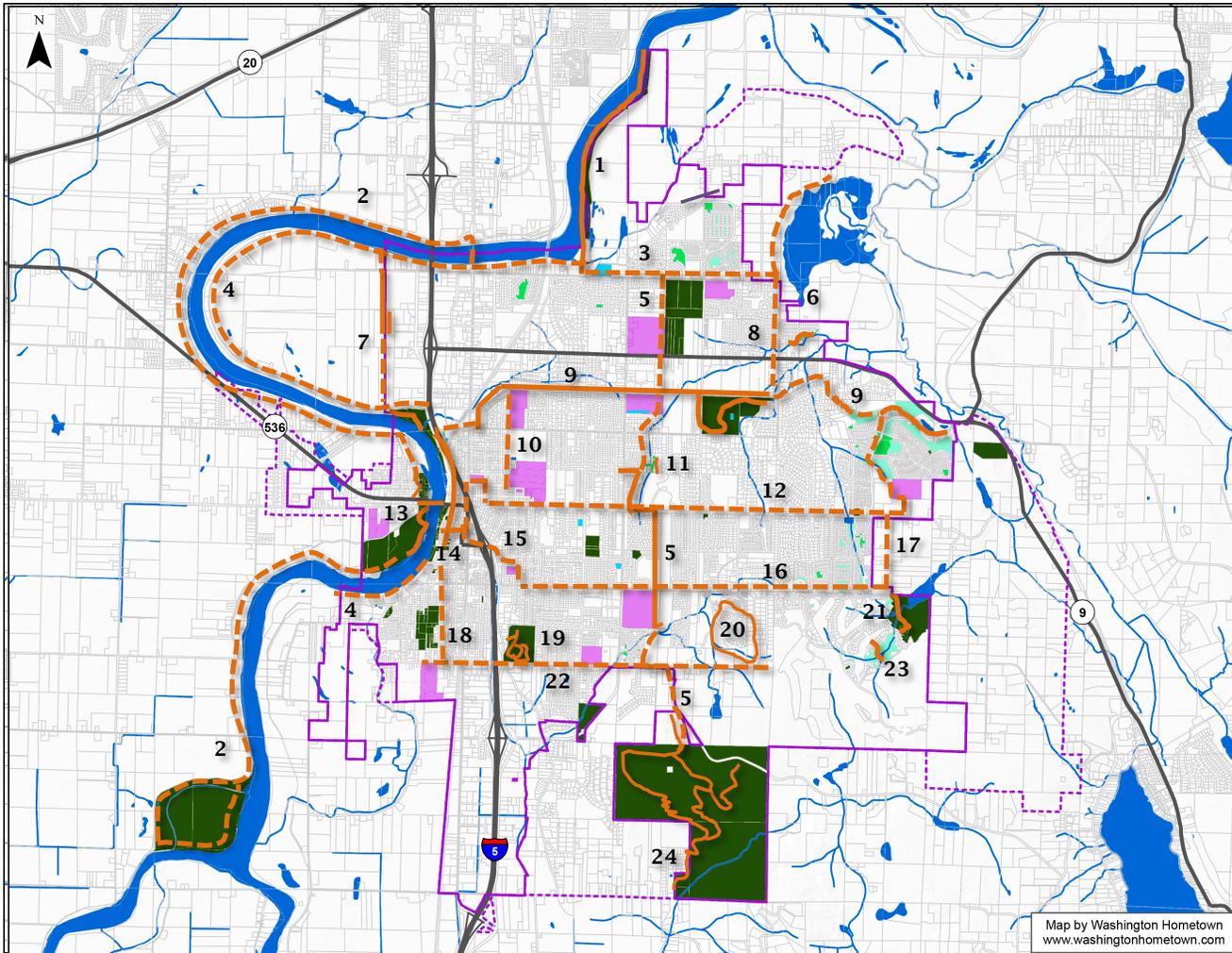
The parks walking trails vision will be realized by providing trail opportunities in Mount Vernon that:

- **Access natural features** - within major natural areas and park sites.
- **Serve persons** - with varied physical abilities and skills including ADA.
- **Establish high visibility and volume pedestrian routes** - through the most developed urban areas and park sites.

Existing parks trails

The following park trails have been developed within major park sites in the city that access wetlands, ponds, woodlands, and other park activities.

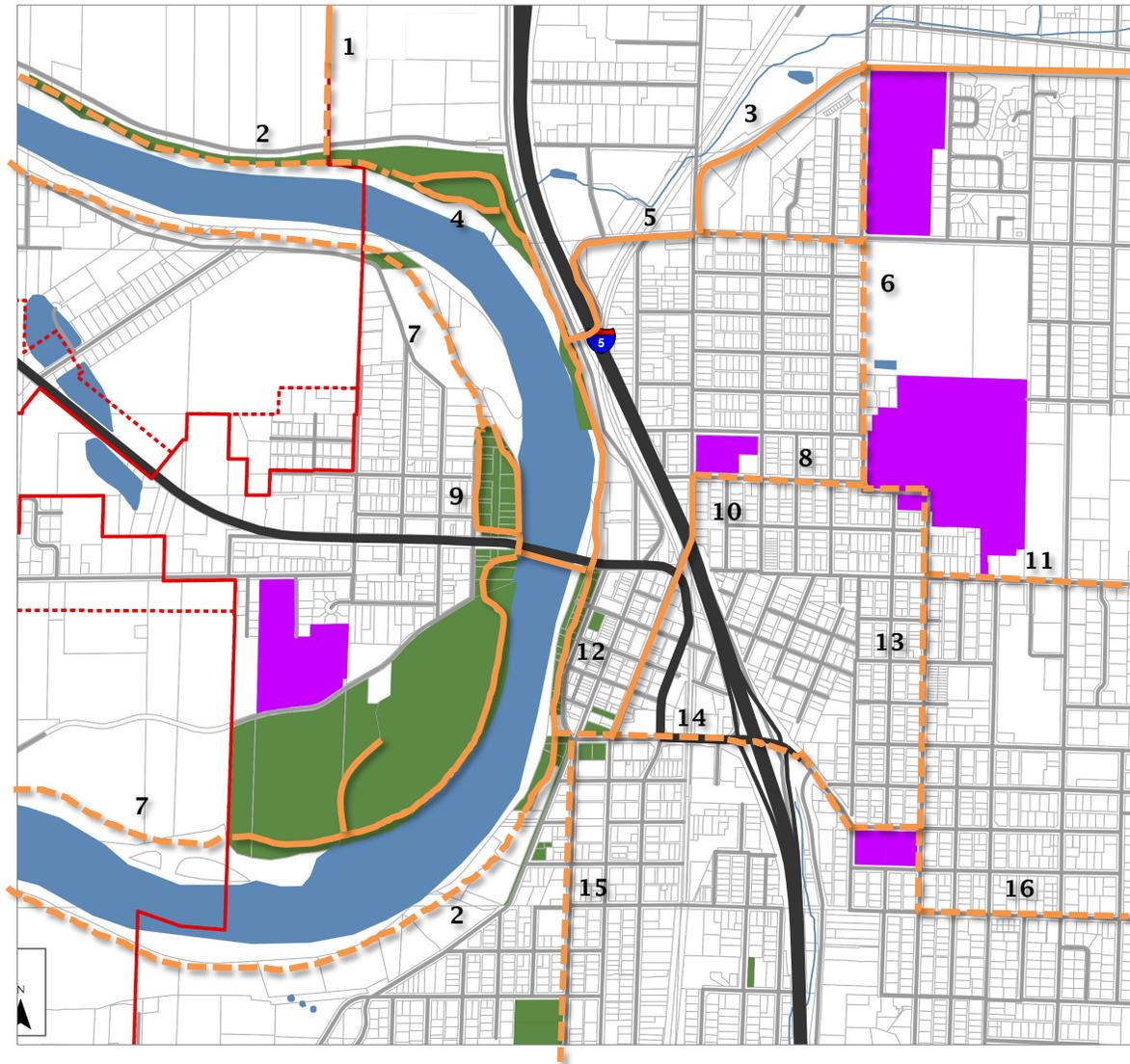
		Existing unpaved park, ADA trail miles
Mount Vernon parks trails		17.23-1.70
1	Eaglemont Trails	1.5-0.0
▪	1.5-mile unpaved trails through Beaver Pond Park	
2	Edgewater Park Trails	0.23-1.5
▪	0.25-mile paved ADA trail through park	
▪	1.5-mile unpaved trail along Skagit River shoreline	
3	Hillcrest Park Paths	0.25-0.0
▪	0.25-mile unpaved hillside trails	
4	Kiwanis Park Boardwalk	0.0-0.20
▪	0.2-mile paved ADA path and boardwalk through park	
5	Little Mountain Trails	10.0-0.0
▪	10.0-miles of unpaved trails in and around the mountain	
6	Maddox Creek Trails	0.95-0.0
▪	0.95-miles of unpaved trails along the creek corridor	
7	Riverbend Loop Trail	0.9-0.0
▪	0.9-mile unpaved trail around stormwater pond	
8	Skagit Highland Trails	2.0-0.0
▪	2.0-miles of unpaved trails through neighborhood	
9	Ted Reep Trail	1.4-0.0
▪	1.4-mile trail along Skagit River shoreline	
HOA trails		1.67-1.53
10	Monarch Park	0.0-0.5
▪	0.5-mile paved ADA path through park	
11	Montreaux Neighborhood Park	0.0-0.13
▪	0.13-mile paved ADA path through neighborhood	
12	Panorama Park	1.16-0.0
▪	1.16-mile unpaved trail through open space	
13	Skagit Highlands Park	0.26-0.38
▪	0.38-mile paved ADA path around grass area	
▪	0.26-mile unpaved trail through woodlands	
14	Summersun Trail	0.25-0.0
▪	0.25-mile unpaved trail	
15	Tahoma/Swift Creek Park	0.0-0.09
▪	0.09-mile paved ADA path in neighborhood park	
16	The Meadows Park	0.0-0.3
▪	0.30-mile paved ADA circular path around open space	



- Mount Vernon**
- 1 Ted Reep Trail
- 5 Trumpter Trail
- 7 Riverbend Loop Trail
- 9 Kulshan Trail
- 13 Edgewater Park Trails
- 14 Skagit Riverwalk Trail
- 19 Hillcrest Park Paths
- 20 Maddox Creek Trails
- 21 Eaglemont Trails
- 23 Skagit Highland Trails
- 24 Little Mountain Trails
- HOA**
- 6 Summersun Trail
- 11 Stonebridge Trail
- Proposed trails**
- 2 West Dike Trail
- 3 Hoag Road
- 4 East Dike Trail
- 5 Trumpter Trail Extension
- 7 Riverbend Loop Trail
- 8 Waugh Road
- 9 Kulshan Trail Extension
- 10 9th Street
- 12 Division Street
- 15 Kincaid/Broad Street
- 16 Section Street
- 17 Burlingame Road
- 18 Cleveland Avenue
- 22 Blackburn Road

On and off-road trails

Public parks	Public open space	HOA parks	HOA open space	Private/nonprofit	Schools
City Limits	Existing trails	Proposed trails			



Downtown on and off-road trails

— City Limits
 — Existing on and off-road trails
 - - - Proposed on and off-road trails

Mount Vernon

- 1 Riverbend Loop Trail
- 3 Kulshan Trail
- 4 Lions Park North Trail
- 5 East Fir Street
- 9 Edgewater Park Trail
- 10 South 2nd/North 4th Street
- 12 Skagit Riverwalk Trail

Proposed on and off-road trails

- 2 East Dike Trail
- 6 North 9th Street
- 7 West Dike Trail
- 8 East Fulton Street
- 11 East Division Street
- 13 South 11th Street
- 14 Kincaid/Broad Street
- 15 Cleveland Avenue
- 16 East Section Street

17	Woodside Clubhouse	0.0-0.13
	▪ 0.13-mile paved ADA path around grass area	
	Total existing park, ADA trail miles	18.9-3.23

Multipurpose trails

Multipurpose on and off-road trails will be developed within corridors separate from vehicular or other motorized forms of transportation such as utility easements or in separate property alignments. In some instances, an on-road trail may be developed as a shoulder or sidewalk improvement within the right-of-way of established vehicle or light trail transportation corridors.

Multipurpose trails will be developed to Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials (AASHTO) trail standards with concrete, asphalt or very fine crushed rock base, ADA accessible, and usable by all age and skill groups.

Trail corridors will be located or improved with trailhead services including rest stops, parking lots, restrooms, water, and air utilities. Where the trail is in another park and recreational improvement or public facility, the trailhead may be improved with picnic, playgrounds, and play areas.

Multipurpose trail corridors will be independent properties or include portions of other sites provided for natural area conservancies, resource activities, athletic activities, and other park and recreational or public facilities.

Vision

As described, the multipurpose trails vision may be realized by providing recreational trail opportunities that:

- **Access natural features** - that may not be available otherwise.
- **Link open spaces** - and other conservation areas into a greenway system.
- **Serve persons** - with varied physical abilities and skills.
- **Establish high visibility and volume pedestrian routes** - through the most developed urban areas and park sites.

- **Expand roadway corridors** - to provide recreational and commuter trail opportunities.

Existing on and off-road multipurpose trails

The following multipurpose trail systems have been developed to provide combined hike, bike, skateboard, scooter, in-line skate, and e-bike trail opportunities.

		Existing off-road multipurpose trail miles
Mount Vernon		5.43
1	Kulshan Trail	2.50
	▪ 2.50-mile paved ADA multipurpose trail aligned west from Bakerview Park west to Fir Street	
2	Trumpeter Trail	0.80
	▪ 0.80-mile of paved ADA trail aligned from East Division Street south through neighborhoods to South 27th Street	
3	Trumpeter Trail around Hagggen's	0.75
	▪ 0.75-mile trail extends around storm pond behind Hagggen's south to Trumpeter Trail at Division Street and west to LaVenture Road	
4	Skagit Riverwalk Trail	1.38
	▪ 1.38-mile trail extends through Skagit Riverwalk north through Lions Park South to Lions Park North	
Total existing multipurpose trail miles		5.43

		Proposed on and off-road multipurpose trail miles
Mount Vernon		27.94
1	Kulshan Trail Extension	0.33
	▪ 0.33-mile extension of the multipurpose trail to connect with Skagit Riverwalk Trail	
2	Trumpeter Trail Extension	1.09
	▪ 0.13-mile extension along Division Street to connect with Trumpeter Trail behind Hagggen's then north 0.96-mile extension along LaVenture right-of-way to Skagit Playfields	
5	West Dike Trail	9.07
	▪ 9.07-mile hiking trail located on top of the dike on the west shore of the Skagit River from Riverside Drive through Young's Bar and Edgewater Park to Spud House Access	

6	Hoag Road Trail	1.36
	▪ 1.36-mile trail aligned in Hoag Road right-of-way from Ted Reep Trail east to Martin Road	
7	East Dike Trail	4.08
	▪ 4.08-mile hiking trail located on top of the east dike on the Skagit River from Ted Reep Trail southwest to Riverwalk Trail	
8	Riverbend Trail Extension	0.40
	▪ 0.40-mile trail extension from behind Walmart to the trails in Lions Park North	
9	Waugh Road	1.68
	▪ 1.68-mile trail around Barney Lake south on Waugh Road to a connection with the Kulshan Trail along Bakerview Park	
10	9th Street	0.86
	▪ 0.84-mile trail from Kulshan Trail through Madison Elementary School south to and around Mount Vernon High School to Division Street	
11	Division Street	3.35
	▪ 3.35-mile hike and bike trail in Division Street right-of-way from Skagit Riverwalk Trail east past Mount Vernon High School, Skagit Regional Hospital, and ICRS to Harriett Rowley Elementary School	
12	Kincaid/Broad Street	0.92
	▪ 0.92-mile hike and bike trail in Kincaid and Broad Street right-of-way from Skagit Riverwalk Trail east to 15th Street then south to Section Street	
13	Section Street	2.04
	▪ 2.04-mile hike and bike trail in Section Street right-of-way east to Burlingame Road and Beaver Pond Park	
14	Burlingame Road	0.50
	▪ 0.50-mile hike and bike trail in Burlingame Road from Harriet Rowley Elementary School south to Beaver Pond Park	
15	Cleveland Avenue	0.73
	▪ 0.73-mile hike and bike trail in Cleveland Avenue right-of-way from Skagit Riverwalk Trail south past Skagit Senior Center and Sherman Anderson Field to Blackburn Road	

16	Blackburn Road	1.53
	▪ 1.53-mile hike and bike trail in Blackburn Road right-of-way from Mount Vernon Christian School at Cleveland Avenue and Skagit Fairgrounds east to Little Mountain	
Total proposed multipurpose trail miles		27.94

Athletic activities

Local or neighborhood park components - will be developed with playgrounds, basketball, volleyball, pickleball, tennis courts, grass play fields, and other facilities that provide pickup games, youth sports, and leagues of interest to neighborhood children and families. These local park improvements may be combined with natural areas, picnic tables and shelters, trail systems, local schools, and other facilities to create an accessible neighborhood park system.

