

Park and Recreation Plan

City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401

Adopted February 28, 2022



City of Castle Rock PO Box 370, Castle Rock, WA 98611

Contact: David Vorse, Public Works Director

Voice: 360.274.7478

E-mail: crpwd@ci.castle-rock.wa.us



**Castle Rock Received the
Association of Washington Cities
2004 Municipal Achievement
Gold Medal Award in
recognition of the Riverfront
Trail Project.**

**Association of Washington Cities 2014
Municipal Excellence Award for
Empowering Citizens
(Bike Park expansion)**



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

City of Castle Rock

City Council
Paul Helenberg, Mayor
Lee Kessler
Art Lee
John Earl Queen
Paul Simonsen
Ellen Rose

Park Board

Roy Henson
Linda Moody
Charles Rutherford
Russ Blanchette
Pete Meyers

Staff

David Vorse, Public Works Director, City of Castle Rock
Keshia Owens, City Planner, Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments

Castle Rock School District #401

Board of Directors

Villas Sundberg
Tracy Morgan
Ray Teter
Henry Karnofski
Todd Jansen
Ryan Greene

Cover photo by Nancy Chennault.
Used with permission; all rights reserved.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	v
LIST OF FIGURES.....	vi
LIST OF TABLES	vii
LIST OF ACRONYMS.....	viii
CHAPTER I - INTRODUCTION.....	1
CHAPTER II - MISSION STATEMENT, GOALS, & OBJECTIVES.....	5
Mission Statement	5
City of Castle Rock Goals	5
Castle Rock School District Goals	7
City of Castle Rock Objectives	7
Castle Rock School District Objectives	9
CHAPTER III - PLANNING AREA.....	11
Description of the Planning Area	11
Broader Influences	15
Population and Demography	19
CHAPTER IV - INVENTORY.....	25
Inventory of Existing Facilities	25
CHAPTER V - DEMAND & NEED ANALYSIS.....	59
Community Survey Results	59
Park and Recreation Standards	62
Subarea Analysis	68
Recreational Participation	73
Recreational Tourism	75
Conclusions	79
CHAPTER VI - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM & FUNDING OPTIONS.....	81
Funding Options	87
CHAPTER VII - PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & PLAN ADOPTION.....	91
Appendix A Castle Rock Park & Recreation Community Survey	95
Appendix B Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan ..	121
Appendix C SEPA Documentation.....	145
Appendix D Adoption Materials.....	163

LIST OF FIGURES

III-1	Castle Rock Area.....	11
III-2	Relationship to Mount St. Helens	12
III-3	Local Service Area.....	13
III-4	Relationship of Service Areas	13
III-5	Extended Service Area	14
III-6	Relationship of Service Areas	14
III-7	Business Loop.....	16
III-8	Castle Rock Seattle-to-Portland Rest Stop	16
III-9	Sand and Misery Challenge Course.....	17
IV-1	Recreational Facilities within City Limits by Type	55
IV-2	Trail System & Major Amenities	56
IV-3	North County Service Area.....	57
V-1	2015 Survey Respondents by ZIP Code.....	59
V-2	Subareas.....	68
V-3	Physical Activity by Generation	73
V-4	The Multiplier Effect of Visitor Spending at a Park and Recreation Event.	75
V-5	Strategic Marketing Plan for RV Park.....	77

LIST OF TABLES

III-1	Trico 1A League, District 4 WIAA Sports	18
III-2	Population Change by Service Area, 2010-2015	19
III-3	Local Service Area Population Projections 2015-2025	19
III-4	Local Service Area Population by Age & Gender & % Change 2000-2010.	20
III-5	Regional Service Area Population by Age & Gender, 2010	21
III-6	Employment/Income Characteristics for Regional Service Area.....	22
III-7	Local & Regional Service Area % Living in Poverty by Age Group	23
IV-1	Existing Recreation Facilities In and Around Castle Rock.....	26-28
V-1	Mini-Park Service Measures.....	62
V-2	Mini-Park Need Analysis.....	63
V-3	Neighborhood Park Service Measures.....	63
V-4	Neighborhood Park Need Analysis.....	64
V-5	Community Park Service Measures.....	64
V-6	Community Park Need Analysis	65
V-7	Regional Park Service Measures.....	65
V-8	Regional Park Need Analysis.....	66
V-9	Subareas 1-3 by Age & Gender	70
V-10	Subareas 4-6 by Age & Gender	71
VI-1	Capital Projects 2016-2021	82-86

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACS	American Community Survey
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ARPA.....	American Recreation and Park Association
DFW	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
DNR.....	Washington State Department of Natural Resources
BNSF	Burlington Northern Santa Fe
I-5.....	Interstate 5
LOS	level of service
MRSC.....	Municipal Research and Services Center
OFM.....	Washington State Office of Financial Management
PRORAGIS.....	ARPA Parks and Recreation Operating Ratio and Geographic Information System™
PROS	Parks, Recreation, and Open Space zoning district
RCO.....	Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
RV.....	recreational vehicle
SR 411	State Route 411 (also known as Westside Highway)
SR 504	State Route 504 (also known as Spirit Lake Highway)
WIAA.....	Washington Interscholastic Activities Association
WSDOT	Washington State Department of Transportation

CHAPTER I - INTRODUCTION

This document, completed under the Castle Rock Board of Park Commissioners' ("Park Board") review and guidance, is a minor update to the 2016 *City of Castle Rock & Castle Rock School District Park and Recreation Plan*. It has also been vetted through and subsequently adopted by the Castle Rock City Council and Castle Rock School Board. Adopted by reference in the City's comprehensive plan, this document serves to fulfill the park and recreation planning requirements in the state Growth Management Act.¹

Local-level park and recreation plans must be updated every six years² to retain eligibility for a variety of grant and other funding opportunities. Besides the statutory requirement, the six-year time frame also provides a pathway for setting realistic goals and objectives on a relatively short horizon. Additionally, the six-year time frame corresponds with that of the typical capital facilities plan, affording the City the opportunity to align capital projects between the two documents. This approach also meets state Recreation and Conservation Funding Board guidelines³ administered by the state Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), generally referred to herein as "RCO guidelines." The plan will continue to be updated on a regular basis.

This update is a shared jurisdiction plan, as described in the RCO guidelines, continuing the collaborative relationship between the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401 ("School"). It was developed using the results of the 2021 Park and Recreation Survey (see Appendix A) and other public outreach/planning efforts. It is designed to meet or exceed all Washington State requirements⁴ and to generally meet the RCO guidelines.

¹ RCW 36.70A.070(8). In reliance on advice from state Department of Commerce staff, this update was not treated as a comprehensive plan amendment by virtue of being a referenced standalone document. As such, it did not undergo state agency review per RCW 36.70A.106(3)(a).

² WAC 286-13-040(b) states that a jurisdiction is eligible to submit funding applications for up to six years after its local plan is accepted by the RCO.

³ *Manual 2: Planning Policies and Guidelines*, Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board, February 1, 2014, at <http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/manuals&forms/Manual_2.pdf>

⁴ WAC 286-26-080, 286-27-040, and 286-35-030 require that plans analyze demand and need as well as describe how the planning process gave the public ample opportunity to be involved in the plan's development. Additionally, WAC 286-04-065 directs the RCO to use a priority rating system that, in part, considers local needs when recommending funding.

Numerous parks and recreation projects have been completed since the last plan update. The following list briefly outlines public park and recreation accomplishments between 2016 and 2021:

- Completed Phase Two construction of the two-lane Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch including additional floats, canoe/kayak slip, accessible⁵ restrooms, a fish cleaning station, lighting, a large picnic shelter/outdoor classroom, security cameras, and landscaping with irrigation. The work also included paving the remainder of the parking lot. As part of this project, stream bank mitigation enhancement work was completed on Whittle Creek behind 4 Corners Farm & Garden.
- Extended trails from Westside High into the North County Sports Complex and the boat launch.
- Extended the Riverfront Trail on the east side of the river up to the railroad bridge on Huntington Ave. North. Improvements include enhancing the ADA-accessible ramp and constructing a trailhead parking lot and a viewing platform by the river. Plans call for adding a restroom, signage, and landscaping.
- Completed work on the welcoming entrance features at Lions Pride Park.
- Private developer donated land and funds to develop a mini-park in the Lois Dye Estates subdivision. Equipment has been purchased, built, and completed.
- Improved the Skate Park by installing new equipment and rearranging the existing equipment. Basketball hoops and two half courts were added to make the space multi-useable.
- Completed improvements of the Castle Rock Library by developing a computer area, complying with ADA standards, adding storage, upgrading the heating system, painting, and repairing the interior and exterior, replacing windows, and promoting reading programs.
- Developed a new Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) zoning district to help property owners, elected officials, and citizens manage recreation-based properties in the area on the west side of the Cowlitz River that was annexed.
- Improved Old Jail Park with landscaped areas and raised bed gardens.
- The Lions Club donated its Memorial Volunteer Park, now called Gateway Park, to the City. Volunteers and City staff renovated the park by improving the structures, adding landscaping, replanting the lawn, and adding electrical outlets.

⁵ Refers to meeting the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- Expanded the School and community gardens and orchards.
- Successfully negotiated placement and began construction of a new visitor center at the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) park and ride at Exit 49. Eventually the trail system will link from the center to the downtown and uptown. Built and completed.
- Renovated the BMX track into a one-of-a-kind pump track and bike skills park for trail and mountain riding. In addition to the pump track, this facility had elevated boardwalks, trails, jumps, and log overs. It includes parking, a picnic structure, and many other unique features. The project won an Association of Washington Cities award for community involvement as it was built mostly with donated labor and recycled material.

Both the local community and visitors from outside the area have many reasons to celebrate the expanded park and recreation opportunities available to them. Despite the highlighted successes, there are still numerous projects that deserve attention, are very much needed, and will lead to a fully integrated park and recreation network unique to a city of Castle Rock's size.

This work will ensure that adequate facilities exist for current and future users of City and School Park and recreation facilities. It updates the goals, objectives, and guiding principles for prioritizing, funding, acquiring, and developing and/or rehabilitating parks and recreational facilities/opportunities in and around Castle Rock. The City and School anticipate that a series of new accomplishments such as those listed above will be included in the next plan update.

The following chapter sets forth the goals and objectives that will direct park and recreation development in and around Castle Rock during this planning period. Subsequent chapters include the background information, including an analysis of demand and need, that was used to derive and support the stated goals and policies.



"Our goals can only be reached through a vehicle of a plan, in which we must fervently believe, and upon which we must



CHAPTER II - MISSION STATEMENT, GOALS, & OBJECTIVES

Mission Statement

To provide Castle Rock area residents, students, and visitors with a variety of recreational and leisure opportunities designed to enrich their physical health, social well-being, and overall quality of life.

City of Castle Rock Goals

1. To provide, improve, maintain, and facilitate a variety of year-round recreational opportunities for all age groups both in service areas.
2. To provide more areas for active and passive recreation and educational opportunities by identifying possible locations for park expansion, trail extensions, and land acquisition.
3. Provide for a system of parks, linear open spaces, trails oriented to urban waterways, and other recreational opportunities for all users.
4. Make recreation and tourism a building block of Castle Rock's economic development in concert with the City's 2005 *Strategic Marketing Plan*.
5. Seek a variety of funding sources to fully implement the capital improvement program, including recreation and economic development funds, donations, and other grant programs.
6. Collaborate with citizens, community groups, committees, partnering agencies, and organizations to maintain, improve, develop, and promote recreational facilities and opportunities in and around service areas.
7. Utilize the *Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan* ("riverfront plan") as amended, as a guide to the phased development of the recreation corridor, including development plans for the large dredge spoil sites on both sides of the Cowlitz River.
8. Where practicable, ensure that land is set aside in conjunction with new residential development so that new facilities are proximate to new growth.

9. Where impracticable to achieve new development set-asides, ensure that sufficient fees are paid in conjunction with new residential development so that new growth contributes to park and recreation funding and development.
10. Plan for a variety of recreational facilities and opportunities throughout the service area so that geographic barriers such as the river do not preclude public enjoyment of the amenities.
11. Seek a variety of funding sources to support the operation and maintenance of recreational facilities so that public needs are met.
12. Continue to promote the enhancement and extension of the trail system in service areas. The trails should also connect to the regional system identified in the *Cowlitz Regional Trails Plan* to Seaquest Park and to the central business district, and the Six Rivers Regional Trail Systems.
13. Promote use of the new Visitor Center.
14. Promote use of the Castle Rock Library.
15. Work to develop a joint facility for City services and a community/senior center.
16. Collaborate to provide better facilities and services in a cost-efficient manner.
17. Promote physical activity among students by increasing walking or bicycling through promoting the use of established safe bicycle/pedestrian routes to serve schools and parks.

Castle Rock School District Goals

1. The School encourages full community use of all school facilities, provided that its educational and extra-curricular functions are supported at the level designated by the Board.
2. The School supports community/economic development activities in the region by making school facilities available when possible as host or support facilities.
3. The School intends to utilize real property to its fullest potential. Land that is not targeted for long-range building program needs will be properly maintained and/or developed to support additional district and community activities.
4. The School will work with other agencies to support projects that expand avenues for education, instill civic pride, and provide opportunities for meaningful community service.
5. The School will work with the City to foster partnerships between youth and the City, taking the lead in getting students to be involved with City planning and support groups (Chamber of Commerce, City Council, Park Board, etc.)

City of Castle Rock Objectives

1. Extend the Riverfront Trail on the east side of the Cowlitz River northward to Highway 504 and south to Salmon Creek. Explore partnering with Washington State Parks Commission and WSDOT to connect to Seaquest State Park, possibly utilizing the state's Scenic and Recreational Highways corridor management program.
2. Extend the Riverfront Trail on the west side of the Cowlitz River southward to Arkansas Creek, across the creek, and link to the regional trail system on Cowlitz County's Cook Ferry Trail site. Explore opportunities to develop equestrian trails on the west side of the Cowlitz River as part of the multipurpose trail system. Construction will likely occur in phases.
3. Pursue opportunities to enhance multipurpose trails so they provide recreational uses for all ages, all abilities, and all modes of travel.
4. Work with all local, county, state, and federal agencies to continue in the future development of recreation opportunities and private individuals and organizations to continue further development of recreational opportunities.
5. Continue to improve, upgrade, and maintain the Skate and Bike Parks to ensure the needs and desires of the public are met. Make improvements to the Skate Park by adding additional equipment and utilizing some of the space for basketball courts.

6. Continue to improve, upgrade, and maintain the Bike Park to ensure it meets the needs and desires of the public.
7. Make improvements to the land on the west side of the Cowlitz River. Pursue opportunities to partner with a private developer to improve and market a portion of the site as a recreational vehicle (RV) resort. Funds generated from the campground could be used to support park and recreational operations. Other possible improvements include parking facility construction, development of access ramps to public fishing sites on the Cowlitz River and Arkansas Creek, and installation of erosion control measures. Fish habitat enhancement and educational opportunities could also result. A day-use area along Arkansas Creek should also be provided. A bridge crossing Arkansas Creek should be constructed or installed to extend the City's trails to the regional trail system.
8. Continue to promote a strong sense of community and provide an inviting welcome into the city for visitors and residents through the continuing development and maintenance of gateway facilities.
9. Continue the planning and design work on a community center that will tie the community together and house a variety of facilities and events.
10. Continue developing and constructing the regional boat launch on the Cowlitz River.
11. Continue development of neighborhood parks and mini parks. Continue development of park facilities in the area east of I-5 and west of the Cowlitz River.
12. Work toward developing a community park at the City-owned dredge spoils site on the east side of the Cowlitz River ("Big Bend") using the riverfront plan as a guide.
13. Ensure that new residential developments dedicate land for park areas, provide improvements to existing facilities, or provide monetary compensation to the City for the acquisition, development, and maintenance of recreational facilities.
14. Publish a pamphlet for distribution to the public and utilize the internet and social media to promote recreational opportunities in and around Castle Rock.
15. Improve "The Rock" Community Park by rebuilding the scenic lookouts and trails alongside the Cowlitz River.
16. Encourage the private development of an RV park/campground on the west side of the Cowlitz River south of Whittle Creek on DNR land and City-owned dredge spoils.
17. Add more features to the North County Sports Complex including an additional soccer field, basketball courts, expanded concession stand, play structures, open space/play fields, improved trail system, and improved parking.

18. Add a river current calming and sediment moving structure to the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch.
19. Initiate discussions with DNR and the Washington State legislature concerning the improvements for recreational use of the land along the Cowlitz River near Exit 48.
20. Make improvements to the Old Jail Park and Gateway Park.
21. Continue to update the Riverfront Master Plan to include details of projects already completed and to ensure the plan considers emerging recreational needs, such as covered and noncovered play areas.
22. Work with the Planning Commission and Development Review Team to examine the potential of adopting regulations requiring park, recreation, and open space land dedication for multi-family development, similar to that adopted in the City's subdivision regulations. City currently has a \$1,500 fee in lieu of park land dedication.
23. For the next plan update, develop trend data that incorporates previous survey results.⁶
24. Prior to the next plan update, consider developing a Castle Rock profile in the American Recreation and Park Association (ARPA)'s Parks and Recreation Operating Ratio and Geographic Information System™ (PRORAGIS) database.⁷
25. City should seek to find a sustainable funding source to employee "Parks" personnel whose primary duties are to maintain and operate the park facilities and the many landscape areas throughout the city on City owned properties and/or Rights-of-Ways.

Castle Rock School District Objectives

Castle Rock School District #401, in partnership with the City of Castle Rock, seeks to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Continue to improve and expand the community garden, orchard, and berry patch.
2. Complete and expand the Riverfront Trail and exercise stations, adding open and covered picnic facilities and a playground supported by community volunteers, donations, and grants.
3. Review, evaluate, and improve the elementary fields and gym and the middle school fields, gym, and fitness center to enhance safe use and access.
4. Create a walking path/trail on the Elementary School properties to encourage student and others physical fitness.



"Plans are nothing; planning is everything."

~Dwight D. Eisenhower



CHAPTER III - PLANNING AREA

Description of the Planning Area

Castle Rock is the northernmost city in Cowlitz County, largely situated between the Cowlitz River and Interstate 5 (I-5). The city, shown in Figure III-1 below, lies about midway between Olympia and Portland and is 117 miles south of Seattle. It is located along the eastern banks of the Cowlitz River, approximately two miles south of the junction of the Cowlitz and Toutle rivers.

Castle Rock is centered primarily on the donation land claim of Eliza and William Huntington, who settled the area in 1852. Huntington was a prominent figure in the community in both the territorial house of representatives and senate and as county commissioner, Castle Rock postmaster, and territorial federal marshal.⁸ The city is named after a large volcanic rock formation approximately 200 feet high that resembles a castle. During the period of active riverboat transportation on the Cowlitz River, "The Rock" formation was a major geographical landmark in Cowlitz County.

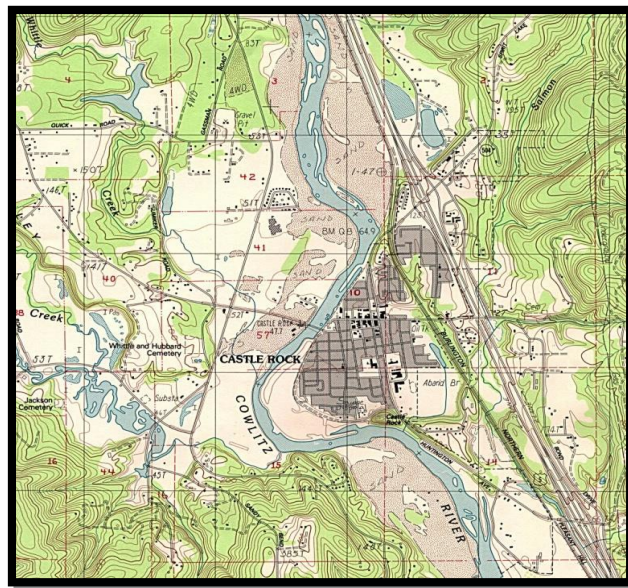


Figure III-1. Castle Rock Area

(Source: U.S. Geological Survey)

⁸ *Pioneer History, Churches of Christ & Christian Churches in the Pacific Northwest (Cowlitz County/Castle Rock)* at <http://ncbible.org/nwh/WaCowlitz.html>

Castle Rock is a major gateway to the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. At Exit 49 off I-5, State Route 504 (SR 504), known as the Spirit Lake Highway, connects the city to the Mount St. Helens area (Figure III-2). One of the most popular and spectacular tourist attractions in Washington State, the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument is managed by the National Park Service and is visited by hundreds of thousands of people annually. The 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens forever changed the cultural and physical geography of the Castle Rock region. The eruption sent tons of ash and volcanic debris flooding through the Cowlitz River Basin and the city.

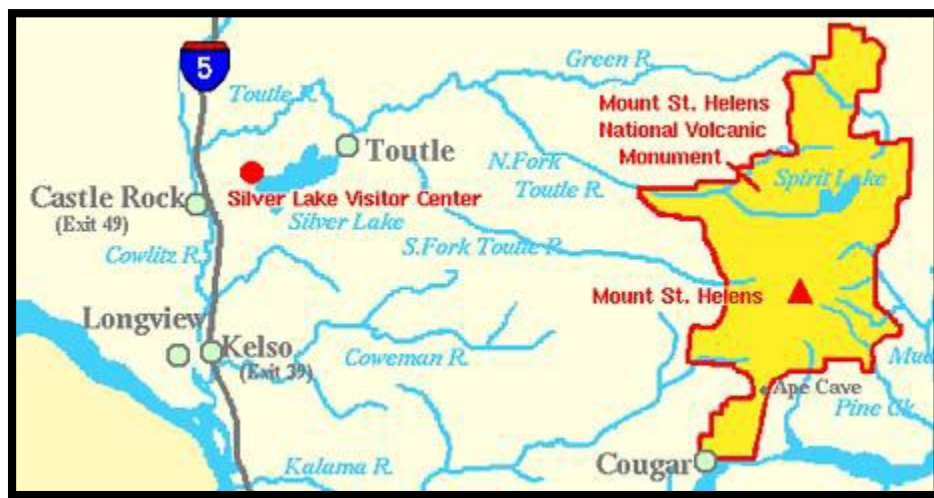


Figure III-2. Relationship to Mount St. Helens

(Source: U.S. Geological Survey)

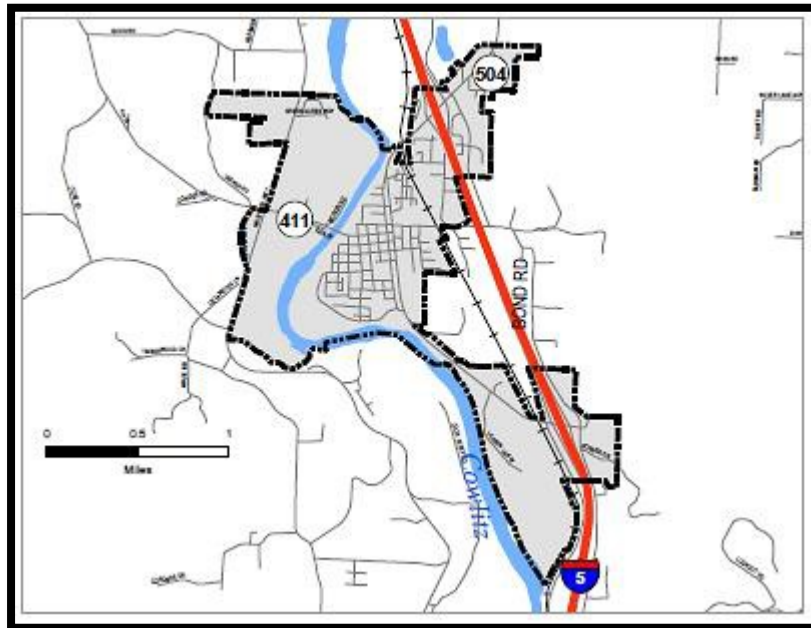
Castle Rock has been known not only as “The Gateway to Mount St. Helens,” which dates back well before the mountain’s eruption, but also “The City of Champions,” reflecting earlier generations’ pride in Castle Rock-Toutle area loggers who won world championships in logging competitions.⁹ A downturn in logging beginning in the 1980s, combined with the effects of the Mount St. Helens eruption, contributed to the exodus of residents and a decline in the local and regional economy. The ten years following the eruption marked the first decennial population decrease in the city since 1940.

Despite the events of the last 41 years, Castle Rock is poised for rejuvenation and opportunity. With a desirable natural environment, small-town appeal, affordable housing, good schools, and recreation opportunities galore, Castle Rock is a prosperous community with an exciting past and great potential for a bright future. By design, parks and recreational opportunities play an important and prominent part in the community and will continue to be a tie that binds.

⁹ “Castle Rock Area” by Bud May in *Legacy Washington*, Washington Secretary of State, at http://www.sos.wa.gov/legacy/cities_detail.aspx?i=3

For planning purposes, this plan delineates multiple service areas, including:

1. **City of Castle Rock (“Local Service Area”).** The Castle Rock city limits form the Local Service Area (Figure III-3). The Castle Rock High School and grounds (including the North County Recreational Sports Complex and Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch),



Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club Track, Castle Rock Fairground, and dredge spoils lands on the west side of the Cowlitz River have all been annexed into the City over the past decade. Community-scale recreational facilities such as mini parks, neighborhood parks, and community parks principally serve city residents, an estimated population of 2,235¹⁰. When natural or constructed barriers isolate a neighborhood, the service area is divided into subareas that are examined at the

Census Block level.

Figure III-3. Local Service Area

2. **Northern Cowlitz County (“Regional Service Area”).** As the only city in north Cowlitz County, Castle Rock serves as the recreational focal point for surrounding rural residents. As seen in Figure III-4, the Castle Rock and Toutle Lake School Districts are combined as a single metric unit for this service area. There are 14,693¹¹ people living in the two districts’ boundaries. Rural residents are actively involved with regional sports leagues and school recreational opportunities. They use community-wide parks and trails as well as the fairgrounds, senior center, and library.

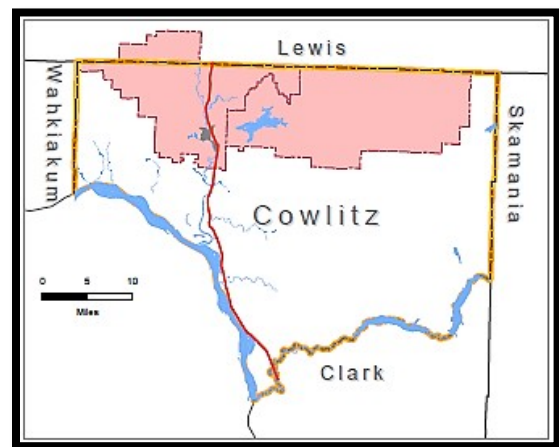


Figure III-4. Regional Service Area

¹⁰ Cowlitz County Population Projections produced by the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments)

¹¹ 2009-13 American Community Survey (ACS) Estimate via National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of

3. Southwest Washington/Northwest Oregon (“Extended Service Area”).

Because the stretch of the Cowlitz River in and around Castle Rock offers some of the best recreational fishing in the Pacific Northwest, the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch draws users from the greater Southwest Washington/Northwest Oregon area. Additionally, Castle Rock’s business community continues to promote regional facilities and functions that will attract recreation tournaments and tourists. Figure III-5 depicts this greater service area including Cowlitz, Clark, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum, and Yakima Counties in Washington and Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Hood River, Multnomah, and Washington Counties in Oregon, whose population totals 3,908,922. At the time of the 2016 Park Plan update, Extended Service Area population totaled 3,871,100, which represents an increase of increase of 0.9 percent¹².



Figure III-5. Extended Service Area

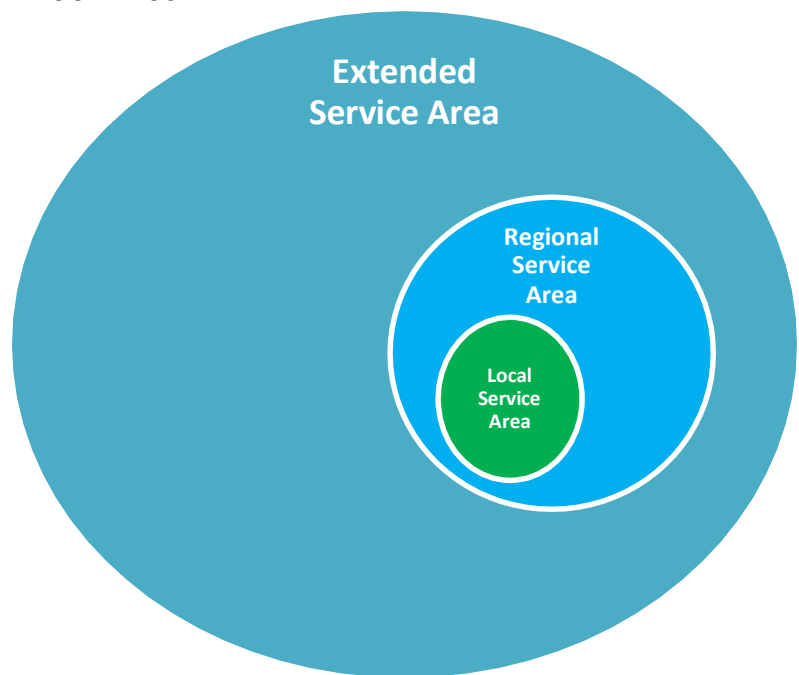


Figure III-6. Relationship of Service Areas

Figure III-6 illustrates the relationship of these service areas to one another. When stating demography, subset data is not subtracted from the whole.

¹² Ibid. note 10 (Washington); plus data at <http://www.pdx.edu/prc/population-reports-estimates> (Oregon).

Broader Influences

Included in and beyond the Extended Service Area is also a consistent, much broader service relationship with other populations whose numbers cannot be estimated. Usage of Castle Rock facilities is significantly and uniquely influenced by the city's proximity to Mount St. Helens and its location between Seattle and Portland. Castle Rock enjoys a rare marked "business loop" (Figure III-7) at Exit 48 and motorist information signage at Exit 49 that bring passersby into town. This bears consideration because even though these numbers aren't identifiable, these other factors introduce people to the area who may also use Castle Rock facilities while they are here, and/or who become aware of and return to specifically visit Castle Rock facilities later.



Figure III-7. Business Loop

WSDOT reports no other such business loops along the I-5 corridor. This is likely because of the lack of development at Exit 48; WSDOT states that business loop signage is not allowed where there is motorist information signage, which is abundant at Exit 49.

The Silver Lake Visitor Center run by Washington State Parks has reported well over 100,000 visitors in previous years, but remains closed over COVID-19 concerns. The center is located east of the city on SR 504 and is most directly accessed from I-5 via Exit 49 in Castle Rock. Stops at the U.S. Forest Service's Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center likely overlap the Silver Lake center, but in addition to everyday tourists, it also hosts the Music on the Mountain summertime concert series. Other examples of special events focused on Mount St. Helens proximity include the Ash Kicker (currently on hiatus) and Li'l Squatches runs, both fundraisers sponsored by Bigfoot Events, and the Longview Rotary Club's yearly Tour de Blast bike ride.¹³ Further up SR 504 is Riverdale Raceway, which hosts motocross as well as auto races and likely some crossover interest with the motorcycle club in Castle Rock.

Cascade Bicycle Club's annual Seattle-to-Portland ride passes through Castle Rock on the Westside Highway (SR 411) and uses the North County Sports Complex as a designated rest stop (Figure III-8).

Due to concerns over COVID-19, the annual ride was canceled for the year 2021, but virtual rides from July to August were scheduled in its place.

In the past, the club reported that this extraordinarily popular event reached its maximum of 10,000 participants each year, which in 2014 included riders from seven countries and 45 states, and a total of 8,212 riders from Washington and 1,242 from Oregon.



Figure III-8. Castle Rock Seattle-to-Portland Rest Stop

¹³ Bigfoot Events does not report participant data; Longview Rotary reports approximately 1,600 riders annually.

(Source: Bike Dreams blog at <http://the-whir-of-spokes-in-air.blogspot.com/2014/07/stp-song-is-over.html>)

In 2013, Boy Scout Troop 313 took over the Sand and Misery Challenge, a yearly obstacle course race, held at the North County Sports Complex. In 2019, 90 runners participated in the difficult yet fun challenge to raise money to help pay for camps and other activities, and improvements for the North County building .Runners came from principally Washington and Oregon with some team members dressing up as leprechauns and formal dresses to add to the fun. The Cowlitz Valley Runners' group remains the sponsor, but the obstacle course's elaborate set-up required for the event, is now the responsibility of Castle Rock's Boy Scout Troop 313 (shown in Figure III-9 constructing one of the obstacles).



Figure III-9. Sand and Misery Challenge Course
(Source: S&M Challenge Facebook page)

Castle Rock is located in Southwest Washington's District Four of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA), whose entire menu of school sports activities is shown in Table III-1. Castle Rock is part of the Trico 1A league that also includes Kalama, King's Lake Christian, La Center, Seton Catholic, Stevenson, and White Salmon schools.

Table III-1. Trico 1A League, District 4 WIAA Sports

Boys' Sports	Football & Baseball
Girls' Sports	Softball, Volleyball, Bowling, & Gymnastics
Both Boys & Girls	Tennis, Cross-Country, Basketball, Swimming, Golf, Soccer, Track, & Wrestling

(Source: http://www.tricoathletics.com/index.php?league=30&page_name=school_home&school=0&sport=0)

The Trico league uses athletic facilities at Castle Rock high and middle schools. In addition, Castle Rock facilities are used by the Southwest Washington Youth Soccer Association, Cowlitz Youth Soccer Association, Castle Rock Toutle Lake Cal Ripken League, Castle Rock Youth Football, Castle Rock Toutle Lake Girls' Softball, and others. These groups bring players and boosters from other schools and communities to the area in conjunction with sporting events.

This is not an exhaustive list of features or activities but is illustrative of the impact nearby facilities, events, and activities have on Castle Rock. There is also an economic effect, as recreational visitors¹⁴ to the community tend to spend money on food, gas, lodging, and retail. In 2015, the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments adopted the Fire and Ice Scenic Loop Plan, which is envisioned as a catalyst for Castle Rock and other communities in its planning area to attract more visitors through nature and recreation-based tourism. Beginning at Castle Rock, SR 504, is one of the designated scenic byways that are integral to the concept.

Finally, it is important to note that a given facility may provide a variety of amenities that simultaneously serve multiple service areas. For instance, the North County Recreation Facilities includes the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch that serves residents of the Extended Service Area as well as the Sports Complex that serves the Regional Service Area. In addition, the master plan calls for installation of playground equipment to benefit the Local Service Area. While this is the largest recreational facility with unique offerings, many of the recreational facilities serve at least two of the identified service areas.

