



Chapter 1: Introduction

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan is to establish a framework to guide the acquisition, development and improvement of park areas and facilities and the provision of recreational services throughout the City of Wenatchee. It is designed to meet the City's recreational, social, and cultural needs now and into the future. This is an update to the City's 2006 adopted plan and is consistent with the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and the Growth Management Act (GMA) Comprehensive Plan Guidelines.

Parks and recreation facilities must be recognized as valuable not only to city residents, but also visitors. As Wenatchee grows in population, demands on parks and recreational facilities increase. Recreational opportunities are one important measurement of community livability in that they help to build strong neighborhoods and promote a high quality of life.

Parks and recreation planning should be flexible to meet the ever-changing demands, yet comprehensive to assure that the needs of the community are consistently met. This plan examines and addresses current needs, desires and opportunities with an eye toward historical information relevant to parks and recreation development. Population factors, land use, and general geographic features of the community are also vital considerations within the plan.

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan is adopted by reference as a part of the City of Wenatchee's Comprehensive Plan. This document provides an inventory of park and recreation facilities and programs in Wenatchee; outlines accepted standards for parks, open space, and recreation facilities; sets standards for such services; and presents a strategy for providing facilities and programs to meet the needs of the City's residents and visitors.