Local or neighborhood parks may be sited as independent properties or portions of other sites that include trail corridors, natural areas, multi-use indoor centers, or other public facilities. Where practical, local or neighborhood playgrounds may be co-located with elementary schools. Where feasible and appropriate, neighborhood parks may be sited on lands that are owned and operated for other public purposes.

Local or neighborhood parks will be located at sites serviced by sidewalks, trails, and local bike routes that are within 5-10-minutes convenient to younger age neighborhood youth and families.

Community or regional park components - will be developed with competitive athletic court and field facilities to provide the highest quality competitive playing standards and requirements. The competitive athletic park complexes will include court and field facilities that satisfy the largest number of organized and older age recreational league participants including tennis, pickleball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, football, rugby, lacrosse, softball, and baseball.

Regional athletic parks will be developed for older youth and adult league tournaments and other peak competition days, events, and schedules thereby freeing courts and fields located at neighborhood parks, elementary schools, and other local sites for younger age clinics, practices, neighborhood pickup play, and some youth league participant games.

Regional recreational parks will be located on sites that can accommodate relatively high traffic volumes, evening lighted court and field use, noise, and other activities without adversely impacting adjoining land uses and neighborhood residents.

Regional competitive recreational areas will be developed to provide sustained, high-capacity play capabilities typically providing full-size competition courts and fields. Most sites will be designed to provide high capacity, rectangular field configurations that include turf or all-weather fields with permanent soccer goals and baseball diamond backstops at the field ends with moveable perimeter fencing, spectator seating, and night-lighting systems.

When practical and feasible, regional athletic parks may include middle or high school facilities, particularly where the facilities are located with other competition courts or fields or when the facilities can be used for recreational league tournaments or special events.

Local and regional athletic parks - will be improved with restrooms, concessions, and parking lots including grass overflow parking areas to accommodate peak events or schedules. Where appropriate, some athletic park sites may also be furnished with group picnic shelters.

Vision

Local or neighborhood athletic parks with playgrounds, courts, and fields will:

- Provide flexible informal activity areas,
- Suited to younger age and local neighborhood game activities,
- In sites convenient to neighborhood youth and families,
- At sites that may co-locate with elementary schools and facilities.

Community or regional athletic parks will:

- Provide the highest quality competitive play facilities,
- Of the highest capacity facility improvement designs,
- Within convenient proximity to organized adult and older age recreational league playing populations,

- At sites that do not disrupt adjacent land uses or neighborhood residents,
- At sites that may co-locate with schools and/or utilize other major public facilities,
- To alleviate overcrowding on smaller, more local park and elementary school fields so local sites can be used for younger age league participant games, practice sessions, and neighborhood pickup games.

Playgrounds

Playgrounds and play areas will be developed to provide access within a 5-10-minute walking distance of most residential areas in the city and will be designed with age-appropriate features for young and older age children. Some existing playground equipment may be redeveloped or replaced to meet ADA requirements, safety concerns, and new activity interests.

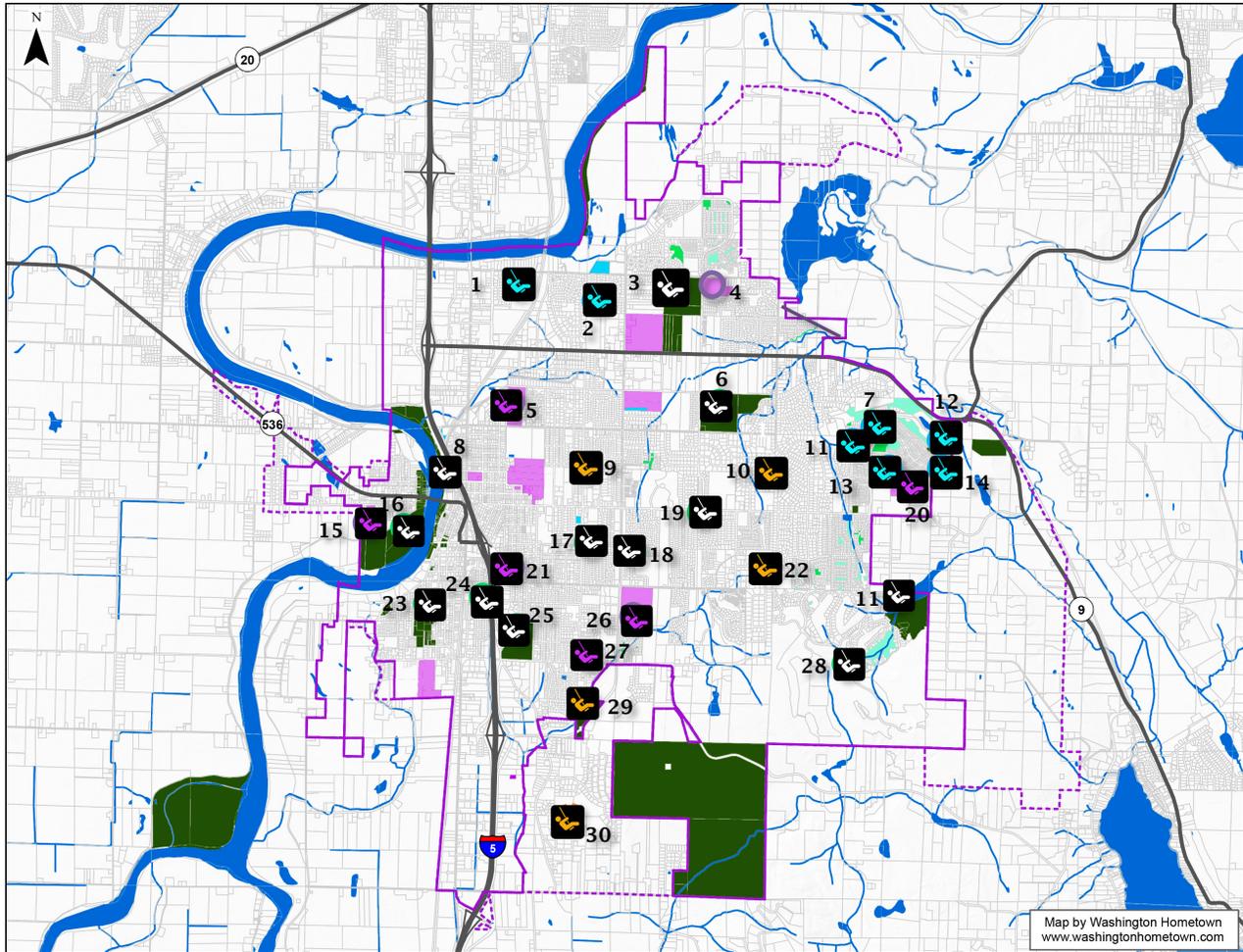
Existing playgrounds/play areas

The following covered and uncovered playground facilities and play areas include some school facilities that may not be available for public use during school hours.

Existing playground/play facilities

Mount Vernon	11
6 Bakerview Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
8 Lions Park South	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
16 Edgewater Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
17 Kiwanis Park	2
▪ 1 playground for age 2-5	
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
18 25th Street Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
19 Division Street Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	

24 South 6th Street Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
25 Hillcrest Park	2
▪ 1 playground for age 2-5	
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
28 Baker Court Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
Skagit County	3
3 Skagit County Playfields	2
▪ 1 playground for age 2-5	
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
23 Cleveland Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
Mount Vernon School District - not available public	8
4 Centennial ES	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
5 Madison ES	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
15 Washington ES	2
▪ 2 playgrounds for age 5-12	
20 Harriet Rowley ES	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
21 Lincoln ES	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
26 Little Mountain ES	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
27 Jefferson ES	1
▪ 1 playground for age 5-12	
HOAs	8
1 The Meadows Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 2-12	
2 Sandalwood Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 2-12	
7 Mount Baker Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 2-12	
11 Hidden Lake Park	1
▪ 1 playground for age 2-12	



- Mount Vernon**
- 6 Bakerview Park
- 8 Lions Park South
- 16 Edgewater Park
- 17 Kiwanis Park
- 18 25th Street Park
- 19 Division Street Park
- 24 South 6th Street Park
- 25 Hillcrest Park
- 28 Baker Court Park
- Skagit County**
- 3 Skagit County Playfields
- 23 Cleveland Park
- Mount Vernon School District**
- 4 Centennial ES
- 5 Madison ES
- 15 Washington ES
- 20 Harriet Rowley ES
- 21 Lincoln ES
- 26 Little Mountain ES
- 27 Jefferson ES
- Homeowner Associations (HOAs)**
- 1 The Meadows Park
- 2 Sandalwood Park
- 7 Mount Baker Park
- 11 Hidden Lake Park
- 12 Panorama Park
- 13 Monarch Park
- 14 Tahoma/Swift Creek Park
- Proposed playgrounds**
- 9 To be determined
- 10 To be determined
- 22 To be determined
- 29 Bonnie Rae Park
- 30 To be determined

Playgrounds

Public parks Schools

City Limits

12	Panorama Park	1
	▪ 1 playground for age 2-12	
13	Monarch Park	1
	▪ 1 playground for age 2-12	
14	Tahoma/Swift Creek Park	2
	▪ 2 playgrounds for age 2-12	
Total existing playgrounds		30

The following sites are to provide playground facilities in locations to fill gaps beyond 10-minute walking distance of Mount Vernon neighborhoods.

		Proposed playground/play facilities	
Mount Vernon			5
9	@ 18th Street		1
	▪ Install children’s playground for ages 5-12		
10	@ Waugh Road		1
	▪ Install children’s playground for ages 5-12		
22	@ Broadway Street		1
	▪ Install children’s playground for ages 5-12		
29	Bonnie Rae Park		1
	▪ Install children’s playground for ages 5-12		
30	@ Blodgett Road		1
	▪ Install children’s playground for ages 5-12		
Total proposed playgrounds			5

Sports courts – basketball/volleyball/pickleball

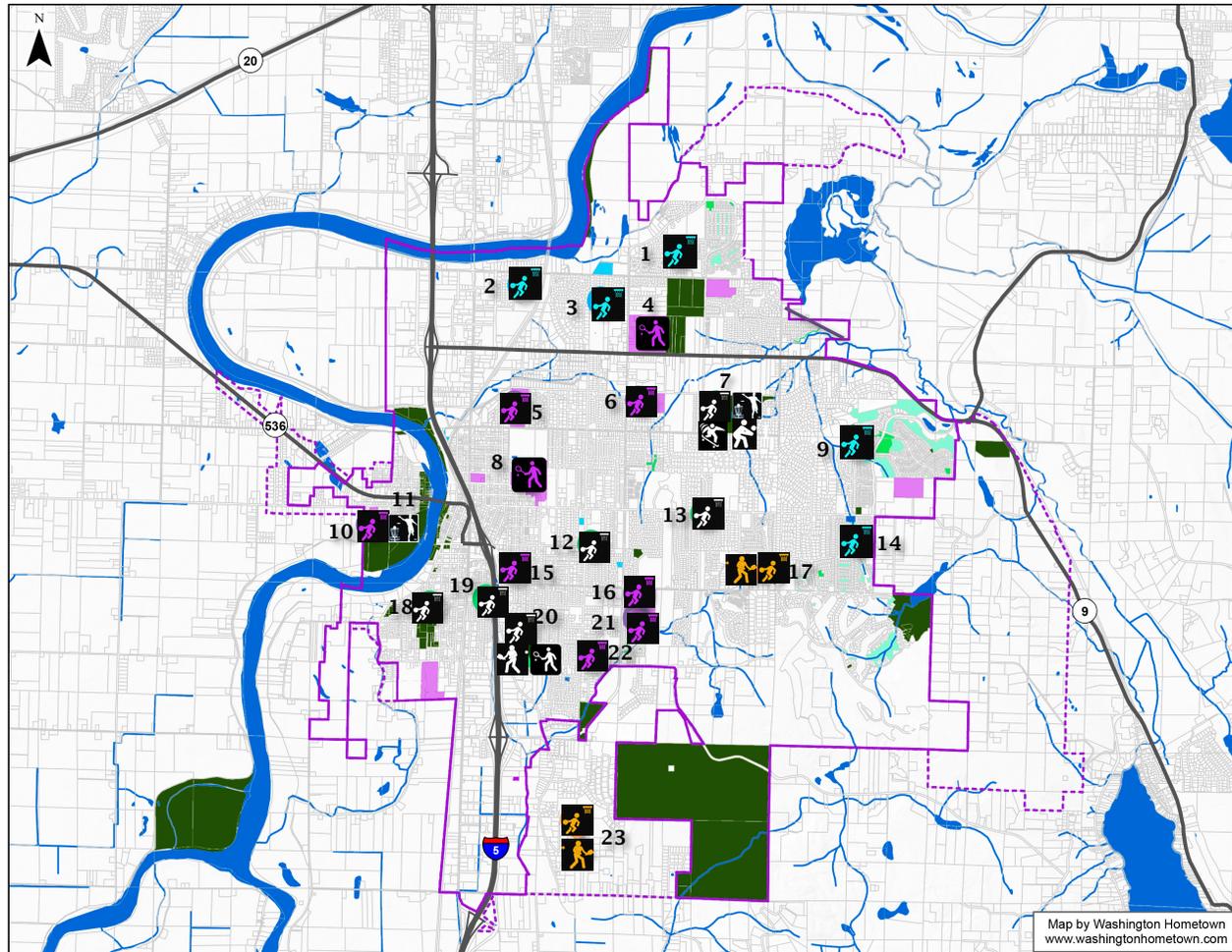
Sports or multi-use courts combine basketball, volleyball, pickleball, and tennis as well as a variety of other activities in half (25x50 feet) or full court (up to 50x100 feet) flexible layouts. Sports courts will be developed to provide multiuse basketball, pickleball, volleyball, and other activities within a 5-10-minute walking distance of most residential areas.

Some existing basketball or tennis courts may be upgraded to increase surface and equipment durability, meet safety concerns, and accommodate additional activity interests.

Existing sports courts

The following basketball, pickleball, volleyball, and tennis courts have been developed in the city to support local neighborhood recreational activities.