¹⁴ See additional discussion on p. 71.

Population and Demography

The 2020 population estimates provided by OFM and the Population Research Center at Portland State University's College of Urban and Public Affairs are used for population data. Table III-2 illustrates changes in total population between 2015 and 2020 for each of the service areas.

Table III-2. Population Change by Service Area, 2010-2015

Service Area	2015 Population	2020 Population	# Change	% Change
Local	2,175	2,235	60	2.75%
Regional	13,813	14,613	880	6.3%
Extended	3,871,100	3,908,922	37,822	0.9%

From 2015 to 2020, the Local Service Area gained in population by 60 people, or about three percent per year. This rate may be expected to adjust in the next decennial census period. While noting that population projections are always speculative, population growth in the Local Service Area is expected to remain at around one percent or less annually through at least the next decade.

Table III-3 depicts projected growth based on “high-medium-low” growth scenarios. The current growth rate is shown as the “high” scenario, while the expected growth rate is reflected in the “medium” scenario. Unlike a comprehensive plan, which discusses growth and population on a 20-year timeframe and is updated at various intervals, park and recreation plans must be updated on a six-year schedule to retain eligibility for state funding. As a result, population has only been projected through the year 2035. The City's next comprehensive plan update is due in 2026¹⁵, and population estimates will be reset to the 2020 federal census data once it is released. The next park and recreation plan update will benefit from the updated comprehensive plan figures in terms of selecting an appropriate and representative growth rate. Fresh census data might also be available by that time.

Table III-3. Local Service Area Population Projections 2025-2035

Year	Low Growth (0.5%)	Medium Growth (1%)	High Growth (2%)
2025	2,092	2,271	2,420
2030	2,078	2,318	2,514
2035	2,067	2,356	2,612

¹⁵ RCW 36.70A.130(5)(c) sets the deadline at June 30, 2026; however, the provisions of RCW 36.70A.130(6)(f) may offer the City an automatic two-year extension.

Table III-4 begins looking at the population characteristics in the Local Service Area¹⁶. Overall, population is somewhat evenly distributed between the various age groups, with the highest percentage of residents falling between 25-34 years of age. Between 2010 and 2020, several groups experienced an increase in population with the highest percent increase among residents between the ages of 25 and 34. Additionally, the number of children under the age of 15 has increased. This suggests that the Local Service Area's population as a whole is increasing with more families with young children moving to or remaining in the city. The 2019 American Community Survey found that about 68 percent of the households in the Local Service Area were comprised of families (defined as a householder with at least one other person related by birth, marriage, or adoption) and of that total, roughly 56 percent of families had children under the age of 18.

Table III-4. Local Service Area Population by Age & Gender & % Change 2010-2020

Age Group	2010 Total	2020 Total	% Change
Under 5 years	190	211	11.0%
5 to 9 years	137	303	121.1%
10 to 14 years	163	327	100.6%
15 to 19 years	139	201	44.6%
20 to 24 years	177	114	-35.5%
25 to 34 years	242	609	151.6%
35 to 44 years	189	422	123.2%
45 to 54 years	350	354	1.1%
55 to 59 years	139	81	-41.7%
60 to 64 years	137	129	-5.8%
65 to 74 years	136	266	66.1%
75 to 84 years	107	121	13.0%
85 years and over	220	15	-93.1%
Total	1,982	3,153	(59.0%)

¹⁶ In evaluating population demographics, 2010-19 ACS data has been substituted for 2020 Census data where information is available. Otherwise, 2020 Census results are used.

*Reflects ACS 2019 totals

Table III-5 presents some of this same information for the Regional Service Area. The largest segment of the population clusters in the age 50-54 category.

Table III-5. Regional Service Area Population by Age & Gender, 2014 to 2018

	Castle Rock School		Toutle Lake School		Total Regional
Age	Male	Female	Male	Female	13,813
Under 5	234	311	141	70	756
5 to 9	374	263	60	62	759
10 to 14	494	338	113	96	1,041
15 to 17	247	160	67	45	519
18 to 19	53	83	6	33	175
20	50	53	0	32	135
21	33	66	15	23	137
22 to 24	107	169	35	0	311
25 to 29	286	276	9	66	637
30 to 34	168	262	120	60	610
35 to 39	364	279	85	65	793
40 to 44	281	421	52	142	896
45 to 49	444	390	80	85	999
50 to 54	375	419	147	127	1,068
55 to 59	245	321	131	141	838
60 and 61	162	133	73	90	458
62 to 64	273	270	113	91	750
65 and 66	124	196	39	21	380
67 to 69	277	266	47	89	679
70 to 74	363	435	63	62	923
75 to 79	248	253	49	55	605
80 to 84	118	153	40	36	347
85 and over	92	96	35	22	245

The 2019 ACS estimates that 1,316 people make up the Local Service Area's employed workforce (age 16 and older). Top occupations include production, transportation, and material moving occupations, natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations, management, business, science, and arts occupations, service occupations, and sales and office occupations. Nearly 85 percent live and work in Cowlitz County. Considering the population that

is 25 and older, roughly 47 percent have attended or graduated high school (including those with less than 9th grade education, 9th to 12th grade, and those who are high school graduates or have received its equivalency), and roughly 32 percent have attended some college, but did not complete a degree. 91 percent of the local service area's population over the age of 25 have achieved a high school diploma or higher (including an associate degree, bachelor degree, or graduate /professional degree). The median income of the local service area at the time of the 2019 American Community Survey was \$50,573.

Table III-6 provides similar data for the Regional Service Area, drawn from the 2014 to 2018 ACS¹⁷ (produced in 2019 ACS 5-year estimates) and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction Washington Report Card¹⁸ data for each school district. Data shows that the median annual income for the Regional Service Area is lower than the local service area, with median incomes in the Castle Rock School District at \$60,596 and \$60,977 for Toutle Lake School District.

Table III-6. Employment/Income Characteristics for Regional Service Area

Characteristic	Castle Rock School District	Toutle Lake School District
Employed workforce (age 16+)	4,084 (outside city limits)	1,238
Educational attainment	HS graduate Some college Associates Degree	(same) (same) (same)
Top 5 occupations (declining order)	Education, health care & social services Manufacturing Retail trade Transportation & warehousing Accommodation & food services	(same) (same) Accommodation & food services Other (except public admin.) Retail trade
Mean travel time to work	31.2 minutes	42.9 minutes
Median household income	\$60,596	\$60,977
Free/reduced lunch	688 students of 1,345 total or 51 percent	230 students of 646 total or 35 percent

¹⁷ Ibid. note 16, ¹⁸ <https://www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/child-nutrition/child-nutrition-program-reports>

Table III-7 compares the percentage of people living in poverty in the two service areas by broad age groups. Taken together, this data implies that while working-class people possibly use Castle Rock parks and recreation facilities less during their work periods, they may rely more on publicly funded recreational opportunities during their leisure time.

Table III-7. Local & Regional Service Area % Living in Poverty by Age Group

% Below Poverty Level	Local Service Area	Regional Service Area Average
All people for whom determined	10.2%	10.2%
Under 18 years	20.9%	21.5%
18 to 59 years	55.7%	78%
60 to 74 years	15.3%	17.8%
75 to 84 years	7.4%	7.1%
85 years and over	0.53%	0.45%

Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	3,153
With an ambulatory difficulty	(X)
under 18 years	759
18 to 64 years (group total vs. group breakdown)	1781
18 to 34 years	795
35 to 64 years	986
65 years and over (group total vs. group breakdown)	402
65 to 74 years	266
75 years and over	136

The 2019 ACS estimates that 25 percent of individuals 18 to 34 years old, 31 percent of individuals 34 to 64 years old, and roughly 13 percent of individuals aged 65 and older are disabled in some manner. Because of wide variation in the nature and extent of ambulatory as well as any other disabilities that might exist, these populations may or may not need special accommodations in order to use park and recreation facilities, or they might be able to access some facilities while not others (for example, a paved area versus grassy field). This is imperfect data that cannot be neatly applied to park users lacking specific, targeted surveying that is outside the City's resources. Therefore, it should not be viewed as indicative of park needs in Castle Rock. At the same time, the City and School should keep access for persons with disabilities in mind as park and recreation facilities are developed and, to the greatest extent possible, design for a variety of capability levels.

This demographic information becomes especially important when planning for future parks and recreation opportunities. Understanding the geographic population distribution in the Local Service Area is also critical to the placement of facilities. A more detailed examination of population distribution within the Local Service Area is included in Chapter V as part of the Demand and Needs Analysis.



“The prudent heir takes careful inventory of his legacies and give a faithful accounting to those whom he owes an obligation of trust.”

~ John F. Kennedy



CHAPTER IV - INVENTORY

Inventory of Existing Facilities

This chapter begins with Table IV-1, a condensed index of parks and recreational facilities, followed by individual profiles of recreation opportunities and parks in and around the Local Service Area. It concludes with maps showing their location (Figures IV-1 through -3). For the most part, these facilities are under the jurisdiction of the City or the School, although some are owned and/or operated by private entities or DNR. All acreages stated are approximate. Park classifications are discussed in more detail in the following chapter.

When considering school facilities, it is important to keep in mind that although a variety of recreational opportunities may exist, some are not accessible to the general public outside of organized school activities and/or events. The estimate of schools' outdoor recreation space was gained by deducing building footprint, parking areas, access roads, and landscaped areas from total acreage figures. As with the general-purpose sites, all area calculations are approximate in nature.

Table IV-I. Existing Recreation Facilities in and Around Castle Rock (page 1 of 3)

Map Label	Name	Park Type	General Location	Size	Developed	Primary Activity	Facilities / Features
1	Castle Rock High School	School Park	5180 Westside Highway	107 acres (72 =Sports Complex)	Yes	School-related activities, public use after hours	Numerous features (see individual description)
2	North County Recreation Sports Complex	Regional Park	Access just south of high school 5180 Westside Highway	65 acres	Phase 1 completed	Active recreation, community sports	Baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, restroom, trail, concession stand, community picnic and gathering area
3	Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch	Regional Facility	Access just south of high school 5180 Westside Highway	2 ramps	Phases 1 & 2 completed; Phase 3 design underway	Boat access to the Cowlitz River for recreation & emergency responders	Ramps, boarding and transient floats, fish cleaning station, restroom, parking, host site
4	Fairgrounds	Special Use	Just over the A St. Bridge, south of PH 10	15 acres	Yes	Various fair-related activities	Outbuildings, stage, grounds, etc.
5	Motorcycle Club Facilities	Private Recreation Facility	Adjacent to the fairgrounds	20 acres	Yes	Motorcycle races & similar events	Stands, racetrack, concession stand, etc.
6	City/DNR Dredge Spoil Land (west) "High Banks"	N/A – undeveloped	South of the fair & motorcycle grounds	95 acres	No	Passive & active recreation	Unimproved trails, fishing, dog off leash area, etc.
7	Bike Park	Portion of Community Park	West end of Warren St. SW, off of the Riverfront Trail	2 acres	Partially	Active recreation, bike riding	Skills park including pump bike course, elevated board walk, log overs, jumps, etc. & picnic shelter

Table IV-1. Existing Recreation Facilities In and Around Castle Rock (page 2 of 3)

Map Label	Name	Park Type	General Location	Size	Developed	Primary Activity	Facilities / Features
8	Memory Lane Volunteer Park	Neighborhood Park	Western end of Michner St.	1 acre	Yes	Passive & active recreation location for adjacent neighborhood	Covered picnic tables, swings, slide, grassy areas
9	Skate Park	Portion of Community Park	West end of Third Ave. SW, off of the Riverfront Trail	0.5 acre	Partially	Active recreation, skateboarding, & roller blade users	Skateboarding facilities, basketball hoops & ½ courts
10	“The Rock” Community Park	Cultural / Historical Site or Facility	West of Huntington Ave., south of Dike Road	3 acres	Yes	Passive recreation, trails, etc.	Trails, covered picnic area atop the hill
11	Lions Pride Park	Community Park	Along Huntington Ave., south of “The Rock”	7.9 acres	Yes (room for expansion)	Picnicking, access to Riverfront Trail, sightseeing	Picnic tables, restrooms, parking, RV waste disposal
12	Castle Rock Elementary School	School Park	700 Huntington Ave.	43 acres	Yes (room for expansion)	School-related activities, public use after hours	Numerous features (see individual description)
13	Castle Rock Middle School	School Park	615 Front Ave. SW	4.5 acres	Yes, lighting and viewing improvements	School-related activities	Tennis courts, open field, ball field
14	Cold Water Park	Mini Park	Adjacent to the Senior Center	2,500 sq. ft.	Yes	Neighborhood playlot	Play structure, bench, etc.
15	Senior Center	Special Use Facility	Behind City Hall	2,600 sq. ft.	Yes	Leisure, social, & entertainment outlet for seniors & community	Large rooms with tables and kitchen facilities, etc.

Table IV-1. Existing Recreation Facilities In and Around Castle Rock (page 3 of 3)

Map Label	Name	Park Type	General Location	Size	Developed	Primary Activity	Facilities / Features
16	Castle Rock Library	Cultural / Historical Site or Facility	137 Cowlitz St. W	3,750 sq. ft.	Yes	Passive use for reading, lectures, crafts, internet use	Library facilities
17	Old Jail Park	Cultural / Historical Site or Facility	65 Jackson St. SW	300 sq. ft.	Partially	Passive use for picnicking, resting, & enjoying history	Historic jail, landscaping, and gardens
18	Gateway Park	Mini-Park	North entrance to Castle Rock along Huntington Ave.	0.25 acre	Yes	Passive use park for picnicking & resting	Covered picnic area, gazebo, and landscaping
19	Riverfront Trail	Multi-Purpose Trail System	Parking access: Huntington Ave. base of hill at north end of city	Linear; 4 mi.	Yes	Multi-purpose trail	Parking lot, access to trail; lighting, benches, viewing
20	Riverfront Trail- North Trailhead	Multi-Purpose Trail System	Parking access: Huntington Ave. base of hill at north end of city	18 parking stalls	Yes	Multi-purpose trail	Parking lot, access to trail; lighting, benches, viewing
21	Pioneer Park	Mini-Park	607 Tia Court NE., near Pioneer Ave	0.27 acre	Yes	Neighborhood playlot	Play structure, bench, & picnic table
22	Jacobson Preliminary Plat	Mini-Park	11000 Dougherty Dr.	0.4 acre	No	Neighborhood playlot	Vacant land to be developed if subdivision is finalized
23	Castle Rock Visitors Center	Cultural / Historical Site or Facility	Exit 49/I-5 interchange, at WSDOT park & ride	(outpad at P&R)	Yes	Drop-in center	Structure, restrooms, brochures
24	City-Owned Dredge Spoils (east side) "Big Bend"	Community	Between the Cowlitz River and Dike Drive	30 acres	No	Passive & active recreation	Unimproved trails, fishing, etc.
25	Huntington Monument	Historical Marker	Along the Riverfront Trail by the Base of the "Rock" Park	20' X 30'	Yes	Passive & active recreation- Fishing and hiking trails	Passive recreation, Historical Marker and covered picnic structure with tables.

1. **Castle Rock High School**

Location: 5180 Westside Highway

Outdoor Recreation Area: Approximately 25 acres

High School Features:

2 baseball fields

2 softball fields

Stadium with football field

All-weather track (8 lanes)

4 tennis courts

Practice football field

Soccer field

Indoor gymnasium (school use only)

Weight room (school use only)

Access to trail with exercise equipment

Forum/lunchroom with kitchen, classrooms,
& a small theater

Library open to the public in the summer



2. ***North County Sports Complex***

Location: 5180 Westside Highway

Outdoor Recreation Area: Approximately 65 acres, of which approximately 25 is developed

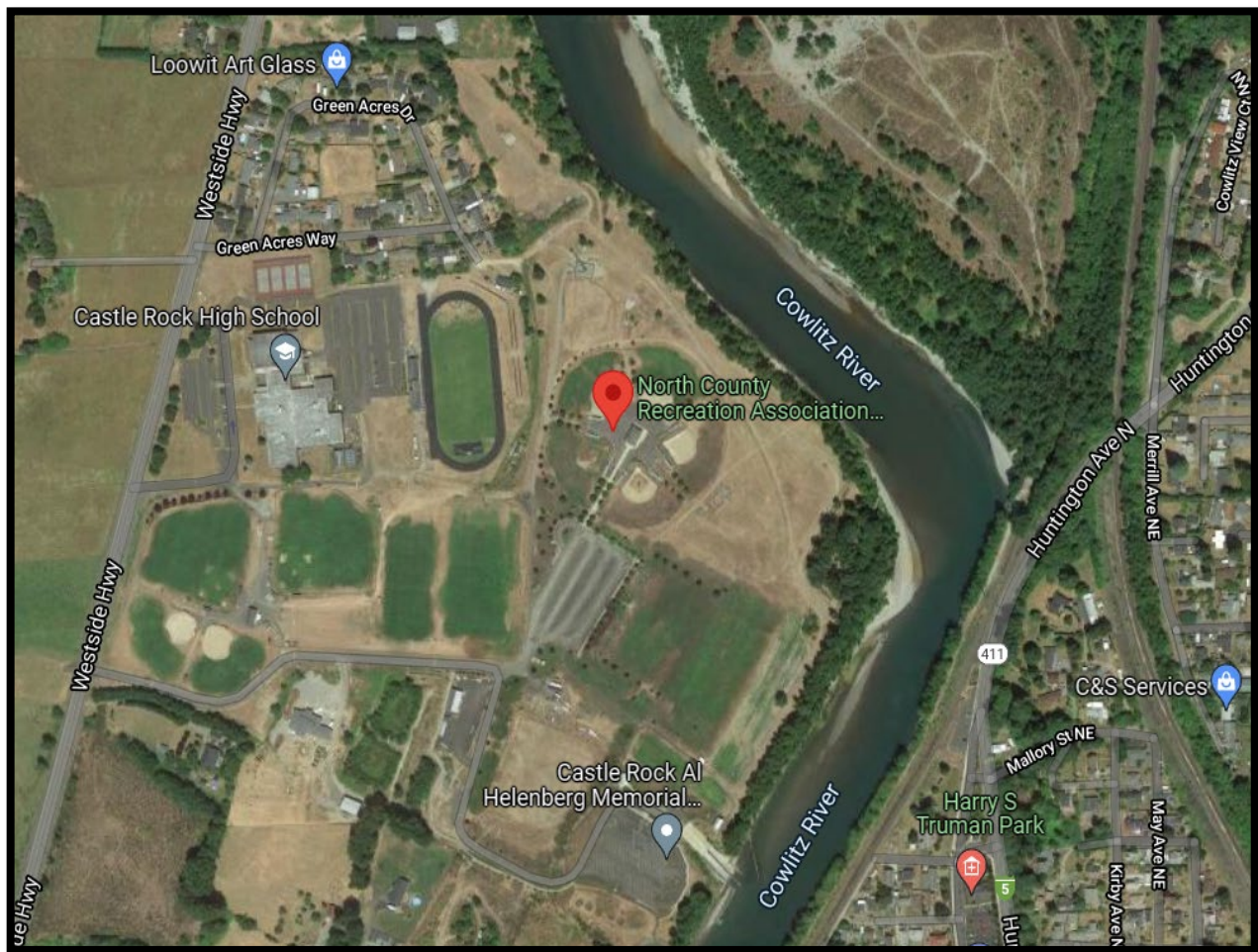
Description: The sports complex represents a partnership between the North County Recreation Association and the Castle Rock School District, with much of the work being done by volunteers. The Riverfront Trail runs partially through the complex, and the complex's parking lot serves users of both facilities. The complex hosts sports leagues, tournaments, and special events and serves as a recreational focal point for the entire region.

Sports Complex Features:

5 baseball/softball fields
2 soccer fields Large parking
lot

Concession stand/restrooms
Potential for basketball & volleyball courts
Large community picnic and gathering area





(Includes high school and boat launch)

3. Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch

Location: 5180 Westside Highway

Size: 7 acres

Features/Description: The Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch, which is located adjacent to the North County Sports Complex, opened in June 2010. This is the only boat launch that provides recreational and emergency response access for a 23-mile stretch of the Cowlitz River. Because this portion of the river provides unique opportunities for recreational fishermen, the facility serves the Extended Service Area.

Existing improvements include:

Two concrete launch lanes
Log boom
58-vehicle paved parking area
Restroom
Picnic shelter

Life vests
Fish cleaning station
Canoe/kayak slip
260' of boarding & transient floats
Host RV site

Ongoing improvements include:

Design for river current calming & sediment moving structure is in process





Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch and surrounding area

4. Fairground / 5. Motorcycle Club

Location: West side of Cowlitz River, along Fair Lane

Size: *Fairground:* Approximately 15 acres *Motorcycle Club:* Approximately 20 acres

Features/Description: The community fairgrounds and motorcycle club are adjacent to one another and are located in the area that has been annexed into the city since the last park plan update. The fairgrounds are managed by the Castle Rock Fair Board and are primarily used to house the community fair. They contain characteristic buildings and facilities typical of small community fairs including several barns and outbuildings, a small stage, and a variety of other features. The motorcycle track is managed by the Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club and is used for motorcycle races and other similar events. A motocross track for other riders that is the same size as the motorcycle track is currently being developed. The motorcycle grounds include a racetrack, grandstands, a concession stand, and a ticket booth.



6. City/DNR-Owned Dredge Spoils – West Side of Cowlitz River “High Banks”

Location: West side of Cowlitz River, south of PH 10 and east of SR 411 (south of Fairground and Motorcycle Club land)

Size: Around 63 acres (City) and 32 acres (DNR)

Features/Description: On the west side of the Cowlitz River, the City of Castle Rock and the DNR jointly own and manage this dredge spoils land. Although the spoils are largely undeveloped, there is a dirt road, which provides access to the river and a series of mostly unimproved trails. The area provides a popular fishing and picnic spot and has the potential to be developed into a community park, RV resort, or multi-purpose recreational site. Signage has been installed for an off-leash area on the site.

Thanks to a state appropriation, the City and DNR have completed a transfer ownership of a large portion of the current DNR land to the City. DNR will retain a portion surrounding Arkansas Creek.



7. *Bike Park*

Location: West end of Warren Street SW, off the Riverfront Trail

Size: There are bike trails throughout much of the dredge spoils, but the developed pump track portion is relatively small (less than an acre).

Features/Description: The former BMX tract constructed in 2003 has been developed into a full skills park and now includes a pump bike course, elevated boardwalk, log overs, jumps, etc. There is also a picnic shelter. Future planned improvements include additional skills structures, restrooms, parking, and lighting.



8. *Memory Lane Volunteer Park*

Location: North of the Skate Park at the western end of Michner Street

Size: Approximately 1 acre

Features/Description: Memory Lane Volunteer Park is a fairly small facility that is owned and operated by the City. The park features one covered picnic table, two swings, one slide, one bench, and one play structure. There is some limited open space available and planted evergreen trees that have been dedicated along the memorial walk.



9. Skate Park/Basketball Half Courts

Location: West end of Third Avenue SW, off the Riverfront Trail

Size: Around 0.5 acre

Features/Description: The Skate Park includes a variety of features such as ramps and 17,000 square feet of smooth asphalt surface. Basketball hoops and half courts have also been added to the original 2003 development.

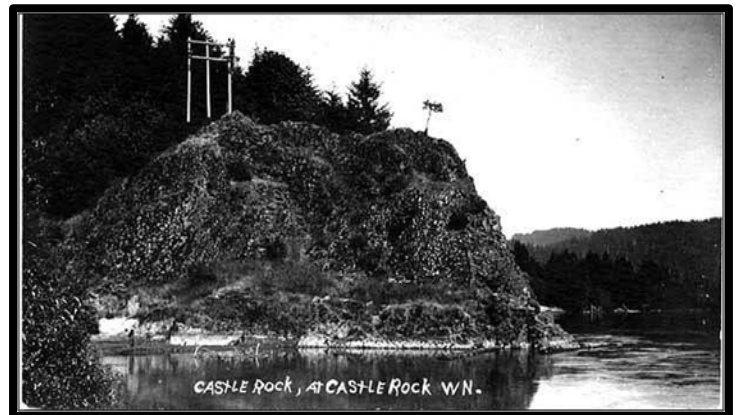


10. ***“The Rock” Community Park***

Location: West of Huntington Avenue just south of Dike Drive

Size: 3 acres

Features/Description: The Rock Community Park consists of a small and steep hill with rock cliffs dropping off into the Cowlitz River. The city is named after this formation, and it has deep historical value to the community. The park is mostly unimproved but does have some walking/hiking trails (non-paved) scattered throughout. There is a trail leading to the top of the hill, where a picnic shelter and bench are located.



11. *Lion's Pride Park*

Location: Huntington Avenue along the Cowlitz River at the southern entrance to the city, just south of “The Rock”

Size: 7.9 acres

Features/Description: Lions Pride Park is located at Castle Rock’s southern gateway and serves as a starting point for those wishing to access the Riverfront Trail. Additional recreational activities include picnicking and river viewing, although actual access to the Cowlitz River is limited because of steep banks in the area. Site features include six covered picnic areas with benches and barbeque grills, permanent restroom facilities, a paved driveway and three paved parking spots, including one ADA-accessible¹⁹ space, and an RV waste disposal station. The park is also proximate to where entrance improvements have been completed and where future enhancements are planned. Overall, a significant portion of the site remains undeveloped with room for possible expansion.

The Huntington Monument picnic structure is located at the base of The Rock near Huntington Avenue. The park is also across from the “Welcome to Castle Rock” entrance feature. This feature, which was a vision of local citizens, became a successfully completed project after over a decade of raising funds by community members and securing volunteer skilled labor to see it to completion. It is a one-of-a-kind entrance feature showcasing Castle Rock’s character.



¹⁹ Here, “accessible” refers to parking stalls that accommodate vehicles for those with disabilities, compliant with the ADA.

12. **Castle Rock Elementary School**

Location: 700 Huntington Ave. S

Size: *Site Area* - around 43 acres; *Outdoor Recreation Area* - around 39 acres

Features:

Large swing set (6 swings)

2 baseball and/or softball fields

Full basketball court Gymnasium*

Large play structure with benches

Tether rope area

Tot playground

2 paved play areas

2 soccer fields (2 standard sized)

2 grassy play fields

* Gymnasium open to the public during non-school hours

Comments: The outdoor facilities at Castle Rock Elementary School are accessible to the public during non-school hours. There are no gates that preclude pedestrian access or have the potential to be locked. Therefore, it is assumed that the facilities are basically open to the public after school and during holidays, breaks/vacations, and weekends.



13. **Castle Rock Middle School**

Location: 615 Front Ave. SW

Size: *Site Area* - around 4.5 acres; *Outdoor Recreation Area* - around 2 acres

Features:

Grass field/play area

Unimproved baseball/softball field

Gymnasium*

Fitness Room

Tennis Courts

The fitness room includes 25 pieces of high-tech exercise equipment, including 13 cardio machines and 12 weight machines. It has restrooms but no showers.

* Gymnasium only open to current Castle Rock Middle School students

Comments: The grassy field and unimproved ball field are open and accessible from Hibbard Street. Overall, the site features very few recreational options and could be improved to better serve the community.



14. Cold Water Park

Location: Adjacent to the Senior Center

Size: Approximately 2,500 square feet

Features/Description: This small park provides the immediate area with a small playlot for younger-aged children. It features a slide, two rockers, one bench, one set of swings with four swings, and a play structure. This park offers an excellent example of how a small lot, or even a portion of a lot, can be transformed into a site with recreational value. In late 2015, the City received a generous “in memoriam” contribution, channeled through the Castle Rock United Methodist Church, to update the park’s play elements. Through a generous grant from the United Methodist Church, the Cold Water Park playground was updated and the City is in the process of acquiring and installing these improvements.²⁰ In the meantime, the church is seeking a private foundation grant for two additional pieces of standalone equipment. The United Methodist Church, along with the Castle Rock Lion’s Club, continues to improve the park with lighting and viewing.



²⁰ If possible, existing equipment will be repurposed to other parks.

15. Senior Center

Location: Corner of Second Avenue and A Street (inside City Hall building)

Size: Approximately 2,600 square feet

Features/Description: The Castle Rock Senior Center is a non-profit organization that leases space from the City. The physical space within the building is a large multipurpose room that doubles as the Council Chambers. Led by a board of directors, the center provides a leisure, social, and entertainment outlet for seniors, with many nutritional, health, recreational, and fitness programs. The senior center also hosts community events.



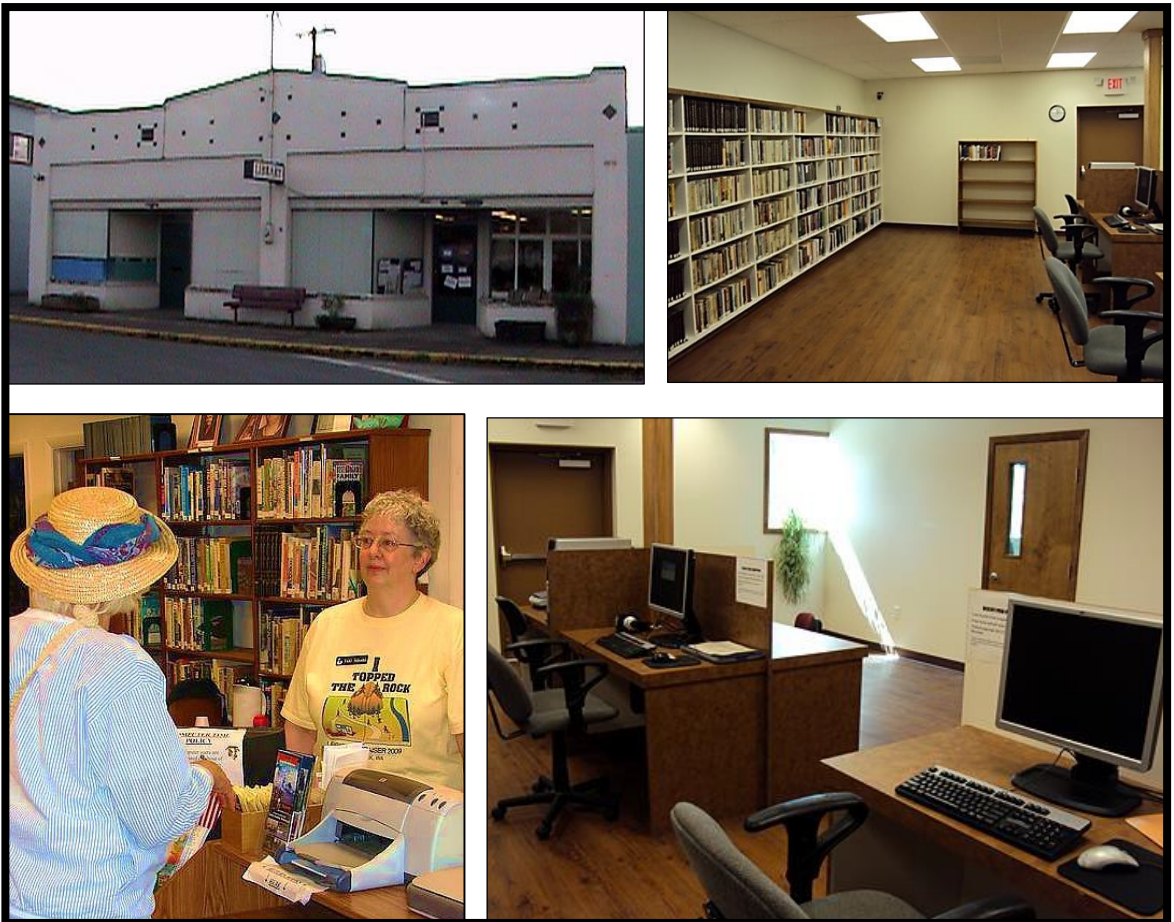
16. Castle Rock Library

Location: 137 Cowlitz St. West

Size: Approximately 3,750 square feet

Features/Description: In addition to customary materials found in a library, the Castle Rock Library is pleased to offer:

- Summer reading program for children
- Public computer and internet access
- Specialty collection of local history and genealogy
- Winter reading program for adults (February)

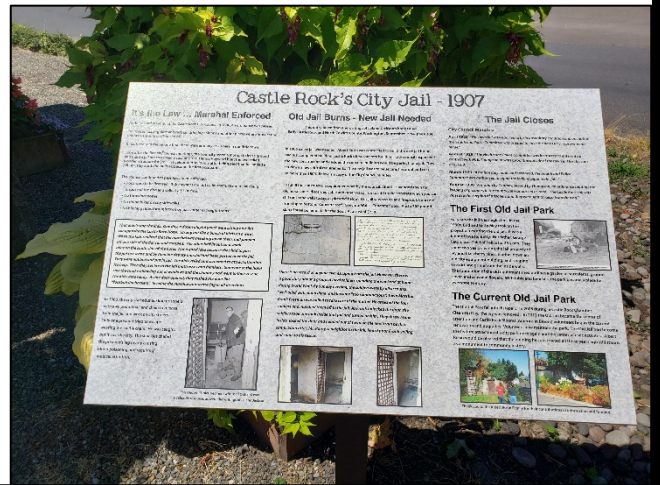
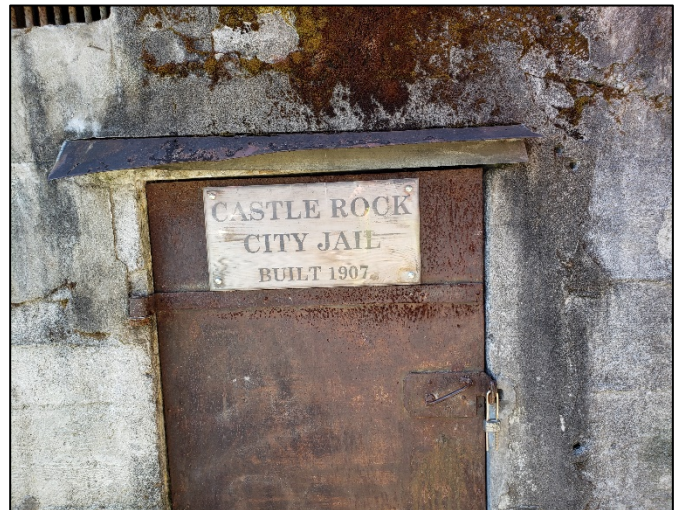


17. Old Jail Park

Location: In the back lot of 65 Jackson St. SW

Size: Approximately 300 square feet

Features/Description: There is opportunity at this historic facility for passive recreation such as picnicking, and an interpretive sign discussing local history among the landscaping. There are also several edible gardens at the Park available for use by community members and visitors alike.



18. **Gateway Park**

Location: North entrance of Castle Rock, north of Barr Street NW, between Front Avenue NW and Huntington Avenue N

Size: Around 0.20 acre

Features/Description: The Park is owned and maintained by the City and provides open space and picnic opportunities to local residents and travelers just passing through. Other site features include a covered picnic table, gazebo, many varieties of trees, and beautiful landscaping.



19. *Riverfront Trail*

Location: The Riverfront Trail runs along the east side of the Cowlitz River from Lions Pride Park to near N. Huntington Avenue/SR 411. On the west side of the Cowlitz River, the trail extends from near Green Acres subdivision along the backside of the high school grounds adjacent to the Sports Complex south to Mosier Road and from the fairgrounds south to Whittle Creek.

Size: east side - 1.9 miles total; west side - 2.1 miles total

Features/Description: The Riverfront Trail network is a trail system located mostly along the Cowlitz River dike. Trail amenities include trail lighting, benches, and viewing areas. An ADA-accessible ramp connects the trail to downtown Castle Rock. The trail joins residential, commercial, school, and recreational areas to one another, providing a safe mode of travel for the entire community. The trail is widely used by walkers, bicyclists, joggers, skateboarders, and dog walkers.



20. North Trailhead

Location: The Riverfront Trail runs along the east side of the Cowlitz River from Lions Pride Park to near N. Huntington Avenue/SR 411. On the west side of the Cowlitz River, the trail extends from near Green Acres subdivision along the backside of the high school grounds adjacent to the Sports Complex south to Mosier Road and from the fairgrounds south to Whittle Creek.

Size: north side: 1.9 miles total; west side - 2.1 miles total

Features/Description: The northern trailhead has parking stalls, information kiosks, and landscaping. Future improvements restrooms, a covered picnic area, and ADA parking.



21. Pioneer Park

Location: 607 Tia Court NE., near Pioneer Ave.

Size: Around 0.27 acre

Features/Description: In the course of designing a new single-family residential development, ABT Development dedicated a tract of land for a public park and \$10,000 toward improvements. Improvements include a bench, play elements, and picnic table. As of the 2016 plan update, the City is in the process of acquiring and installing improvements.

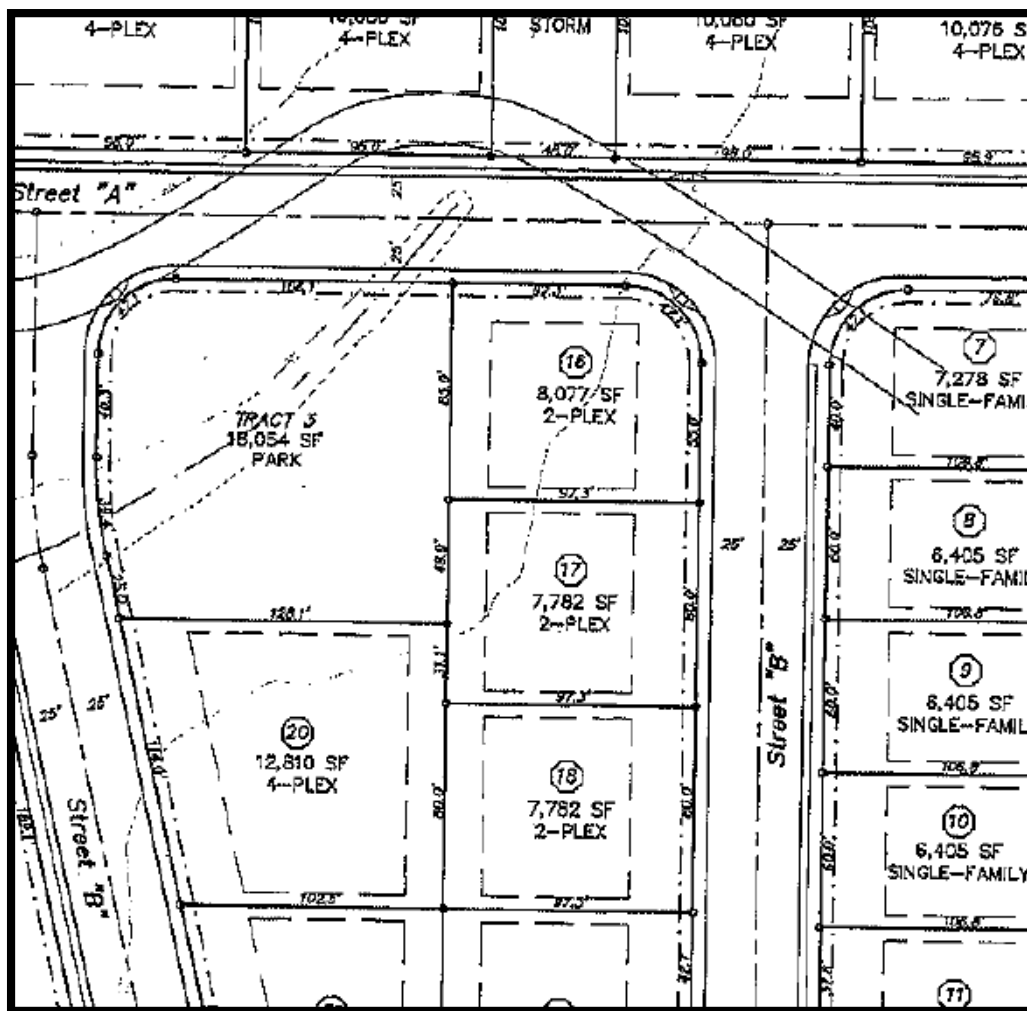


22. Jacobson Preliminary Plat – Future Park

Location: 11000 Dougherty Drive NE

Size: Around 0.4 acre

Features/Description: In the course of negotiating improvements necessary to demonstrate satisfaction of local and state subdivision requirements in order to achieve preliminary plat approval for a mixed-use commercial/residential development, Jacobson Investments proposed to dedicate a tract of land for a public park. Also included in the designs are lands necessary for trail connection easements. Since its inclusion in the 2011 park plan update, development was delayed because of economic concerns. Recently the developer began looking into reactivating the project, although it is not clear whether it will proceed. At the time of the 2021 plan update, the associated dedication is being retained on the list as a potential future facility.



23. Castle Rock Visitors' Center

Location: WSDOT Park & Ride at Exit 49/I-5 interchange

Size: n/a

Features/Description: The City was able to negotiate space for a small building pad collocated with the WSDOT park-and-ride to build a new visitors' center, currently under construction. It replaces the former visitors' center that was incorporated into the Exhibit Hall and provides superior visibility to those using Exit 49 off I-5. The center may or may not continue to be represented in future park plan updates as it is not a park and recreation facility per se. However, it will be a parklike setting that includes a proposed pet area, and the site will act as a trailhead to the Riverfront Trail and the future bike/pedestrian pathway heading east from Exit 49 on SR 504 to connect to Seaquest State Park. It is expected to be a great asset in directing visitors to Castle Rock's outdoor opportunities. Additionally, there is an educational timber grove that explains the type of trees and their role in the timber industry.

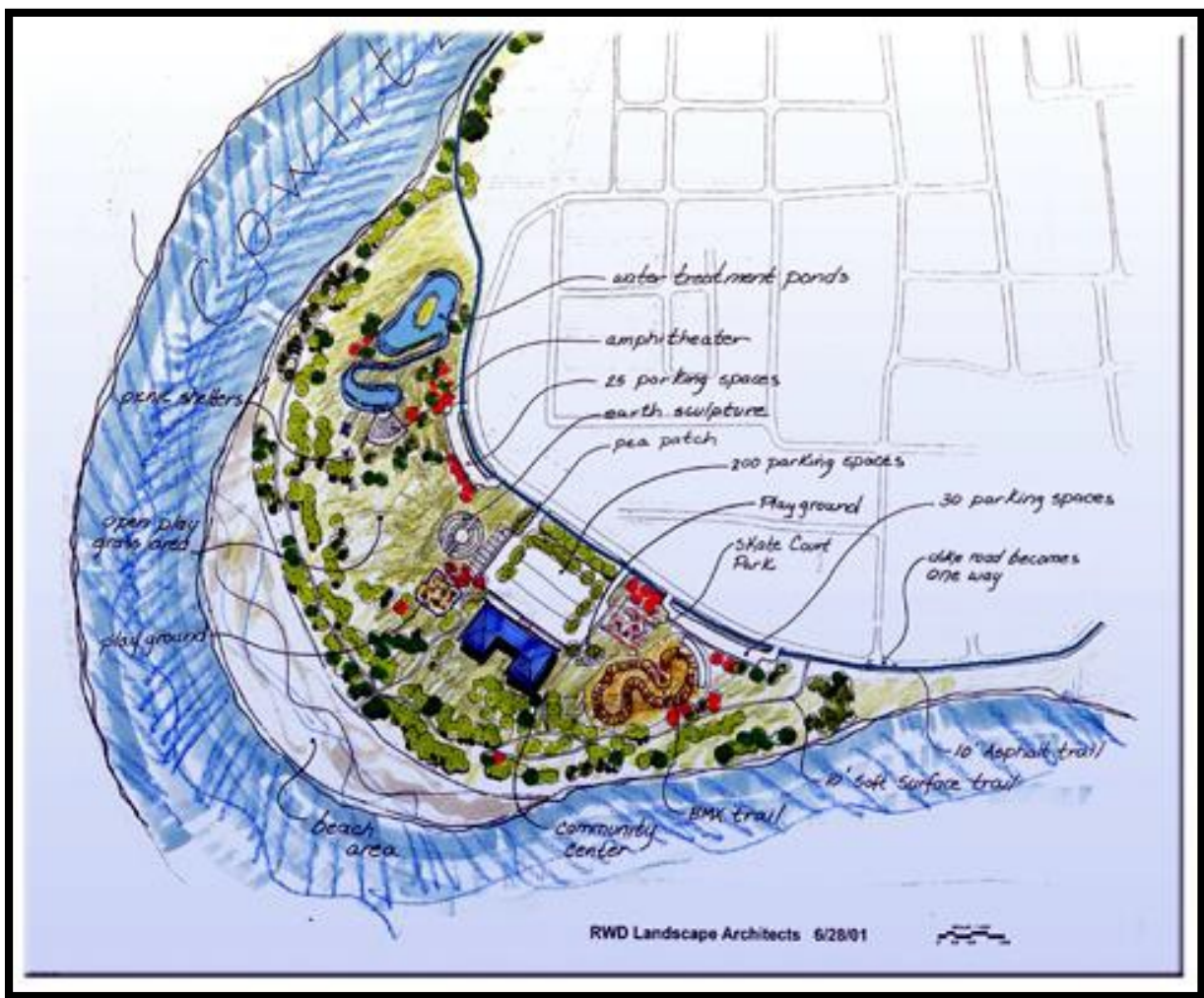


24. "The Big Bend" - City-Owned Dredge Spoils – East Side of Cowlitz River

Location: East side of the Cowlitz River west of Dike Drive

Size: Approximately 30 acres

Features/Description: This City-owned area was used to place spoils dredged from the Cowlitz River after Mount St. Helens erupted. Recreational opportunities within the City-owned properties have been planned for in the adopted Riverfront Master Plan, appended to this plan. The site provides a few limited recreational functions and has many possibilities for future development. Currently developed facilities within the dredge spoils site include the skate and bike parks.



25. *Huntington Monument*

Location: Along the Riverfront Trail by the base of the “Rock”

Size: 20’ X 30’

Features/Description: City owned historical marker recognizing the founding family of Castle Rock- William and Eliza Huntington in 1852. There is a covered picnic shelter with tables.



Figure IV-1.

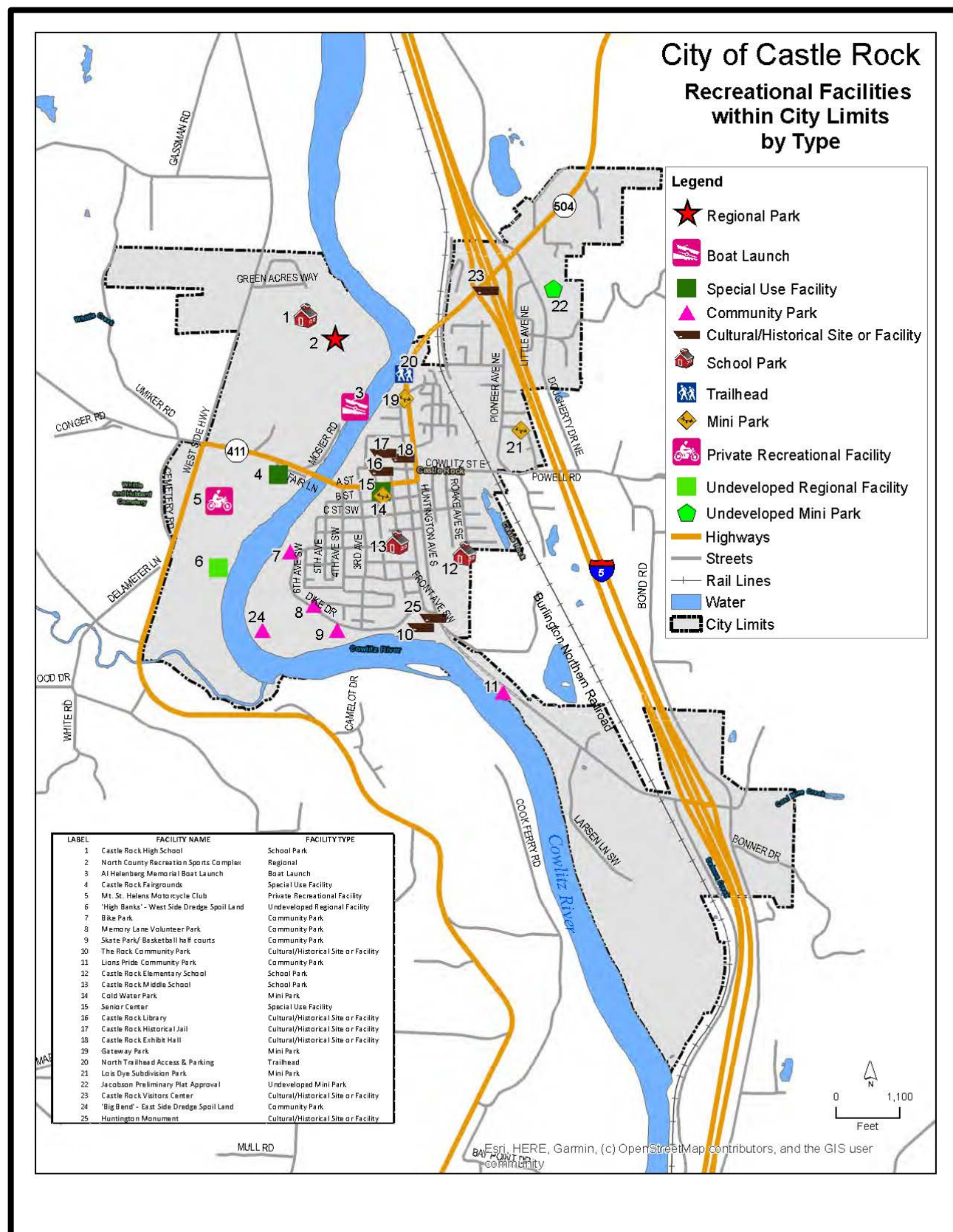


Figure IV-1 Recreational Facilities within City Limits by Type

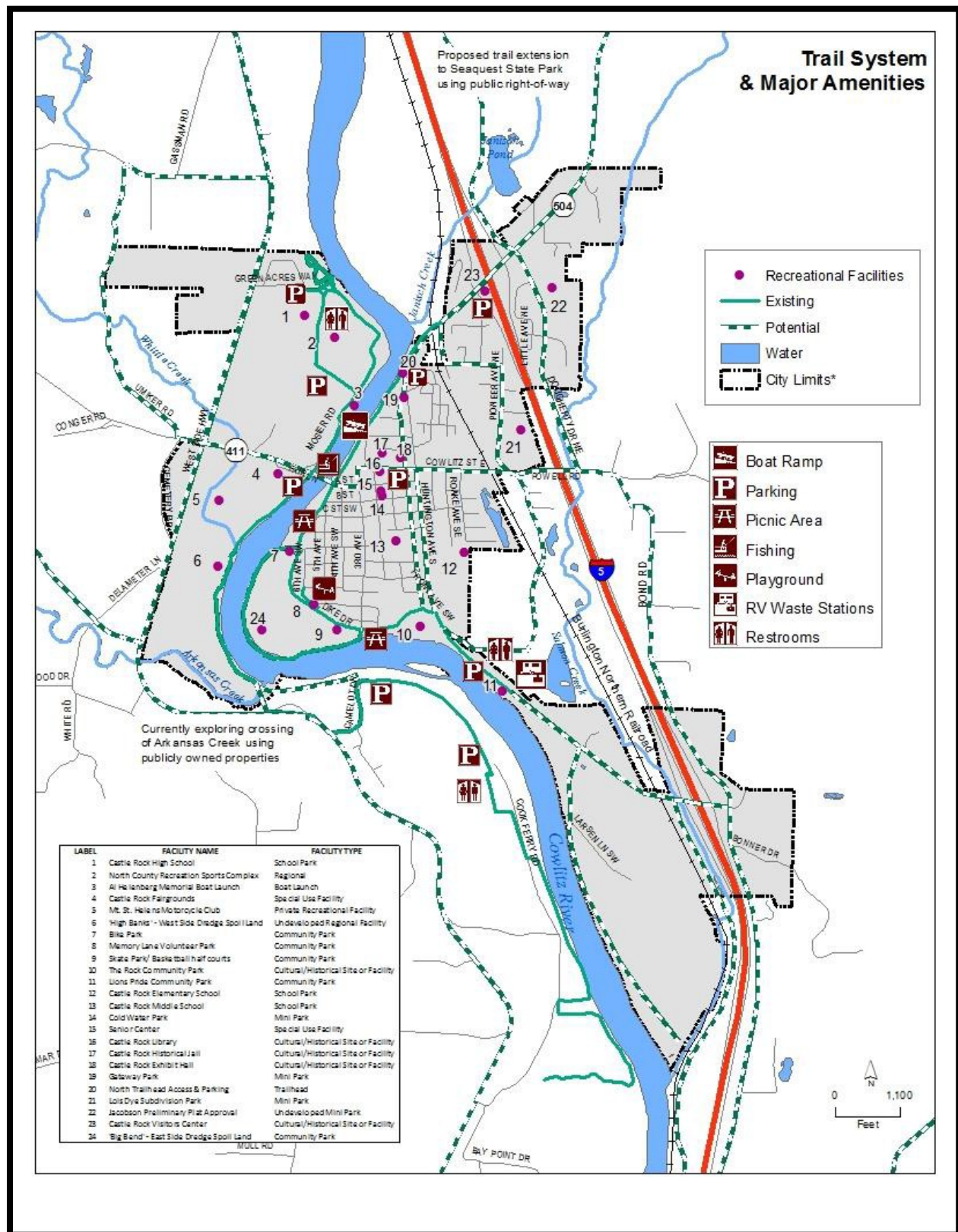


Figure IV-2 Trail System and Major Amenities

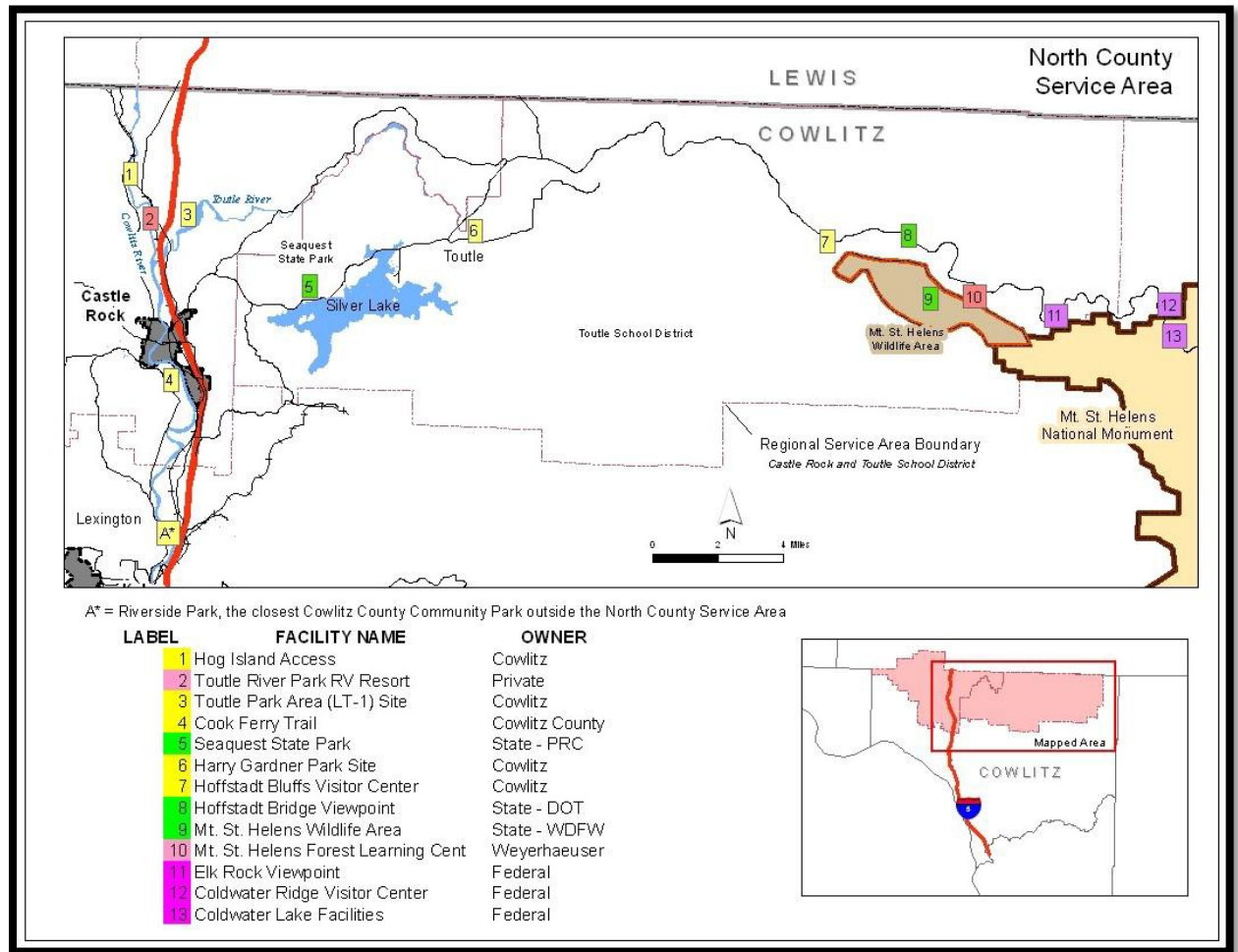


Figure IV-3.



“The nation behaves well if it treats its natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value.”

~Theodore Roosevelt



CHAPTER V - DEMAND & NEED ANALYSIS

In the parks and recreation world, numerous approaches can be taken to assess demand and need. From examining participation trends and evaluating existing facilities to reviewing demographic data, there are many options available to communities of all different sizes. The City has chosen to continue its earlier approach of evaluating demand and need by utilizing a hybrid approach that includes reviewing, updating, and considering the following:

- Public feedback on current use and preferred facilities and services out in the future
- Progress since the 2011 park plan update
- Updated inventory
- Demographic information
- Formal discussion and personal observations of the Park Board, City staff, elected officials, school representative, and others
- Existing documents and community planning efforts
- New opportunities

General population and other demographic information were explored in Chapter III. With this update, the inventory and evaluation of existing facilities has been set out separately in Chapter IV. This chapter includes a review of park and recreation standards with an examination of the community survey results and the spatial distribution of the population, as well as a look at other influences on demand. This chapter concludes with a summary of park and recreation needs based on a careful assessment and integration of the factors affecting demand.

Community Survey Results

In May 2021, a survey was distributed to solicit public input and to ensure the adopted plan best addresses users' desires and concerns and the needs of the community. Surveys were distributed both in hard copy form and using SurveyMonkey® to residents, students, businesses, and community groups. Downtown businesses took part in distributing the survey to customers. It was treated as a school assignment for students, resulting in strong youth participation. The electronic version was also pushed out to local businesses, community groups, and the media via their Facebook® pages, several of which redistributed the invitation to participate. The City received 504 responses, which provided valuable feedback about use of and possible improvements to existing facilities, direction on the procurement and development of new parks/features, and on the overall level of service provided. For the next update, the Park Board would like to build on the depth of survey results and evaluation by including a trend comparison of survey results over time.

Figure V-1 shows the ZIP Code distribution of survey respondents. This survey did not see participation from the large geographic area that defines the Extended Service Area. This is likely due to the expansion of what was the BMX track into the Bike Park. During the time of the 2011 update, survey participation was influenced by advocates for inclusion of a pump course, who shared the survey with numerous other groups in Southwest Washington/Northwest Oregon. The City still considers this to be the Extended Service Area for planning purposes, but since interest in advocating for a specific project has now been satisfied, there is no longer an active effort to recruit support at that larger geography.

Some of the general findings from the survey are included below, while full survey results are located in Appendix A.

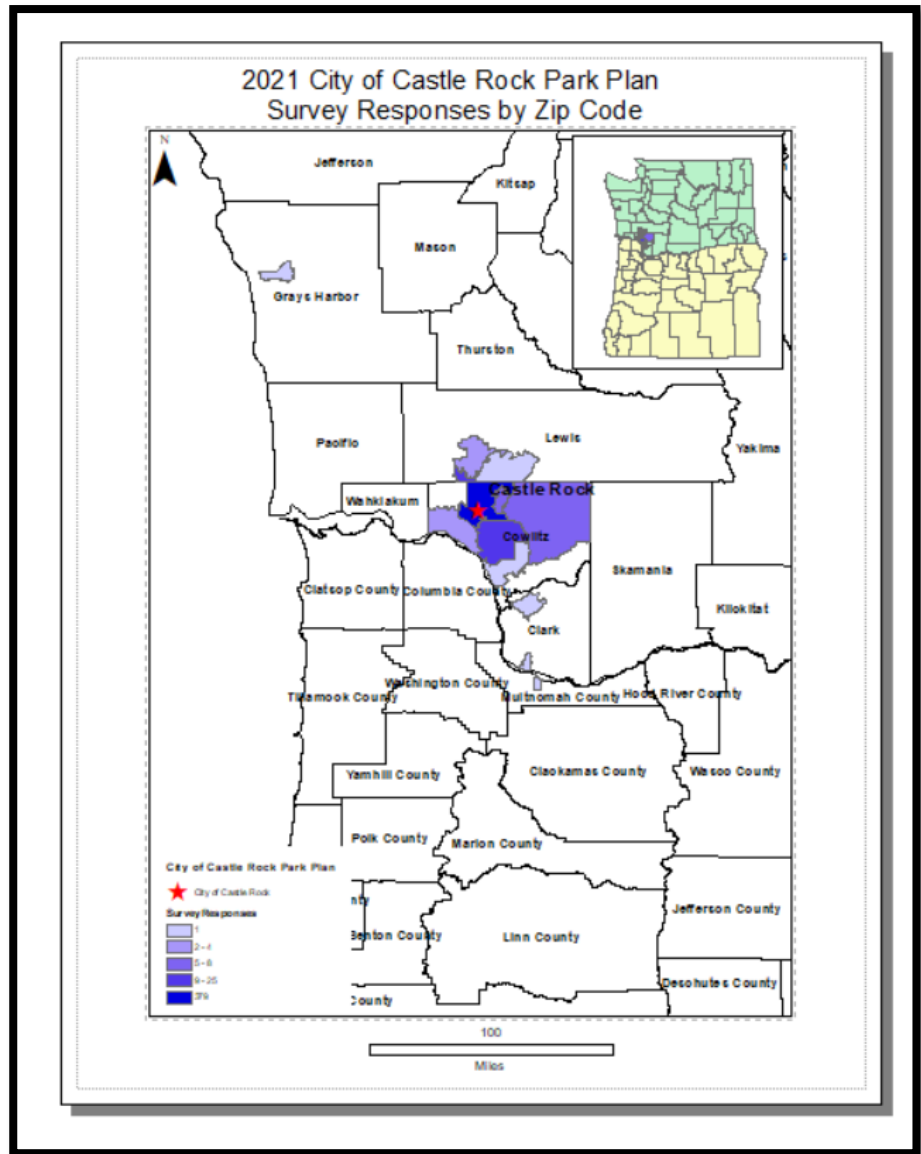


Figure V-1 2015 Survey Respondents by ZIP Code

- Responses to individual questions varied in terms of their participation level. From among 504 responses, the first question received the highest number of responses (503). While 451 respondents answered question 8, which received the lowest level of response. This question asked the respondent to select the most needed improvement at the one park or recreational facility they visit most frequently (over 53 people skipped this question). While the reasoning isn't clear, this could be reflective of people simply not knowing the types of improvements typically made at parks or other recreational facilities
- Of the 480 people who responded to a question asking their zip code, 379 live in the 98611 ZIP Code area (79%). This generally represents the Local Service Area.

- Eight respondents chose not to indicate whether they live in the Castle Rock city limits. Of those who did respond, 252 (50.81%) say they live inside the city.
- The Riverfront Trail is the most widely used facility, with 225 of 503 respondents (44%) reporting having used the trail in the previous year. About 13 percent of these users report using it weekly and 6% daily.
- Besides the Riverfront Trail system, the Bike Park, Elementary School Playgrounds/Fields, and Skate Park are used by the largest percentage of respondents.
- The Mount St. Helens Motorcycle Club Grounds and the Senior Center showed the highest number of non-users (85% and 76%, respectively).
- 21.9 percent of respondents said they have used the boat launch at least once in the past year.
- Asked to rate facilities from poor to excellent, many respondents expressed no opinion. From the responses received, the Junior High Sports Field received the worst rating (37% poor or fair). Other parks or facilities that were rated poor or fair by 25% or more of the respondents include the Dredge Spoil Land (26%), Fairground Facilities (25%), Castle Rock Library (32%), Skate Park (35%).
- Almost 50 percent of respondents (49.3%) said that improvements to local parks and recreational facilities had helped them to become more physically active.
- Youth activities (age 10-18), outdoor recreation, and indoor recreation ranked most highly among the top recreational opportunities respondents would like to see available or expanded (77%, 53%, 39% of respondents ranked them as a #1 or #2 priority, respectively).
- Overall, there appears to be strong community support for a swimming pool, additional trails, and additional athletic fields.
- The survey provided valuable information on needed improvements at many facilities. The long list of narrative answers requires additional scrutiny.
- Only 12% of respondents were willing to pay at least \$5 annually to support parks and recreation facilities. At the same time, 18% of respondents said they were willing to pay \$20 a year, while 26 percent of respondents said they were not willing to pay to support park and recreational facilities.

Park and Recreation Standards

Facility standards provide a way to measure the amount of park and recreational space needed to meet the demands of a community. In the past, the NRPA held up Mertes and Hall's *Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenways Guidelines*²¹ as its standard for recreation; local agencies used the guidelines as national standards. However, the NRPA no longer considers these guidelines to be a best practice for agency management and planning, stating that "applying a 'one size fits all' approach to address the needs of widely varying communities does not provide accurate guidance for parks and recreation planners."

Instead, NRPA advocates the use of comparative benchmarking using its PRORAGIS system, a tool that collects and analyzes data about parks and recreation agencies across the country and enables them to compare themselves to others they identify as similar in terms of a variety of factors such as geography, climate, and size. PRORAGIS is not accessible without first creating a profile of one's community. An agency must enter considerable data to be able to use the PRORAGIS analysis features; it is also possible to build a GIS dataset but this requires uploading information. PRORAGIS also offers a calculator that provides communities with a snapshot of the positive environmental, economic, and social benefits of their parks. This work was not scoped with the current park plan update, but the City may wish to work toward building a PRORAGIS profile for use in subsequent updates.

Irrespective of the metrics that are used, the NRPA recognizes that every community is unique and has specific circumstances, so it encourages local jurisdictions to use park planning metrics that are tailored to local needs. While noting that the "acres of parkland per 1,000 population" metric – also known as a community's level of service (LOS) – is the most common technique for determining whether a community has enough parkland, the NRPA cautions that LOS can vary widely due to a community's history, culture, demographics, density, development patterns, and other factors. The juxtaposition of Castle Rock's relatively small population and the influx of I-5 travelers and visitors for tourist-based attractions and events in the area makes using a simple "per 1,000 population" measure inadequate.

The 1998 park plan used a population-derived standard based on estimated users. The 2005 and 2011 updates supplemented that information with survey results to provide a better understanding of trail use and to suggest improvements and trail extensions. This update continues the approach taken in 2011 that used both numerical standards produced via the "population ratio method" and qualitative statements derived from analysis of population distribution, survey results, and other sources of information. The results are meant to be flexible requirements and are framed by the context of the expressed need discussed in the survey results above.

²¹ *Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenways Guidelines*. Mertes, James D. and James R. Hall. Urban Land Institute, November 1996.

The three service areas (Local, Regional, and Extended) presented in Chapter III figure into some of these choices. The service areas have been substantiated via league and/or facility registrations and previous and current survey results. For instance, based on contact information, 70% of the Senior Center members live outside city limits, while only 30% are Castle Rock residents. Additionally, annual pass registrations for the boat launch indicate that in 2020, 86% of those utilizing the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch lived in Castle Rock, 7% of users lived elsewhere in Cowlitz County, and 7% of users lived outside of Cowlitz County. In 2019, 77% of users lived in Castle Rock, 10% lived elsewhere in Cowlitz County, and 13% of users lived outside of Cowlitz County. Unfortunately, there is no means of tracking day use, which is thought to extend to other parts of the Extended Service Area and beyond.

The following general park classifications and service area and size standards were established by examining the Mertes and Hall classification system through the lens of local factors to create measures tailored to Castle Rock. Continuing the approach used in the 2016 update, the listed “standard” is a population-derived figure (ratio). Facilities listed below were drawn from the comprehensive list of existing park and recreation facilities and their associated classification included in Chapter IV (Table IV-1). In each of the need analyses below, the expressed need for the year 2027 assumes a one percent annual growth rate (“medium” growth scenario in Table III-3). Acreages are approximate, and all figures are rounded.

Mini-Parks

Sometimes called “pocket parks,” a mini-park is the smallest park classification and is designed to address limited or isolated recreational needs of a small geographical area or to account for unique recreational opportunities. This type of park may include active and passive recreation activities including small play areas, scenic overlooks, landscaped public areas, and/or picnic and sitting areas. A mini-park does not function in isolation, but instead is ideally part of a network of parks located within close proximity to all residents.