		Existing basketball, pickleball, tennis, volleyball courts
Mount Vernon		5.5-6-2-2
7	Bakerview Park	2-0-0-2
	▪ 2 basketball courts	
	▪ 2 sand volleyball courts	
12	Kiwanis Park	1-0-0-0
	▪ 1 basketball court	
13	Division Street Park	0.5-0-0-0
	▪ 0.5 basketball court	
19	South 6th Street Park	0.5-0-0-0
	▪ 0.5 basketball court	
20	Hillcrest Park	1.5-6-2-0
	▪ 1 lighted and 0.5 basketball courts	
	▪ 6 lighted pickleball courts	
	▪ 2 lighted tennis courts	
Skagit County		1-0-0-0
18	Cleveland Park	1-0-0-0
	▪ 1 basketball court	
Mount Vernon School District		11-0-8-0
5	Madison ES	3-0-0-0
	▪ 3 basketball courts (6 half-courts)	
6	LaVenture MS	1-0-0-0
	▪ 1 basketball court	
8	Mount Vernon HS	0-0-8-0
	▪ 8 tennis courts	
10	Washington ES	2-0-0-0
	▪ 2 basketball courts (short courts)	
15	Lincoln ES	1-0-0-0
	▪ 1 basketball court (2 half-courts)	
16	Mount Baker MS	1-0-0-0
	▪ 1 basketball court	
21	Little Mountain ES	1-0-0-0
	▪ 1 basketball court	



- Mount Vernon**
 - 7 Bakerview Park
 - 11 Edgewater Park
 - 12 Kiwanis Park
 - 13 Division Street Park
 - 19 South 6th Street Park
 - 20 Hillcrest Park
- Skagit County**
 - 18 Cleveland Park
- Mount Vernon School District**
 - 5 Madison ES
 - 6 LaVenture MS
 - 8 Mount Vernon HS
 - 10 Washington ES
 - 15 Lincoln ES
 - 16 Mount Baker MS
 - 21 Little Mountain ES
 - 22 Jefferson ES
- Washington State**
 - 4 Skagit Valley College
- Homeowner Associations (HOAs)**
 - 1 Firwest Common Area
 - 2 The Meadows Park
 - 3 Sandalwood Park
 - 9 Skagit Highlands Basketball Court
 - 14 Woodside Clubhouse
- Proposed sport courts**
 - 17 To be determined
 - 23 To be determined

Sport courts

- Public parks
 - HOA parks
 - Schools
- City Limits

22	Jefferson ES	2-0-0-0
	▪ 2 basketball courts (1 full and 2 half-courts)	
	Washington State	0-12-6-0
4	Skagit Valley College	0-12-6-0
	▪ 12 pickleball courts	
	▪ 6 tennis courts	
	HOAs	2-0-2-0
1	Firwest Common Area	0-0-2-0
	▪ 2 tennis courts	
2	The Meadows Park	1-0-0-0
	▪ 1 basketball court	
3	Sandalwood Park	0.5-0-0-0
	▪ 0.5 basketball court	
9	Skagit Highlands Basketball Court	1-0-0-0
	▪ 1 basketball court	
14	Woodside Clubhouse	0.5-0-0-0
	▪ 0.5 basketball court	
	Total existing basketball courts	19.5
	Total existing pickleball courts	18
	Total existing tennis courts	18
	Total existing volleyball courts	2

The following sites are to provide multi-use sport court facilities in locations to fill gaps beyond 10-minute walking distance of Mount Vernon neighborhoods.

	Proposed basketball, pickleball, tennis, volleyball courts	
	Mount Vernon	2-2-2-0
17	@ Broadway Street	1-1-1-0
	▪ Install 1 basketball court	
	▪ Install 1 tennis/pickleball court	
23	@ Blodgett Road	1-1-1-0
	▪ Install 1 basketball court	
	▪ Install 1 tennis/pickleball court	
	Total proposed basketball courts	2
	Total proposed pickleball courts	2
	Total proposed tennis courts	2
	Total proposed volleyball courts	0

Skateboard/pump tracks

Skateboard courts - provide concrete contoured bowls and sides with quarter and half-pipes, rails, and stairs for intermediate and skilled skateboard and BMX riders. **Skate dots** - are single pieces of skateboard equipment such as quarter and half-pipes, rails, or stairs for beginner, intermediate, and skilled riders within a convenient distance of residential neighborhood.

	Existing skateboard court, BMX/pump track	
	Mount Vernon	1-1
1	Bakerview Park	1-1
	▪ Concrete court with ramps and terraces for skateboard	
	▪ 1 BMX bike track	
2	Little Mountain Park	0-1
	▪ Bike skills park with trails	
	Total existing skateboard court	1-2

The following sites are to provide skate dots within 10-minute walks of most residential areas.

	Proposed skate dots	
	Mount Vernon	1
4	Hillcrest Park	1
	▪ Install 1 skate dot	
	Total proposed skate dots	1

Proposed pump track

A pump track composed of dirt or paved mounds and jumps for manually pumped bicycles may be developed to support this growing recreational activity.

	Proposed pump track	
	Mount Vernon	1
1	Bakerview Park	1
	▪ Install pump track in former skateboard area next to YMCA leased indoor center	
	Total proposed pump tracks	1

Athletic fields – soccer and baseball

Soccer fields

Rectangular grass fields support adult regulation (330x360 feet), youth ages 12-13 (300x330 feet), youth ages 10-11 (180x240 feet), youth ages 8-9 (90x150 feet), and youth ages 6-7 (75x120 feet) soccer activities. The larger field areas can be subdivided to support younger age players practice and games.

For example, a regulation field of 330x360 feet can be subdivided to support 12 age 6-7 fields of 75x120 feet. Consequently, while the fields are counted by regulation size the actual playing capacity of the fields can increase depending on the players age and field requirements.

Baseball and softball fields

Baseball and softball field dimensions vary considerably by age and league for baseline, infield, pitcher’s mound, and distance to left and center field fences. The field-defining dimension, however, is the distance to center field as the infield dimensions can be modified to fit the player’s ages and league for baseball and softball.

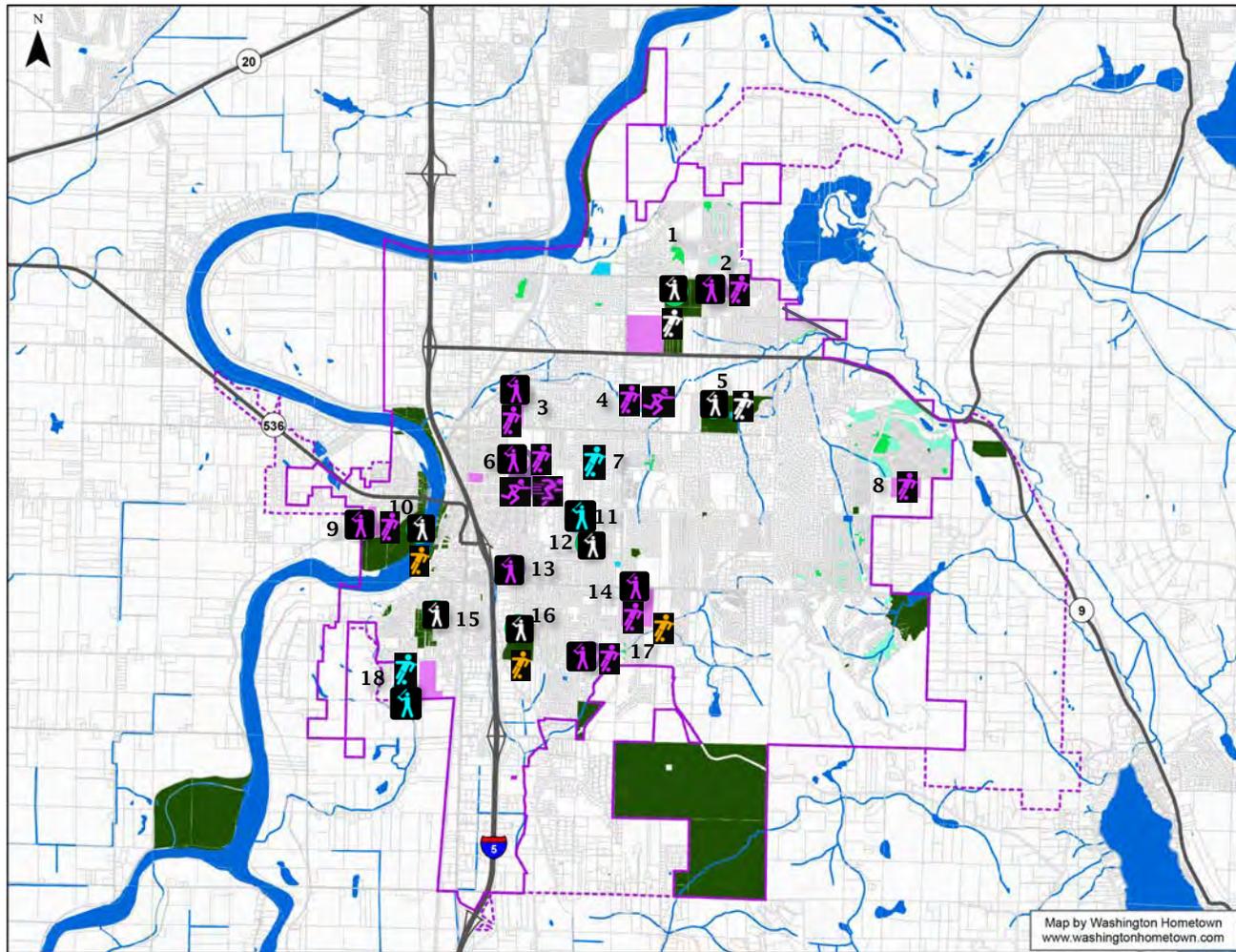
Center field baseball distances for Pinto and Little League are 200-250 feet, Bonco 250 feet, Pony 300 feet, and high school and college 350-400 feet. Softball center field distances are proportionately less for youth ages 10 and under of 175 feet, high school 225 feet, college and adult 220-250 feet, and adult slow pitch 315 feet.

Baseball/softball fields may be dedicated with fixed skinned infield diamonds and outfield fences or located at the ends of rectangular fields where soccer fields can be overlaid the grass outfield areas.

The following athletic fields have been developed to support various age group leagues in the city.

	Existing soccer, baseball athletic fields	
Mount Vernon		6-10
5 Bakerview Park		3-4

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 grass 300x330-foot soccer fields 4 grass 200-foot youth baseball fields with electronic scoreboards 	
10 Edgewater Park		1-2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 230x340-foot soccer field 1 grass 200-foot baseball field 1 grass 300-foot baseball field 	
12 Kiwanis Park		0-1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 200-foot baseball field with bleachers 	
15 Sherman Anderson Field		0-1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 300-foot baseball field with bleachers 	
16 Hillcrest Park		1-1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 210x390-foot soccer field 1 grass 230-foot youth baseball backstop with bleachers 	
Skagit County		0-5
1 Skagit County Playfields		0-5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 grass 300-foot baseball fields with lights 1 grass 400-foot baseball field with lights, bleachers 	
Mount Vernon School District – not available public		0-5
2 Centennial ES		2-0
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 180x350-foot soccer field 1 grass 180x380-foot soccer field 	
3 Madison ES		1-0
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 150x290-foot soccer field 	
4 LaVenture MS		2-0
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 175x330-foot soccer/football field 1 grass 310x560-foot soccer field 	
6 Mount Vernon HS		2-2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 210x350-foot soccer field 1 grass 150x320-foot soccer/football field with stadium 1 grass 200-foot baseball field 1 grass 300-foot baseball field 	
8 Harriet Rowley ES		1-0
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 170x200-foot multipurpose soccer field 	
9 Washington ES		2-0
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 grass 150x360-foot multipurpose soccer field 1 grass 200x280 grass multipurpose soccer field 	



- Mount Vernon** 
- 5 Bakerview Park
- 10 Edgewater Park
- 12 Kiwanis Park
- 15 Sherman Anderson Field
- 16 Hillcrest Park
- Skagit County** 
- 1 Skagit County Playfields
- Mount Vernon School District** 
- 2 Centennial ES
- 3 Madison ES
- 4 LaVenture MS
- 6 Mount Vernon HS
- 8 Harriet Rowley ES
- 9 Washington ES
- 13 Lincoln ES
- 14 Mount Baker MS
- 17 Jefferson ES
- Private** 
- 7 Immaculate Conception Rgnl Schl
- 11 North 18th Street Park
- 18 Mount Vernon Christian School
- Proposed fields** 
- 10 Edgewater Park, add soccer
- 16 Hillcrest Park, add soccer

Athletic fields

- Public parks
- Schools
- City Limits

13	Lincoln ES	1-0
▪	1 grass 160x190-foot multipurpose soccer field	
14	Mount Baker MS	1-2
▪	1 grass 320x460-foot multipurpose soccer field	
▪	1 grass 200-foot baseball field	
▪	1 grass 280-foot baseball field	
17	Jefferson ES	1-0
▪	1 grass 180x300-foot multipurpose soccer field	
	Private	4-0
7	ICRS	1-0
▪	1 grass 260x280-foot multipurpose soccer field	
11	North 18th Street Park	1-0
▪	1 grass 160x190-foot multipurpose soccer field	
18	Mount Vernon Christian School	2-0
▪	1 grass 150x160 grass soccer field	
▪	1 grass 500x660-foot multipurpose soccer field	
	Total existing soccer fields various sizes	22
	Total existing baseball/softball fields various sizes	18

The following sites are to improve soccer fields of various sizes to increase practice and game capacity.

Proposed soccer, baseball athletic fields

	Mount Vernon	2-4
10	Edgewater Park	1-2
▪	Improve existing grass multipurpose area for competitive practice and play for 1 soccer rectangular field with 2 baseball diamonds on end corners	
16	Hillcrest Park	1-2
▪	Improve existing grass multipurpose area for competitive practice and play for 1 soccer rectangular field with 2 baseball diamonds on end corners	
	Total proposed soccer fields	2-4



Skate dot in Seattle



Skate dot in Seattle



Dirt pump track in Bellingham

DB (C) BRICE SHIRBACH



Paved pump track in Lake Chelan



Sport court - half-court basketball/pickleball/tennis



Sport court - multiple basketall/tennis



Rectangular field - soccer/2 baseball fields



Rectangular field - soccer/baseball/track

Indoor recreation activities

Indoor facilities may provide space for swimming pools (including outdoor facilities), gymnasiums, physical conditioning, arts and crafts, class and instruction rooms, meeting facilities, kitchens and dining, daycare and latch key, teen and senior center, and special population resource activities. Indoor centers may also incorporate theaters, historic museums, interpretive nature exhibits, and other activities.

Independent indoor buildings and sites may be developed to provide space and services for teen, adult, or senior center activities that occur during or conflict with school activities and sites. Generally, these indoor facilities may provide space and services that are not suitably provided at school sites or that may not be duplicated by school facilities and programs.

When indoor centers are developed independent of school facilities, the buildings may be independent properties or portions of other sites that include trail corridors, natural areas, resource activities, athletic activities, or other public uses such as civic centers and libraries.

Vision

As described, the community and recreation center vision will:

- Provide a variety of indoor activities,
- Within a convenient proximity to using populations,
- Within a facility and services concept that recognizes and supports the investments that have already made in existing city and school facilities and programs, and
- In cooperative ventures with other interested and participating public and private agencies.

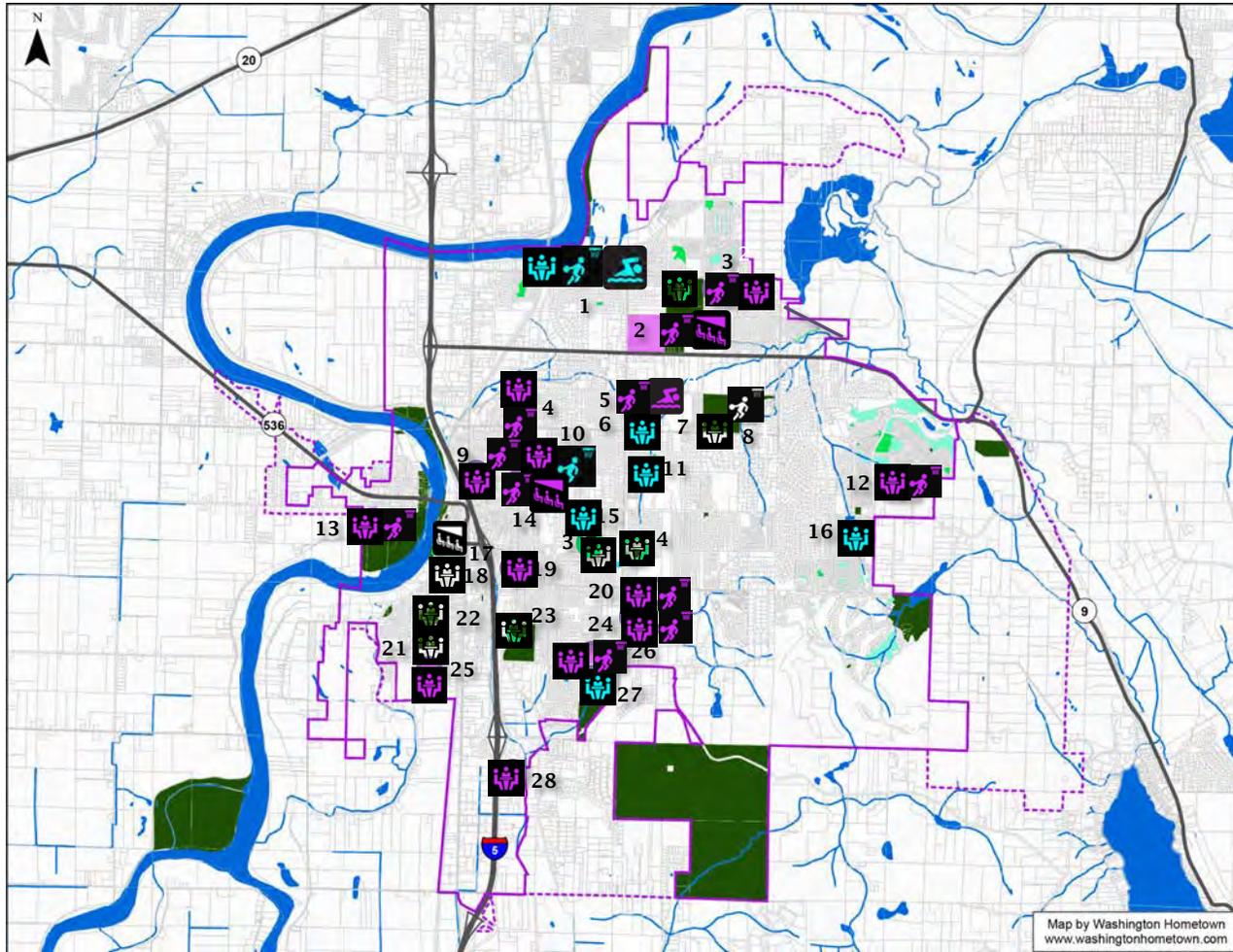
Community center – class and meeting rooms

Community center facilities with conference rooms, classrooms, assembly rooms, and theaters may support a variety of functions including nutrition and health programs, childcare, education classes, music and drama instruction, art workshops, public

presentations, and performances for youth, teens, seniors, adults, and other community members. The facilities may be dedicated spaces, as in theaters, or flexible and divisible spaces that can be subdivided for a variety of activities. The facilities may include kitchens or catering areas, dressing rooms, or audio/visual supporting equipment.