Table V-1. Mini-Park Service Measures		
Service Area	Size	Standard
1/4 mile or less	2,500 sq. ft. – 1 acre	1 park per 750 people

Location and Development Guidelines:

1. Must serve a specific recreation need and be easily accessed by the target user group
2. Could ideally be established in conjunction with a residential plat on dedicated land
3. If possible, should be linked to other parks via greenways and trails
4. No parking lot; is meant to be walkable

Table V-2. Mini-Park Need Analysis			
	Supply	Need	Status
2021	3 facilities (Cold Water, Gateway, & Lois Dye Estates, Old Jail Park) ²²	3 facilities (2,175 pop./ 750)	Need fulfilled
2027	(no change)	3 facilities (2,421 pop./750)	Need fulfilled

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks serve an immediate population generally within close walking distance and provide playground equipment for small children and limited areas for outdoor games and the like. Ideally, a neighborhood park also incorporates facilities for other age groups in addition to children. Neighborhood parks are the basic unit of most park systems and serve as the recreational and sometimes social focus of the neighborhood with the focus on informal active and passive activities.

Table V-3. Neighborhood Park Service Measures		
Service Area	Size	Standard
1/2 mile	1.5 – 5 acres	1 facility per 1,500 people, <u>with</u> a minimum of 1 acre per 1,000 population

Location guidelines:

1. Can be reached by a majority of users without need to cross or use a major arterial, railroad, or highway
2. Priority should be given to lands/facilities that have expansion potential
3. Possibly includes small parking lot

²² If developed, the park dedication associated with the Jacobson preliminary plat would also be a mini-park. Given the speculative nature of the plat's completion, it is not included for purposes of estimating need. If it is not developed, Subarea 1 will go unserved. (See additional discussion in Chapter VI.)

Table V-4. Neighborhood Park Need Analysis					
	Supply (facilities)	Need (facilities)	Supply (acreage)	Need (acreage)	Status
2021	1 facility (Memory Lane Volunteer Park)	1 facility (2,175 pop./ 1,500)	1 acre	At least 2 acres (2,175 pop./ 1,000)	At least 1 acre deficit
2027	(no change)	2 facilities (2,421 pop./ 1,500)	(no change)	At least 2 acres (2,421 pop./ 1,000)	1 facility + at least 1 acre deficit

Community Parks

Community parks serve more than one neighborhood. They can be of any size but are generally larger than a neighborhood park and are usually large enough to include several ball fields; spectator seating; and any number and type of other facilities such as tennis courts, picnic shelters, natural areas, flower gardens, and a swimming pool. A community park may be small and limited in what it offers, but it may have a community-wide draw because of location and special features. In Castle Rock, community parks are used by many residents of the Regional as well as Local Service Area.

Table V-5. Community Park Service Measures		
Service Area	Size	Standard
1/2 – 3 miles	As needed to serve the populace (ideally 5-30 acres)	1 facility per 10,000 people, or a minimum of 5 acres per 1,000 population

Location guidelines:

1. Should serve three to seven neighborhoods
2. Should be located within walking distance of older children and adults
3. Should be located with consideration for future expansion
4. Should be located adjacent to a junior or senior high school whenever possible

Table V-6. Community Park Need Analysis					
	Supply (facilities)	Need (facilities)	Supply (acreage)	Need (acreage)	Status
2021	2 facilities (“Big Bend” ²³ & Lions Pride)	0 facilities 1:10,000 pop.	37.9 acres	At least 11 acres (2,175 pop./1,000 x 5)	2 facilities + up to 26.9 acre surplus
2027	1 facility (Lions Pride)	0 facilities (2,421 pop./ 10,000 pop.)	7.9 acres	At least 12 acres (2,421 pop./1,000 x 5)	1 facility + up to 4.1 acre deficit

Regional Parks

The North County Sports Complex is the only regional facility currently in Castle Rock; however, as the “Big Bend” property is developed, it is expected to evolve from a Community to a Regional facility. This accounts for its removal from the Community Park inventory shown in Table V-6 and its inclusion in Table V-8 below.

Table V-7. Regional Park Service Measures		
Service Area	Size	Standard
Extended	As needed to serve the populace (ideally 30+ acres)	Minimum 10 acres per 1,000 population; goal of 20 acres per 1,000 population

Location guidelines:

1. Should serve a broader region than the Local Service Area
2. Should incorporate facilities serving all service populations
3. Should be located with consideration for phased development and expansion

²³ “Big Bend” includes the Bike Park and Skate Park, which are not individually counted as separate facilities but are a part of the whole.

Table V-8. Regional Park Need Analysis			
	Supply	Need/Goal or Total Area	Status
2027	65 acres (North County Sports Complex)	21.75 acres/43.5 acres (2,175 pop./1,000 x 10)	Priority need & goal fulfilled
2025	95 acres (North County Sports Complex & “Big Bend” ²⁴)	24.21 acres/48.42 acres (2,421 pop./1,000 x 10)	Minimum need & goal fulfilled
2022	Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch	7 acres in total	In progress
2025	High Banks (across from Big Bend)	60 acres in total	Minimum need
2024	East Riverfront Trail	1.8 miles in length	Minimum need
2024	West Riverfront Trail	Nearly 2 miles in length, but not fully developed	Minimum need

Bikeway and Pedestrian (Multi-Purpose) Trails

Multi-use trails are designed as pathways that can be utilized by pedestrians, bicyclists, in-line skaters, and others. Trails can be comprised of segments of road, street, highway, railroad right-of-way, dike, and natural or developed pathways. In Castle Rock, the Riverfront Trail is a multi-use trail that has been constructed mostly on the dike along the Cowlitz River and connects various parks and recreational facilities. The Riverfront Trail will continue to be the focal point of trail development, and there are several planned extensions.

Standard: N/A – there is no applicable standard for linear multi-user facilities

Location guidelines:

1. Should serve as links between neighborhoods, schools, and all neighborhood, community, urban area, and regional parks.
2. If possible, they should emphasize the natural environment and be designed accordingly.
3. Allow for uninterrupted movement through the city and outlying area and protect users from vehicular traffic.
4. Assist in the formation of a cohesive and comprehensive park and recreation system.

Special Use & Private Recreation Facilities

Special use facilities may be located anywhere and are determined by design and use rather than dimensional standards. Special use facilities in Castle Rock include the fairground, City-owned east side dredge spoils (includes the Skate Park and Bike Park), the Castle Rock Library, the Visitors Center, and the Castle Rock Senior Center.

²⁴ Ibid. Note 23. Considerable portions of “Big Bend” remain to be improved in order to transition from Community to Regional classification. Additionally, only a portion of the North County Sports Complex is currently improved so although the minimum acreage need is met, that does not consider development.

Subarea Analysis

There are numerous physical or “hard” barriers within Castle Rock, including I-5, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad, SR 504, and the Cowlitz River, that can impede access to parks and recreational facilities. The BNSF line and I-5 divide northeast and southwest Castle Rock, while SR 504 is a barrier in northeast Castle Rock. Huntington Avenue and other higher traffic roads also serve as barriers because pedestrians and cyclists are less likely to cross for reasons of safety or inconvenience.

Part of the analysis of park needs is not just the population, but the population distribution (by Census Blocks) and proximity to recreational facilities. The American Community Survey (2019) is the most current relevant demographic information for the current update. The Local Service Area is divided into the six subareas depicted in Figure V-2 based on physical barriers (e.g., roads, railroad line, etc.). Data is obtained by analyzing block-level data from the 5-Year ACS that is grouped according to the subareas. To illustrate distribution, the mini-parks and neighborhood parks included in the need analysis are shown.

Subarea Profiles

The subareas are numbered from north to south. Subarea 1 is located east of I-5 and features mainly commercial development off of Exit 49. There is some land zoned for low-density residential development. The majority of the City’s urban growth area lies east of I-5 and is slated for future low-density residential growth, there are no existing parks in this area. By its nature, this area tends to support lower-income housing, which may increase demand for and on public parks. As it stands now, this area has a small residential population of 125 people (Table V-7) and does not warrant immediate park development. However,. Castle Rock Landing on the Cowlitz, a master plan development near the I-5 Corridor is proposed to include a mix of residential, commercial, and employment development, along with new recreational opportunities for fishing and a rustic boat launch. This proposed development will provide new recreational opportunities for Castle Rock residents, serve as a potential tourist attraction to Castle Rock visitors, and will also serve a newly proposed RV park included in the development of Castle Rock Landing on the Cowlitz.

The lands east of Dougherty Drive are, for the most part, undeveloped or underdeveloped. Much of the housing in this area consists of apartment dwellings that are located between I-5 and Dougherty Drive. The Dougherty Drive area does not currently have a large population but has the potential for additional residential development. The City previously negotiated a park land dedication as part of a preliminary plat on Dougherty Drive, but the development stalled for economic reasons. At this point, it is unknown whether the dedication will be finalized. It continues to be represented in this plan but should be removed in the next update if it is not realized.

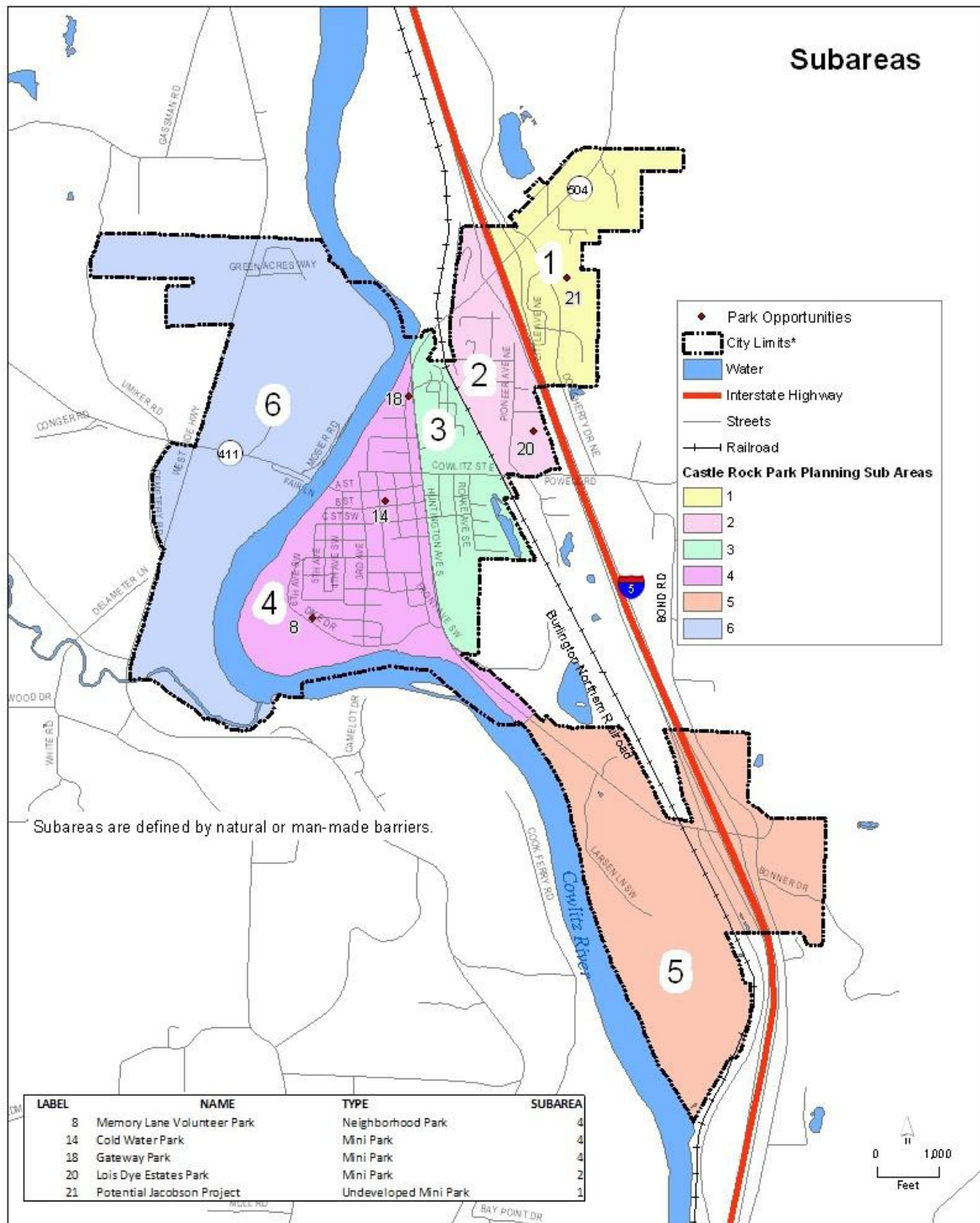


Figure V-2.

999

Subarea 2 is bordered by I-5 and the BNSF line to the east and west, the city limits to the north, and

Cowlitz Street to the south. 333 (Table V-9) call this area home. The area is zoned for low-density residential and has grown significantly as a result of the Lois Dye Estates subdivision, which was developed in 2011. There are some scattered undeveloped lots and acreage, along with a few underdeveloped lots. The dedicated mini-park at Lois Dye Estates on Pioneer Avenue fulfills the recreational needs of this area.

Subarea 3 includes about 22% of the city's population (528 people – Table V-9) and is bounded by the railroad tracks on the east and Huntington Avenue to the west. The land uses within this area contain a mix of low and high residential, commercial, industrial, and public (e.g., school site, etc.). Future residential growth is likely limited because of the varied zoning and existing density, although some infill development is likely. Other than school facilities, there are no parks or recreational opportunities in the subarea; however, all portions of the area are within a quarter mile of other parks and facilities including the Riverfront Trail and Gateway Park. Overall, this subarea is not in need of significant park projects; however, if the opportunity presents itself, a mini-park or neighborhood play area might be pursued.

Table V-9. Subareas 1-3 by Age & Gender									
	Subarea								
Age	1			2			3		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0 - 4	3	3	6	7	7	14	13	19	32
5 - 9	3	3	6	8	8	16	14	19	33
10 - 14	4	4	8	9	10	16	14	19	33
15 - 19	4	3	7	9	7	16	15	17	32
20 - 24	3	2	5	8	6	14	15	12	27
25 - 29	3	3	6	7	8	15	12	18	30
30 - 34	3	3		8	9		17	19	36
35 - 39	5	4	9	12	10	22	17	15	32
40 - 44	5	4	9	12	10	22	15	19	34
45 - 49	3	4	7	9	10	19	16	19	35
50 - 54	3	3	6	9	8	17	13	15	28
55 - 59	5	6	11	13	15	25	17	15	32
60 - 64	6	5	11	16	13	29	20	19	39
65 - 69	6	5	11	15	13	28	13	18	30
70 - 74	3	5	8	9	12	21	19	19	38
75 - 79	3	3	6	9	9	18	9	11	20
80 - 84	2	2	4	5	4	9	6	3	9
85+	1	2	3	3	4	7	3	5	8
Total	65	63	125	169	164	333	247	280	528

Subarea 4 is the largest in terms of population, with 1,627 people (Table V-10), 72% of the total city population. It includes the most parks and recreation facilities. Besides the downtown commercial area, most of the subarea consists of single-family residences, with some multi-family units north of B Street and sparsely scattered southward. This subarea is basically fully developed, save some limited infill development opportunities. Everyone living in this subarea is within very close proximity (easy walking distance for most) to some sort of park or recreation facility. The mostly undeveloped (except for the Skate Park and Bike Park) dredge spoils site is located within this area.

Table V-10. Subareas 4-6 by Age & Gender									
	Subarea								
Age	4			5			6		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0 - 4	29	26	55	2	3	5	4	4	8
5 - 9	28	24	52	2	3	5	4	4	8
10 - 14	41	24	65	2	3	5	5	5	10
15 - 19	36	39	75	3	3	6	4	5	9
20 - 24	46	51	97	3	2	5	3	5	8
25 - 29	38	39	77	2	3	5	5	5	10
30 - 34	37	27	64	3	3	6	6	3	9
35 - 39	29	36	65	3	3	6	6	6	12
40 - 44	25	37	62	3	3	6	6	6	12
45 - 49	39	38	77	3	3	6	4	5	9
50 - 54	32	32	64	2	3	5	7	4	11
55 - 59	37	52	89	3	3	6	7	8	15
60 - 64	40	34	74	3	3	6	8	9	17
65 - 69	17	37	54	2	3	5	8	8	16
70 - 74	34	42	76	3	3	6	6	8	14
75 - 79	18	29	47	2	2	4	5	5	10
80 - 84	7	13	20	1	1	2	4	4	8
85+	8	21	29	1	1	2	3	3	6
Total	541	601	1,627	43	49	92	96	98	194

Subarea 5 is located south of “The Rock” and extends eastward past I-5. The majority of land in this area is slated for heavy commercial/light manufacturing, industrial, and general commercial purposes and is expected to grow very little in terms of residential population. There may be a need for a mini-park in this area because of the possibility of an increase in residential population with children needing somewhere to play. This increase could include 200 new apartments or the potential for 500 new residents). Currently, it has a rural feel, low densities, and some agricultural uses, reflected in its small population (92 people – Table V-10). Except for Lions Pride Park, which serves as a gateway to Castle Rock and access point for the Riverfront Trail, there are no parks or recreation facilities located within this subarea.

In 2011, Subarea 6 represented a new annexation for which prior census data was not available. This subarea has grown in population (194 people) and hosts some of the largest facilities and activities; it contains the North County Sports Complex, the motorcycle club, the fairgrounds, and dredge spoils land. In 2011, the PROS zoning district was created that covers much of this area. The PROS zone recognizes and is tailored to these uses and complementary uses that can include such things as circus, carnival, and rodeo events; flea markets or other temporary sales/fundraisers; and community gatherings such as concerts or seminars.

Recreational Participation

Another important consideration with planning for park and recreation facilities is future changes in projected recreational participation.

The 2020 Physical Activity Council’s Overview Report on US Participation found that inactivity in sports is steadily increasing overall (despite a decrease of 82.1 million in 2018 to 81.2 million in 2019) and surmises that Americans are continuing to struggle with physical activity commitment.

As shown in Figure V-3, participation has increased in fitness and outdoor sports. Racquet sports declined slightly from 2018 to 2019, while winter sports remained relatively flat. Many age groups continue to look at swimming as a means for future fitness, followed heavily by outdoor activities (i.e., camping or fishing).

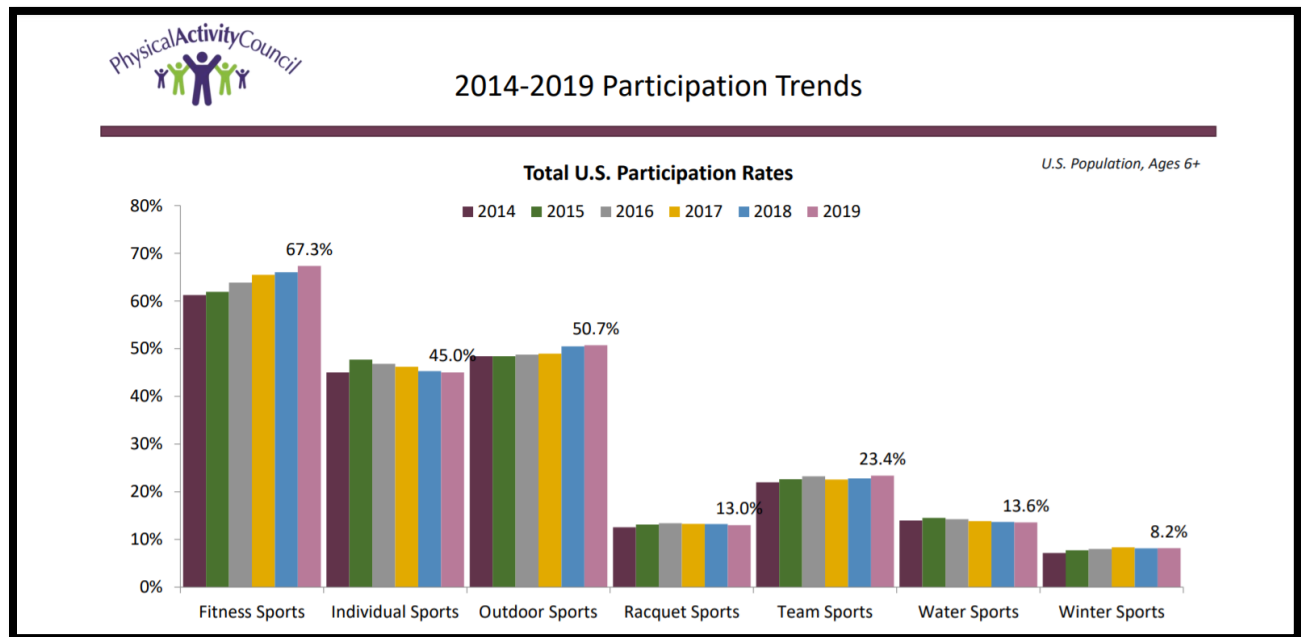


Figure V-3. Physical Activity by Generation.

(Source: 2015 Participation Report, Physical Activity Council, at <http://www.physicalactivitycouncil.com/pdfs/current.pdf>)

The Outdoor Foundation's eighth annual Outdoor Participation Report²⁵ (2020) finds that the gender gap in the participation of outdoor activities²⁶ has grown smaller, as in 2019 46.2% of outdoor participants were female versus 53.8% male (the smallest gender gap on record). Meanwhile, participation among male youth (13 to 17 years of age) saw the biggest year-over-year decline with participation down 4%. Black and Hispanic Americans remained significantly underrepresented outside, with participation levels well below their share of the US population.

²⁵ https://eb6d91a4-d249-47b8-a5cb-933f7971db54.filesusr.com/ugd/286de6_c28995b76cf94de2a22ac7a0a4d5264d.pdf

²⁶ The Outdoor Foundation reports on these activity categories: adventure racing, backpacking, bicycling (BMX), bicycling (mountain/non-paved surface), bicycling (road/paved surface), birdwatching, boardsailing/windsurfing, car or backyard camping, RV camping, canoeing, climbing (sport/indoor/boulder), climbing (traditional/ice/mountaineering), fly fishing, freshwater fishing, saltwater fishing, hiking, hunting (rifle), hunting (shotgun), hunting (handgun), hunting (bow), kayak fishing, kayaking (recreational), kayaking (sea/touring), kayaking (white water), rafting, running/jogging, sailing, scuba diving, skateboarding, skiing (alpine/downhill), skiing (cross-country), skiing (freestyle), snorkeling, snowboarding, snowshoeing, stand up paddling, surfing, telemarking (downhill), trail running, triathlon (non-traditional/off road), triathlon (traditional/road), wakeboarding, and wildlife viewing.

Nationally, running, including jogging and trail running, and hiking are the most popular sports; followed by road and mountain biking/BMX and fishing.

Generally, these reports underpin the Washington State report, Estimates of Future Participation in Outdoor Recreation in Washington State²⁷. Although it was published in 2003, these ongoing surveys indicate relevancy as a lens for examining future participation.

Generally, the report found that trail-related activities (walking, running, bike riding, and similar activities) are expected to grow through the study horizon of 2025. It also noted that older communities typically value leisure activities and passive recreation, while younger age groups are looking for active recreation outlets.

Considering the changing demographics of Castle Rock and the high use of existing trails (and support for additional trails), these projections provide further justification for the construction of more trails in and around the city, even if population growth in Castle Rock remains steady.

Additionally, in 2018 the US Coast Guard²⁸ estimated that roughly 19% of households in Washington State owned boats. The Cowlitz County Auditor reports 13,627 registered boats in Cowlitz County. This number²⁹ includes jet skis and smaller vessels subject to licensing that might reasonably access the Cowlitz River, although some smaller and nonmotorized vessels are not represented. The stretch of the Cowlitz River is known for its river accessibility and fishing, and this suggests continued popularity of the boat launch for not just local use but recreational tourism, as explored further below.

Recreational Tourism

As highlighted earlier in this document, Castle Rock's relationship to Mount St. Helens and its proximity to I-5 spins off tourist demand for parks and recreation services. The city has drawn businesses such as motels, restaurants, convenience stores, and gas stations to serve tourist traffic. However, Castle Rock, with its many assets, can do more to attract tourism to the area and make it a tourist destination in its own right. The Cowlitz River is one of the premier steelhead and salmon fishing rivers in the region. It draws fisherman from outside the local area from Cowlitz County and other locales. Castle Rock is an enthusiastic sports town and has hosted and will continue to host sports tournaments. Castle Rock needs to capitalize on its existing assets and use the undeveloped lands to enhance existing facilities and provide a further draw for visitors. The NRPA encourages local communities to examine economic impacts stemming from park and recreation facilities and programming on the same footing as other economic development endeavor.

²⁷ http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/rec_trends/Est_Future_Participation_Outdoor_Rec_3-03.pdf

²⁸ <https://uscgboating.org/library/recreational-boating-survey/NRBSS-Exposure-Survey-Final-Report-11302020.pdf>²⁹ Includes *all* registered vessels subject to licensure, some of which would not be appropriate for use on the Cowlitz River.

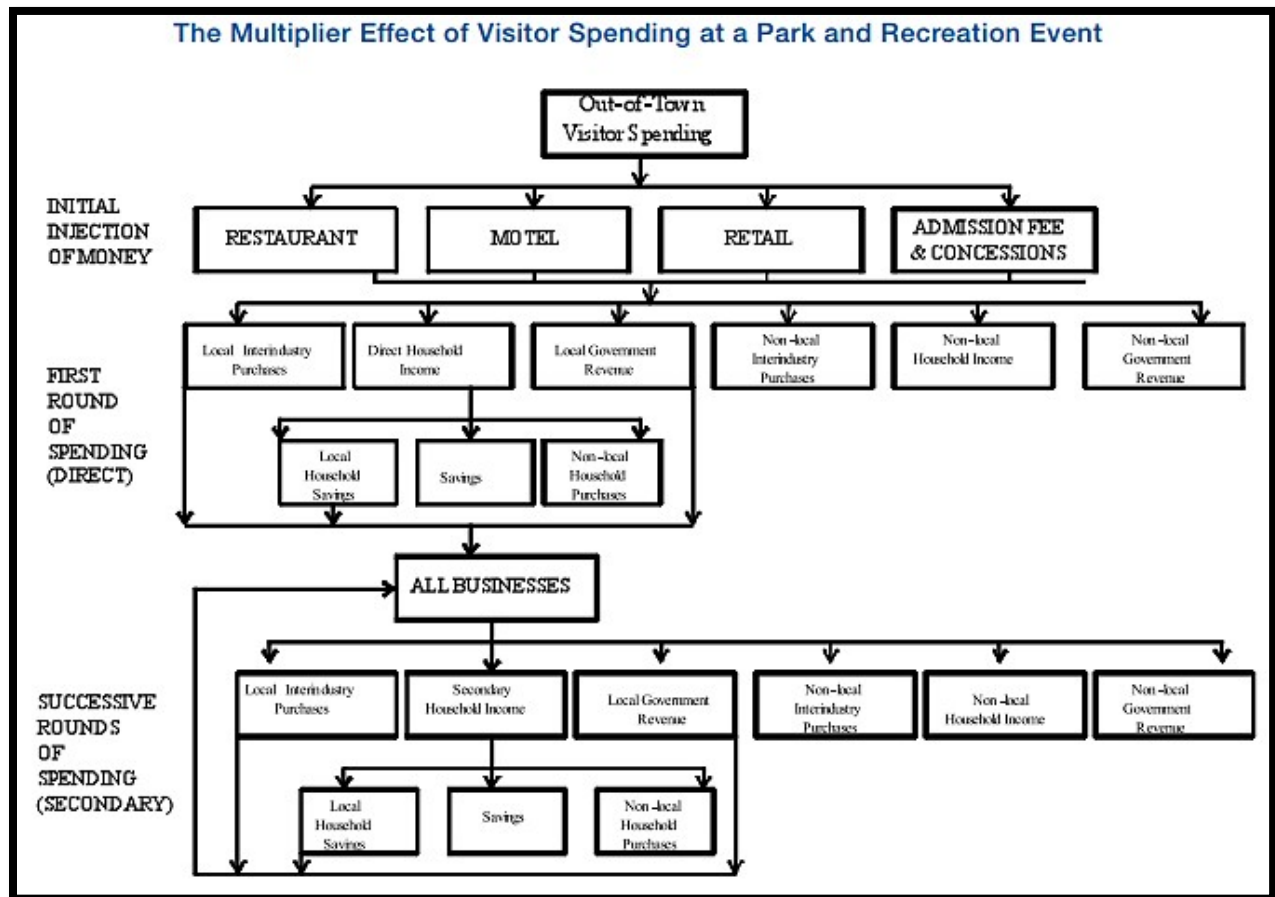


Figure V-4.

(Source: Measuring the Economic Impact of Park and Recreation Services, NRPA (2010) at http://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications_and_Research/Research/Papers/Crompton-Research-Paper.pdf)

As with much of Southwest Washington, Castle Rock's economy developed around the timber and wood products industry. These jobs, however, are no longer plentiful. Castle Rock has little industry to provide jobs and a tax base. Drawing more outside dollars from tourists and travelers will boost and as illustrated in Figure V-4, offer a multiplier effect to the local economy.

The astonishing amount of debris associated with the 1980 Mount St. Helens eruption left local rivers clogged and dredging was necessary for emergency response efforts, both at that time and in subsequent years. State and federal agencies acquired land along the river to place dredge spoils. Many of these lands have now been transferred to local governments, although DNR still holds some of them. As a condition of transfer, the dredge spoil lands must be maintained for public use. This is why much of the land along the Cowlitz River in the Castle Rock area is set aside for public use.

Dredge spoil lands owned by the City and DNR south (down river) from the fairgrounds and motorcycle club are undeveloped but are currently used by fishermen and others. Unfortunately, they have also drawn unsafe firearms use, garbage dumping, reckless and destructive all-terrain vehicle driving, and transient camping. Efforts are ongoing to manage vehicle access to the area.

The DNR and City lands have a much greater recreational potential beyond walk-in fishing and shoreline access. The City's *Strategic Marketing Plan* includes a strategy for siting an RV park/campground on the dredge spoil property on the west side of the Cowlitz River (Figure V-5). Facilities would include improved access to the river, including a day-use area. The campground could also provide accommodation opportunities for local, regional, and major-draw events as well as providing RV sites for visiting fishermen or leisure visitors. The City could contract with a private firm to build, operate, and maintain RV facilities, with lease structure that supports parks and other public services. With the forthcoming conclusion to the DNR land transfer, the City moves one major step closer to being able to realize this goal.

Strategic Initiative 3: Target Best Opportunities	
RV Park Developer Recruitment	
Action 3.6	Carry out a targeted plan to recruit a developer and company to operate a Recreational Vehicle Park along the Cowlitz River.
Lead:	City
Overview:	In order to increase visitor traffic in Castle Rock, the development of the designated site for a recreational vehicle park would contribute to the city's tourism business development strategy. This action outlines specific steps for raising awareness of this site with developers and park operators.
Specific Steps:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare a marketing piece that outlines the compelling factors for the site and the community as a prime location for a recreational park. A sample brochure can be found in the appendix.¹¹ 2. Research RV park developers and develop a target list.¹² Check out the National Association of RV Parks & Campgrounds and a helpful website on park development: www.rversonline.org. Refer to materials in appendix for building an RV Park.¹³ 3. Send brochure to contacts on target list. Be sure to include a cover letter stating why you are contacting them and summarizing Castle Rock's advantages. 4. Research targets on your list – background information will help you to be impressive on the calls because you understand and know more about their company. 5. Make calls to follow up on mailing.¹⁴ Invite to visit Castle Rock for a tour. If they agree to the tour, work with the Castle Rock Business Team to organize a welcoming visit that showcases your advantages. 6. Make regular prospecting calls – at least every 6 months, based on the feedback you receive.
Outcome:	Increased awareness of Castle Rock in the mind of targeted developers.
Partners or Collaborators:	Castle Rock Business Team, Cowlitz County
Timeline:	Initiate 1Q 2006 and make calls ongoing until success is achieved
Budget:	\$100-1,000 to print marketing brochure and conduct mailings as needed

¹¹ Sample Marketing Brochure for RV Park Developers

¹² RV Park Developers Target list

¹³ Considerations in Building an RV Park

¹⁴ Tips for Prospect Calls to RV Park Developers

Prepared by: Chabin Concepts & Marketek • May 12, 2005

Figure V-5. Strategic Marketing Plan for RV Park

Recreational facilities inside the city limits will be primarily designed to meet the needs of the Local Service Area, with notable exceptions that have a broader variety of users: larger community parks; the Riverfront Trail (which is located partially inside and outside of the city), and the boat launch. The fairgrounds already hold events that draw from a wider geographic area. The motorcycle racing facilities feature nationally sanctioned races, drawing racers and spectators from throughout the state and beyond. Chapter III additionally reviewed numerous special events and activities held throughout the year.

The facilities on the west side of the river should be fully linked with the Riverfront Trail. In October 2021, the City plans to accept bids for a bridge that will have a pedestrian sidewalk and widened shoulder for a bike lane. The Cook Ferry property is mostly undeveloped and was given to the County on the condition that it be maintained for public use.

Appendix B includes the riverfront plan, which details conceptual plans (with preliminary cost estimates) for the large dredge spoil sites on both sides of the Cowlitz River. It has not been updated since its 2003 publication so prospectively discusses certain projects or aspects of projects that are already complete. It continues to guide riverfront development on public properties.

Conclusions

Balancing the mathematical analysis with the survey results and the City's economic development goals, it is clear there is continued support to maintain, improve, and expand upon existing facilities. There also appears to be a strong need and desire for a broad-based large community park that could house a variety of facilities and features not currently available, or not available in one place.

The community is well-positioned in terms of its supply of Mini-Parks, except that their distribution doesn't serve all who might want to use them. If the park associated with the Jacobson plat doesn't materialize, residents in Subarea 1 would be best served by identifying another mini-park site in their area; they are otherwise cut off by the freeway.

The City has a current acreage deficit in Neighborhood Parks which, lacking new development, is expected to grow to not only an acreage deficit but also a facility deficit within the current planning horizon. In terms of Regional Parks, the demand analysis indicates the need is met; however, as noted in the analysis the acreage is largely unimproved. While the City may not seek additional acreage, it will seek to develop the existing acreage in a way that maintains the regional appeal.

Although, at first glance, Castle Rock appears to be overserved in terms of Community Parks, they are of limited size and have targeted functions. Lions Pride provides great access to the Riverfront Trail along with some picnic opportunities, its other recreational offerings are limited, and its location makes it more suitable for visitors to the area than local residents. Residents note the need for a broader multi-use community park that could include a community center, playgrounds, additional community gardens, and other facilities. A community center has been planned for in the riverfront plan, and the City-owned dredge spoil site west of Dike Drive provides an excellent opportunity for such a facility. A community park on the large dredge spoil site also offers an opportunity for the construction of a community center that could potentially house a swimming pool and other amenities.

Other than the Eagles Club and numerous churches, there are two “community center” type organizations in Castle Rock: the Senior Center and the Castle Rock Library. The Castle Rock Senior Center functions as a non-profit organization and is directed toward serving seniors. The current club space is limited, and the organization does not have the room or functionality that would be needed to serve other age brackets. The Castle Rock Library, which provides passive recreational and educational opportunities is directed toward serving all community members but has limited operating hours (1 PM to 5 PM) on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and is closed on the weekends. A centrally located community center could serve all ages, providing indoor facilities, entertainment, and recreational opportunities including nighttime and rainy-day activities. It could provide meeting rooms for continuing education classes, clubs, and other organizations, and would provide a safe place for all ages to meet.

Additional multi-use trails and extensions and/or connections of the Riverfront Trail are also needed. The trail enjoys heavy use by not only the Local, Regional, and Extended Service Areas, but also visitors to the community. There are “missing links” that could connect it to the Cowlitz County trail beyond the city limits and across the river via a pedestrian bridge.



“Put not your trust in money but put your money in trust.”

~Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.



CHAPTER VI - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM & FUNDING OPTIONS

Table VI-1 sets out the City's parks and recreation development and funding priorities during the 2021-2027 planning period.

Table VI-6.1 Funding Key:

ALEA	Aquatic Land Enhancement Account	POL	Port of Longview
CC	Cowlitz County	P	Private
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant	RCO	Recreation & Conservation Office
CV	Civic Organizations	SD	Castle Rock School District #401
CY	City	SR	Salmon Recovery
DFW	Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	TIB	Transportation Improvement Board
GF	Gates Foundation	WF	Weyerhaeuser Foundation
H&M	Hotel & Motel Tax	WSDOT	Washington State Dept. of Transportation
LWC	Land & Water Conservation Fund		

Table VI-6.1 Facilities Key:

BL	Boat Launch
CP	Community Park
NP	Neighborhood Park
RP	Regional Park
SC	Sports Complex
SP	Sports Fields
SU	Special Use
T	Trail

Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2021 – 2027 (page 1 of 5)										
	Project	Potential Funding Source	Facility Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
1	Extend the Riverfront Trail on the east and west sides of the Cowlitz River & link to the Castle Rock-to-Lexington Trail Loop & Seaquest State Park on SR 504	RCO, ALEA, CY, CV, P, CC, LWC, WSDOT	T		\$300,000 Eastside, N. Huntingt on to Exit 49		\$300,000 Westside from Arkansas Creek to Cook Ferry			\$590,000 SR 504
2	Trail improvements to the westside of Whittle Creek to Arkansas Creek		T			\$250,000				
3	Make further improvements to the Bike Park	RCO, CY, P, CV, LWC	SU				\$150,000 Restrooms , parking, lighting, & skills structures			
4	Add more equipment to Skate Park	RCO, CY, P, CV	SU			\$15,000 skate equipment				
5	Construct a restroom at the N. trailhead/picnic area on the east side trail	RCO, ALEA, CV, CY, P, LWC	T			\$100,000				
6	Incorporate entrance features welcoming residents and visitors at all entrances into the city	CC, CY, P, CV, H&M, WF	N/A			\$25,000 Four Corners				
7	Improve & market the “High Banks” site for an RV resort	CY, CC, H&M, P	N/A					\$100,000		

Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2021 – 2027 (page 2 of 5)

	Project	Potential Funding Source	Facility Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
8	Continue planning & design work on a community center, including a swimming pool &/or large community park	CDBG, CY, CC, P, CV, WF	CP							\$40,000
9	Provide outdoor kitchen areas at the Lion's Pride Park, the "Rock" Community Park, or at a large community park that is yet to be built	RCO, CY, P, CV, WF	CP			\$15,000				
10	A kitchen will be added to the large pavilion at North County Regional Community Park	RCO, CY, P, CV, WF	CP				\$150,000			
11	Huntington Monument Amenities (i.e., outdoor fireplace)	RCO, CY, P, WF	SU							\$25,000
12	Add more features to the sports complex	RCO, CV, CY, P, CC, WF	CP, SC	\$500,000 Lighting, irrigation, & access issues	\$500,000 Lighting, irrigation, & access issues	\$10,000 batting cages	\$50,000 Babe Ruth field	\$20,000 Basketball courts \$35,000 Playground equipment	\$5,000 sand lot volleyball courts \$75,000 minor & softball fields	\$5,000 sand lot volleyball courts

Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2021 – 2027 (page 3 of 5)

	Project	Potential Funding Source	Facility Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
13	Improve “The Rock” community park by rebuilding the scenic lookouts & adding historical markers & trails along the river side	RCO, ALEA, CY, CV, CC, P, LWC, WF	CP						\$55,000	
14	Reconstruction of existing bridge deck to allow for pedestrian access.	WSDOT, RCO, CC, CY	T	\$200,000 engr. spec. & permits	\$2.2 million construction					
15	Publish a guide listing the available park and recreational opportunities in and around Castle Rock for distribution to the public	H&M, CY, CC, P	N/A				\$4,000			
16	Continue habitat enhancement opportunities on the Whittle, Arkansas, and other nearby creeks by partnering with the schools and other organizations	RCO, ALEA, DFW, SR, CY, CC, CV, P, WF	SU						\$100,000 Arkansas Creek	\$100,000 Whittle Creek

Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2021 – 2027 (page 4 of 5)

	Project	Potential Funding Source	Facility Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
17	Continue to collaborate with the Castle Rock School District and other interested groups on bicycle routes and safety information	WSDOT, CY	T						\$10,000	
18	Explore existing owned facilities for property to improve for sports practice fields	RCO, SD, CY, CV	SP, RP			\$5,000		\$5,000		
19	Continue to add amenities to Coldwater Park, including lighting and covered seating/shelter areas	CV, CY, P, WF	NP		\$5,000		\$5,000			
20	Promote and assist with the development of the school/community garden opportunities	CY, SD, CV, P, WF	CP, SC, SU		\$5,000		\$10,000			

Table VI-1. Capital Projects 2021 – 2027 (page 5 of 5)

	Project	Potential Funding Source	Facility Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
21	Complete Phase 3 of the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch	RCO, CV, CY, P, CC, POL, WF	BL, SU, SC		\$1.2 million					
22	Update the Riverfront Master Plan	RCO, CY	Multiple				\$8,000			
23	Six River Regional Trail System Phase II					\$200,000				
24	Six River Regional Trail System Phase III									\$250,000
25	Sustainable funding source for Castle Rock Library	CY, CC, GFE, WF	SU			\$90,000	\$90,000	\$95,000	\$95,000	\$100,000
26	Create a path/trail on the Elementary School property	RCO, SD	T				\$110,000			
27	Sustainable funding source for Parks and landscape areas	CY, CC	All				\$85,000	\$85,000	\$90,000	\$90,000

Funding Options

Table VI-1 above identifies possible sources of funding for capital projects. A brief discussion is warranted so that alternative funding sources can be identified as specific projects are implemented and other sources of funding are required. Although there are other methods of funding specific projects, the possibilities listed below represent the most common sources of funding. Funding options include all levels and types of funding sources except those that do not appear to apply to facilities that might be found or located in Castle Rock. Of course, these opportunities are pending continued funding by the applicable government or other funder.

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/alea.shtml>

Funding to buy, protect, and restore aquatic lands habitat and to provide public access to waterfronts on navigable waters of the state.

Boating Facilities Program

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/bfp.shtml>

Funding to acquire, design, build, and renovate facilities for recreational, motorized boats less than 26 feet in length.

Boating Infrastructure Grant

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/big.shtml>

Funding to develop and renovate boating facilities targeting guest recreational boats 26+ feet, and for boater education.

Community Development Block Grants

<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Programs/Infrastructure/CDBG-Program-Overview/Pages/default.aspx>

Parks and recreational facilities are eligible activities under Section 570.201(c) - Public Facilities and Improvements. CDBG funding may be used for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or installation of such improvements or facilities. HUD emphasizes³⁰ that parks and recreational facilities assisted with CDBG funds must be open and available to the general public; they cannot be reserved exclusively or primarily for specific leagues or locked and available only by reservation for specific organizations.

Community Economic Revitalization Board

<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/commissions/CommunityEconomicRevitalizationBoard/Pages/Planning-Program.aspx>

Limited funding for studies that evaluate high-priority economic development projects targeting job growth and long-term economic prosperity. Work can include site-specific plans, studies, and analyses that address environmental impacts, capital facilities, land use, permitting, feasibility, marketing, project engineering, design, site planning, and project debt and revenue impacts.

³⁰ <http://www.hud.gov/local/wi/working/localpo/cpd/parks.pdf>

Federal Transportation Funding <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/index.cfm>

Federal acts, goals, contents, and appropriations may vary during the life of a local planning document such as this. As mentioned in the last Park Plan update, the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) Set Aside [still commonly referred to as Transportation Alternatives Program] is still a potential funding source. In fiscal year 2019, Washington had roughly \$8.9 million in funding. Local agencies in Washington apply for TAP funds through their Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) and the City of Castle Rock is eligible for TAP funds through CWCOG/Southwest Washington RTPO with about \$340,000 - \$360,000 available annually.

Land and Water Conservation Fund³²

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/lwcf.shtml>

Funding to buy or develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities for public use. Grants support both acquisition and development of active and passive recreation areas and conservation lands.

No Child Left Inside

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/ncli.shtml>

Funding for outdoor environmental, ecological, agricultural, or other natural resource-based education and recreation programs serving youth.

Salmon Recovery

http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/sal_rec_grants.shtml

Funding to buy, protect, and restore aquatic lands habitat and to provide public access to waterfronts on navigable waters of the state.

Transportation Improvement Board

<http://www.tib.wa.gov/grants/smallcity/SmallCityOverview.cfm>

Some transportation improvements funded by TIB programs, such as street lights and sidewalks, may complement recreational projects such as trails.

³¹ <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/factsheets/>

³² Congress allowed the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, which provides pass-down funding to states for local matching grants, to expire in late 2015. It was reinstated as part of an omnibus appropriations bill on December 16, 2015, but only for a three-year period. There is a high degree of support nationwide for permanent reauthorization, but lacking some such action, the funding could expire during this planning period.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program <http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/wwrp.shtml>

Local Parks

Funding to acquire, develop, or renovate outdoor recreation facilities for neighborhood, community, and regional parks. At least half of the funding in this grant category is dedicated to acquisition.

Trails

Funding to acquire, develop, or renovate pedestrian, equestrian, bicycle, or cross-country ski trails that are non-motorized and provide connections to neighborhoods, communities, or regional trails.

Water Access

Funding to create physical access to shorelines for non-motorized, water-related recreation activities such as boating and fishing. At least 75 percent of funding is dedicated to acquisition.

Youth Athletic Facilities

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/yaf.shtml>

Funding to buy land and renovate outdoor athletic facilities that serve youth.

Other funding sources can include:

- Bonds and levies (public debt)
- Community groups
- Concessionaire agreements
- Donations (funds, labor, gift catalogs, memorials, etc. from individuals or groups)
- Park and recreation district
- Park foundation
- Planned giving (legacy/estate gifts)
- Private foundations or other funders
- User fees (including scholarship funds)

The Municipal Research and Services Center³³ additionally offers these approaches for park and open space acquisition:

Monetary:

Development rights acquisition program
Real estate excise tax
General obligation bonds
Fee in lieu of dedication

Non-monetary:

Parks/open space dedication requirement (subdivisions)
Density bonus or transfer program
Development agreement
Transfer of development rights program

Thanks to its staff and deeply committed community volunteers, the City has proven more adept than many small communities with limited resources at leveraging resources to carry out its parks and recreation goals. This is expected to perpetuate into the future as work under this plan moves forward.

³³ <https://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks-Open-Space-and-Trails-Planning/Park-Planning-Design-and-Open-Space.aspx>

CHAPTER VII - PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & PLAN ADOPTION

By its nature and very often by statute, community planning efforts incorporate a public process that is designed to involve the public in the decision-making process. In terms of park planning, the RCO emphasizes the importance of public participation – not just public involvement and support, but documentation as well. “You’ll need the documentation to defend your plan and the decisions you make because of the plan.” That documentation becomes part of the City’s submittal to the RCO.

The Park Board is the body charged with developing this plan and the public involvement process consisted of numerous public outreach efforts, including a public outreach survey. Castle Rock School District #401 actively participated in the planning process and reviewed its goals and objectives specific to School facilities and property. Regular monthly Park Board meetings were held to consider individual chapters and review plan content. Park Board meetings were open to the public and noticed under the state Open Public Meetings Act.

The City of Castle Rock also participates in the national America in Bloom® competition every year with the support of the Chamber of Commerce. Although Castle Rock Blooms isn’t an official City endeavor, it demonstrates a strong collaboration between community organizations, individuals, and businesses. Castle Rock Blooms won recognition in 2015 for its video³⁴ on the City’s beautification efforts, which can be seen in several of the parks depicted in Chapter IV and other public spaces.

As detailed in Chapter V, a broadly distributed survey solicited public opinion to get input on community needs and park users’ desires and concerns. Electronic surveys through SurveyMonkey® and hardcopies were distributed to residents, students, businesses, and community groups. Students from Castle Rock and Toutle also took part in the survey as a school assignment. Social media was employed to share the survey via the Facebook® pages of local businesses, community groups, and the media. The Park Board reviewed a tabulation of the 504 responses to gain user perspectives on their use of existing facilities and possible improvements to those facilities, where and what type of new parks and features should be developed, and the overall level of service provided.

Following a recommendation of adoption by the Park Board on December 8, 2021, a public hearing was held by the City Council to consider the draft plan on February 16, 2022. The draft plan was made available on the City’s website and at City Hall prior to the hearing; notice was posted in local newspapers, the City’s website and Facebook. The final plan was adopted by the Castle Rock City Council on February 28, 2022, and by the School Board on February 15, 2022. A determination of non-significance was issued under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) on July 9, 2021 (Appendix C). Adoption materials, including the self-checklist required by RCO, are included in Appendix D.

³⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZiZjIUQUTbg>. See more information on the final page of this document.



“Public narrative is a leadership art through which we translate values into action, engaging heart, head, and hands.”

~Marshall Ganz



APPENDICES

- A. Castle Rock Park & Recreation Community Survey
- B. Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan
- C. SEPA Documentation
- D. Adoption Materials

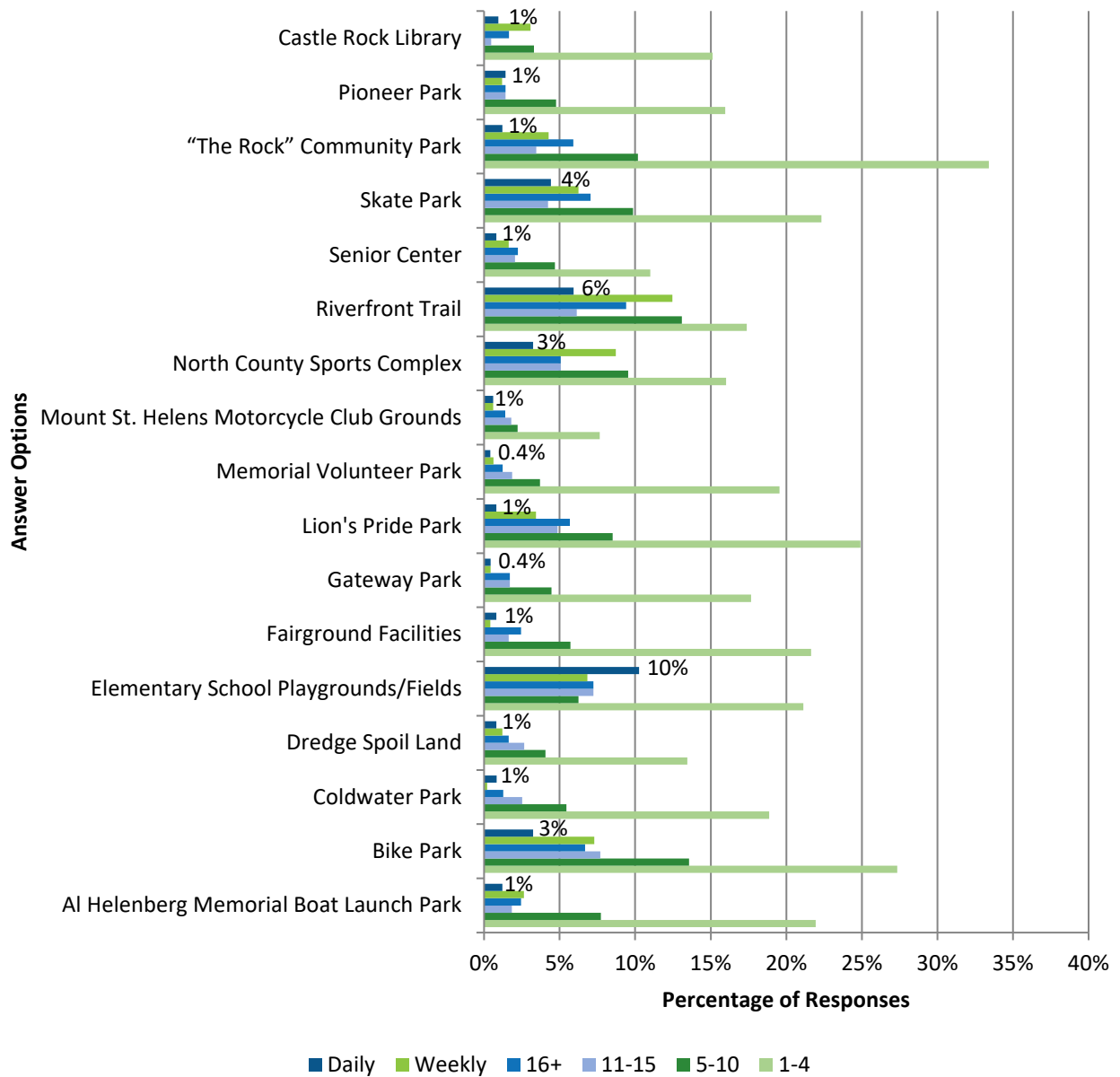


Castle Rock Park & Recreation Community Survey

May 13 to June 11, 2021

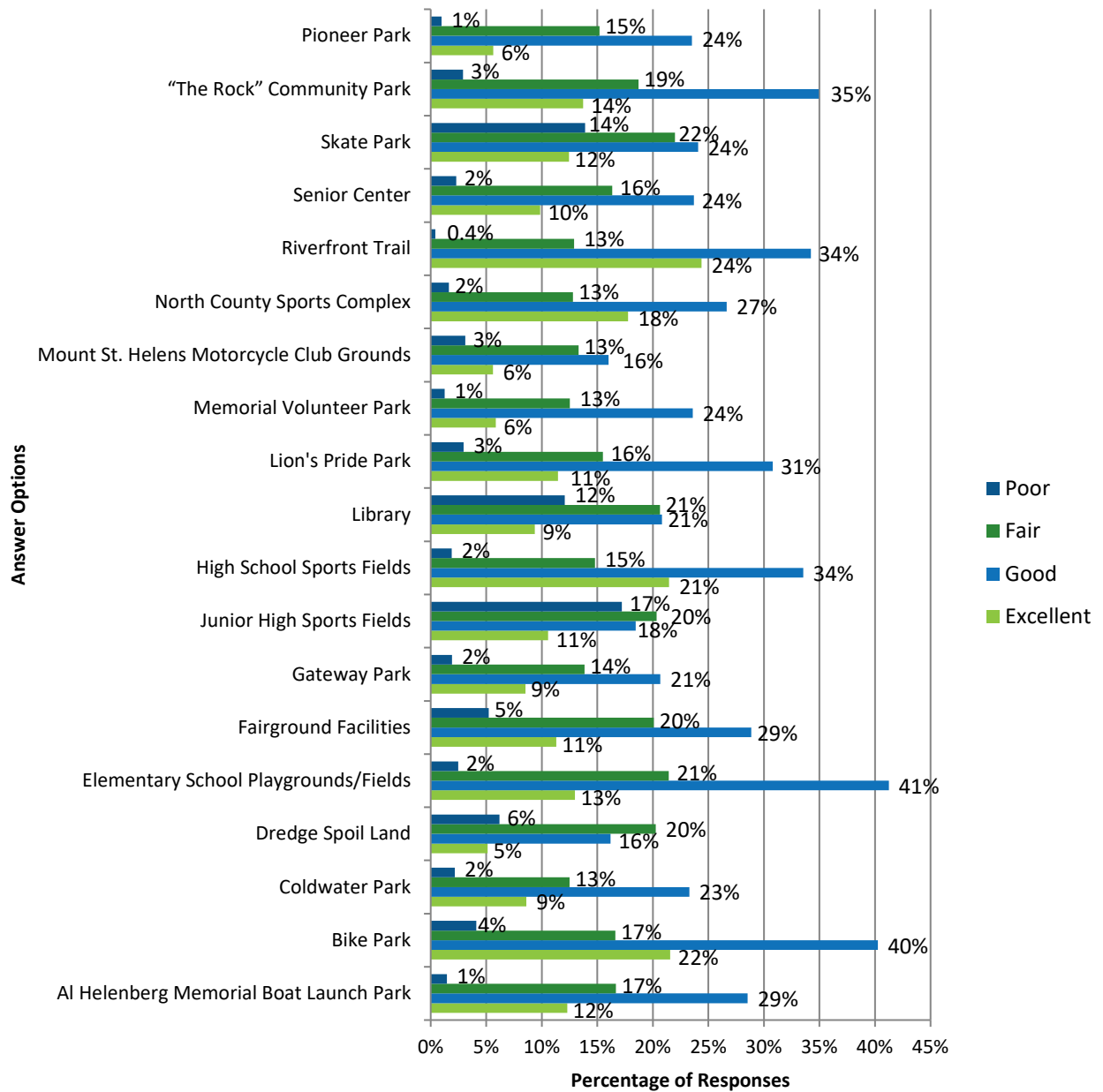
The Castle Rock Park and Recreation Plan Survey was available online and as a hardcopy from May 13, 2021, through June 11, 2021. During that time 504 responses were received. The survey included 18 questions, the following graphs and descriptions summarize the results of each question.

1. In the past 12 months, about how many times has anyone in your household used the following parks/facilities?



The first question of the survey asked respondents about their use over the past year of area parks and facilities. 1 person skipped this question.

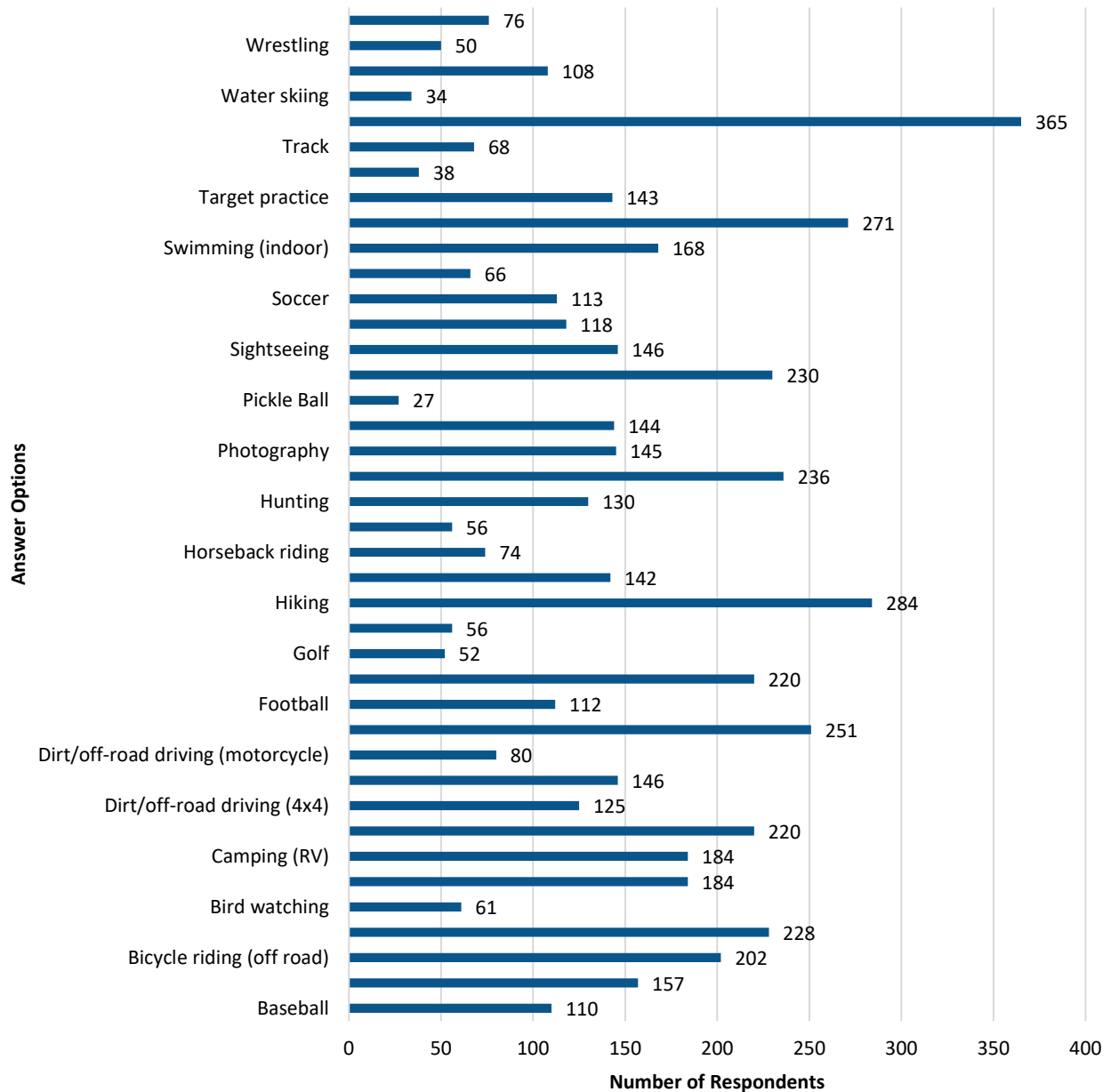
2. How would you rate these parks/facilities?



Respondents were asked to select one rating for each park or facility listed.

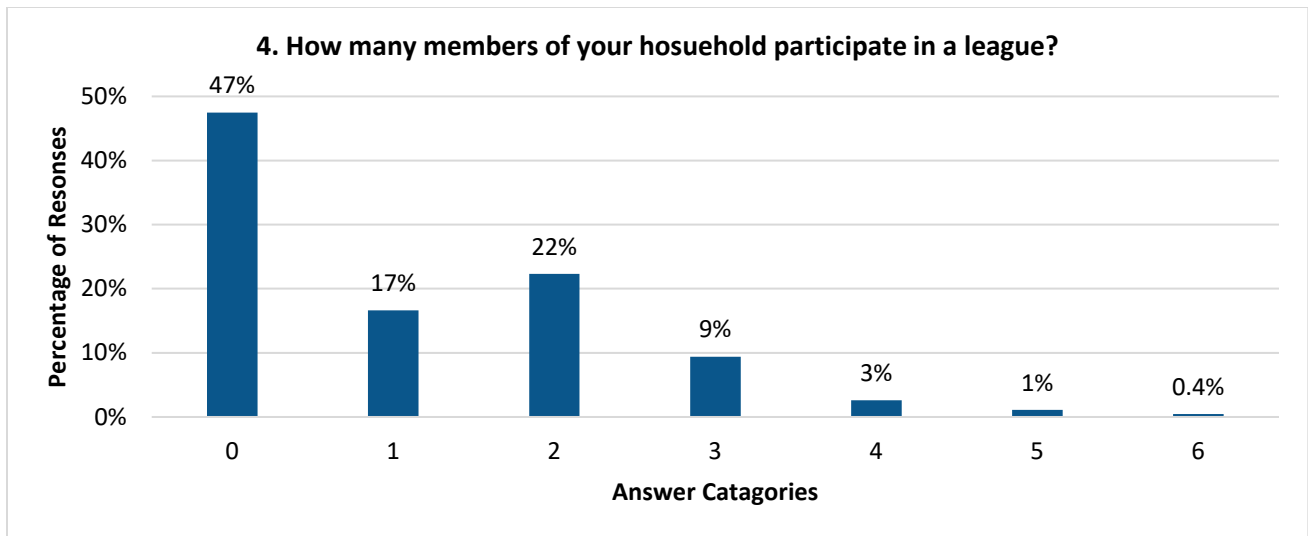
This question was skipped by 5 people.

3. Which of these activities do you participate in at least once a year?



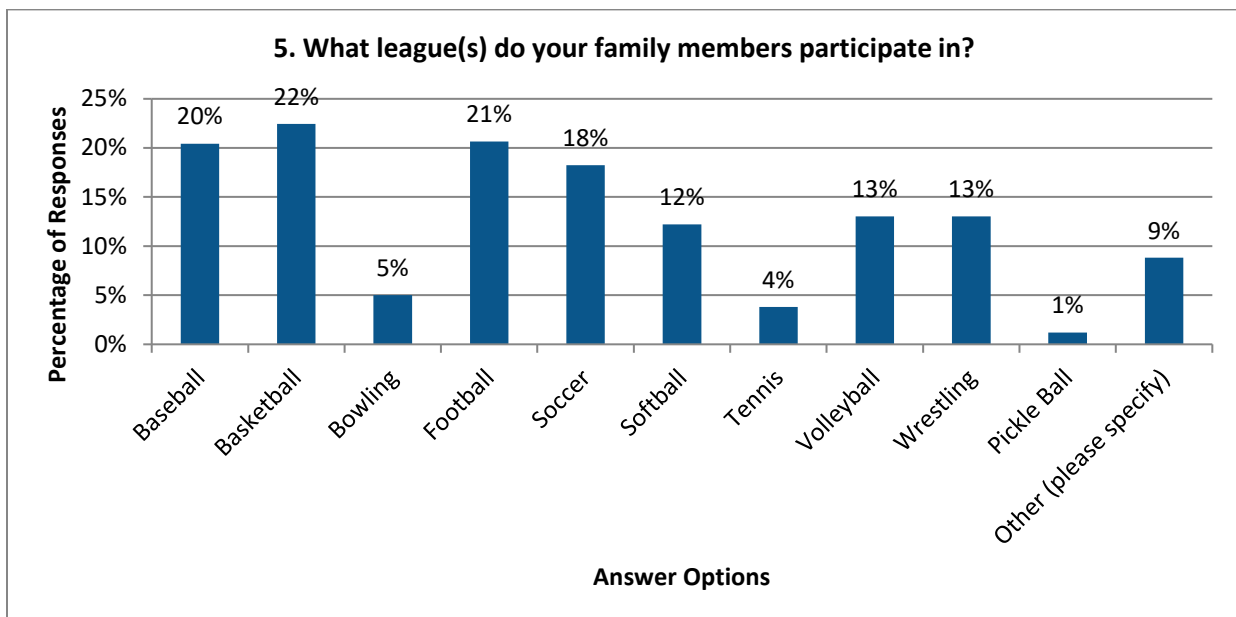
Survey participants were asked to select the activities that they typically participate in at least once per year. They were able to select multiple answer options for this question.

Six people skipped this question.



This question was opened ended and required respondents to type their answer in a textbox. Those responses were tallied and are displayed on the graph above.

47 people skipped this question.



This question offered an “Other” answer option for participants to type in their own answer. Those answers were tallied and grouped into like categories. These included track/cross country (55%), dirt track/motorcycle riding (14%), fishing/hunting (11%), martial arts (4%), swimming (4%), t-ball (4%), dance (2%), horseback riding (2%), and library use (2%).

Percentages in the paragraph above are based on the number of respondents (44) who selected the “Other” answer option.

This question was skipped by 5 people.

Question 5

Included in Answer Options

- Bowling
- baseball
- IEA, Flag football, 4-h
- Hiking, Walks, Biking, Baseball, Catch
- Flag
- Football

T-Ball

- Tball
- T-ball

Track/Cross Country

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| • running | • Track |
| • Track | • track |
| • Track | • track |
| • Track | • Track? |
| • track | • track |
| • track | • track |
| • Track | • Track |
| • Track | • track |
| • Track and Field | • track |
| • track | • track |
| • track | • Cross Country |
| • Track | • cross country |

Dirt Track/Motorcycle

- Dirt Track Racing
- Motorcycle, atv, utv
- Motorcycle riding
- dirt bike races
- Racing
- roller racing

Swimming

- swimming
- swimming

Hunting/Fishing

- Fishing and Hunting
 - fishing league
 - hunting
 - hunting
- trap
- shooting

Martial Arts

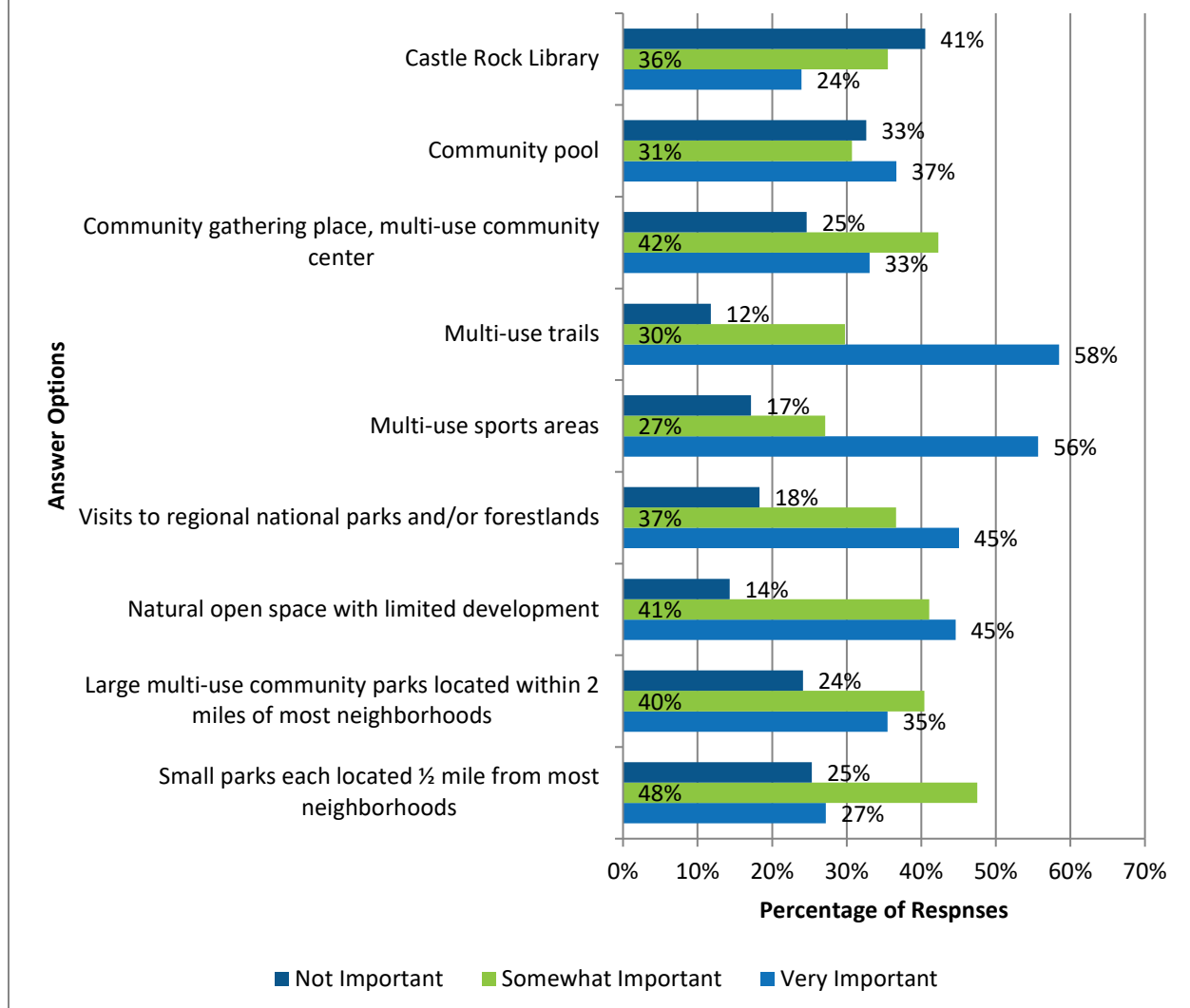
- judo
- Kung-fu

Miscellaneous (only one of each)

- dance
- Library
- Horseback Riding
- You guys obsess over sports too much!
- ldk

Removed/Irrelevant

6. Of the following types of parks and recreation areas/facilities, please prioritize their importance to your household.