The inventory includes school classrooms and assembly halls that may also be used for meeting activities after hours or after other school hosted events but are not available for public use during daytime hours.

Existing community center class and meeting room facilities	
Mount Vernon	10,800
7 Bakerview Park	2,400
▪ 2,400 square foot Vaux Retreat Center multipurpose meeting and conference center	
18 Library Commons	5,200
▪ 4,000 square foot Great Room meeting space with 200-person capacity	
▪ 1,200 square foot small meeting rooms with 30-person capacity	
23 Hillcrest Park	3,200
▪ 2,640 square foot Lodge with open assembly area and catering kitchen	
▪ 560 square foot Recreation Building with meeting and conference rooms	
Skagit County	4,520
21 Skagit County Fairgrounds	900
▪ 900 square foot large meeting room with 45-person capacity	
22 Skagit County Senior Center	3,620
▪ 2,500 square foot large meeting room for 125-person with catering kitchen	
▪ 1,120 square foot multiuse gymnasium with 56-person capacity	
Washington State	8,000
2 Skagit Valley College	8,000
▪ 8,000 square foot Cafeteria with 400-person capacity	
Mount Vernon School District	15,300
3 Centennial ES	1,200
▪ 1,120 square foot meeting and classrooms	



- Mount Vernon**
 - 7 Bakerview Park
 - 17 Lincoln Theatre
 - 18 Library Commons
 - 23 Hillcrest Park
- Skagit County**
 - 21 Skagit County Fairground
 - 22 Skagit County Senior Center
- Washington State**
 - 2 Skagit Valley College
- Mount Vernon School District**
 - 3 Centennial ES
 - 4 Madison ES
 - 5 LaVenture MS
 - 9 Mount Vernon Virtual Learning
 - 12 Harriet Rowley ES
 - 13 Washington ES
 - 14 Mount Vernon HS
 - 15 Jefferson ES
 - 19 Lincoln ES
 - 20 Mount Baker MS
 - 24 Little Mountain ES
 - 25 Skagit Academy
 - 28 Aspire Academy
- Nonprofit**
 - 1 Skagit Valley YMCA
 - 6 Boys & Girls Club of Skagit County
 - 8 YMCA Indoor Sports Center
 - 10 Immaculate Conception Rgnl Schl
- Homeowner Association (HOA)**
 - 11 Stonebridge Lodge & Trail
 - 16 Woodside Clubhouse
 - 27 Big Fir Clubhouse

Indoor facilities

- Public parks
 - Private/nonprofit
 - Schools
- City Limits

4	Madison ES	1,200
▪	1,200 square foot meeting and classrooms	
5	LaVenture MS	1,800
▪	1,800 square foot meeting and classrooms	
9	Mount Vernon Virtual Learning	800
▪	800 square foot meeting and classrooms	
12	Harriet Rowley ES	1,200
▪	1,200 square foot meeting and classrooms	
13	Washington ES	1,200
▪	1,200 square foot meeting and classrooms	
14	Mount Vernon High School	1,800
▪	1,800 square foot meeting and classrooms	
15	Jefferson ES	1,200
▪	1,200square foot meeting and classrooms	
19	Lincoln ES	1,200
▪	1,200 square foot meeting and classrooms	
20	Mount Baker MS	900
▪	900 square foot meeting and classrooms	
24	Little Mountain ES	1,200
▪	1,200 square foot meeting and classrooms	
25	Skagit Academy	800
▪	800 square foot meeting and classrooms	
26	Aspire Academy	800
▪	800 square foot meeting and classrooms	
	Nonprofit	5,400
1	Skagit Valley YMCA	1,200
▪	1,200square foot meeting and classrooms	
6	Boys & Girls Club of Skagit County	1,200
▪	1,200square foot meeting and classrooms	
10	ICRS	3,000
▪	3000 square foot multipurpose gymnasium with 150-person capacity - 3,000	
	HOAs	8,150
11	Stonebridge Lodge & Trail	3,000
▪	3,000 square foot meeting room -	
16	Woodside Clubhouse	2,000
▪	2,000 square foot meeting room -	
27	Big Fir Clubhouse	3,150

▪	3,150 square foot meeting room -	
Total existing meeting and classroom square footage		52,170

Performing arts

	Existing performance art facilities	
Mount Vernon		5,400
17	Lincoln Theater	5,400
▪	5,400 square foot auditorium, backstage, and lobby of a 6,650 square feet facility	
Washington State		15,000
2	Skagit Valley College	15,000
▪	15,000 square foot McIntire Hall with 750-seat capacity of a 32,500 square foot facility	
Total existing performing arts square footage		20,400

Fine arts

	Existing fine arts facilities	
Mount Vernon School District		2,100
5	LaVenture Middle School	900
▪	900 square foot arts and crafts workshops	
14	Mount Vernon High School	1,200
▪	1,200 square foot arts and crafts workshops	
Total existing fine arts square footage		2,100

Recreation center – gyms and fitness

Indoor basketball courts vary in dimensions depending on the players age and league play where college courts are 50x94 feet, high school 50x84 feet, and middle school 42x74 feet not including team benches, referee and game clock tables, bleachers, lockers, showers, and restrooms. Gymnasium sizes can increase the overall interior size from 6,000 square feet or less in elementary schools to 8,400 to 14,100 square feet in middle and high schools depending on locker and shower accommodations.

Middle school and older ages play on hardwood floors while

elementary school students may play on a variety of surfaces in multipurpose assembly rooms or in middle or high school gymnasiums in subdivided courts with lowered backboards.

Full size basketball courts can be subdivided to provide backboards along the sidelines to support 4 half courts for practice or for younger age group including elementary school games. The courts can also be subdivided to support 1-2 volleyball (30x60 feet) or 4 badminton courts (20x44 feet).

	Existing gymnasiums
Washington State	15,000
2 Skagit Valley College	15,000
▪ 15,000 square foot gymnasium	
Mount Vernon School District	15,000
3 Centennial ES	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
4 Madison ES	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
5 LaVenture MS	10,000
▪ 10,000 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
12 Harriet Rowley ES	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
13 Washington ES	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
14 Mount Vernon High School	15,900
▪ 15,000 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
▪ 900 square foot physical conditioning	
15 Jefferson ES	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
19 Lincoln ES	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
20 Mount Baker MS	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
24 Little Mountain ES	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	

Nonprofit	43,500
1 Skagit Valley YMCA	26,000
▪ 15,000 square foot multipurpose gymnasium with 4 pickleball courts, basketball court, movable bleacher seating	
▪ 11,000 square foot indoor soccer, pickleball, basketball, and volleyball court in Bakerview Park	
10 ICRS	7,500
▪ 7,500 square foot multipurpose gymnasium	
11 Mount Vernon Christian School	10,000
▪ 10,000 square foot gymnasium	
Total existing gymnasium square footage	144,400
Youth gymnasiums	9
Competition gymnasiums	5

Aquatic center

An Olympic sized swimming pool is 164 feet or 50 meters long, at least 8-10 lanes 8 feet 2 inches or 2.5 meters wide, 6 feet 7 inches or 2.0 meters to 9 feet 10 inches or 3.0 meters deep, and hold at least 500,000-660,000 gallons of water.

Professional lap pools have a length of about 82 feet or 25 meters although 40-foot-long pools are considered lap pools as well. Widths may vary from 15 to 20 feet depending on the number of lanes.

	Existing aquatic center
YMCA	30,000
8 YMCA of Skagit County	30,000
▪ 30,000 square feet with 6 lap lanes of 25 yards, 3 lane teaching pool, splash pad, and lazy river with steam rooms and lockers	
Total existing aquatic center square footage	30,000

Special use activities

Special use activities may include events or facilities for the general population on a limited or special occasion and/or for special interest populations at appropriate sites throughout Mount Vernon. Special use facilities may include special events, streetscapes, community gardens, dog parks, and similar special interest activities.

Special use activities may be located on independent properties or portions of other sites that include trail corridors, resource activities, recreational activities, indoor facilities or centers, or other public facilities.

Special use activities may be sited on other publicly owned lands or under lease agreements with private landowners or organizations or on purchased properties.

Special event space

Special event spaces and urban accents provide small and large gathering places for everyday activities as well as vendors, festivals, art and farmers’ markets, and other activities. The spaces may be designed for small informal family or neighborhood gatherings, or larger for community-wide or even regional events. Improvements may be contained entirely within the park site, or streetscape, or be designed and managed to spill over onto adjacent public facility roads and parking lots.

	Existing special event spaces
Mount Vernon	1
1 Edgewater Park	1
▪ 1 covered stage and grass amphitheater	
Total existing special event spaces	1

Community gardens

A community garden is a single piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people. Community gardens utilize individual or

shared plots to produce vegetables, fruits, flowers, or other plants for the enjoyment of the gardeners including the option of selling the products at farmers’ and other markets. Community gardens increase the availability of nutritious foods, strengthen community ties, reduce environmental hazards, reduce food miles, and create a more sustainable system.

Community gardens are part of the sharing economy making it possible for many people to enjoy a resource – in this case, land for gardening – that they couldn’t afford on their own.

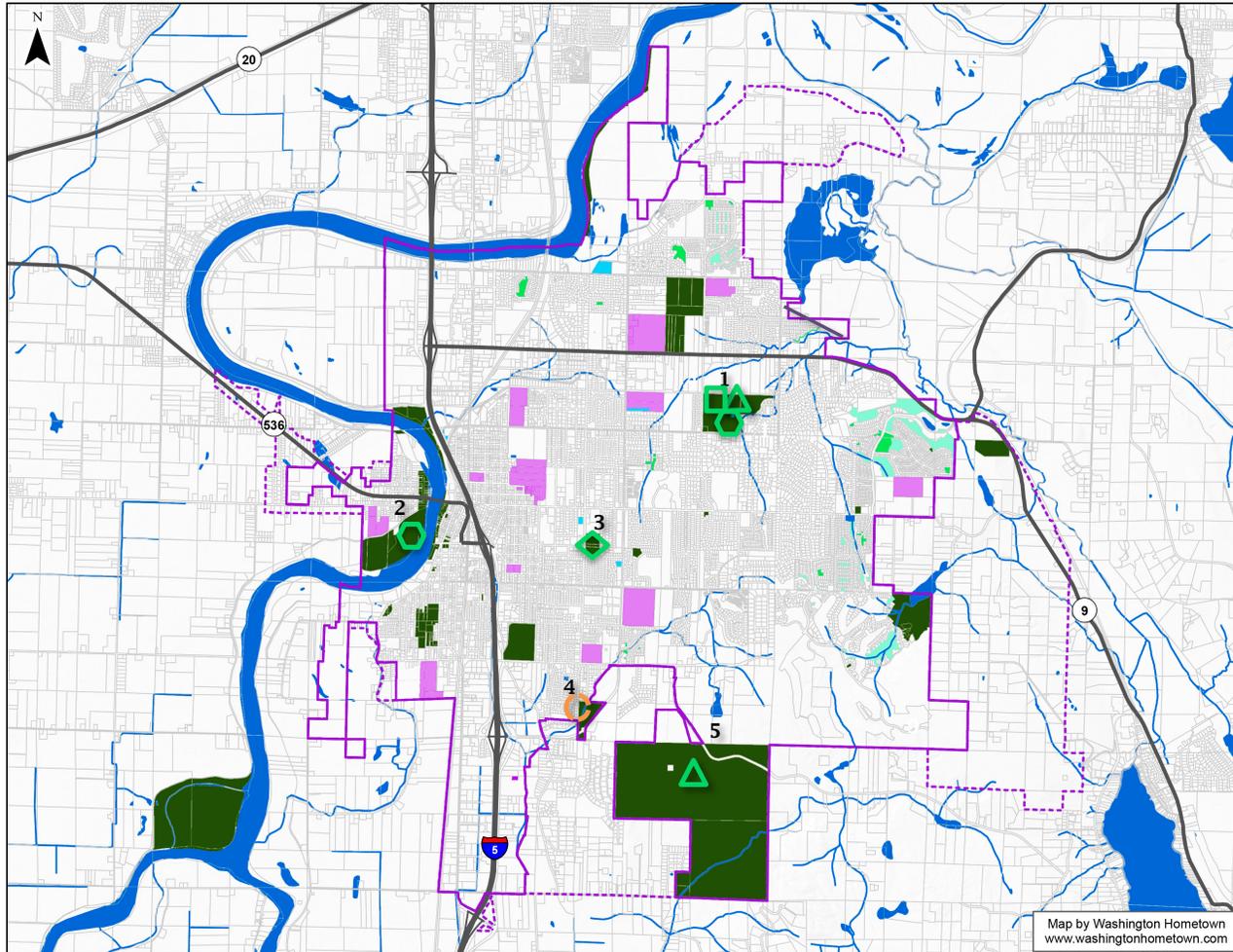
Community gardens provide individual rentable garden plots typically 10x20-40 feet with compost bins, a shed for storing tools, irrigation hookups, a common gathering area sometimes covered with benches or picnic tables, and a perimeter fence to control wildlife.

The following community garden is proposed to fill park gaps and meet projected population growth in the populations who most utilize this type of facility.

	Proposed community garden
Mount Vernon	1
2 Bonnie Rae Park	1
▪ Install community garden with small and large plots and garden shed	
Total proposed community gardens	1

Dog parks

A dog park is a park for small and large dogs to exercise and play off-leash in a controlled environment for small versus large dogs under the supervision of the owners. Dog parks have varying features, although they typically provide a 4 to 6-foot high fence, separate double-gated entry and exit points, sand or gravel surface for adequate drainage and waste control, benches for humans, shade for hot days, parking, water, pooper-scooper to pick up and dispose of animal waste, and regular grounds maintenance and cleaning. Dog parks may also offer wheel-chair access, a pond for



Mount Vernon	
1	Bakerview Park
2	Edgewater Park
3	Kiwanis Park
5	Little Mountain Park
Proposed special facility	
4	Bonnie Rae Park

Special facilities

- Public parks
- Schools
- City Limits
- Community garden
- Dog park
- BMX/pump track
- Splash park
- Disc golf

swimming, and a variety of exercise for equipment for small or large dogs.