This question asked respondents to prioritize the importance of each item listed and offered an “Other” answer option for participants to type in their own answer. Those answers were tallied and grouped into like categories. These included: skate park (19%), bike park (14%), community/sports center (14%), walking trails (9%), ATV/dirt bike trails (9%), bowling alley (5%), fairgrounds (5%), schools (5%), senior center (5%), RV park (5%), kids/toddler park (5%).

The percentages in the paragraph above are based on the number of respondents (21) who chose the “Other” answer option.

This question was skipped by 8 people.

Question 6

Miscellaneous (only one of each)

- Bowling alley
- Fair grounds
- RV Park
- the schools
- castle rock history museum
- Senior Center
- Toddler/kids park like Kalama & Longview needed! We have to drive our Grandson to other towns just to play on nice equipment!

Trails

- Horse trails, pedal bike trails, walking hiking paths!!! We need more of... NOT dirt bike 4-wheel trails.
- Walking trails

Community/Sports Center

- Community Center with pool, pickle ball, badminton courts, basketball etc. for housing tournaments, and a place for community members and families to go recreate at outside of school hours.
- Sports complex!!
- Pickleball

ATV/Dirt Bike Trails

- Dirt bike riding
- ATV, motorcycle and UTV trails

Bike Park

- bike park
- please fix the scooter park
- RC car parks

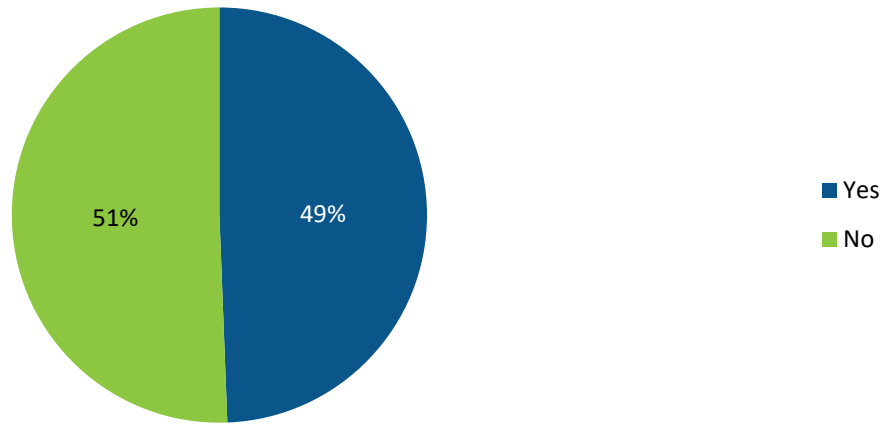
Skate Park

- Skatepark
- skatepark very important
- the skate park is like ultra-important, so upgrade it
- The skatepark is very important to me my family and a lot of my friends.

None/Irrelevant

- none
- none
- none
- I haven't been on any of the parks nor the libraries or any skate park.
- I've never been to any of these places so I wouldn't know
- Limit noise!

7. Have improvements to local parks and recreational facilities helped you to become more physically active?



If a respondent answered “Yes”, they were asked to briefly describe their answer. Answers included: being outside more (20%), enjoying the scenery/seeing new park additions (19%), walking/hiking (18%), going on bike rides/to the bike park (7%), spending time with friends and family (6%), going to the skatepark (5%), participating in various sports (5%), using the trails (4%), going for runs (4%), and use of school parks (2%). 6% of respondents said they felt that the parks and facilities were safe, clean, and accessible and 4% said their overall health has increased.

The percentages in the paragraph above are based on the number of respondents (170) that used the textbox to described their answer.

14 people skipped this question.

Question 7

Walking/Hiking

- walking sometimes
- The river front trail walkways to get there
- I don’t have to drive to Longview to enjoy a walk because of our beautiful river walk.
- Riverfront Trail is accessible
- Walking more, especially during the pandemic
- Walking the Riverview Trail is convenient and pleasant.
- Enjoy walking on improved, well-maintained trails.
- walk more
- Being able to walk the trails and not worry about getting hit by cars also my children and I to enjoy daily walks.
- It’s better to be outside walking if the areas I have to walk in are safe and we’ll kept.
- I can walk and I love nature.
- walks
- Before the virus, we used the dike trail frequently.
- I like to go walk or run to small parks and see them or the view of the dike.
- I walk a lot more
- I walk the dike
- Hiking/walking
- It makes going on walks and just outdoor activities more easily accessible and fun to look at.
- Love the walking paths and all the things Castle Rock is bringing for us to do! Love the downtown area feel and activities throughout town prior to covid. Miss the parades, tree lighting, the burn barrels in the street and things for the adults and kids to do.
- Daily walk
- Walking

- I used the walking trails quite a bit
- I walk more than I used to
- because it gives me motivation to walk around.
- It helps my mom and I walk more often.
- Mount Saint Helens
- if my parents ever take me to town to walk around maybe
- we run and walk the trails.
- Lots of walking and hiking opportunities

- I walk on the trail when I have the trail available.
- Not so much in recent years, but when I lived in downtown Castle Rock the development of the Riverfront Trail opened up an opportunity for me. I had been gaining weight and wanted to start walking, but just walking around town seemed laborious. When the trail was completed, it offered a scenic, relaxing route to the parks.

Running

- I feel safe walking and jogging on the path along the river.
- Beautiful areas to run in make it more appealing
- because I can go on runs on the dike.

- I got to run more.
- a field park it makes me run more and same as my brother
- exercise like running

Like to see new additions/enjoy scenery

- A well-kept and community driven park is a largely enjoyable experience. The parks stay clean, the other people present are nice, and there is a general good vibe about it all. This makes the local parks my go to spots for some outdoor activities.
- If you build it, they will come. Nice amenities and community resources such as athletic facilities will encourage activities to continue to grow and develop.
- Yes, because we have more options that interested more people
- Having recreational places to hang out and are well maintained is a plus and keeps you coming back.
- I like going to places that look a little nicer and clean.
- More scenery if that makes sense.
- Yes, because made me want to be there
- Yes, because the improvements allow extra activities.
- It's more appealing.
- it makes it more fun to be at and nicer
- Improvements make it easier to walk and more enjoyable to spend time at
- I live in town and when the parks look nice, I like to go use/see them. If it is unkept and falling apart it is not very inviting.

- I love seeing the new additions of flowers and enhancement throughout Castle Rock!
- Areas that have been improved we want to bring our kids more because the areas are nice.
- When areas get improved it makes those places more inviting.
- By adding to local parks, it keeps them interesting and people coming back.
- The first time I went to Cold Water Park I fell in love with all of it. I absolutely found it gorgeous and worth the 8.8 miles. Every foot of the walk was stunning which made me think if this place is so beautiful, is there other places like it? From that moment I decided to look for more hikes to find more great spots to admire nature.
- I wish to go and see the improvements and normally walk around it for a while.
- If something is new, it's more like a motivation to go see whatever has changed.
- The areas are nicer to spend time at.
- When the town works on our places too be able to chill and lay back it feels nice to be in a nice peaceful place.
- Newish to the area and improvements to the Riverfront Trail have allowed me to better explore recreational opportunities in CR.
- it is fun

- It inspired me to be cereus about what they did that's different.
- I think you could improve the activities to do at local parks. Like... if there is just one slide and two swings, then put more! Maybe, put 5 swings and another unique slide so people are more interested and excited to go to the park!
- it gives me a place to do things

Spend time with friends/family

- Enjoy being at nice areas and complexes with my family.
- it gives my family somewhere to go and hike as a family
- they are we can go and hangout
- hanging out with friends
- playing
- the trail i can go and play basketball with my sister and ride bikes

Be outside more

- Seeing them look beautiful and nice makes me want to go
- I enjoy them for a change in scenery and getting outside
- The trail along the riverfront is lovely and acts as incentive to get out and walk or ride bike.
- Having a beautiful waterfront trail by the water close to us definitely encourages us to get out more
- We are always outside. If there were better parks for me kids it would give them incentives to be more active and walk instead of having to drive to Longview for a good park
- Get out the n safe beautiful places to go.
- Kids want to go play so I get Out of the couch to take them and end up walking 4500 additional steps
- Having an easy to access area with a toddler has made me want to get out more.
- I want to get out and explore nature
- Me and my family have gone out to them more often

- Yes, because when there are improvements, most are usually fun things that I enjoy to do.
- There are more options
- You can do more in town.
- since they are fixing up the parks it makes me want to go to them more.
- I think we should have improvement so that we could have places to hang out
- Funner new stuff lets gooo

- when there are more park closers to me so I can go hang out with friend or family.
- By hanging out and play fighting my friends at a park I live near I've gotten stronger
- hanging out with family and running walking.
- We enjoy visiting local parks and recreational facilities with great regularity but options for children's playgrounds/ or a splash pad are somewhat limited

- more things to do
- it helps me get outside and do something
- It gets me outside more
- yes, because they offer more to work with
- make me want to go out more.
- more opportunities
- in one word? well yeetist (means amazing)
- getting me out of the house
- it lets me go outside more
- I get outdoors more often.
- We go there more often.
- Because of the different parks in Castle Rock, I have been able to run around more and be more physically active, and that's good because my family doesn't really have a big yard, so there's no room to run around.
- I'm always active
- Yes, because more space can open to more activity.
 - So people get less fat.
 - Yes, because I want to get out more

- it gets me to want to go outside rather than sit inside
- more space to do stuff
- the RV park I live at makes me constantly want to be outside
- Because I'm outside
- because I can do more stuff

- not really but yeah, I have been getting outside and not inside more often
- I have been able to go out more and do more without getting bored and wanting to go back inside
- Because when they improve it makes it more fun to go and be active.

Bike riding/bike park

- Being able to learn new skills and practice skills at the bike park allow me to ride more on trails in the area.
- My grandchildren visit from Portland & always bring their bikes
- bike park makes me go outside more and work out
- my family and I go on bike rides and walks more often.
- The upkeep on the bike park was appreciated over quarantine!

- ride my bike more
- I have a biking gang
- We can go for walks and have fun at the bike park
- I like to go to the bike park more to hang out with friends and ride bikes.
- I can ride at the bike park often
- the bike park and skate park make me like riding more

Skatepark

- the skate park
- The new ramp at the skate park had helped me to get out more since I have more tricks I can do
- One of the activities that helps me stay more active is skateboarding and with not too many options for an area except the skatepark in Castle Rock it's sad to see it in such poor condition.
- For a long time, a large portion of the park was unsafe or unusable, but I would say now it's not very good but is at least usable.

- some repairs have finally been made to the skate park, it got to the point where it was pretty much unusable, not to mention just how much it had been vandalized.
- The skate park needs some more skating stuff with it
- skate park
- When I'm bored, I'll go skateboarding with friends of mine or I'll go for a run or walk
- Yes, like going to the skatepark for a while
- No improvements to bike or skate park. Our kids need a positive outlet

Trails

- Riverfront trail is a great resource.
- Riverfront trail
- I really like the riverfront trail. A kicked back town without all the politics. Love it.
- Use the riverfront trail with my daughter
- River front Walking trail along with North County walking trail

- I have started to go on trails and I enjoy hiking now
- like to hike and fish year-round, which is hard to do in the winter. Good to have riverside trails and water access to enjoy. We need more access to outdoor areas, like we used to have. Now you have to pay to ride a bicycle on a logging road! This is crazy.

Overall Health

- Better health
- Gets me in good physical shape.

- yes
- better health
 - a little bit

- because
- yes

Safety/Cleanliness/Accessible

- Things are safer and easier to access
- Clean
- safe
- The riverfront trail is safe and peaceful.
- There is more room to walk without fearing for your life from traffic. Walking near the river is very relaxing.
- Easy to access
- I appreciate that I can safely walk in our community without fear of traffic. It is also nice to have a safe spot for kids to ride their bikes and play outside in our community.
- easier access
- Clean, safe, pleasant walking paths.
- trash and littering

School Parks

- I live close to the middle school and go skateboarding along the dike and play at the play grounds.
- My sister and I walk down to the elementary playground and its fairly far from our house so it keeps us active
- elementary school playground basketball court
- my pe teacher take our class to the park often.

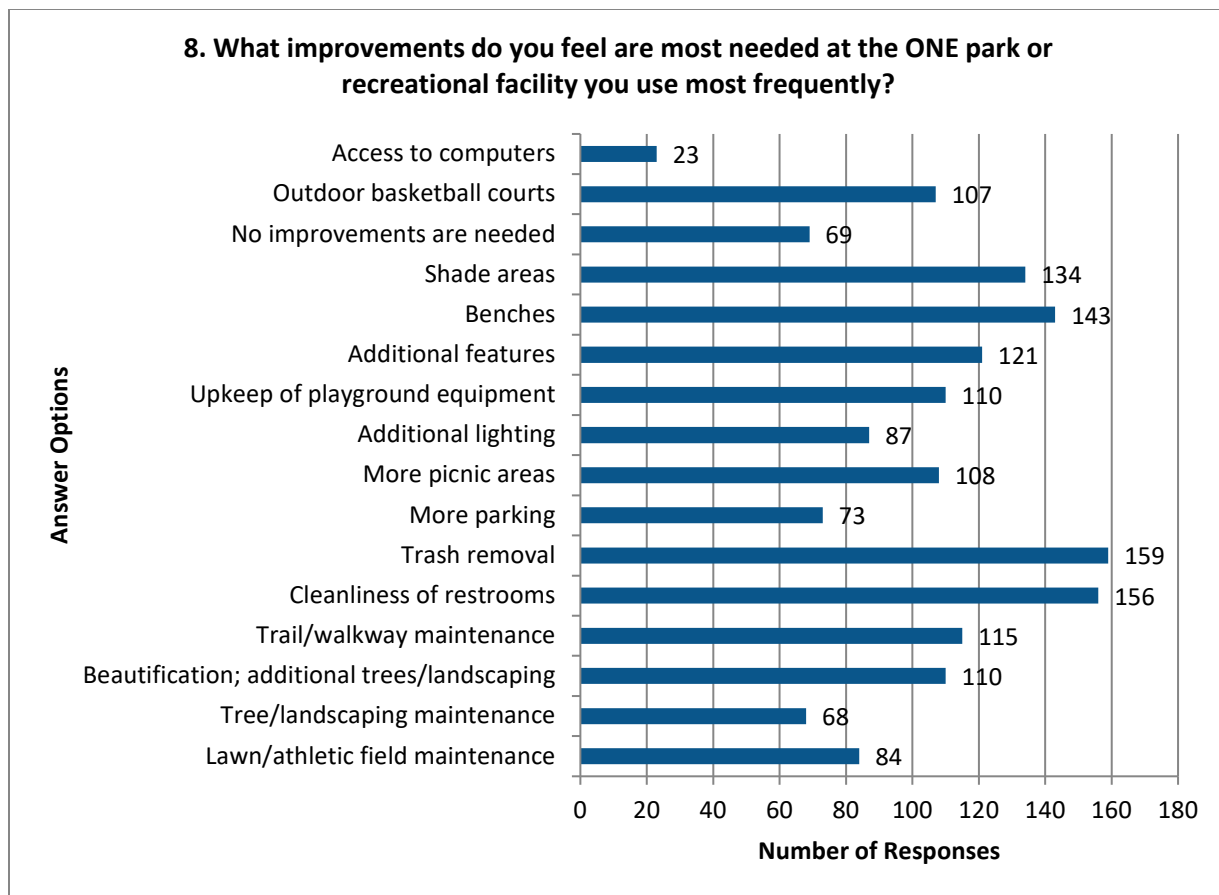
Various Sports

- climbing
- a football field in public for public access
- balls four square ramps
- pickleball and golf
- It just helps me walk a lot more and do more sports outside.
- They have allowed me to play sports.
- Availability causes my family to participate.
- My sister, friends, and I are able to do lots of outdoor sports. We can also go on walks in near parks.
- I use them for sports

N/A

- Haven't been to a park yet.
- Idk
- ?
- I don't get this question.
- Kinda. I mean yes, I wanna go use them.

<i>answered question</i>	<i>627</i>	<i>627</i>
<i>skipped question</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>47</i>



This question asked to choose one park or facility they use most often and select which improvements were needed there. They were able to select multiple answers and were asked to provide the name of the facility in a textbox. These responses included: the skate park (18%), the bike park (17%), Riverfront Trail (12%), North County (9%), schools (5%), Lion's Pride Park (5%), Dike Trail (4%), sports fields (3%), the library (3%), the trail system (3%), playgrounds (2%), the fairgrounds (2%), Coldwater Park (1%), the senior center (1%). 7% of respondents said that all facilities need improvements, 2% stated that trash cans and restrooms are needed, and 1% said parking is needed. Each of the following were listed by 1 person (0.5%): Mount St. Helens KOA, Toutle River RV report, Memorial Volunteer Park, Cress Lake, boat launch, bowling alley, and sand and trees in parks.

The percentages in the paragraph above are based on the number of respondents (191) that included the name of the facility in the textbox provided.

This question was skipped by 53 people.

Question 8

Restrooms/Garbage Cans

- Add more restrooms to riverfront trail
- trail area bathroom, at the other end or near the bike park.
- The little park across from the basketball courts and trash removal at the river behind the bike park very trashy there I even go myself once a week and pick up 2 bags full.

- The bathrooms at the dredge spoil lands are gross and the benches along the trails have been vandalized. We own property there and have been broken into so i so understand it is a problem of having nice things ruined.

All

- All
- All off them in castle rock
- any park and north county
- anywhere
- every park
- everything
- all areas need cover space otherwise 3/4 of the year they are unusable

- castle rock
- in public for all of them
- park
- parks
- Some of castle rock's parks
- some of the parks of castle rock, and skatepark, and bike park.

Schools

- All 5 at the Elementary School playground
- castle rock elementary school playground
- Castle Rock Elementary, Middle, and High School should receive better sport equipment and fields/courts.
- Castle rock high school and middle school
- elementary school playground

- High School Sport Facilities
- High school track
- The elementary school just a better outdoor court it's just hard gravel with pot holes.
- Middle School Field Area
- Middle, elementary, and high school

Sports Fields

- baseball park and the skate park should have more benches and outdoor basketball court
- baseball/softball fields
- castle rock baseball fields
- softball fields

- Space to play pickleball
- The basketball court near the skate park are netless and the hoop is not an adjustable height hoop. Which stops the younger kids from playing.

Bike Park

- Bike Park
- bike park
- bike park
- Bike park
- Bike park
- bike park
- Bike park
- bike park
- bike park
- bike park
- bike park
- bike park

- bike park
- bike park
- Bike Park
- bike park
- bike park
- Bike park
- Bike Park
- Bike park and all other parks without a proper playground.
- Bike park area
- bike park bigger jumps
- Bike Park- Restroom Needed

- Bike park w/cover
- bike park/riverfront trail
- bike park/skate park
- bike park/skate park
- Dike and skate park/bike park.

Skatepark

- Castle Rock Skate Park
- I think that the skatepark needs cleaned and at least one shaded area and it would be nice if the ramps were replaced or at least fixed a little bit better
- scooter park
- sk8t park
- skate and bike park
- Skate and bike park castle rock
- Skate park
- skate park
- Skate park
- skate park
- Skate Park
- skate park
- skate park
- Skate Park
- Skate park
- skate park
- skate park

Fairgrounds

- Castle rock fair grounds
- Castle Rock Fair Grounds

Library

- Castle Rock Library
- Castle Rock Library
- Library

Coldwater Park

- Cold water park

Senior Center

- I believe that our senior center should have new things such as oven plates and cups. As

None/ Don't Know

- I don't know
- I don't really know any facilities
- I don't use any
- I prefer not to say

- Bike part
- Bike Skills Park
- Bike/Skate park
- Castle Rock bike park

- skate park
- skate park
- skate park
- skate park
- skate park and bike park
- skate park needs more to it middle school basketball courts outside
- Skate park, Bike park
- Skatepark
- SKATEPARK
- skatepark
- skatepark
- skatepark
- Skatepark
- skating
- The skate park needs to get rid of the trash and needs to fix the ramps.
- the skatepark
- bigger skate park
- to fix up the skatepark

- fairgrounds

- Library
- Library - Funding

- Coldwater Park

- well as with new look chairs and new decoration.
- Senior center

- none
- Not That I know of.
- familiar with any area to know

Lion's Pride Park

- lion park
- Lions Park
- lions park
- Lions Park, North County Complex
- Lion's Pride - TV dump station
- lions pride park
- Lion's Pride Park
- Lions Pride Park and Bike/Skate Park
- Increase Lions Pride Park southward, improved areas

North County

- North County
- North county
- North County
- North County
- North County
- North county baseball fields and baseball batting cage
- north county complex
- North County Complex and Trail System
- North County Fields and Batting Cages
- North County Recreation Complex
- North County Recreation facility
- North county softball/youth baseball league complex
- North County Sport Complex
- North County Sports Complex
- North County Sports Facility
- North County Walking path
- The North County Soccer Fields

Playgrounds

- Playground
- Playground area off riverside trail near the skate park
- rec fields and common area
- Need a playground that isn't made of metal!

Riverfront Trail

- River Front Trail
- River Front Trail
- River front trail, Elementary playground, north county walking trail/ area
- River Trail
- River walk
- River Walk
- River Walking path
- Riverfront
- Riverfront Park
- Riverfront trail
- Riverfront trail
- Riverfront trail
- Riverfront trail
- Riverfront Trail
- Riverfront Trail
- Riverfront Trail
- Riverfront trail
- Riverfront trail
- Riverfront trail lion's park
- RIVERFRONT/NORTH COUNTY
- More benches along the Riverfront Trail

The Dike

- the dike
- The dike
- the dike
- the dike trail
- Dike Trail
- waterfront/dike trail
- were the dike is

Parking

- the lakeview parking area at the end of the dike
- More parking (perhaps instead of insanely overpriced condos?) would be great at the minions

The Rock Park

- The rock
- The rock
- the Rock
- The Rock
- the rock community park

Trails

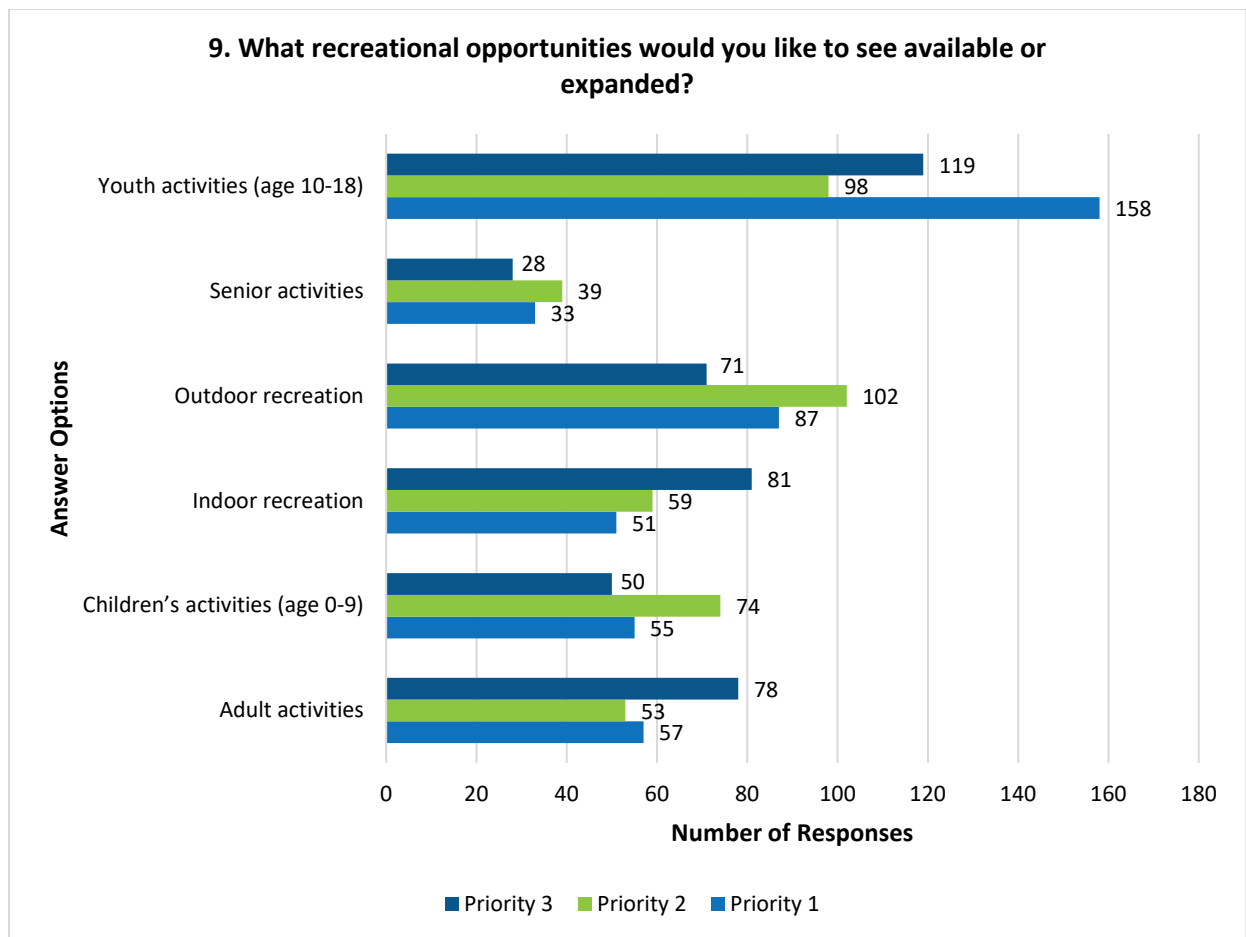
- Trail system
- Trails
- trails
- Walking trail
- Cook Ferry and trails along River

Miscellaneous

- Mt. Saint Helens KOA
- toutle river rv resort
- around tree or sand
- Memorial Volunteer Park
- cress lake
- boat launch
- Bowling Alley

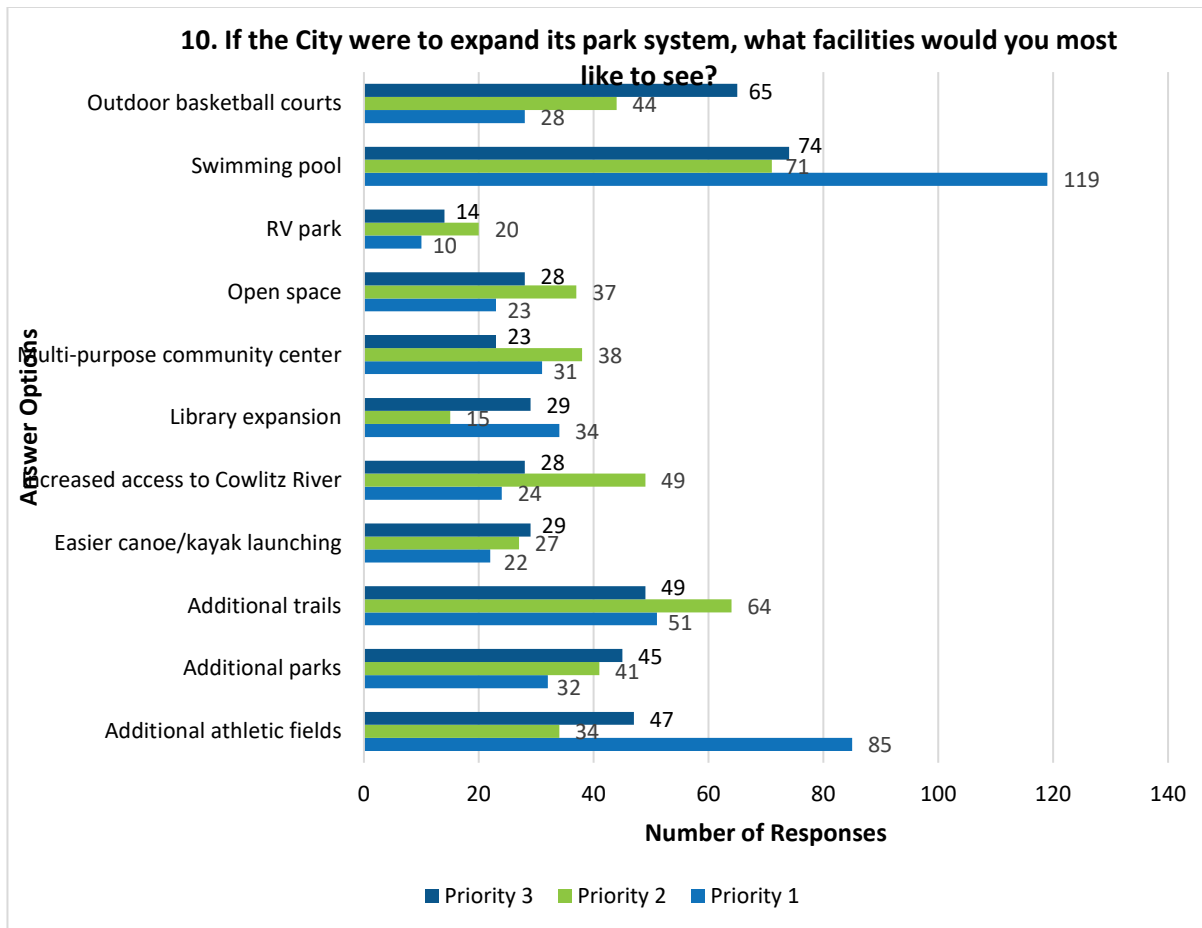
Not in Castle Rock

- Vandercook park
- warden park
- Mount Rainier
- mount saint Helens
- Tam o'shaner



Respondents were asked to rank their top three choices with 1 being the highest priority.

19 people skipped this question.



Respondents were asked to identify their top three choices with 1 being the highest priority.

This question included an “Other” answer option which allowed respondents to type their answer into a textbox. These answers were tallied and grouped together in like categories. These categories included: sports complex/facilities (28%), skate park (15%), pool (10%), bowling alley (8%), camping areas/river access (8%), bike park (5%), kids park (5%), library (5%), dirt bike/bike trails (5%), downtown maintenance (5%), senior center (3%), fairgrounds (3%).

Percentages in the paragraph above are based on the number of respondents (39) that selected the “Other” answer option.

This question was skipped by 16 people.

Question 10

Kids Park

- We drive to Kalama to Haydu park. I wish there was a nice playground for my kids under 5.
- Toddler/kids playground park like Kalama or Lake Sacajawea.

Bowling Alley

- Bowling alley
- Bowling Alley

Library

- The library is incredibly antiquated and behind the times.

Pool

- the pool needs to come back
- swimming pools with better maintenance with no residue and clear, non-acidic water.

Stake Park

- I would like for the skatepark to expand on their ramps and things to do there
- Skate park bike park in castle rock
- Skatepark

Bike Park

- more thing in bike park

Dirt Bike/Bike Trails

- Dirt bike trail riding area 2. Skate park improvement

Sports Complex/Facilities

- A gym or workout center.
- Multi-purpose center with a pool, basketball courts, work out facility, track, badminton courts, etc. for rainy day seasons and families can still do things together in doors.
- We need outdoor covered recreation space not sure what it incudes but fall, winter and spring last a long time and need outdoor covered entertainment.

Miscellaneous (only one of each)

- Senior Center
- A light post for Alpine Vet.
- arcade
- Larger arena for the fairgrounds, and have the fairgrounds open all year long to the public
- camping areas near river

None/Irrelevant

- This thing broken I can only choose 2.
- none

- It'd be nice to join Timberland and/or update for better inter library loans.

- If a car wash could be recreational, i am all for it. Maybe it would be a "spray park"

- Skatepark
- a bowl in the sk&t park
- scooter park

- skate park/bike park, put in a new bigger skate park, fix up the bike park.

- bicycle trails

- outdoor volleyball courts
- Pickleball Courts
- Pickleball courts
- pickleball / tennis courts
- volleyball nets
- Wrestling
- Outdoor volleyball net
- Rock climbing area

- boat rentals at al Helenberg memorial boat launch
- Hostile architecture to thwart homeless camping and drug use.
- more river areas to swim

11. Do you encounter any barriers to individuals with disabilities being able to access parks, recreational facilities, or school sites?



This question asked respondents to describe their answer if they selected “Yes”. These answers were grouped together in like categories. These categories included: lack of access (38%), safety concerns (17%), steep paths/trails (17%), schools (12%), parks (8%), and unequal treatment (8%).

Percentages in the paragraph above are based on the number of respondents (24) who responded “Yes” and used the textbox to describe their answer.

Out of the 48 respondents who answered “Yes”, only 24 used the textbox to describe their answer.

This question was skipped by 18 people.

Question 11

Lack of Access

- Yes, there isn’t much access
- Dog park is hard to get to
- Very hard to access if you are unable to walk very well
- There aren't ramps to certain places
- The small playground near the skate park is not highly accessible by stroller or disabled persons
- as it does not have a maintained path from the riverside trail and has considerable slope
- I can think of the possibility of those in wheelchairs or who are elderly.
- it would help
- Senior center could use an automatic door
- staircases in public places.

Safety Concerns

- No Hand rails
- rails
- Cracked pavement
- Walking on uneven grounds and parking is far away in most places

Schools

- Going to school
- at the schools
- autistic person couldn’t play kickball and asthma person had asthma on track

Steep Paths/Trails

- They can’t walk on ramps very well or steep
- The walk up the Rock is pretty steep.
- Paths either of getting tired or they just can’t.
- if injured some places may be difficult

Parks

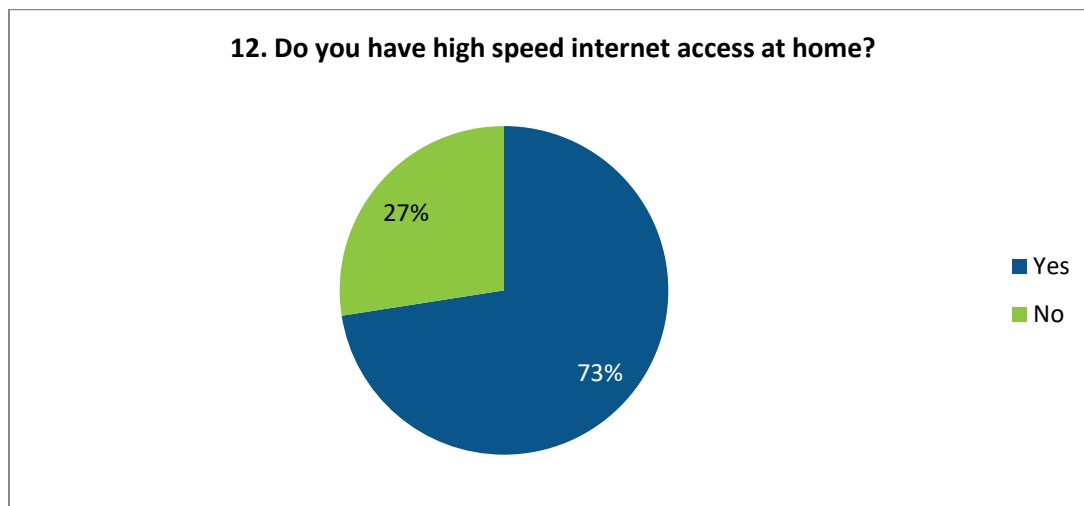
- There are no swings people can use with disabilities like that hold them in.
- There are no Wheel chair swings at any park

Need Equal Treatment

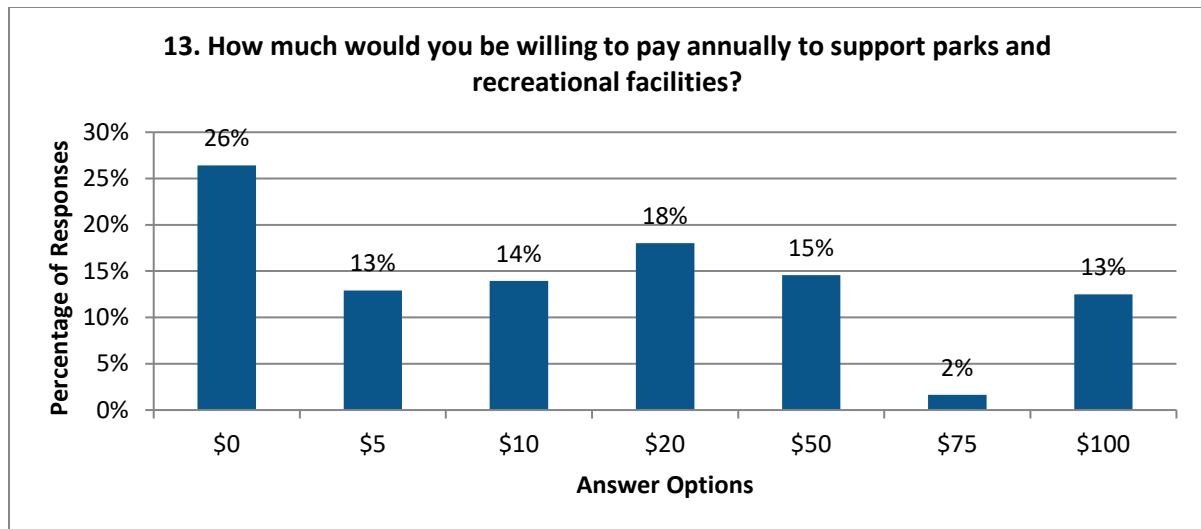
- I feel like even if they can't do other things that people can they should still get to use those kinds of things.
- everyone should get the same treatment

None/Irrelevant

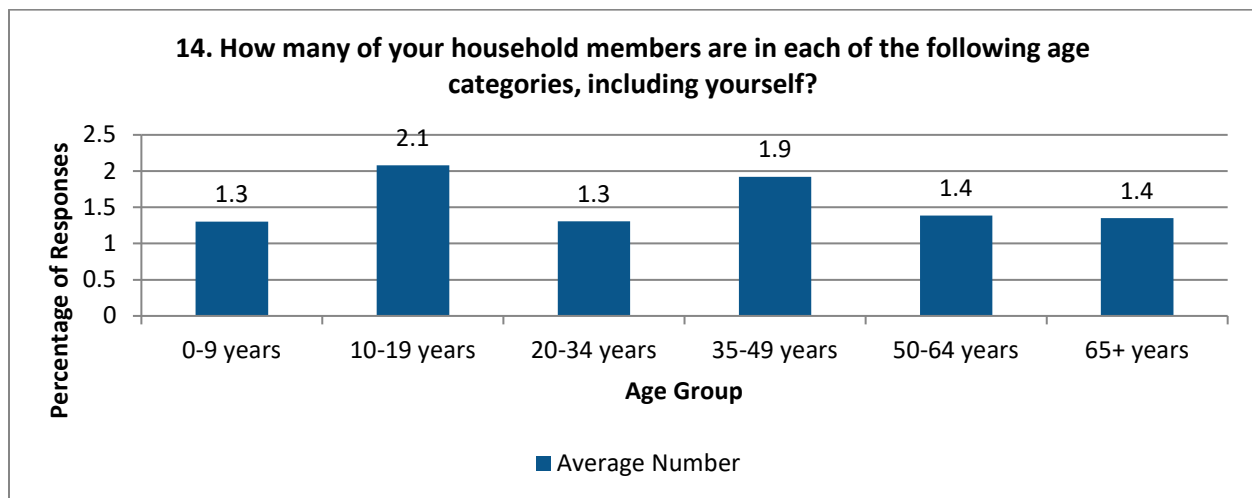
- no
- no
- no
- I don't care
- my sister has a disability but it's nothing like missing a body part, but anyway she is able to go around town
- We need space for social distancing
- subtract all wheelchair ramps
- blackberries, raspberries
- I can't drive and I live on mountain



9 people skipped this question.

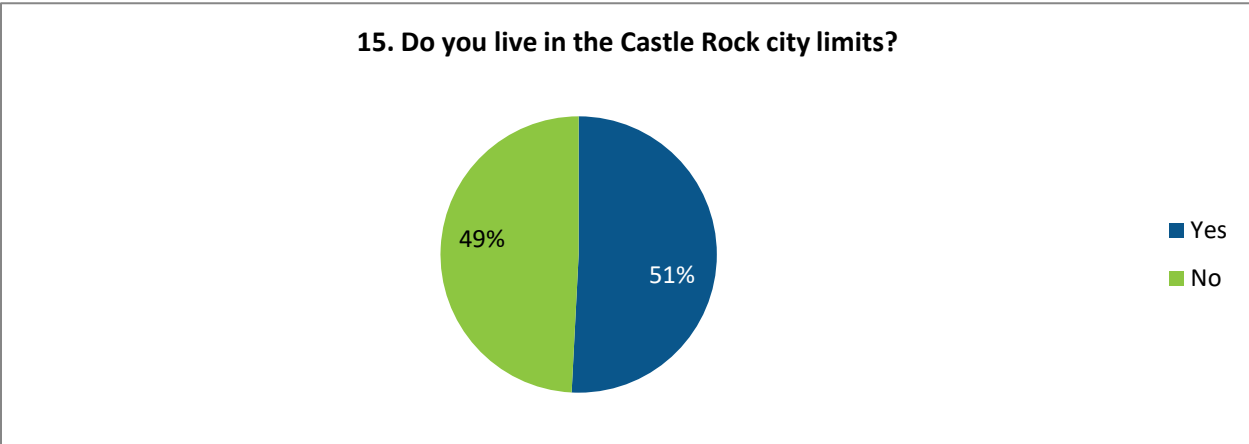


16 people skipped this question.

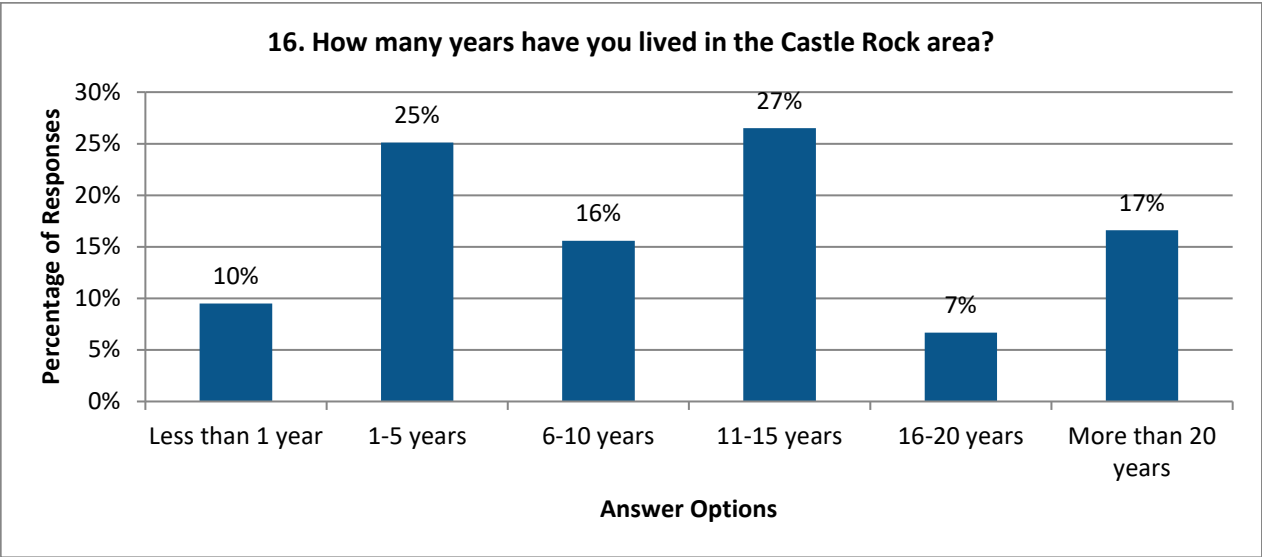


For this question, respondents were asked to indicate how many members of their household were in each age group. The number above each column on the graph represents the average number of household members in that age group.

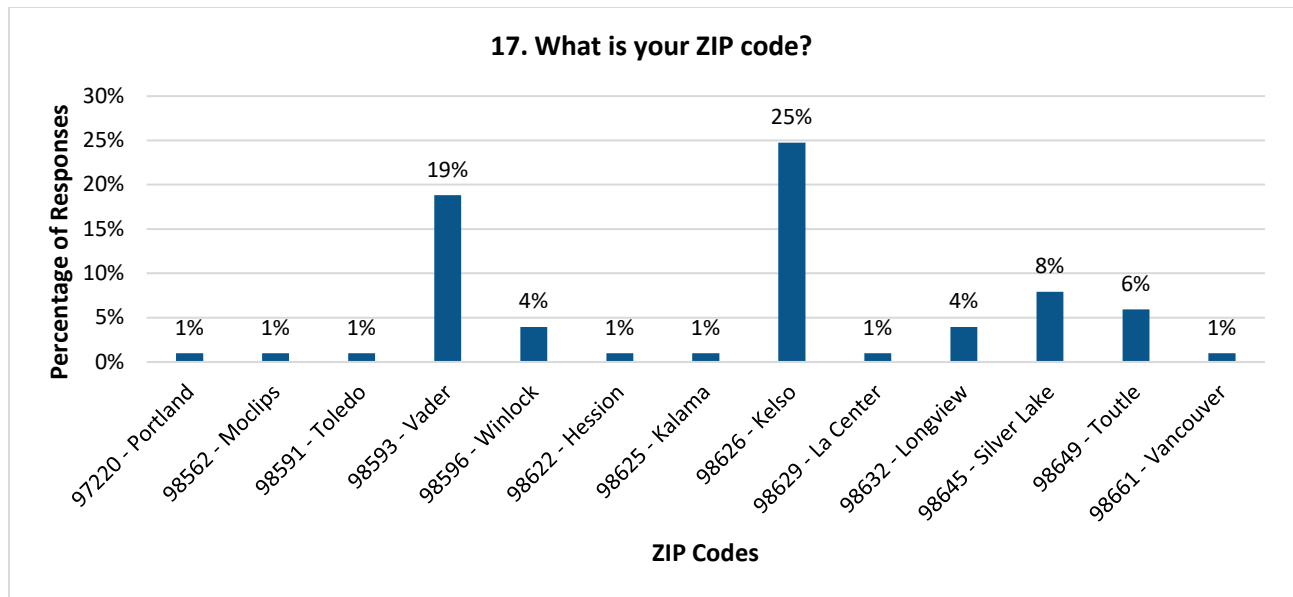
This question was skipped by 11 people.



10 people skipped this question.



This question was skipped by 8 people.



Of the 480 people who answered this question (it was skipped by 24), 79% (379) live in the Castle Rock zip code of 98611. The graph represents the breakdown of the remaining 101 respondents not living in the Castle Rock zip code.

The final survey question gave respondents the opportunity to share anything else about the parks and recreation facilities. These responses were grouped into like categories which included: lack of activities and need to maintain current spaces (19%), improvements to the skate park (17%), need for a pool/sports complex/community center (14%), support for library (8%), improvements to the bike park (6%), need for bathrooms and trashcans (6%), maintenance of playgrounds (5%), upkeep of schools (5%), more trails needed (4%), RV park/dump station concerns (2%), need for pickleball courts and bowling alley (2%), and fairgrounds upkeep (2%). 10 percent of respondents shared their gratitude for those who care for and maintain the parks and facilities.

Percentages in the paragraph above are based on the number of respondents (95) who utilized the textbox.

Appendix B Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan





Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan

City of Castle Rock, Washington

November 12, 2003

Table of Contents

Transmittal	i
Acknowledgements	ii
Master Plan Summary	iii
Introduction	1
Preferred Master Plan	2

List of Figures

Figure 1	Cowlitz Riverfront Master Plan - Lions Pride Park and Corridor Trail
Figure 2	Cowlitz Riverfront Master Plan - Community Park and Corridor Trail
Figure 3	Cowlitz Riverfront Master Plan - Campgrounds and Corridor Trail
Figure 4	Castle Rock School District - Athletic Campus Master Plan

List of Tables

Table 1	Cowlitz Riverfront Master Plan - Estimated Development Costs
Table 2	Athletic Campus Master Plan - Estimated Development Costs

Transmittal

November 12, 2003

David Vorse, Public Works Director
City of Castle Rock
Public Works Department
P.O. Box 370
360 "A" Street SW
Castle Rock, Washington 98611

Dear Mr. Vorse,

We are pleased to transmit the final draft of the ***Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan*** for review.

This document addresses the development of recreational facilities on both sides of the Cowlitz River, a riverfront trail system, which links the facilities together and an athletic campus on Castle Rock School District property at the high school.

This plan will be implemented through a collaborative effort between the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District. The Master Plan establishes a parks and recreation system which will meet the public need for recreation at a level of service that can be facilitated by the City and the School District over the years to come.

We look forward to your comments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert W. Droll, ASLA
Principal

Acknowledgements

City Council

Barbara Larsen, Honorable Mayor
Greg Marcil
Glen Pingree
Jeff Skeie
Ed Smith
Khember Yund

City Council (Past Members)

Jim Eychaner
Gene Frymire
Merry Gardner
Howard Mason
Dan Morgan

Parks and Recreation Board

Mark Damschen
Linda Frantsvog
Roy Henson
Linda Moody
Marguerite Ogden

Parks and Recreation Board (Past Members)

Jan Damschen
Glen Pingree
Jim Strain

Public Works Director

David Vorse

School Board

Dennis Courtright
Gayle Baker
Jon Dieter
William Schumaker
Vilas Sundberg

School Board (Past Members)

Chuck Woodard
James Bobst

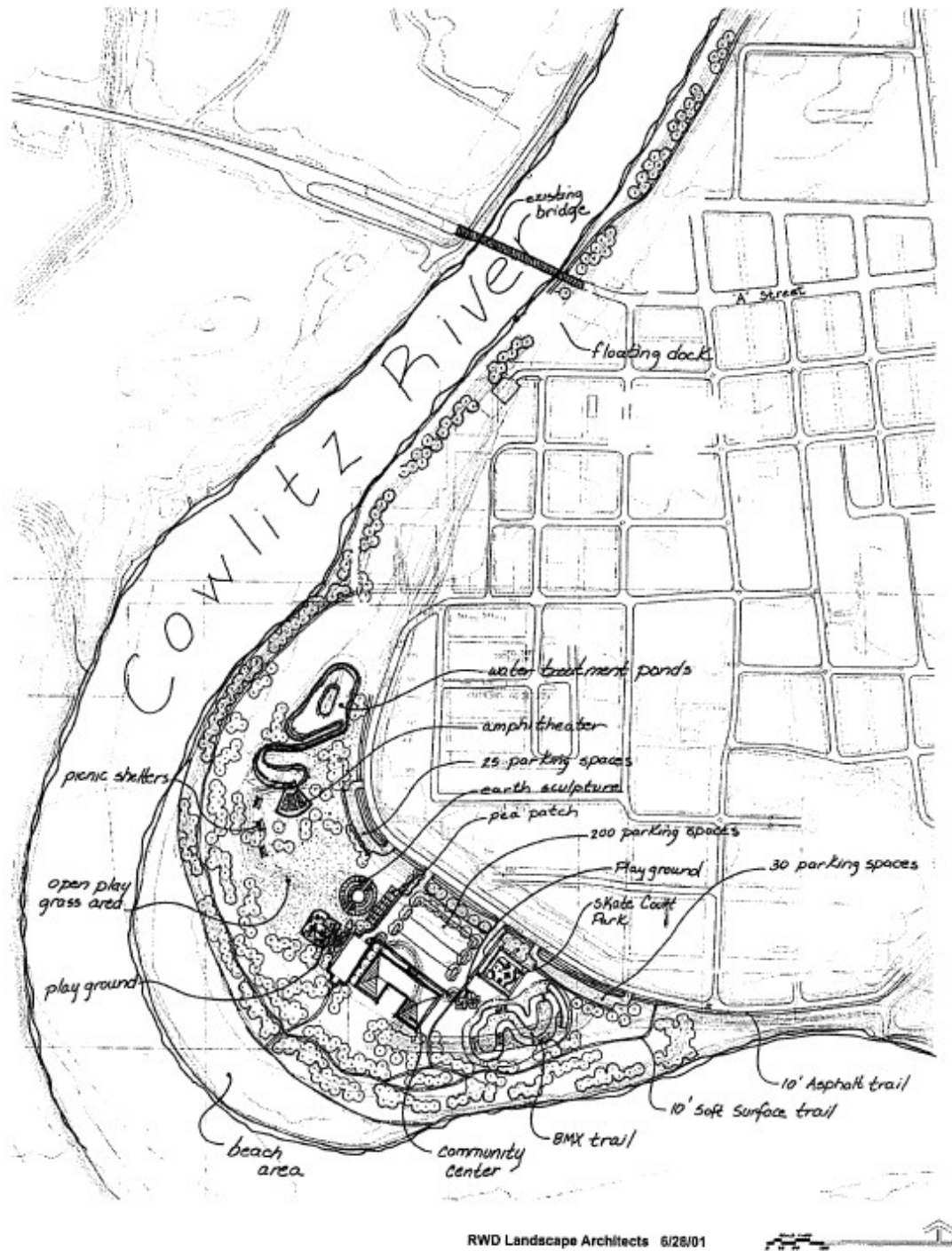
School District Personnel

Terry Werner, Superintendent
Henry Karnofski

School District Personnel (Past)

Dr. Ben Acker, Superintendent
Melissa Taylor

City of Castle Rock
**Cowlitz Riverfront
 Master Plan**



Project Summary

The proposed Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan is a result of a planning process guided by citizen input and participation, the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District, and sound park planning principles. Through the course of Park Board and School Board review meetings as well as active citizen participation a preferred Master Plan emerged.

The master plan presented herein provides the framework to accomplish the following.

- Creates a recreational and interpretive trail system along the Cowlitz River dike,
- Provides a safe connection for pedestrians, joggers and bicyclists from Lions Pride Park, along the Cowlitz River through the city to the west side of the river,
- Creates a significant entrance to the city at Lion's Pride park and "The Rock",
- Develops 30 acres of city owned dredge spoils site between the dike and Cowlitz River into a multi-purpose recreational park and community center,
- Develops 72 acres of open space at Castle Rock High School into an athletic campus which includes baseball and soccer fields, basketball, volleyball, picnicking and trail systems,
- Creates a recreational vehicle/camping ground on the east side of the Cowlitz River south of Whittle Creek on State DNR land and city owned dredge spoils,
- Provides a day use area on the east side of the Cowlitz River within the Arkansas Creek peninsula,
- Provides a trail connection between Arkansas Creek, the proposed high school athletic campus and the existing fairgrounds,
- Provides a range of family-based recreational experiences and opportunities for all age groups

The net result of this master planning effort is a redevelopment plan that balances city-wide recreation demand, and environmental conservation and protection. Improvements include the following.

- Lion's Pride Park – Gateway to the City
 - Landscaping and Entrance Features
 - Restroom Facilities
 - RV Waste Disposal Site
 - Renovated Parking Facilities
 - Additional Picnic Shelters

Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan

- The “Rock” Community Park
 - Picnic Area
 - Hiking Trails
 - Riverside Scenic Trail w/ Lookouts and Benches

- East Side River Corridor Trail
 - 13,300 + Lineal Feet Multi-Modal Trail System
 - 10' Wide Asphalt Trail and/or Boardwalk
 - Trail Lighting
 - ADA access ramps
 - Restrooms
 - Interpretive and Directional Signage
 - Benches and Trash Receptacles
 - Underpass at “A” Street Bridge
 - River Access Points

- Community Park
 - Community Center Building
 - Parking Facilities
 - Skate Court Park
 - BMX Trail
 - Play Structures (2)
 - Pea Patch
 - Earth Sculpture
 - Amphitheater
 - Picnic Shelters
 - Open Grass Play Fields
 - Soft Surface Trails
 - Beach Access

- Castle Rock High School Athletic Campus
 - 10' Wide Asphalt Connecting Trails
 - 22' Wide Asphalt Entrance and Access Roads
 - Parking Facilities
 - Baseball Fields (5)
 - Concession and Restroom Facility
 - Soccer Fields (2)
 - Volleyball Courts (2)
 - Basketball Courts (2)
 - Picnic Shelters (3)

Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan

- Picnic Tables
- Group Picnic Shelter and Restroom Facility
- Play Structures (2)
- Open Grass Play Fields
- Storm Water Management Pond

- West Side River Corridor Trail
 - “A” Street Pedestrian Bridge
 - 10’ Wide Asphalt Path
 - 10’ Wide Gravel Path
 - Lighting
 - Benches and Trash Receptacles

- City of Castle Rock and State DNR Land West of the Cowlitz River
 - Recreational Vehicle/Camping Grounds
 - 100+ Camp Sites
 - Washrooms (2)
 - Entrance Facility and Store
 - Recreational Vehicle Waste Disposal Site
 - Whittle Creek Habitat Restoration
 - Arkansas Creek Peninsula Day Use Area

Introduction

In 1998, a Park and Recreation Plan was created for the City of Castle Rock with the assistance of the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments. The document outlines the current condition of the city's recreational facilities, a demands and needs analysis as well as the future goals and objectives for the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District. As a result of this document, the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District required the formation of a master plan for the development of a riverfront trail and the corresponding recreational facilities. The goal of this collaborative effort was to obtain a vision of how recreational facilities could be developed and linked together by a riverfront trail along the Cowlitz River. The master plan was to include a concept plan, which consisted of the entire recreation corridor consisting of, Lions Pride Park, the dredge spoils area, Arkansas Creek/DNR area and the Castle Rock High School Athletic Complex. To assist in this endeavor, Robert W. Droll, Landscape Architect, PS was selected to perform consulting services for the master plan effort.

The Castle Rock River Front Park Master Plan represents a commitment by the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District to improve the quality of recreational experiences both city-wide and along the Cowlitz River through a continued effort of upgrading and modernization of its recreational facilities. The Master Plan is intended to describe the public input process, the planning process, the preferred master plan and the implementation plan.

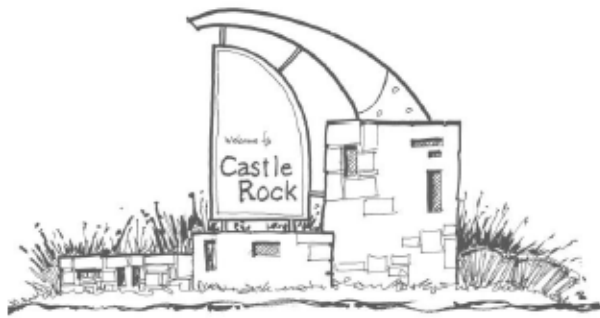


Master Plan

Lions Pride Park

Park Character

Lions Pride Park is located on Huntington Avenue along the Cowlitz River immediately south of the “Rock”. The park is located at the entrance to the city along the main thoroughfare and is currently used as a picnicking and viewing site of the river. It is the objective of the city as well as the public to develop the 7.9 acre park as the Castle Rock “Gateway”. Several park improvements will be implemented with the goal of creating strong entrance features, developing a safe and aesthetic day use picnicking area as well as drawing tourism into the city.



Entrance Improvements

The stretch of Huntington Avenue, which runs along the park will be heavily landscaped on the east and west side. A series of rock entrance features, signs and banners will be located along both sides of the avenue to create a dramatic “Gateway” to the city. Vehicular entrances to the park will be modified and renovated to improve the safety, visibility and access.

Vehicular Access/Parking

The park’s road and parking system is in poor condition. In consideration of additional recreation facilities and tourist traffic, the park entrances shall be modified to meet standard engineering guidelines, the road surfaces shall be paved and the quantity of parking stalls shall be increased. Special attention shall be given to maintaining a separation between the pedestrian and vehicular traffic within the park.

Facilities

In the interest of attracting more tourists and upgrading the park for the community, the following features will be added; permanent restroom facilities, a recreational vehicle waste disposal site, additional picnic shelters and a hiking trail for access to the river .

The “Rock” Community Park

Park Improvements

The hazardous structures (water tank remnants) have already been removed from the existing three acres park site. The hiking trail to the crest of the rock shall be cleared and the emergency vehicle access improved. The plateau area shall be leveled and seeded with low maintenance grass or ground cover. Picnic tables shall be placed on the leveled plateau area. Necessary signage addressing environmental sensitivity, historical significance and user safety shall be added to the trail as well as the picnicking area. Other improvements include a riverside scenic trail with lookouts and benches. The portion of the corridor trail that travels around the narrow curve at the rock will be constructed in one of three ways; 1) it will be built as a boardwalk along “The Rock” slope, 2) it will be constructed on fill and Dike Drive will be widened to the north, or

3) along "The Rock" Dike Drive will become one way eastbound and the westbound lane will be utilized as the corridor trail.

East Side River Corridor Trail

Corridor/Trail Character

The proposed 13,000+ lineal feet multi-modal trail system will be located mainly along the Cowlitz River dike. The corridor will be developed as a recreational and interpretive trail system providing a separated pathway connecting the residential area to the community parks, commercial district, school grounds and fairgrounds. The trail system will be enhanced by historical interpretation of the Castle Rock area, the Cowlitz River and the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. The lighted ten feet wide paved corridor will provide a safe mode of travel for bicyclists, pedestrians and joggers especially with access around the narrow curve at "The Rock". The trail shall be designed for all members of the community by following safety standards for street crossings and including ADA accessible ramps where appropriate. Opportunities will be provided along the trail system for the location of trees and benches donated by members of the Castle Rock community. The trail will begin at Lion's Pride Park and terminate where the trail meets North Huntington Avenue (SR 411).



Interpretive and Directional Signage

The signage shall be designed to enhance the character of the corridor and to lend to the historical interpretation of the site. This can be done through the use of various materials, structures, shapes, lettering and colors.

Trail Lighting

Trail lighting will be provided for safety purposes along the paved trail.

Restrooms

Restrooms will be provided at Lions Pride Park and the Community Center along the corridor.

Community Park – 30 Acres Dredge Spoil Site

Park Character

The 30 Acres dredge spoil site is located between the dike and the Cowlitz River. After Mount Saint Helens erupted, the site was utilized for dredge spoils when the Cowlitz river channel was deepened. The city owned property is located along the inside of a sweeping bend in the river with a shoreline that has a gradual slope to the water. The park will be developed to accommodate a wide range of recreational uses. The park will provide both active and passive recreation facilities linked by the corridor trail system as well as narrower, soft surface connecting trails. A portion of the parkland will be utilized for the construction of a community center and necessary parking facilities.

Community Center

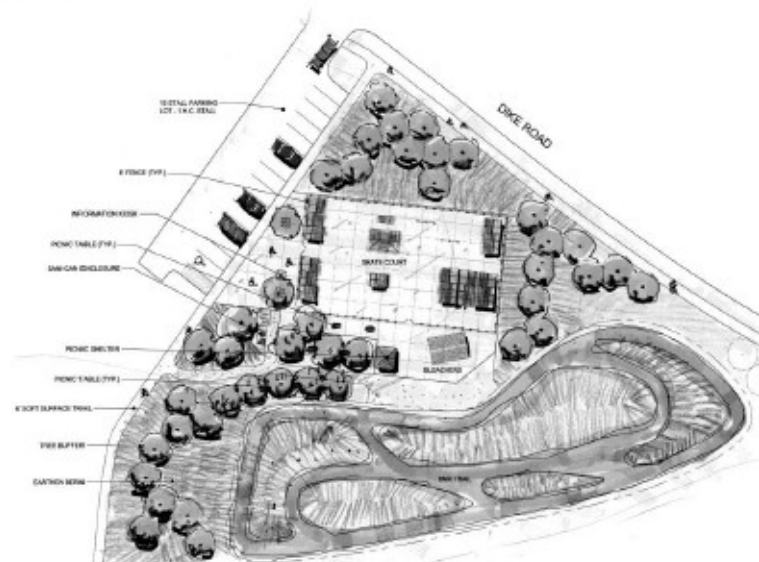
One large community center located within the park would be developed as a multi-purpose facility. The community center could provide a new location for the senior center and youth center while creating a safe place, which could serve all ages with a variety of indoor recreational facilities. The center would also be utilized as a meeting and special functions facility for various organizations, clubs and educational classes.

Skate Court Park

An area of approximately 5600 SF located at the southeast end of the Community Park is the location for the skate court facility. The skate facility will be constructed of concrete or a combination of prefabricated ramps and concrete or asphalt. Parking and high pressure sodium lighting will be provided for the skate park which will have direct access to the corridor trail system.

BMX Trail

The BMX Trail will be located directly south of the Skate Court Park. The trail area will consist of approximately 20,000 SF. Parking for the BMX Trail system will be the same facility provided for the Skate Court Park.



Play Structures

Two separate play structure areas have been included within the Community Park. One is located within the Skate Court and BMX Trail section to provide play opportunities for children not old enough for the trail and skate facilities. The other is larger and located on the northwest side of the Community Center, which could possibly be utilized in conjunction with Community Center daycare activities. Both areas shall have separate structures for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds that are IPEMA certified.

Open Grass Play Fields

The open play fields are located adjacent the picnic areas and amphitheater. These fields shall be fairly level and suitable for a wide variety of uses including; baseball, softball, football, Frisbee, soccer and volleyball.

Pea Patch

Pea patches are community garden plots typically rented by members of the community for a nominal annual fee to grow and harvest flowers, herbs, fruits and vegetables. Typically water is provided at the site and organic gardening is the method of growing. The Community Park Pea Patch site is located on the northwest side of the Community Center parking area. The patch will be able to accommodate approximately 21 garden plots each measuring 15' X 20'.

Earth Sculpture

An earth sculpture created out of dredge spoils will be located on the northwest side of the Pea Patch area. The sculpture will be a creative, artistic form which can be experienced by physical exploration or by viewing.

Amphitheater

A small amphitheater shall be located on the south side of the water treatment ponds. The tiers of seating shall take full advantage of a river view while accommodating approximately 150 to 200 patrons.



Picnic Areas/Picnic Shelters

Picnic Shelters and individual picnic tables on paved pads shall be strategically placed to provide views of the river where possible as well as to provide safe access from trail and parking facilities. At least one group picnic shelter shall be provided to accommodate events such as reunions, office parties and weddings.

Trails

Two types of trails are envisioned for the Community Park; the paved perimeter trail and the soft surface connecting trails. The perimeter trail (10 foot wide) is part of the Recreation Corridor/Trail System which will connect to secondary soft surface trails and concrete walks linking other park areas. Connecting trails (4 foot to 8 foot wide), some existing and some new, will provide linkages to all park areas including beach access. Interpretation placards will be strategically located providing the opportunity to learn of the natural and cultural history of the Cowlitz River area.

Revegetation

With the beach improvements focusing human activity into a defined zone, the opportunity to revegetate the remaining shoreline is present. Shoreline revegetation will include aeration and loosening the soil by hand and selective, non-intrusive mechanical equipment, defining narrow pathways, and ample revegetation. Installation of split rail fence along all revegetation areas and pathways will discourage access and further the park's character. Signage informing the public of revegetation efforts will help in self-policing of the "No Trespass, Revegetation in Progress" policy. Revegetation efforts can be a source of community activism by organizing community revegetation days. City purchases materials. Volunteers supply the labor. Park volunteer program provides a catalyst for a sustained park stewardship programs and pride.