A public dog park is typically a 0.5-1.0-acre fenced outdoor area where people and small or large dogs can play together. Unless well-lit, most public dog parks are open from dawn until dusk.

	Existing dog parks
Mount Vernon	1
3 Bakerview Park	1
▪ Off-leash dog area	
Total existing dog parks	1

The following dog park is proposed to fill park gaps and meet projected population growth in the populations who most utilize this type of facility.

	Proposed dog park
Mount Vernon	2
4 Lions Park North	1
▪ Off-leash dog area	
5 Edgewater Park	1
▪ Install off-leash dog area	
Total proposed dog park	2

Outdoor artworks

Outdoor artworks provide aesthetic accents to parks, streetscapes, city buildings, and other public spaces. The art may be freestanding sculptures, wall paintings, murals, and a variety of other permanent or temporary pieces procured and maintained by the city’s Public Art Fund.

	Existing outdoor artworks
Mount Vernon	33
1 Tulip Stack - privately owned	1
Downtown along the Skagit Riverwalk north of the bridge.	
▪ Painting on the smokestack by Esther McLatchy in 1987	
2 Park Mural	1

Located on Freeway Drive across from Lion’s Park.	
▪ Pointing on the retaining wall by Best Self Summer Program with Angel Santana in 1996	
3 Tulip Mural	1
Located on Kincaid Street.	
▪ Painting on the retaining wall by Best Self Summer Program with Angel Santana in 1998	
4 “River Keepers” Memorial	1
Located under West Mount Vernon Bridge on the Skagit Riverwalk.	
▪ Metal sculptures on retainin wall by Tracy Powell in 1999	
5 “Soccer Mom”	1
Located at 1717 South 13th Street near Hillcrest Park entrance.	
▪ Wood carving by Casey Young in 2000	
6 “Leaper	1
Located at 600 Behrens Millett Road at Edgewater Park.	
▪ Bronze sculpture by Thomas Jay in 2003	
7 “Locomotion”	1
Located at 105 East Kincaid Street above the east entrance door to the Skagit Transit Station.	
▪ Stained glass by Jack Archibald in 2004	
8 “Me & Grandpa” - Hasper Gates Statute	1
Located at First and Gates Streets in the downtown.	
▪ Granite statue by Tracy Powell in 2005	
9 “Alpha Helix”	1
Located at 105 East Kincaid Street outside of the Skagit Transit Station.	
▪ Steel sculpture by Joseph Kinnebrew in 2008	
10 Mount Vernon Welcome Sign	1
Located at the intersection of 1st and West Division Street.	
▪ Glass, concrete, and metal signage by Mark Iverson in 2009	
11 Quote Rocks	1
Located at 315 Snoqualmie Street outside of Mount Vernon City Library.	
▪ Large, engraved rocks installed in 2014.	
12 “Tulip Dance”	1
Located at 509 South Main Street.	
▪ Metal sculpture by Jennifer Corio and Dave Frei of Cobalt Designworks LLC installed in 2015	
13 Iris Sculpture	1

Located at Kincaid Street retaining wall at the onramp to I-5 at Kincaid Street.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastic lumber and aluminum over PVC blooms by Elizabeth Bisegna installed in 2015 		
14	“The Geese”	1
Located at the intersection of Curtis Street and Division in West Mount Vernon.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powder coated ¼” steel by Skagit Valley College Weld Club under the leadership of Mary Kuebelbeck with Jeremy Alonso, Brian Arellano, Taylor Forsyth, and Brandon Peden in 2015 		
15	“Blue Square”	1
Located at Main Street by the West Mount Vernon bridge.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hollow steel sculpture by Arne Garborg born April 1, 1930 - died September 4, 2012, and installed in 2016 		
16	“Marsh to Mountains”	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located along the Kulshan Trail from Riverside Drive to 18th Street near the entrance to Habitat for Humanity parking lot. Metal sculpture by Burlington Edison High School in 2016 		
17	“Bikes”	1
Located along the Kulshan Trail from Riverside Drive to 18th Street.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metal sculpture by Burlington Edison High School installed in 2016 		
18	“The Leaf”	1
Located along the Kulshan Trail from Riverside Drive to 18th Street.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1/4” steel sculpture by Skagit Valley College Weld Club under the leadership of Mary Kuebelbeck with James Hill, Brandon Mazdra, Caleb McClland, and Andrew Whisonant in 2016 		
19	“The Tree”	
Located along the Kulshan Trail from Riverside Drive to 18th Street.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powder coated ¼” steel by Skagit Valley College Weld Club under the leadership of Mary Kuebelbeck with William Poe, Grant Springer, Dennis Steele, and Rafael Villapando in 1026 		
20	“Perrin’s Herons”	1
Located at 910 Cleveland Avenue in front of City Hall Administration Building.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metal sculptures designed by Nancy O’Connor and Mark Stender, fabricated by Moon River Metal Works in 		
21	“The Fern”	1
Located at 315 Snoqualmie Street in front of Mount Vernon Public		

Library.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powder coated 1/4” steel by Skagit Valley Weld Club under the leadership of Mary Kuebelbeck with Alex Schmakeit, Andrew Freeman, Jessica Holbrook, and Buddy Grett in 2018 		
22	Valley of Our Spirits	1
Located at 509 South Main Street in the Skagit Riverwalk Park at the west end of Gates Street.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steel, glass, and stone sculpture by Lin McJunkin, Milo White, and Jay Bowen in 2018 		
23	“The Butterfly”	1
Located at 500 South 18th Street in Kiwanis Park.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powder coated 1/4” steel and plexiglass sculpture by Skagit Valley Weld Club under leadership of Mary Kuebelbeck with Nicholas Blodgett, Eddy Feliciano, and Kirus Krumins in 2019 		
24	“The Guardian”	1
Located at 3000 Little Mountain Road in Little Mountain Park at the top of the mountain near the Pickering Overlook.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Columbia Gorge basalt stone sculpture by Knut Hueneke in 2019 		
25	Fish Vane	1
Located at 1717 South 13th Street in Lower Hillcrest Park.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metal sculpture by Wayne Kangas in 2020 		
26	“Fractal II: Goddess”	1
Located at 1717 South 13th Street in front of Hillcrest Park Administration Building.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stainless steel sculpture by Don Anderson in 2020 		
27	“Halo”	11
Located at 1717 South 13th Street outside of Hillcrest Park Administration Building.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granite sculpture by William Weissinger in 2020 		
28	“Morning Marvel”	1
Located at 1717 South 13th Street in front of Hillcrest Park Administration Building.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skagit Valley Weld Club under the leadership of Mary Kuebelbeck with Karl Grotzke, Tucker Giltner, Jared Staniford, and Sabitri Dolson in 2020 		
29	“Overall...Making Hay”	1
Located at 315 Snoqualmie Street in the Mount Vernon Public Library.		

▪ Oil on canvas by Alfred Currier in 2021	
30 “Paired Otters”	1
Located on the Skagit Riverwalk.	
▪ 1/4” thick cast iron bronze sculpture by Georgia Gerber in 2010	
31 “Beaver with Stick”	1
Locate on the Skagit Riverwalk.	
▪ 1/4” thick cast iron bronze sculpture by Georgia Gerber in 2018	
32 “Beaver with Pup”	1
Located on Skagit Riverwalk.	
▪ 1/4” thick cast iron sculpture by Georgia Gerber in 2010	
33 “Ayock Otter Stretching”	1
Located on Skagit Riverwalk.	
▪ 1/4” thick cast iron sculpture by Georgia Gerber in 2019	
Total existing outdoor artworks	33

Support facilities

Support facilities include maintenance yards, plant nurseries, and administrative activities necessary to support park, recreation, and open space programs and facilities.

Support facilities may be independent properties or portions of other sites that include other administrative offices, maintenance yards and shops, as well as trail corridors, resource activities, athletic facilities, indoor recreation centers or other park and recreation facilities.

Vision

As described, the support facilities vision will:

- Provide facilities necessary to service park, recreation, and open space programs and activities for the general population,
- In a manner that is functional and cost effective.

		Existing facilities square footage
Mount Vernon		8,830
1	Hillcrest Park	2,040
	▪ 2,040 square foot administration building	
2	Parks Storage Shop	1,050
	▪ 1,050-square foot single bay shop on 1.0-acres site on Barker Street	
3	Milwaukee Shop	2,120
	▪ 2,120-square foot 5 bay shop on a 1.0-acre site on Milwaukee Street	
4	Parks Shop	3,620
	This office and storage yard is located on Britt Road.	
	▪ 900-square foot office, crew, lunchroom, and lockers space	
	▪ 2,720-square foot enclosed storage space is co-located in the same building with the offices	
	▪ 1.5-acre open storage yard for vehicles and equipment	
Total existing facilities square footage		8,830

Chapter 6: Park plan exhibits

Following is an inventory of every public park, recreation, open space, and trail property within or adjacent to Mount Vernon.

Mount Vernon

South 6th Street Park	66
25th Street Park	67
Baker Court Park	68
Bakerview Park & Wetland	70
Beaver Pond Park	71
Bonnie Rae Park	72
Division Street Park	73
Edgewater Park	74
Emma Jarvis Memorial Garden	75
Fire Station 3 Park	76
Hillcrest Park	77
Kiwanis Park	78
Kulshan Creek Trail Corridor	79
Lions Park North	80
Lions Park South	81
Little Mountain Park	82
Maddox Creek Trail	83
Nemo Open Space	84
Pine Street Plaza	85
Riverbend Loop Trail	86
Sherman Anderson Field	87
Skagit Highlands Overlook	88
Skagit Riverwalk Park	89
Ted Reep Open Space	90
Trumpter Trail Corridor	91
Parks Storage Building	92
Milwaukee Shop	93
Parks Shop	94
Library Commons	95
Lincoln Theater	96

Skagit County

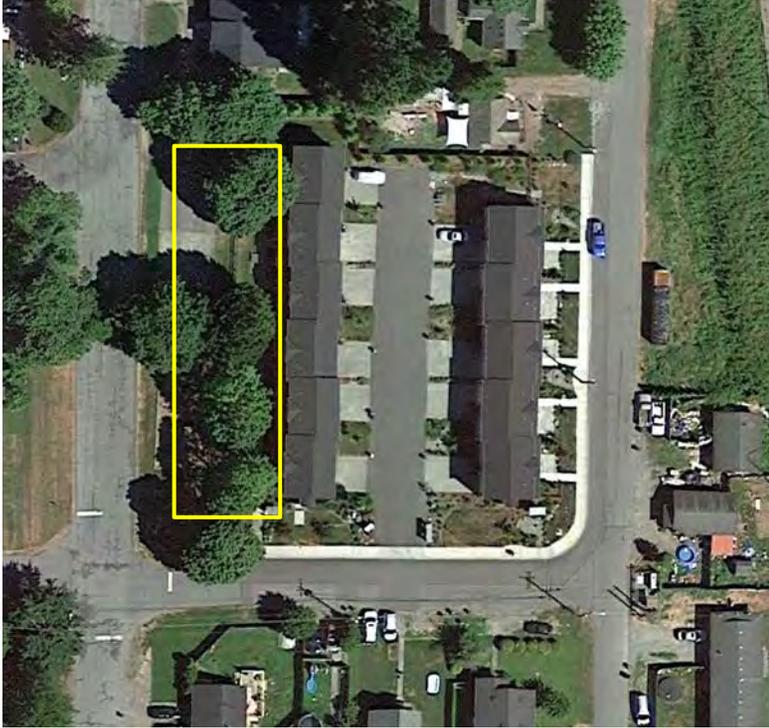
Cleveland Park	97
Hoag/Big Rock Memorial Park	98
Skagit County Senior Center	99
Skagit County Fairgrounds	100
Skagit Valley Playfields	101

Washington State

Skagit Valley College	102
Spud House Access	103
Young's Bar	104

Nonprofit Facilities

Skagit Valley YMCA	105
Boys & Girls Club of Skagit County	106
North 18th Street Park	107



City of Mount Vernon South 6th Street Park

This 0.5-acre neighborhood park is located on South 6th Street near the downtown.

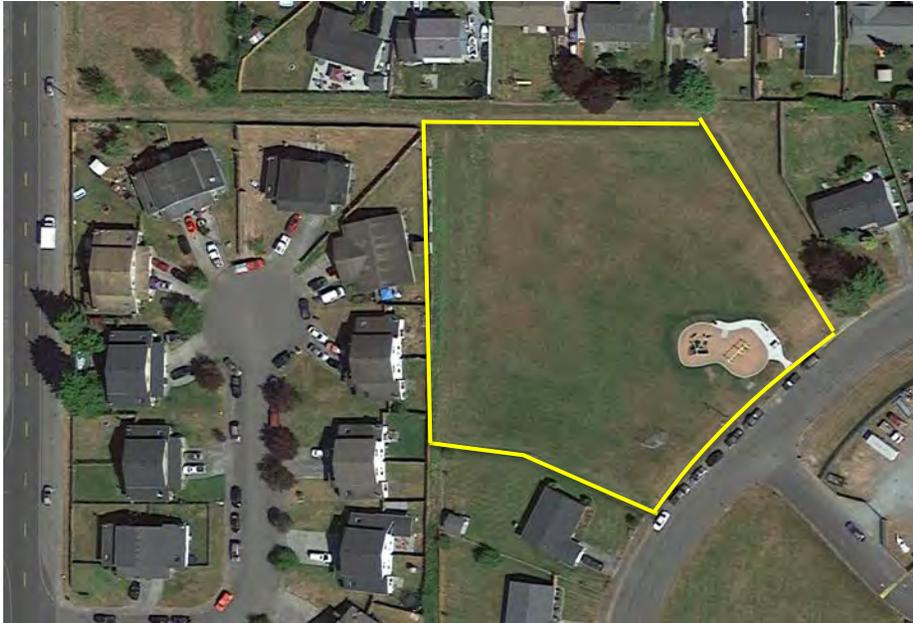
Existing improvements:

- Open space turf
- 1 picnic table
- 1 park bench
- 1 playground for age 5-12
- 0.5 basketball court
- 1 trash can
- On-street parking

Possible improvements:

- New playground with landscape structures age 5-12
- Fencing between playground and road





City of Mount Vernon 25th Street Park

This 2.0-acre pocket park is located at 827 25th Street.

Existing improvements:

- Open space turf
- 0.05-mile trail to LaVenture Road
- 2 park benches
- 2 picnic tables
- 1 playground for age 2-12
- 1 soccer goal and grass field
- 1 trash can
- On-street parking

Possible improvements

- Pedestrian access to LaVenture Road
- Add picnic tables
- Add picnic shelter





City of Mount Vernon Baker Court Park

This 0.5-acre mini park is located at 4501 Eaglemont Drive.

Existing improvements:

- Open space turf
- 2 park benches
- 3 picnic tables
- 1 picnic shelter
- 1 playground for age 5-12
- 1 trash can

Possible improvements

- Replace playground
- Repair irrigation system





City of Mount Vernon

Bakerview Park & Wetland

This community park is located at 3101 East Fir Street with 25.0 acres of active use and 14.0 acres of natural areas and wetlands.

Existing improvements

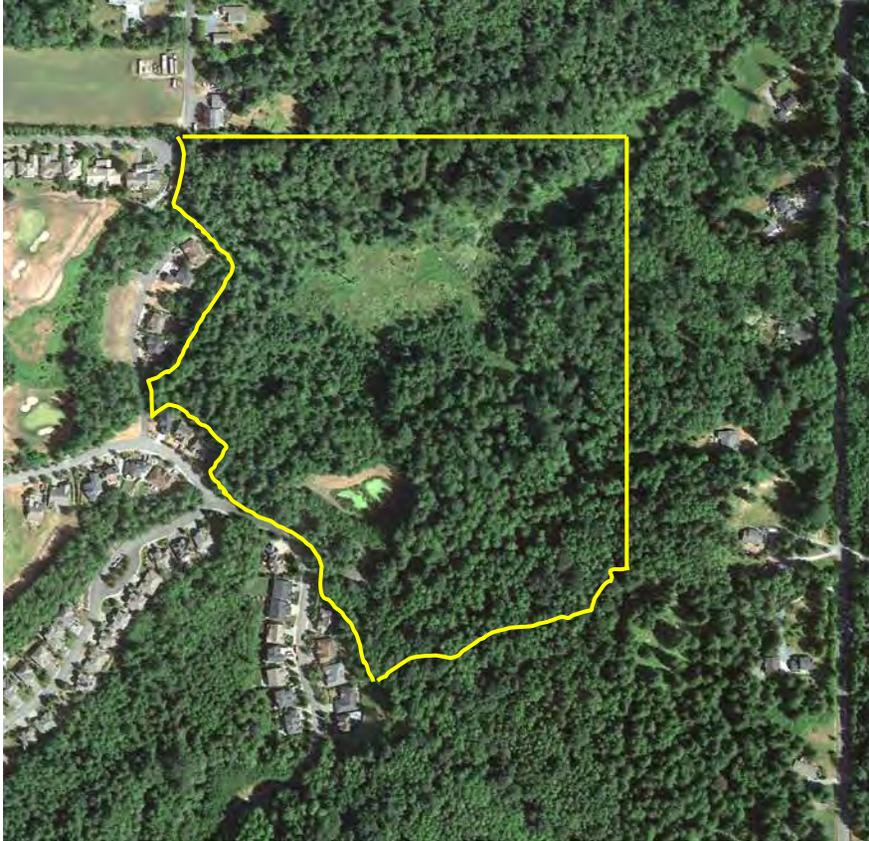
- Wetland restoration, stream enhancement, salmon rearing pond
- ADA boardwalk
- Disc golf course
- BMX bike track (leased to BMX Bike Club)
- Off leash dog park with 1 picnic table and shelter
- 6 park benches, 5 picnic tables (4 permanent)
- 1 playground for ages 5-12
- 2 basketball courts
- 2 sand volleyball courts
- 6 pickleball courts
- 1 skateboard area with ramps, improved, relocated
- 4 little league fields with electronic scoreboards, 10 bleachers
- 3 full-size soccer fields
- Public restrooms and 500 square foot concession building
- 11,000 square foot indoor recreation facility (leased to YMCA)
- 2 drinking fountains (one at dog park)
- 1 kiosk and 21 trash cans
- 150 parking spaces and on-street parking on Fir Street
- 2,400 square foot Vaux Retreat Center - rentals up to 30 people

Possible improvements

- Resurface parking lot
- Upgrade ballfields to synthetic turf with lights
- Install artwork in park
- Replace restroom/concession and add equipment storage
- Add field user equipment storage sheds
- Replace playgrounds, add inclusion elements, surface, fence
- Remodel Vaux Retreat Center to add more meeting space
- Replace deck at Vaux Retreat Center
- Increase dog park area and add off-leash trail area
- Develop trail around and within park with benches
- Relocate and upgrade skate park to in-ground cement







City of Mount Vernon Beaver Pond Park

This 40.1-acre conservancy park is located at 4824 Beaver Pond Drive South.

Existing improvements

- Forested wetland
- 0.50 miles of dirt walking trails
- 1 covered picnic facility
- 3 picnic tables
- 1 trash can
- 5 parking spaces

Possible improvements

- Install trail signage and map
- Install interpretive signs





City of Mount Vernon

Bonnie Rae Park

This 11.4-acre undeveloped park is located at 19787 Anderson Road.

Existing improvements

- Maddox creek - salmon bearing
- Deep ravines
- Open grassy area
- 3,195 square foot rental house on property

Proposed improvements

- Convert house and garage into Environmental Learning Center
- Install community garden
- Install interpretive signs and maps
- Improve and add trails with ADA access
- Bridge over Maddox Creek to connect with 19th Street parcel
- Install gravel parking lot
- Improve trailhead entrance at 19th Street
- Install natural play ADA playground elements
- Add interactive artwork to park
- Connect with Master Gardner Program





City of Mount Vernon Division Street Park

This 0.5-acre neighborhood park is located at 3020 East Division Street.

Existing improvements

- 2 picnic tables
- 1 playground with rubber padding for age 5-12
- 0.5 basketball court
- 2 trash cans
- 9 parking spaces

Possible improvements

- Resolve stormwater detention/flooding
- Improve playground
- Add shelter over picnic table
- Add trees in green space





City of Mount Vernon Edgewater Park

This 66.3-acre community park is located at 600 Behrens Millett Road on the west bank of the Skagit River extending under Division Street Bridge with 28.5 acres developed for active use and 38.1 acres of wetland and woodland conservation with a salmon stream enhancement and restoration area along the riverbank.

Existing improvements

- Open space turf
- 1 disc golf course
- 2 picnic tables
- 1 playground for age 5-12
- 1 covered stage
- 2 backstops with turf open space
- 5 benches (dugout locations)
- 3 bleachers
- 1 boat launch with 10 trailer parking stalls
- Public restrooms and seasonal toilets
- 1 drinking fountain
- 3 kiosks
- 10 trash cans
- 50 parking spaces (100 if use North Edgewater)

Possible improvements

- Improve/expand trails including use of dikes
- ADA improvements
- Develop events area to replace sinking ballfields
- Improve all parking lots for better visibility
- Add trail signage and map
- Improve electrical connection points
- Refurbish 2 ballfields
- Clear/trim back shrubs and invasive species along riverbank
- Replace playground and include toddlers fenced play area
- Add Storybook, sensory trail
- Improve boat launch parking
- Provide water access if possible





City of Mount Vernon

Emma Jarvis Memorial Garden

This 0.05-acre streetscape feature is located at Kincaid and First Street.

Existing improvements

- Hillside garden along the west side of First Street

Possible improvements

- Add art to alcove





City of Mount Vernon Fire Station 3 Park

This 1.0-acre neighborhood park is located at 4671 East Division Street west of Fire Station 3.

Existing improvements

- Gravel walking path
- 3 picnic tables
- 2 trash cans

Possible improvements

- None proposed





City of Mount Vernon

Hillcrest Park

This 30.8-acre community park is located at 1717 South 13th Street with 20.0 developed acres and 10.1 acres of woodland conservancy.

Existing improvements

- 0.25-mile nature trails and story walk
- 4 picnic tables mounted, 14 picnic tables not mounted
- 4 covered picnic shelters including Southside Shelter (20 people), North View Shelter (20 people) Gazebo (50 people), and Daylight Kitchen (40 people)
- 2 playgrounds for age 2-5 and 5-12
- 1 lighted full basketball court and 1 half court
- 6 lighted pickleball courts
- 2 lighted tennis courts
- 1 backstop with grass area and 1 set of bleachers at backstop
- 1 grass play/athletic field area
- 2 public restrooms
- 3,142 square foot historic lodge with kitchen up to 150 people
- 2,640 square foot Recreation Building for rentals of 30 people
- 1 kiosk
- 4 artworks
- 2,040 square foot Park Admin offices and CWP Office Building
- 1,560 square foot storage garage
- 100 off-street parking spaces

Possible improvements

- Upgrade Lodge sound system
- Restore Lodge siding, new doors and windows, lighting, HVAC
- Remodel and reconfigure Recreation Building for flexible use
- Upgrade restroom in upper parking lot
- Replace playground with ADA/universal play, rubber surface
- Provide perimeter trail to include entrance
- Resurface tennis courts and upgrade lighting
- Replace gazebo
- Refurbish Daylight Kitchen picnic shelter
- Fence baseball and soccer field area





City of Mount Vernon
Kiwanis Park

This 8.0-acre neighborhood park is located at 500 South 18th Street with 4.0 developed acres and 4.0 acres of woodland conservancy.

Existing improvements

- Open space turf
- 3,000 square foot boardwalk trail
- 1 outdoor exercise equipment course
- 6 benches
- 9 picnic tables
- Restrooms w/attached covered picnic area
- 2 playgrounds for ages 2-5 and 5-12
- 1 spray park
- 1 basketball court
- 1 softball/baseball field and backstop with 2 bleachers
- 1 drinking fountain
- 1 bike rack
- 12 trash cans
- 2 ADA off-street parking spaces
- Artwork - Butterfly
- On-street parking

Possible improvements

- Replace spray park surface for safety
- Add lighting and scoreboard to ballfield





City of Mount Vernon

Kulshan Creek Trail Corridor

This 15.2-acre multipurpose 2.5-mile asphalt bike and hike trail extends along the Kulshan Creek corridor beginning at Lions Park and extending to Bakerview Park.

Existing improvements

- 3 benches
- 1 kiosk
- 1 drinking fountain
- 6 trash cans
- Lighting along trail

Proposed improvements

- Increase lighting along trail
- Add maps and directional and environmental signage along trail





City of Mount Vernon Lions Park North

This 15.4-acre conservancy is located at 501 Freeway Drive on the east bank of the Skagit River.

Existing improvements

- 2.5-acre open space
- 0.3-mile gravel walking trails
- 1 trash can
- Off-street parking spaces

Proposed improvements

- Improve visibility and safety to prevent encampments
- Extend trail onto dike and connect to Riverbend Loop Trail
- Add benches and amenities
- Improve trail for ADA access
- Remove invasive species
- Install trail and park signage
- Expand parking





City of Mount Vernon Lions Park South

This 1.6-acre community park is located on Freeway Drive on the east bank of the Skagit River.

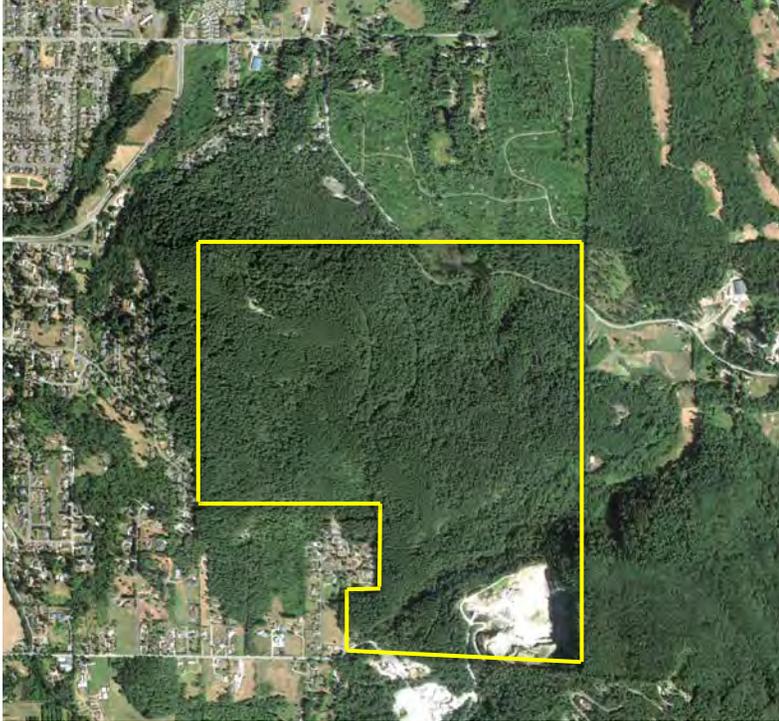
Existing improvements

- 0.1-mile multipurpose trail along the riverbank
- 5 park benches
- 7 picnic tables,
- 4 picnic shelters (3 with 2 tables each, 1 with 1 table)
- 1 playground for age 2-12
- 1 kiosk
- 2 drinking fountains
- 1 bike rack
- 9 trash cans
- Public restroom
- RV dump station
- 33 off-street parking spaces

Proposed improvements

- Improve ADA access
- Upgrade signage
- New fence along riverbank





City of Mount Vernon Little Mountain Park

This 522.0-acre regional conservancy is located at 3000 Little Mountain Road with access from Little Mountain Park and Hickox Roads.

Existing improvements

- 10 miles of hiking trails
- 6.5 miles of mountain bike trail
- 1.4 miles of bike skills park
- 1.5-mile road to top of mountain
- 1 viewpoint lookout north
- 1 covered viewpoint south shelter (Pickering Lookout)
- 3 park benches
- 5 picnic tables
- 5 kiosks
- 3 bike racks
- 10 trash cans
- 1 pit toilet at top and at south trailhead
- 2 stall/vault toilet at lower parking lot
- 2 portable toilets
- 17 parking spaces on top of the mountain
- 75 parking spaces in lower parking lot
- 2,000 square foot rental house on property
- Trail signage
- Artwork at upper viewpoint

Proposed improvements

- Remove invasive species
- Improve and maintain trails
- Provide ADA access to trails
- Improve signage
- Add security cameras at parking lot
- Add speedbump to entrance road
- Revise entrance road into park
- Add interactive art
- Install live web cam from lookouts



City of Mount Vernon Maddox Creek Trail

This multipurpose trail is located off Maddox Creek Road.

Existing improvements

- 0.95-mile gravel trail
- 2 park benches
- 2 picnic tables
- 1 kiosk at trailhead off Maddox Road
- 6 Mutt-Mutt Stations

Possible improvements

- Update kiosk
- Improve and install additional directional signage





City of Mount Vernon
Nemo Open Space

This 3.0-acre is undeveloped property overlooking I-5 on Blodgett Road directly west of Hillcrest Park with views to the west.

Existing improvements

- None, open space only





City of Mount Vernon Pine Street Plaza

This 3.0-acre converted ROW creates a place in downtown for visitors and employees and is used for events throughout the year.

Existing improvements

- Planter beds
- Street trees
- 5 picnic tables

Possible improvements

- Improve planter beds and relandscape
- Re-establish missing or uneven pavers





City of Mount Vernon Riverbend Loop Trail

This off-road trail is located behind the Skagit County Public Utility District (PUD) property.

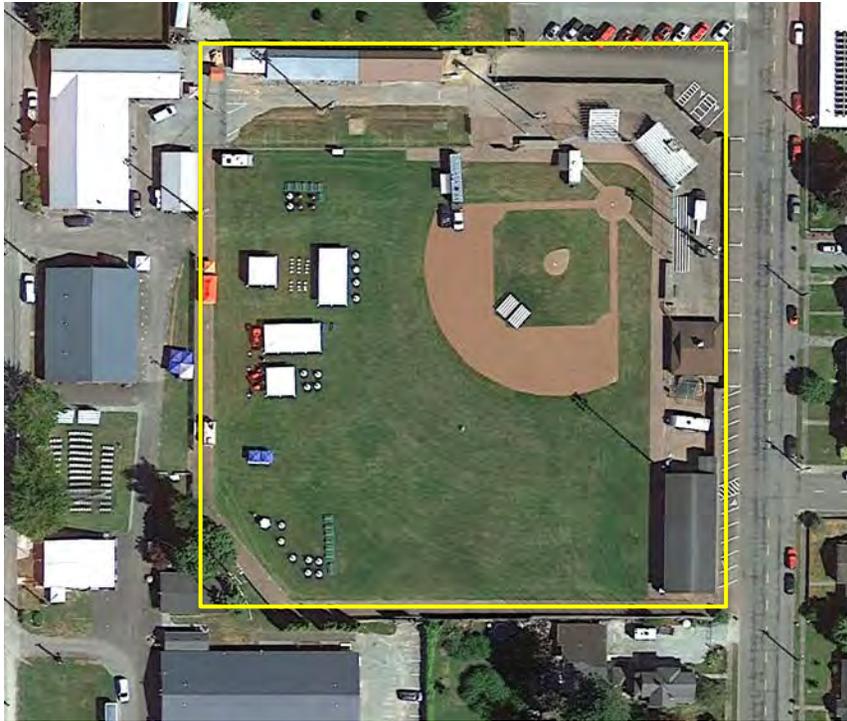
Existing improvements

- Trailhead sign

Proposed improvements

- Add trailhead sign by Lowes





City of Mount Vernon

Sherman Anderson Field

This 3.4-acre athletic park is located at 1501 Cleveland Avenue adjacent to the Senior Center.

Existing improvements

- Enclosed batting cage
- 1 semi-pro 90x300 foot grass regulation baseball field with bleachers
- Replaced/improved backstop with steel poles, new netting
- Concession stand
- Public restrooms
- 40 on-street parking spaces
- 352 square foot equipment storage building
- 2,500 square foot warehouse (Rock & Gem Club)
- 1 trash can

Proposed improvements

- Replace bleachers and paint to reduce glare
- Improve ballfield drainage
- Replace ballfield lighting
- Add synthetic turf
- Improve ADA access and seating
- Replace restrooms and concession building and add changing rooms and lockers
- Replace or improve storage building
- Expand parking working with Skagit County





City of Mount Vernon

Skagit Highlands Overlook

This 0.49-acre greenbelt is located along Skagit Highlands Parkway overlooking farmland north of Mount Vernon.

Existing improvements

- 0.25-mile asphalt trail
- 1 park bench

Possible improvements

- Install sign at Skagit Highlands Parkway trailhead





City of Mount Vernon

Skagit Riverwalk Park

This 0.75-acre riverfront park is in historic downtown. The Plaza section of the park sits between Gates, First, and Myrtle Streets and the Skagit River. The Riverwalk Trail is part of Phase 2 of the Waterfront Revitalization and Protection Project that includes a permanent downtown floodwall and trail abutting Lions Park to the North and Commercial Cold Storage to the south.

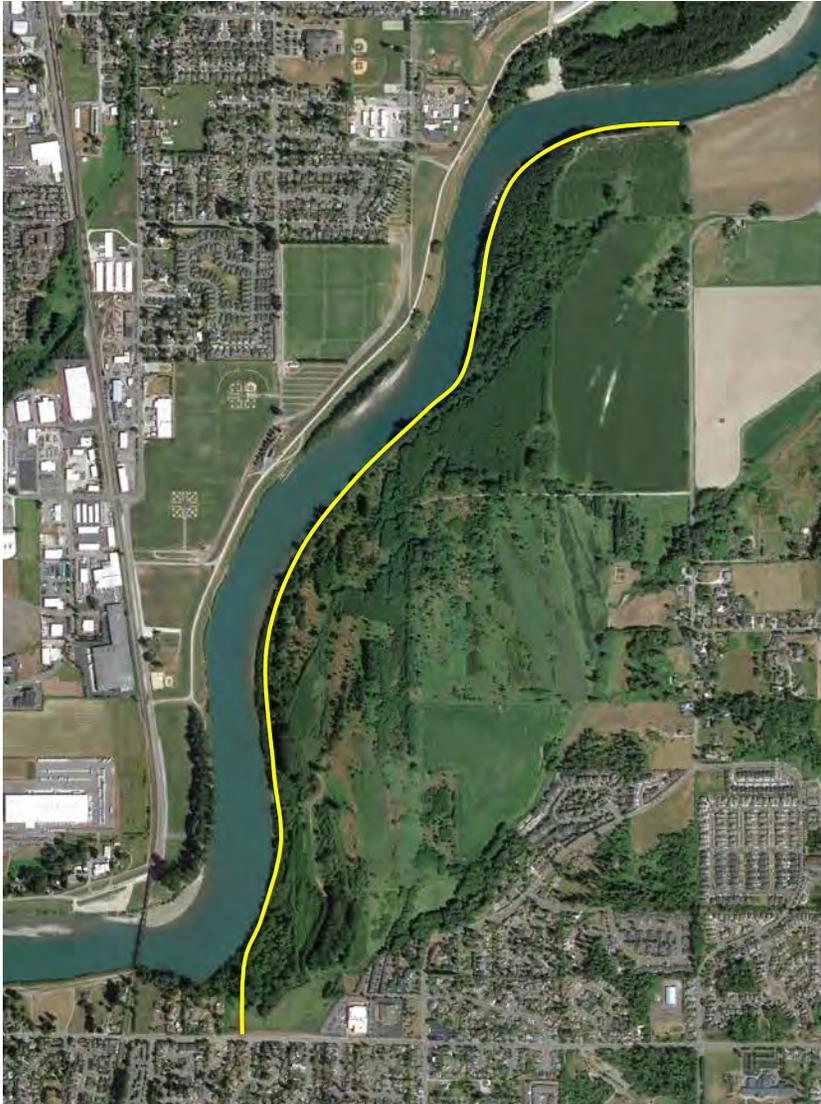
Existing improvements

- 24-foot wide 1.5-mile concrete pedestrian riverwalk trail
- 36 park benches
- 6 picnic tables on the plaza
- 12 picnic tables and seating
- 3 bike racks
- 13 trash cans
- 40 flower basket hangers on the light poles
- 46 banner poles on the light poles
- Restroom and storage area
- 150 off-street parking spaces

Proposed improvements

- Replace shrubs in Riverwalk planter beds
- Improve landscaping in planter beds in plaza





City of Mount Vernon Ted Reep Open Space

This 8-foot-wide off-road trail is located on private property along the east bank of the Skagit River from Hoag Road north to the river bend.

Existing improvements

- Wetlands
- Open agriculture fields, and woodlands
- 1.5-miles of dirt trail along the bank of the Skagit River
- New trailhead sign

Proposed improvements

- Improve trail signage
- Add environmental interpretive signs
- Improve trail





City of Mount Vernon

Trumpler Trail Corridor

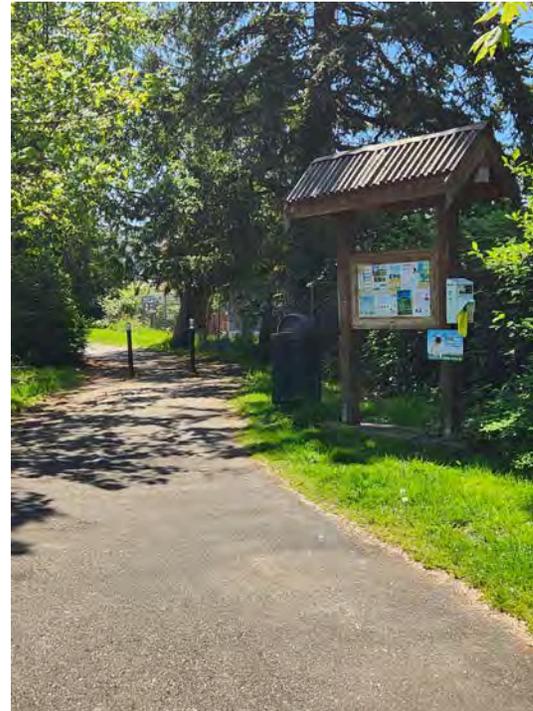
This 9.1-acre multipurpose 1.1-mile asphalt bike and hike trail corridor is located between Section & Division Streets and crosses over Division and continues west of Haggen's around detention pond with trail access to LaVenture Boulevard.

Existing improvements

- 2 kiosks

Proposed improvements

- Resurface asphalt trail
- Expand connectivity to Kulshan Trail



City of Mount Vernon

Parks Storage Building

This 1.0-acre shop facility is located on Barker Street.

Existing improvements

- 1,050-square foot single bay shop

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





City of Mount Vernon Milwaukee Shop

This 1.0-acre shop facility is located on Milwaukee Street.

Existing improvements

- 2,120-square foot 5 bay shop

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





City of Mount Vernon Parks Shop

This 1.5-acre office and storage yard is located on Britt Road.

Existing improvements

- 900-square foot office, crew, lunchroom, and lockers space
- 2,720-square foot enclosed storage space is co-located in the same building with the offices
- 1.5-acre open storage yard for vehicles and equipment

Proposed improvements

- Develop master plan for the facility
- Add showers and men/women lockers, restrooms
- Pave yard parking and storage area
- Add/improve covered storage





City of Mount Vernon Library Commons

This 28,000-square foot library and parking garage structure is being developed in the historic downtown district at 315 Snoqualmie Street.

Existing improvements

- A Great Room meeting space for 200, sub-dividable into 2 rooms with a 65/130 split
- Many small meeting spaces for groups of 30 or less
- Dedicated study rooms for tutoring
- Projectors, screens, conference phones, free wi-fi and whiteboards for business support
- An available stage and presentation equipment
- Structured second level parking deck with public mega electric vehicle charging stations

Proposed improvements

- Under construction





City of Mount Vernon Lincoln Theatre

This 6,650-square foot historic 500 seat movie house and stage production facility is located on 1st Street in the downtown core. The facility is leased to and operated by the Lincoln Theater Foundation for cinema and live stage productions.

Existing improvements

- 5,400 square feet in auditorium, backstage, and lobby
- 1,250 square feet in office and retail

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Skagit County Cleveland Park

This 1.0-acre neighborhood park is located on Hazel Street adjacent to the Senior Center and Fairgrounds.

Existing improvements

- 2 picnic tables
- 1 playground
- 1 basketball court

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Skagit County

Hoag/Big Rock Memorial Park

This 10.0-acre conservancy park is located on the Nookachamps Creek adjacent to SR-9 and College Way (SR-538).

Existing improvements

- Trailhead

Proposed improvements

- Build a trail to the top of Big Rock
- Build loop trail through nearby wetlands
- Add cultural and interpretive signage





Skagit County

Skagit County Senior Center

This 0.3-acre community facility is located adjacent to Sherman Anderson Ball Park on Cleveland Avenue.

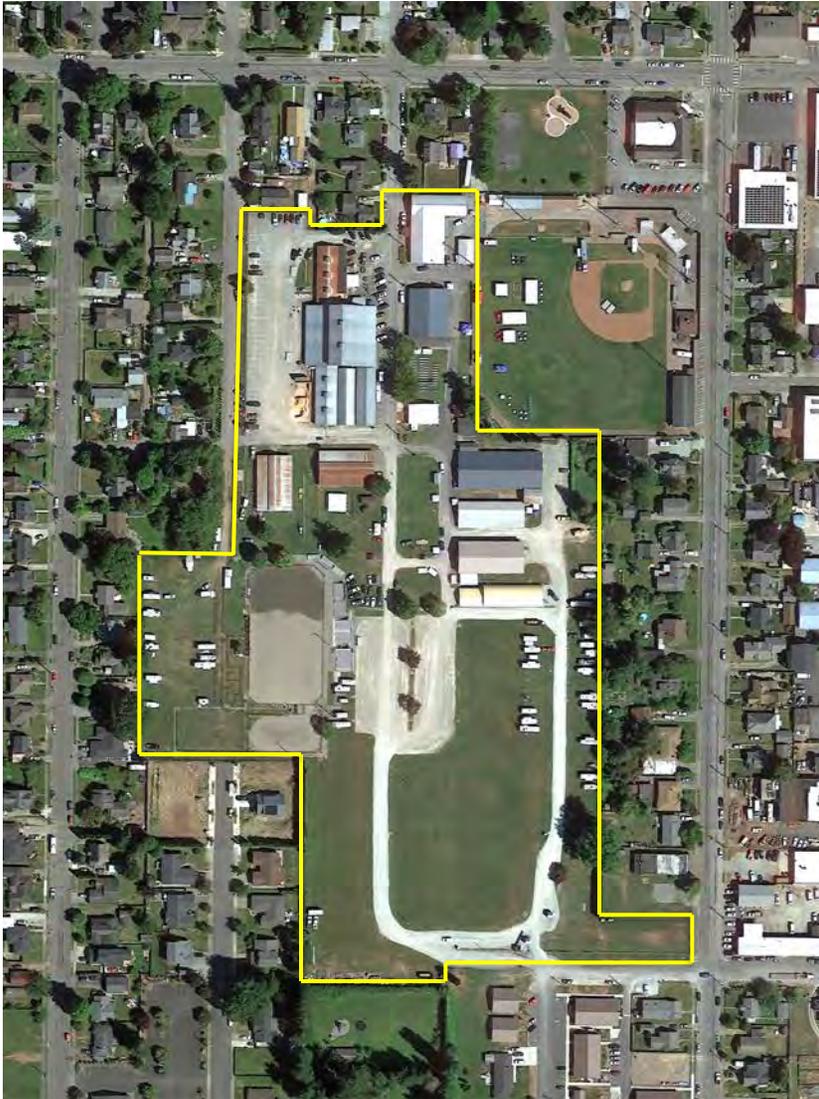
Existing improvements

- Meeting rooms
- Multiuse gymnasium with 56 seat capacities
- Large meeting room with 125 seat capacity and catering kitchen

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Skagit County

Skagit County Fairgrounds

This 14.0-acre regional facility is located behind Sherman Anderson Ball Park on Cleveland Avenue.

Existing improvements

- Livestock barns and arenas
- Restrooms
- Administrative offices
- Meeting room with 45 seat capacities
- Parking lots

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Skagit County Skagit Valley Playfields

This 25.0-acre community park is located on Martin Road.

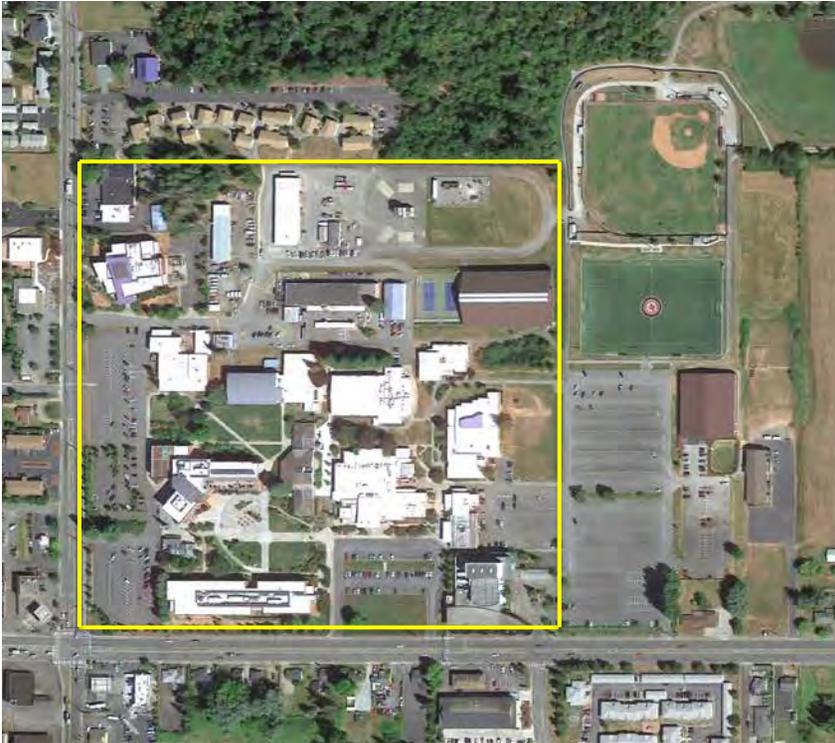
Existing improvements

- Wetland conservation area
- 7 picnic tables
- 2 playgrounds
- Lighted 90x300 foot grass baseball field
- 4 lighted 65x300 foot softball fields
- 200x330 synthetic turf soccer field
- 0.8-mile fitness trail
- Restrooms
- Maintenance building

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Washington State Skagit Valley College

This 110.0-acre community college facility is located at 2405 East College Way.

Existing improvements

- 6 tennis courts
- 200x330 foot synthetic turf lighted soccer field
- 25,000-square foot lighted pickleball pavilion with 10 courts
- 90x300 foot grass baseball field
- 15,000 square foot gymnasium
- 400-seat capacity cafeteria
- 750 seat, 32,500 square foot McIntire Hall performing arts center

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Washington State Spud House Access

This Game Department public boat launch (closed during high water periods in the winter) is located on the west shore of the Skagit River at the end of Penn Road.

Existing improvements

- Portable restrooms
- Gravel parking area

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Washington State

Young's Bar

This Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) public fishing access site is located on the west shore of the Skagit River off Dunbar Road adjacent to Edgewater Park.

Existing improvements

- Sandy river bar suitable for fishing and swimming
- Gravel parking area

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Nonprofit **Skagit Valley YMCA**

The 61,460 square foot newly developed YMCA facility is located at 1901 Hoag Road along the Skagit River.

Existing improvements

- Daycare, before/after school programs, meeting, and game rooms
- Wellness center
- Gymnasium with 4 pickleball courts, a basketball court, a track, and movable bleacher seating
- McIntire Aquatic Center with 6 lap lanes of 25 yards, 3 lane teaching pool, splashpad, and lazy river with steam rooms and lockers

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Nonprofit

Boys & Girls Club of Skagit County

The Mount Vernon facility is provided in portable classrooms at 100 North LaVenture adjacent to LaVenture Middle School. Other Boys & Girls Club facilities are in Anacortes, LaConner, and Sedro-Woolley.

Existing improvements

- After school, holiday, and summer programs in education, arts and crafts, computer lab, music groups
- Organized hockey, soccer, kickball, and other sports activities

Proposed improvements

- None proposed





Nonprofit
North 18th Street Park

This mini park is located on Trinity Lutheran Church property on 18th Street.

Existing improvements

- 1 backstop
- 1 backstop and turf open space
- 40 parking spaces

Proposed improvements

- None proposed

Chapter 7: Implementation

Following is a summary description of the major tasks determined to be necessary to effectively implement the Mount Vernon Park, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan). The tasks represent the general priorities established by workshops, open houses, the survey of residents, and the survey of registered voters.

As shown, several parties may be responsible for the leadership and management, participation, and supporting aspects of each action - as described in the following summaries. The tasks are grouped according to subject matter and not priority.

Adopt plan

Task 1: Adopt Mount Vernon PROS PLAN as GMA element

Mount Vernon City Council will by ordinance adopt the Mount Vernon PROS Plan as a stand-alone planning document for compliance with the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) and as a complementary document of Mount Vernon's Comprehensive Plan in accordance with Growth Management Act (GMA) provisions.

- **Participants** - Mount Vernon City Council with the assistance of the Mount Vernon Planning Commission, and other stakeholders.

Action

- **Make Mount Vernon PROS Plan available on Mount Vernon website** - and distribute copies to appropriate public agencies and interested public and private parties in accordance with GMA adoption provisions.
- **Mount Vernon Planning Commission reviews Mount Vernon PROS Plan** - as necessary as part of Mount Vernon annual comprehensive plan update and provides for public hearing in conformance with GMA.
- **Mount Vernon adopts Mount Vernon PROS Plan** - as a component of the Mount Vernon Comprehensive Plan.
- **Mount Vernon adopts the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) integrating the PROS Plan** - as an element of the Mount Vernon

comprehensive plan, thereby implementing the CIP in accordance with GMA provisions.

Adopt program finance strategies

Task 2: Expand clearinghouse function

Mount Vernon will continue development and operation of its website which provides recreation program offerings that include a wide variety of activities accommodating the interests of city residents regardless of age, skill level, income - or program provider.

As resources allow, the Mount Vernon will collect information related to recreation program activities providing health, education, social, recreational, and other welfare activities for youth, teens, adults, seniors, and special populations.

Depending on budget considerations, Mount Vernon staff or contractors may conduct park and recreational programs. However, depending on demand, cost, and feasibility, and when practical and consistent with Mount Vernon's mission statements, Mount Vernon may also coordinate with programs conducted by other public, nonprofit, or for-profit organizations and vendors.

Mount Vernon program offerings will include activities that will be conducted in Mount Vernon parks, facilities, and trails. However, depending on demand, Mount Vernon may also conduct programs in schools and other public facilities across the city, as well as in nonprofit and other facilities.

- **Participants** - Mount Vernon Park & Enrichment Services, Mount Vernon School District, YMCA, Boyes & Girls Club, and other nonprofit and private organizations.

Action

Continue to operate a Mount Vernon clearinghouse - for recreational activities.

Task 3: Monitor user fee schedules

Mount Vernon Parks & Enrichment Services will assess criteria for all prospective program offerings. If the program is consistent with Mount Vernon's mission and level-of-service proposals shown in this plan, and if resources exist, Mount Vernon will offer the program under its recreational cost benefit policy that establishes a benefit scale under one of the following cost recovery scenarios:

- **Full cost recovery programs** - will recover all direct costs (including full and part-time staff, supplies, materials, maintenance, and utilities) and indirect costs (including department overhead for staff benefits).
- **Merit pricing (partial cost recovery) programs** - will partially recover direct and indirect costs based on a policy decision about the degree to which each program provides public versus private goods or benefits. Merit pricing programs may also include the providing of scholarships to eligible user individuals or user groups that would prevent the program from realizing full cost recovery.
- **Subsidy (no or very low-cost recovery) programs** - will not attempt to recover costs as a fee, although it may ask for donations or grants from using individuals, groups, or organizations who benefit or are likely sponsors.
- **Participants** - Mount Vernon Parks & Enrichment Services, Mount Vernon School District, and non-profit and for-profit organizations.

Action

- **Monitor user fee schedules to maintain a benefits scale for recreation activities** - collect user fees under a full, merit, or subsidy-based cost recovery policy for recreation programs.

Task 4: Recruit program vendors

Mount Vernon will assess the mission criteria for all prospective program offerings. If programs are not consistent with Mount Vernon's mission and level-of-service proposals shown in this plan, Mount Vernon may not offer the program, but may consider a partnership with other providers. Depending on the program activity, other vendors may include:

- **Other jurisdictions** - including Skagit County, Mount Vernon School District, and Washington State.
- **Nonprofit organizations** - such as the YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs, Boy and Girl Scouts, Campfire USA, Lions, Rotary, and Kiwanis Clubs, among others.
- **Private for-profit entities and vendors** - such as Mount Vernon athletic leagues and clubs, among others.
- **Participants** - Mount Vernon Park & Enrichment Services, Mount Vernon School District, Skagit County, and non-profit and for-profit organizations.

Action

- **Work in conjunction with other sponsors and vendors** - to provide recreation activities as appropriate.

Adopt project finance strategies

Task 5: Allocate capital facility funds as specified in the Capital Improvements Program (CIP)

Mount Vernon City Council will allocate an appropriate amount of the monies received from dedicated park, recreation, open space, and trails-oriented revenue programs to provide funds for PROS Plan acquisition and development projects that reflect the objectives of these programs.

The revenue programs to be coordinated may include Mount Vernon property and sales tax fund proceeds, Mount Vernon Real Estate Excise Taxes (REET), and grant applications to the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO), among others.

Action

- **Allocate a proportional amount from existing park, recreation, open space, and trail-oriented revenue programs to fund the acquisition and development of PROS Plan projects** - designating monies from Mount Vernon property tax levy, sales tax proceeds, Mount Vernon Real Estate Excise Taxes (REET), and RCO grants.

Task 6: Update GMA park impact fees

Mount Vernon City Council will adopt a coordinated GMA park impact fee system on a citywide basis for citywide facility acquisition and development.

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) allows Mount Vernon to impose a park impact fee on proposed residential, commercial, and industrial developments in the city as a means of maintaining existing park, recreation, and open space levels-of-service (ELOS).

The adopted ordinance for impact fees estimates the impact each development project has on parks, recreation, and open space facilities within a project benefit zone and makes provisions for setting aside the resources, including lands or monies, necessary to offset a project's citywide impacts.

The dollar value of a project's park, recreation, and open space impact may be offset by the project developer of an amount equal to the combined facility acquisition and development costs that Mount Vernon and/or another providing agency would incur to maintain the same existing level-of-service (ELOS).

A developer may be allowed to choose any combination of land or cash mitigation measures including credit for any park or recreation facilities to be included within a project development. The park impact fee ordinance considers the following when determining the types of mitigation measures or development credits to be made available to the developer:

- **Will the facility** - be available for public use,

- **Will it have a designated owner** - responsible for continuing operation and maintenance (the owner may be a common property owner's association or other agency), and,
- **Will it correspond to and not exceed or vary from** - the types of park, recreation, and open space facilities that are being impacted (a developer could provide but should not be able to take full credit value for facilities for which there is no shortage, impact or local interest).

Land contributions can be accepted in lieu of monies if the lands will be suitable sites for future facilities. Under GMA provisions, land and monies accumulated under the proposed ordinance must be invested within a reasonable time or returned to the contributing developer.

Mount Vernon can conduct periodic program reviews with residents, user groups, the school district, and other agencies to decide the most efficient way to deliver the facilities mitigated by the ordinance. Alternative delivery methods could include:

- **Acquisition of suitable sites** - upon agreement with Mount Vernon or in conjunction with other public or school facilities (including title transfer if other public or school agencies enter into special agreements assuming development, operation, and maintenance responsibilities).
- **Development of facilities** - on other public or school sites (if other public or school agencies enter into agreements assuming future operation and maintenance responsibilities and costs). Or
- **Any other alternative** - including development, operation or maintenance proposals by user groups or private concessionaires or non-profit organizations or, developers that provide a viable facility in accordance with park, recreation, and open space strategies.
- **Participants** - Mount Vernon City Council and Planning Commission with the assistance of Parks & Enrichment Services, Mount Vernon School District, and non-profit and for-profit organizations.

Action

- **Continue with the GMA park impact fee on a citywide basis** – collecting a proportional fee based on the value of community facilities regardless of facility ownership and allocating the fees for citywide acquisition and development in accordance with this plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 7: Seek a citywide capital facility and O&M park levy

Mount Vernon City Council may place a limited duration property tax levy proposal for voter approval on a citywide basis for the acquisition, development, and operation of parks, recreation, and open space facilities throughout the city.

The funds collected from the levy will be allocated to the appropriate sponsoring agency, which may include the city, school district, or non-profit organization, for the realization of park, recreation, and open space facilities identified within this plan.

Under Washington State enabling acts, Mount Vernon may levy a property tax for general governmental purposes at a rate not to exceed \$3.60 per \$1,000 of the assessed value of all taxable property within the city. The total of all property taxes for all taxing authorities cannot exceed 1.0% of assessed valuation, or \$10.00 per \$1,000 of value. If the taxes of all districts exceed the 1.0% or \$10.00 amount, each is proportionately reduced until the total is at or below the 1.0% limit.

In 2001, Washington State law was amended by Proposition 747, a statutory provision limiting the growth of the regular property tax levy to 1.0% per year, after adjustments for new construction. Any proposed increases over this amount are subject to a referendum vote.

The statute was intended to control local governmental spending by controlling the annual rate of growth of property taxes. In practice, however, the statute can reduce the effective property tax yield to an annual level far below a city's levy authorization, particularly when property values are increasing rapidly.

Proposition 747, the statutory provision limiting the growth of regular property taxes to 1.0% per year, can be waived by referendum approval of a simple (50%) majority of Mount Vernon's registered voters.

Mount Vernon voters may be asked to approve a resetting of the property tax levy rate that will adjust the amount of revenue the city can generate. (The new total revenue that will be generated by a resetting of the rate will be subject to the same 1.0% limitation, however, and the total amount of revenue and the resulting property tax rate will start to decline again in accordance with the Proposition.)

The adjusted rate and revenue will be used to finance the PROS facility proposals in this plan – or the projects and programs from this plan that involve construction, maintenance, and operations aspects that a majority of the voters are willing to pay for under the adjusted rate.

Mount Vernon voters may be asked to reset the rate on a permanent basis with the new differential rate dedicated to citywide PROS Plan proposals, subject to the provisions of Proposition 747. Or Mount Vernon voters may be asked to reset the rate on a temporary basis, where the rate is adjusted until a specific amount of revenue has been generated to finance a specified number of PROS projects or programs – whereupon the rate reverts to the original or a specified amount defined in the referendum.

- **Participants** – Mount Vernon City Council with the assistance of the Parks & Enrichment Services Department, and other potential providers.

Action

- **Submit and approve a limited duration property tax levy or a property tax levy rate adjustment (on permanent or temporary basis) to acquire, develop, operate, and maintain facilities** – allocating the additional revenues for acquisition, development, and operation in accordance with this plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Initiate PROS Plan projects

Task 8: Protect open space and conservancies

Using funds generated from adjusted program fees and schedules, possible impact fees, and the possible limited duration levy or levy lid lift, Mount Vernon will acquire fee title or use agreements and conserve significant wildlife, forestland, and open spaces indicated within this PROS Plan. Where appropriate, monies will be allocated to and/or combined with monies provided by the county, state agencies, and non-profit organizations for significant projects.

Depending on schedules and availabilities, initial acquisitions of development rights or fee title may include riverfront, on and off-road trails, picnic sites and tables, group picnic shelters and parks, boat launch sites, and others indicated in this PROS Plan.

- **Participants** - Mount Vernon City Council, Parks & Enrichment Services Department, environmental consultants, and the participation of other public and non-profit organizations.

Action

- **Initiate the acquisition of fee title or use agreements and conservancy of significant open space and conservancy sites** - allocating revenues for significant properties in accordance with this Mount Vernon PROS Plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 9: Update the Urban Forestry Plan

Using funds generated from the possible limited duration levy or levy lid lift, Mount Vernon City Council will update and maintain urban forestry and remove invasive, non-native plants located within city parks and open spaces. Volunteers have been and will likely be relied on heavily to help keep park and open space lands free of invasive and non-native species. Where appropriate, monies will be allocated and/or combined with monies provided by state agencies and non-profit organizations.

- **Participants** - Mount Vernon City Council, Parks & Enrichment Services Department, volunteers, and the participation of other public and non-profit organizations.

Action

Update Urban Forestry Plan and continue removal of invasive, non-native species from city parks and open spaces - using Parks & Enrichment Services Department staff to the extent possible, volunteers, and public and non-profit organization funds.

Task 10: Acquire/develop parks

Using funds generated from adjusted program fees and schedules, possible impact fees, and possible limited duration levy, or levy lid lift, Mount Vernon City Council will acquire, develop, maintain, and operate parks indicated within this plan. Where appropriate, monies will be allocated and/or combined with monies provided by the school districts, county, state agencies, and non-profit organizations.

Depending on schedules and availability, initial acquisitions and developments may include waterfront access, community gardens, off-road trails, dog parks, playgrounds, picnic tables and shelters, athletic field improvements, and recreation/community center upgrades to be distributed across the city.

- **Participants** - Mount Vernon City Council, Parks & Enrichment Services Department, and the participation of other public and non-profit organizations.

Action

- **Initiate the acquisition, development, maintenance, and operation of parks** - allocating revenues in accordance with this Mount Vernon PROS Plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 11: Acquire/develop trail systems

Using funds generated from adjusted program fees and schedules, possible impact fees, the possible limited duration levy, or levy lid lift, Mount Vernon City Council will acquire, develop, maintain, and operate the significant on and off-road trail systems indicated within this Mount Vernon PROS Plan.

Where appropriate, monies will be allocated to and/or combined with monies provided by the county, state agencies, and non-profit organizations for significant projects. Generally, Mount Vernon

Public Works Department will develop and maintain non-motorized trail connections within public road rights-of-way.

Depending on schedules and availability, initial acquisitions and developments may include off-road hiking, biking, and multipurpose trails extending within and between environmental areas, parks, schools, community facilities, and neighborhoods across the city.

- **Participants** - Mount Vernon City Council, Parks & Enrichment Services Department, Public Works Department, other public and non-profit organizations, and property owners.

Action

- **Initiate the acquisition, development, maintenance, and operation of significant corridors and on and off-road trail systems** - allocating revenues for significant projects in accordance with this PROS Plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 12: Conserve/designate historic and cultural resources in parks

Mount Vernon City Council will designate, and conserve significant historic and cultural resources indicated within this PROS Plan where such landmarks are located within park properties. Where appropriate, wayfinding and historic signage, artworks, and streetscape development monies will be allocated to and/or combined with monies provided by county and state agencies as well as private developers for significant projects.

- **Participants** - Mount Vernon City Council with the assistance of Parks & Enrichment Services Department, Public Works Department, and the participation of local and regional historical groups.

Action

- **Initiate the designation, management, acquisition, development, maintenance, and operation of significant historic**

and cultural resources - allocating revenues for significant projects in accordance with this plan regardless of agency sponsor.

Task 13: Support recreation/community centers

Continue leasing the indoor facility in Bakerview Park to the YMCA to provide activities and sports throughout the year. Pursue other opportunities to support recreation/community centers.

- **Participants** - Mount Vernon City Council, Parks & Enrichment Services, Mount Vernon Boys & Girls Club, and other public agencies as well as private and non-profit organizations.

Action

- **Continue to lease Bakerview Park indoor facility** - and pursue additional opportunities to support indoor recreation offerings.

Monitor progress

Task 14: Conduct progress assessments

Mount Vernon and other public agencies will conduct progress assessments reviewing action on the projects and programs identified above and improve methods, assign responsibilities, or take other measures necessary to ensure effective implementation.

Participants - Mount Vernon City Council, Parks & Enrichment Services Department, Public Works Department, Mount Vernon Planning Commission, Mount Vernon School District, Skagit County, Washington State, public and non-profit organizations, private vendors, and citizens at large.

Action

- **Adjust parks, recreation, and open space vision, strategies, and implementing measures** - based on the results of the follow-up assessments.