Parking Facilities

Four separate paved parking facilities are included in the plans for the Community Park. The main parking facility located at the Community Center will accommodate a minimum of 200 stalls. The parking lot shared by the Skate court park and the BMX Trail will provide 30 parking spaces. There will be 25 parking stalls located near the amphitheater and the picnicking areas. At the beach access trailhead, there will be a parking facility, which will provide spaces for at least 40 vehicles.

Castle Rock High School Athletic Campus

Athletic Campus Character

The Castle Rock School District has approximately 72 Acres of undeveloped open space located east of the high school grounds adjacent to the Cowlitz River. The site currently consists of dredge spoils and poor sandy soils along a river shoreline. The School District intends on developing the site for public use by creating an athletic campus, which includes various ball fields, trails and picnic facilities. The site will be connected to the rest of cities recreational facilities through a paved trail system.

Roads

The access road to the Athletic Campus is a 22' wide paved drive connecting to Westside Highway. The entrance off of Westside Highway shall be lit and clearly marked for safety and visibility purposes.

Parking Facilities

The parking facilities shall be located at the end of the access road off of a traffic circle to the west. The asphalt paved parking facility shall accommodate approximately 275 spaces and shall be directly linked to the recreational facilities by paved asphalt paths.

Trails

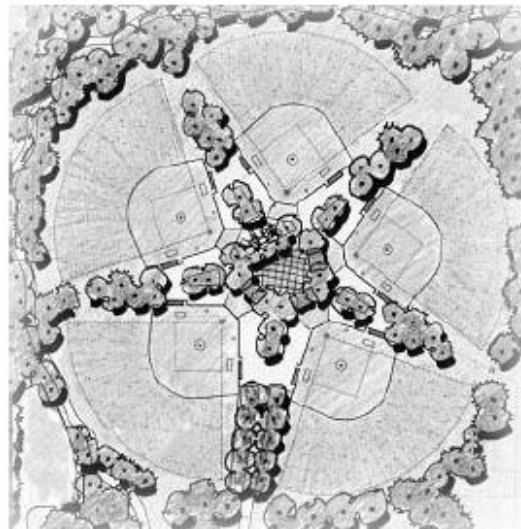
A 10' wide paved asphalt trail will follow the perimeter of the athletic campus connecting to the main corridor trail system at Mosier Road. 10' wide paved internal trails will connect the ball fields and picnic areas with the parking facilities.

Baseball fields

5 full size little league baseball/ fast pitch softball fields with skinned infields and sub-drainage systems are located in a concentric formation. The baseball fields are one of the high priorities for the athletic campus since the city currently has over 50 teams with very few fields to practice and play on. The fields are accessible by paved paths from the parking facilities and the perimeter trails. A concession stand, restroom facility and play area will be located at the center of the field area.

Concession and Restroom Facility

The Concession and Restroom facility shall be located in one permanent building structure surrounded by a paved area.



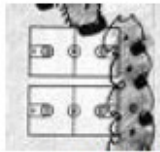
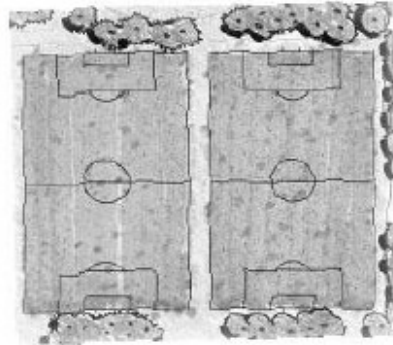
Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan

Soccer Fields

The soccer facilities will include two full size soccer fields (360'x225') with a sub-drainage system to allow for all season play. Each soccer field can accommodate three (225'x120') little league soccer fields.

Volleyball Courts

The plan provides for two sand surface volleyball courts each 60'x25'.



Basketball Courts

Two basketball courts each 94'x50' will be located adjacent to the parking facilities and the volleyball courts.

Picnic Shelters and Tables

Picnic Shelters and individual picnic tables on paved pads shall be strategically placed to provide views of the river where possible as well as to provide safe access from trail and parking facilities.

Group Picnic Shelter and Restroom Facility

One group picnic shelter with attached restroom facilities shall be located adjacent to the parking lot, basketball courts and open grass play fields. The shelter shall be large enough to accommodate approximately 75 to 100 people.

Play Structures

Two separate play structure areas have been included within the Athletic Campus Master Plan. One is located within the Baseball Arena Court the second is located adjacent to the group picnic shelter, open grass play fields and the soccer facilities. Both areas shall have separate structures for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds that are IPEMA certified.

Open Grass Play Fields

The open grass play fields are located on the south end of the property adjacent to the perimeter path and several other recreation facilities. These fields shall be fairly level and suitable for a wide variety of uses including; baseball, softball, football, Frisbee, soccer and volleyball. The grass play fields can accommodate two full size softball fields each with a foul line of 320'.

Storm Water Management Pond

A storm water management pond shall be provided on the southwest corner of the property. The facility shall be designed to accommodate the water runoff and drainage from the parking facility, baseball and soccer field sub-drainage systems and miscellaneous paved surfaces.

Lighting

Lighting shall be provided for security purposes at the parking lot and the baseball arena center court area.

West Side River Corridor Trail

Corridor/Trail Character

The trail connecting to the East side of the Cowlitz River across the “A” Street bridge to the Athletic Campus on the North side of State Route 411 shall be a 10’ wide asphalt paved path. South of Route 411 the trail shall be a 10’ wide gravel path. The corridor will be developed as a recreational and interpretive trail system providing a separated pathway connecting the residential area to the school grounds, fairgrounds, campgrounds, Whittle Creek and Arkansas Creek. The trail system will be enhanced by historical interpretation of the Castle Rock area, the Cowlitz River and the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. The ten feet wide corridor will provide a safe mode of travel for bicyclists, pedestrians and joggers especially with access under the crossing at State Route 411. The trail shall be designed for all members of the community by following safety standards for street crossings and including ADA accessible ramps where appropriate. Opportunities will be provided along the trail system for the location of trees and benches donated by members of the Castle Rock community. The trail will begin on the north side of the “A” Street Bridge and terminate on the south side near Arkansas Creek and the West Side Highway.



“A” Street Pedestrian Bridge

Existing pedestrian and bicyclist conditions on the “A” Street bridge are inadequate and unsafe. The bridge shall be widened by a minimum of 8’ to provide for a 10’ to 12’ separate paved path or a separate pedestrian bridge should be installed for the pedestrians and bicyclists. The City should work closely with the School District, the Department of Transportation and Cowlitz County to pursue the improvement of this high priority connection.

Interpretive and Directional Signage

The signage shall be designed to enhance the character of the corridor and to lend to the historical interpretation of the site. This can be done through the use of various materials, structures, shapes, lettering and colors.

Trail Lighting

Trail lighting will be provided for safety purposes along the paved trail.

Castle Rock Riverfront Park Master Plan

Boat Launch Discussions

Though there is no set site on where a boat launch should go, the need for one in the north end of Cowlitz County is evident for safety as well as recreation. Evaluation of potential sites should be completed and the process to develop one is a priority. The westside corridor appears to have better opportunities for such a development.

City of Castle Rock and DNR Land West of the Cowlitz River

West Development Character

The Department of Natural Resources and the City of Castle Rock own the property on the west side of the Cowlitz River south of the fairgrounds. The area proposed for development is located between Whittle Creek and Arkansas Creek. The Cowlitz River bounds the east side of the property and the West Side Highway borders the west side. The proposed facilities will be accessible from an entrance road off of the West Side Highway as well as a 10' gravel trail located along the river. The DNR property is going to be developed as a regional recreational vehicle/camping facility while the City owned property should be utilized as a passive recreation day use area.

Recreational Vehicle/Camping Grounds

The recreational vehicle/campgrounds are designed to accommodate 100+ campsites. Two washroom facilities shall be provided as well as a campground entrance facility and store. A recreational vehicle waste disposal site shall be located near the campground entrance facility. A 10' gravel trail shall extend through the campgrounds connecting the two washrooms and the store.

Whittle Creek Area

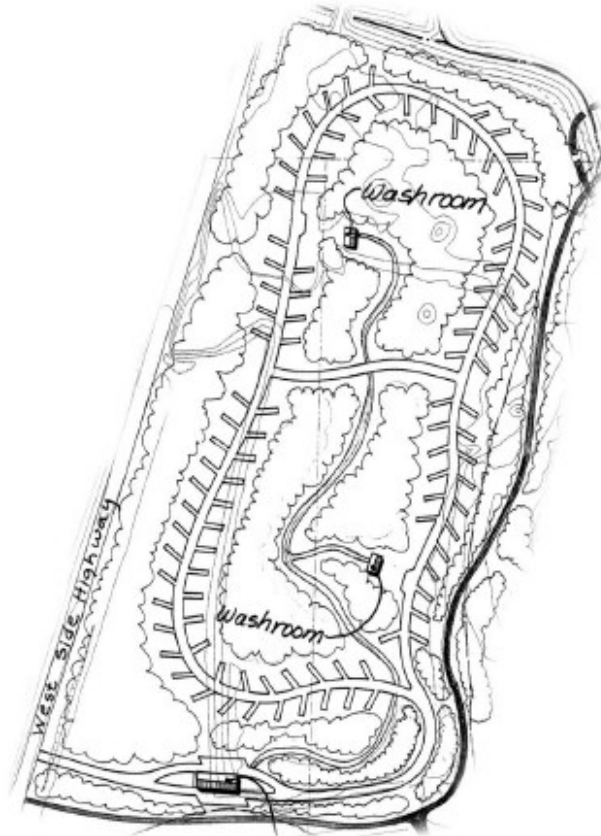
A Habitat Restoration Area is slated for development at the mouth of Whittle Creek as well as a pedestrian bridge over the creek to connect to the trail system.

Arkansas Creek Peninsula Day Use Area

A passive recreation day use area shall be provided on the city owned property within the Arkansas Creek area. This area shall be accessible by a 10' gravel path connecting it to the campground facilities and the Cowlitz River trail.

Trails

A 10' gravel trail designed to follow the Cowlitz River from the State Route 411 under crossing, over Whittle Creek and past the proposed campgrounds shall terminate at the Day Use Area and West Side Highway.



Cowlitz Riverfront Master Plan	
City of Castle Rock	
Estimate of Probable Project Development Cost	
Cost Item	Total
Lions Pride Park	
Landscaping	\$50,000.00
Castle Rock Gateway Features	\$20,000.00
Trail Head Interpretive Signage	\$18,000.00
Renovated Parking Facilities	\$65,000.00
Picnic Shelters	\$60,000.00
Hiking Trails	\$8,000.00
Recreation Vehicle Waste Disposal	\$40,000.00
Restroom Facilities	\$120,000.00
Asphalt Paths	\$45,000.00
East Side River Corridor Trail	
Asphalt Path	\$375,000.00
Boardwalk Path	\$70,000.00
"A" Street Bridge Pedestrian Underpass	\$100,000.00
Interpretive Signage	\$25,000.00
Lighting	\$150,000.00
Benches	\$20,000.00
Trash Receptacles	\$8,000.00
The Rock	
Riverside Trail with Lookouts and Benches	\$30,000.00
Dirt Trails	\$5,000.00
Picnic Area / Tables	\$10,000.00
Interpretive Plaque	\$4,000.00
Community Park	
Community Center	\$1,100,000.00
Parking Facilities	\$260,000.00
Skate Park	\$275,000.00
BMX Trail Park	\$35,000.00
Play Structures (2)	\$85,000.00
Pea Patch	\$10,000.00
Earth Sculpture	\$30,000.00
Amphitheater	\$55,000.00
Picnic Shelters	\$75,000.00
Picnic Tables	\$35,000.00
Open Grass Play Fields	\$10,000.00
Paved Access Trails	\$28,000.00
Soft Surface Trails	\$15,000.00
Benches	\$12,000.00
Trash Cans	\$5,000.00
Beach Area	\$6,000.00
Miscellaneous Trees & Shrubs	\$50,000.00

Robert W. Droll, Landscape Architect, PS

Table 1

Cowlitz Riverfront Master Plan	
City of Castle Rock	
Estimate of Probable Project Development Cost	
Cost Item	Total
West Side River Corridor Trail	
"A" Street Pedestrian Bridge	\$250,000.00
Asphalt Path	\$230,000.00
Gravel Path	\$100,000.00
Lighting	\$95,000.00
Benches	\$10,000.00
Trash Receptacles	\$5,000.00
Campground Facilities	
Roads and Utilities	\$800,000.00
Washrooms	\$220,000.00
Entrance Facility and Store	\$70,000.00
Recreational Vehicle Waste Disposal Site	\$40,000.00
Gravel Paths	\$15,000.00
Whittle Creek Pedestrian Bridge	\$25,000.00
Whittle Creek Habitat Restoration	\$20,000.00
Arkansas Creek Peninsula Day Use Area	\$30,000.00
Base Bid Subtotals	\$5,219,000.00
supervision/overhead/profit @ 10%	\$521,900.00
Subtotal	\$5,740,900.00
taxes @ 8.0%	\$459,272.00
Subtotal	\$6,200,172.00
contingency @ 10%	\$620,017.20
Construction Estimate of Probable Costs Total	\$6,820,189.20
Design & Administration @ 15%	\$930,025.80
Project Development Total	\$7,750,215.00

Robert W. Droll, Landscape Architect, PS

Table 1

Athletic Campus Master Plan	
Castle Rock School District	
Estimate of Probable Project Development Cost	
Cost Item	Total
Baseball Complex	
Baseball/Softball fields	\$760,000.00
Concession/Office/RestRoom	\$120,000.00
Storage Area & Restrooms	\$60,000.00
Group Picnic Shelter	\$42,000.00
Picnic Shelters	\$70,000.00
Picnic Tables	\$17,000.00
Soccer Fields	\$240,000.00
Basketball Courts	\$35,000.00
Volleyball Courts	\$15,000.00
Perimeter Asphalt Paths	\$230,000.00
Interior Asphalt Paths	\$47,000.00
Interior Gravel Paths	\$9,000.00
Open Play Field	\$95,000.00
Maintenance Building	\$42,000.00
Access Road	\$240,000.00
Parking Facilities	\$260,000.00
Landscape Buffer	\$50,000.00
Infrastructure(water & sewer)	\$85,000.00
SWM Facility	\$50,000.00
Miscellaneous. Trees and Shrubs	\$60,000.00
Base Bid Subtotals	\$2,527,000.00

Robert W. Droll, Landscape Architect, PS

Table 2



Appendix C SEPA Documentation



**CITY OF CASTLE ROCK, WASHINGTON
DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS)
City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District
Non-Project Action**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District #401 are updating the 2016 Park and Recreation Plan to comply with the state grant funding requirements set forth by the Recreation and Conservation Office. Per WAC 197-11-704, the updated of the 2016 Park and Recreation plan is defined as a Non-Project Action. The plan includes facilities owned and operated by the City of Castle Rock and the Castle Rock School District #401. Future project actions as described in the above-referenced WAC will be directed by the Plan after its adoption.

PROJECT LOCATION

The update of the 2016 City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401 Park and Recreation Plan is a Non-Project Action and does not have specific project location.

PROJECT SPONSOR

City of Castle Rock
141 "A" Street SW
Castle Rock, WA 98611

SEPA DETERMINATION THRESHOLD

The City of Castle Rock has determined that the proposed Park and Recreation Plan update will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and has issued a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS). As a result, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). The decision to issue a DNS was made after a review of the SEPA environmental checklist dated May 12, 2021. This information is available to the public upon request. This DNS is issued under the authority of WAC 197-11-340(1) and the City will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below.

LEAD AGENCY/SEPA RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:

Keshia Owens
Designated Castle Rock SEPA Responsible Official
% Karlene Akesson
City of Castle Rock
PO Box 370
Castle Rock, WA 98611
360-274-8181, ext. 303

Keshia Owens, Castle Rock SEPA Responsible Official

Date: July 9, 2021

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

What is this for?

The City and other governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information will also help determine if it's possible to avoid, minimize, or compensate (mitigate) for the probable significant impacts; or whether an environmental impact statement needs to be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

How to fill this out:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach, excerpt, or refer to additional studies or reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decisionmaking process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The City or other agencies may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information to determine if there may be a significant adverse impact.

If you're using this checklist for a nonproject proposal (such as an ordinance, regulations, plans, or programs), complete the applicable parts of Parts A and B plus the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (Part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. For nonproject actions, the lead agency may exclude questions in Part B that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

This form is set up as a Word table. Except for a few questions that ask for you to select options, each question is followed by a blank field in which you can type your answer. Type in the shaded box. Check boxes will fill in when you click them. Each field will expand to accommodate your text, and the overall form will expand to additional pages as you fill in answers.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District Park and Recreation Plan (2021 update).
2. Name of applicant:
City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401
3. Address and phone number of applicant or contact person:
David Vorse, Public Works Director, PO Box 370, Castle Rock, WA 98611; 360-274-7478
4. Date checklist prepared:
5/4/2021
5. Agency requesting checklist:
City of Castle Rock
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
Adoption of plan update by end of February 2021
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If yes, explain.
Periodic updates of the plan are required by the state Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to continue to qualify for state funding administered through the RCO. Additionally, the plan is adopted by reference in the City's comprehensive plan. Future project actions will result from the capital priorities established in the plan update.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
Review under SEPA has been completed for the original plan adoption and subsequent updates, as well as for projects developed thereunder.
9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, explain.
Insert text here.
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.
Adoption is needed by both the Castle Rock City Council and the Castle Rock School Board. The RCO will review the plan update against its planning guidance but does not have a formal approval role.
11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. (There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers here.)

This is a nonproject action to adopt an update to the City's existing park and recreation plan, including demographic information, facilities and services, public priorities, and goals and policies. The plan will subsequently be submitted to the RCO to establish continued eligibility for funding administered through the RCO; and will inform the City's future priorities related to funding and development of parks and recreation.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description and, if you haven't already done so with the permit application to which this checklist is related, a site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available.

This nonproject action is citywide and will impact the area, as visitors throughout the region often recreate in Castle Rock.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site:

☐ Flat ☐ Rolling ☐ Hilly ☒ Steep slopes ☐ Mountainous

☒ Other (specify): The Park Park update is a nonproject action and will not directly affect Castle Rock's surrounding environmental elements. Any related project actions will be reviewed at the time of development permit submittal.

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Insert text here.

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Insert text here.

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe.

Insert text here.

- e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Insert text here.

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, generally describe.

Insert text here.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

Insert text here.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Insert text here.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known:

Insert text here.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, generally describe.

Insert text here.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Insert text here.

3. Water

- a. Surface Water

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, describe type and provide names. If applicable, state what stream or river it flows into.

Insert text here.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters?
☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please describe, and attach available plans.

Insert text here.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

Insert text here.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Insert text here.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, note location on the site plan.

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

Insert text here.

- b. Ground Water

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses, and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well.

Insert text here.

Will water be discharged to groundwater? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Insert text here.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

Insert text here.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater)

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Insert text here.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, generally describe.

Insert text here.

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site?
☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe.

Insert text here.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

Insert text here.

4. Plants

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

☐ alder ☐ maple ☐ aspen ☐ fir ☐ cedar ☐ pine ☐ other tree(s) (specify): Insert text here.

☐ shrubs ☐ grass ☐ pasture ☐ crop or grain ☐ orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops
☐ cattail ☐ buttercup ☐ bulrush ☐ skunk cabbage ☐ other wet soil plant(s) (specify): Insert text here.

☐ water lily ☐ eelgrass ☐ milfoil ☐ other water plant(s) (specify): Insert text here.

☐ other types of vegetation Insert text here.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Insert text here.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Insert text here.

- d. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Insert text here.

5. **Animals**

- a. Check any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

☐ hawk ☐ heron ☐ eagle ☐ songbirds, ☐ other bird(s) (specify): Insert text here.

☐ deer ☐ bear ☐ elk ☐ beaver ☐ other mammal(s) (specify): Insert text here.

☐ bass ☐ salmon ☐ trout ☐ herring ☐ shellfish ☐ other fish (specify): Insert text here.

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Insert text here.

- c. Washington as whole lies within the Pacific Flyway. Is the site part of any other migration route?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, explain.

Insert text here.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

Insert text here.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

Insert text here.

6. **Energy and Natural Resources**

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

Insert text here.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, generally describe.

Insert text here.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

Insert text here.

7. **Environmental Health**

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, describe.

Insert text here.

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
Insert text here.
- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.
Insert text here
- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.
Insert text here.
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
Insert text here.
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
Insert text here.

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
Insert text here.
- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.
Insert text here.
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
Insert text here.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe.
Insert text here.
- b. Has the project site been used as working farmland or working forest land?
☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe.

Insert text here.

How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any?
Insert text here.

If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?
Insert text here.
- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and

harvesting? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, how?

Insert text here.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

Insert text here.

- d. Will any structures be demolished? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, what?

Insert text here.

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Insert text here.

- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Insert text here.

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Insert text here.

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, specify.

Insert text here.

- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

Insert text here.

- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

Insert text here.

- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

Insert text here.

- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Insert text here.

- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

Insert text here.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Insert text here.

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Insert text here.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

Insert text here.

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas? What is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Insert text here.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

Insert text here.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

Insert text here.

11. Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

Insert text here.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

Insert text here.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

Insert text here.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

Insert text here.

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Insert text here.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, describe.

Insert text here.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

Insert text here.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers ? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, specifically describe.

Insert text here.

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

Insert text here.

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with local tribe(s) and the state Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

Insert text here.

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

Insert text here.

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. If any, show on site plan.

Insert text here.

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

Insert text here.

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

Insert text here.

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

Insert text here.

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, generally describe.

Insert text here.

- f. How many vehicle trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Insert text here.

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, generally describe.

Insert text here.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

Insert text here.

15. Public Services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If so, generally describe.

Insert text here.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

Insert text here.

16. Utilities

- a. Check utilities currently available at the site:

☐ electricity ☐ natural gas ☐ potable water ☐ irrigation water ☐ refuse service ☐ telephone ☐
sanitary sewer ☐ septic system ☐ other (specify): Insert text here.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

Insert text here.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:

Manually sign above, print, & scan; or
insert electronic signature here.

Name:

Dave Vorse

Position:

Public Works Director

Agency/Organization:

City of Castle Rock

Date Submitted:

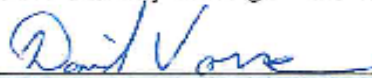
May 12, 2021

- a. Check utilities currently available at the site:
☐ electricity ☐ natural gas ☐ potable water ☐ irrigation water ☐ refuse service ☐ telephone ☐
sanitary sewer ☐ septic system ☐ other (specify): Insert text here.
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.
Insert text here.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:



Manually sign above, print, & scan; or
insert electronic signature here.

Name:

Dave Vorse

Position:

Public Works Director

Agency/Organization:

City of Castle Rock

Date Submitted:

May 12, 2021

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(Do NOT use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment. When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, result in increased discharges to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are: Any impacts to water or air or in terms of hazardous substances or noise that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are: Any impacts to plants, animals, fish, or marine life that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, deplete energy or natural resources.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are: Any impacts to energy or natural resources that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species' habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

The plan update relates directly to park development and use, which may include environmentally sensitive areas, floodplains, habitat, or other areas considered under this section. The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, use or affect these areas. Implementation of the plan is intended to result in increased and enhanced park and recreation opportunities in the future, which may offer the opportunity for more passive use and conservation of environmentally sensitive and other listed areas.

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are: Any impacts to environmentally sensitive areas, including habitat, wetlands, or floodplains, or other such areas that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The plan update relates directly to land and, in some cases, shoreline use, which will be guided by implementation of the plan. The adoption of the plan update will have a future effect on publicly owned land and shoreline recreation uses in terms of their placement, acquisition, development, funding, and related factors.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are addressing any impacts to land or shorelines that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

The adoption of the plan update will not, itself, increase demands on transportation or public utilities. Implementation of the plan is intended to service current and future projected demand for public services specific to parks and recreation.

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are: Any impacts to transportation, public utilities, or public services that may occur as a result of projects developed under the plan will be addressed in project-specific environmental analysis conducted prior to and in conjunction with development.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

The adoption of the plan update will not conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for environmental

protection. Implementation of the plan will consider and apply such requirements as appropriate.



Appendix D Adoption Materials

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE 2022 UPDATE TO THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK AND CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT #410 PARK AND RECREATION PLAN AND AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO SUBMIT THE PLAN TO THE WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE IN FULFILLMENT OF FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) requires that an updated plan for park and recreation facilities be adopted every six years in order for grantees to remain eligible for grants-in-aid, necessitating that the City of Castle Rock submit such an update to the RCO by March 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, between September 2021 and December 2021, the City of Castle Rock Board of Park Commissioners undertook efforts to review and update the Park and Recreation Plan adopted in 2016 for the Castle Rock area, working in conjunction with the Castle Rock School District superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2022 plan update has been prepared to meet the requirements of the RCO with an updated inventory of parks and recreation resources, refinements to the goals and objectives, and an updated capital facilities program for park and recreation facilities responsive to a thorough public outreach effort, and

WHEREAS, the park and recreation plan is adopted by reference as a part of the existing City of Castle Rock Comprehensive Plan, thus serving to comply with planning requirements under RCW 36.70A.070(8); and

WHEREAS, the City was advised by Washington State Department of Commerce staff that as a document of reference in the comprehensive plan, the 2022 plan update does not require 60-day notice to the state under RCW 36.70A.106; and

WHEREAS, via open public meetings, social media, and a community survey, the general public and any interested groups or organizations have had ample opportunity to give input to the process; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners voted on December 8, 2021, to recommend that the City Council approve the 2022 update, incorporating amendments identified at that meeting; and

WHEREAS, a determination of non-significance was issued under the State Environmental Policy Act on July 9, 2021, about which no comments were received; and

WHEREAS, the Castle Rock City Council conducted a public hearing on the 2016 plan update on February 14, 2021, and duly considered all comments made at or received in writing timely to that hearing;

1 | Page

Resolution No. 2022-01

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401 Park and Recreation Plan dated February 2022 is hereby adopted.

Section 2. The adopted update replaces and supersedes the 2016 plan update and is recognized for long-range planning purposes as the document of reference in the City's adopted comprehensive plan.

Section 3. City staff is directed to incorporate a copy of this fully executed resolution into Appendix D of the adopted plan update as proof of adoption required by the RCO. It is to replace the City "placeholder" page and, when proof of adoption is received from the School District, it is to replace the School District "placeholder" page without further action from this body.

Section 3. City staff is authorized to submit the adopted 2022 plan update to the RCO at such time as necessary to support City funding application(s).

Adopted by the City Council and signed by the Mayor on this 28th day of February, 2022.


Mayor Paul Helenberg

ATTEST:


Carie Cuttonaro, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Frank Randolph, City Attorney



CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT #401

Ryan Greene, Superintendent
600 Huntington Ave. S • Castle Rock, WA 98611 • T: 360.501.2940 • F: 360.501.3140

www.crschools.org

Together we inspire pride and achievement for all through relevant learning and great expectations.

STATEMENT OF ACTION

This letter certifies the Castle Rock School District Board of Directors adopted by unanimous vote, the portions of the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School Districts Park and Recreation Plan dated February 9, 2022, relating to school facilities.

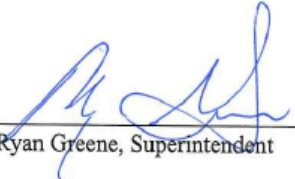
The School Board adopted these goals and objectives in an open public meeting and a record of this can be found in the Castle Rock School District meeting minutes dated February 15, 2022.

Members of the Board present and voting were:

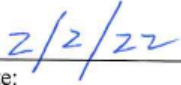
- Vilas Sundberg, Board Chair
- Tracy Morgan, Board Vice Chair
- Todd Jansen
- Henry Karnofski
- Ray Teter

Let it be known that by approving this document, the Board has approved the concepts within and no authority has been given thereby to expend funds for the subject property and facilities named in the City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District Park and Recreation Plan.

This document is to be used as a tool to guide the District in the future and may be modified as time passes by future boards.



Ryan Greene, Superintendent



Date:

Planning Eligibility Self-Certification Form		
Use this form to certify that the need for any grant projects have been developed through an appropriate planning process. Provide the completed form with the subject plans and adoption documentation to RCO via e-mail or other means of electronic access (i.e. Web link, Box.com, etc.).		
Organization Name: City of Castle Rock and Castle Rock School District #401 Park and Recreation Pla		
Contact Name: Keshia Owens, Community Development Planner		
Adoption Date of Submitted Documents: February 2022		
Seeking Eligibility for: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation Grants <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Grants <input type="checkbox"/> Both		
Initial Each to Certify Completion	Plan Element Certification	Document and Page Number Location of Information
KO	1. Goals, objectives: The attached plan supports our project with broad statements of intent (goals) <i>and</i> measures that describe when these intents will be attained (objectives). Goals may include a higher level of service.	Ch. II, pg. 5-9
KO	2. Inventory: The plan includes a description of the service area's facilities, lands, programs, and their condition. <i>(This may be done in a quantitative format or in a qualitative/narrative format.)</i>	Ch. IV, pg 25-58
KO	3. Public involvement: The planning process gave the public ample opportunity to be involved in plan development and adoption.	Ch. IV, pg. 94-167
KO	4a. Demand and need analysis: In the plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An analysis defines priorities, as appropriate, for acquisition, development, preservation, enhancement, management, etc., and explains why these actions are needed. The process used in developing the analysis assessed community desires for parks, recreation, open space, and/or habitat, as appropriate, in a manner appropriate for the service area (personal observation, informal talks, formal survey(s), workshops, etc.). 	Ch. V, pg. 59-80
KO	4b. Level of Service assessment (optional): An assessment of the criterion appropriate to your community. Possibly establish a higher level of service as a plan goal (above).	Ch. V, pg. 60-80
KO	5. Capital Improvement Program: The plan includes a capital improvement/facility program that lists land acquisition, development, and renovation projects by year of anticipated implementation; include funding source. The program includes any capital project submitted to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board for funding.	C. VI, pg. 83-93
KO	6. Adoption: The plan and process has received formal governing body approval (<i>that is, city/county department head, district ranger, regional manager/supervisor, etc., as appropriate</i>). Attach signed resolution, letter, or other adoption instrument.	C. VII, pg. 171-172

Certification Signature

I certify that this information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Print/Type Name: Keshia Owens

Signature (Hand Written or Digital): Keshia Owens Digitally signed by Keshia Owens
Date: 2021.12.21 12:10:44 -08'00'

Title: Community Development Planner

Date: 12/21/2021



2012 Special Mention (Rating: 3) – Floral Displays
Special Award – Best Hanging Baskets

2013 Special Mention (Rating: 3) – Landscaped Areas

2014 Special Mention (Rating: 4) –
Floral Displays Special Award – Best
Hanging Baskets and Containers
John R. Holmes III Community Champion Award – Nancy Chennault

2015 Special Mention (Rating: 3) – Floral Displays
Special Award – Best Program for Engaging Youth in the Community
Winner – America in Bloom Video Contest

2016 Winner of Best Video Contest
Winner Population Category (Rating: 4) – Best Community
Involvement

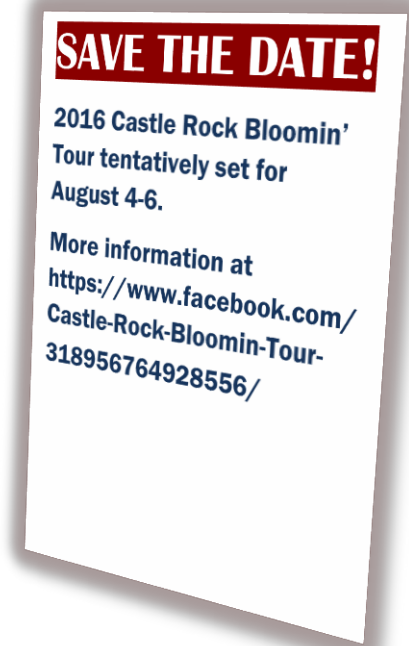
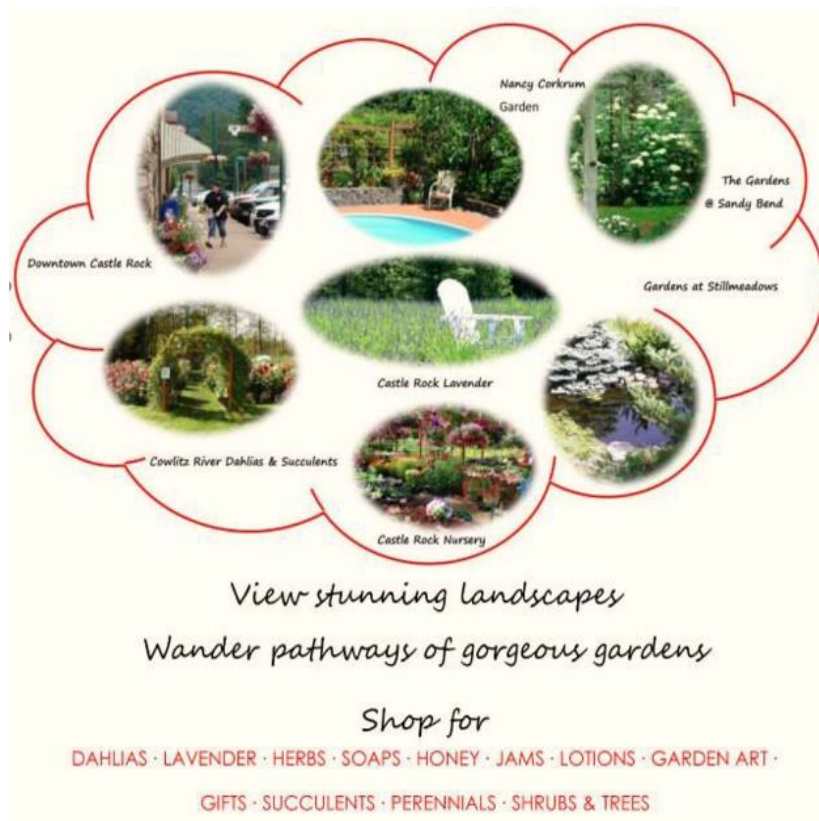
2017 Winner Population Category (Rating: 4) – Best Floral Displays

2018 Winner Population Category (Rating: 7 Stars) – Best Flowers

2019 Winner Best Video Contest (Rating 7: Stars) Best Flowers

2020 Winner Best Video Competition (No Judges or Evaluations in 2020)

2021 Winner Best Flowers and 2nd Place Video Competition (No Judges or Evaluations in 2021)



-End-

