PREFACE

On behalf of all the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members and Staff that helped with its creation, I am pleased to present the 2012-2018 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

There have been many recent changes in the community, with changing demographics, increasing expectations for service and new funding challenges. Despite this, our core purpose remains as simple as our beginnings. We exist to build community through our people, parks and programs. This comprehensive plan has been developed to make sure that we focus our actions, efforts and resources so future generations will reap the “simple” benefits of: Beautiful public places, quality recreation programs and facilities, excellent customer service, and opportunities for residents to interact with the larger community.

The Plan is divided into six chapters: Introduction, Planning Area, Existing Resources, Demand and Needs Assessment, Guiding Framework and Implementation.

The introduction describes why we chose to develop a plan. We were very clear that we wanted a plan rooted in factual vs. anecdotal data. Much of the data that formed our goals and objectives is contained in the Planning Process section and includes: Issues identified as high priorities, feedback from the surveys, results of outreach efforts to the community and trends identified by the parks and recreation profession. Existing programs and facilities available to the community is contained within the Existing Resources section. The Guiding Framework sections set the context by describing the core purpose, values, and outcomes we hope to achieve. Goals and objectives are grouped into the three categories of Parks and Facilities, Recreation Programs, and Organizational Development. The report concludes with the Implementation section that contains the Capital Investment Plan and identifies potential funding sources for future park and recreation acquisition and development projects.

The late President of the United States Dwight D. Eisenhower said, “In preparing for battle I have always found that plans are useless, but planning is indispensable.” Those who created this comprehensive plan would probably agree with our former President. We believe that planning has been indispensable to the future of our organization and the City. I look forward to your support in making this plan a reality for the City of Wenatchee.

David Erickson
David Erickson
Parks and Recreation Director
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mayor: Dennis Johnson/Frank Kuntz

City Council: Jim Bailey
Karen Rutherford
Doug Miller
Mark Kulaas
Tony Veeder
Don Gurnard/Linda Herald
Carolyn Case/Bryan Campbell

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Steve Kolk
Greg Jones
Jeff Heuple
Laura Jaecks
Barbara Cecie
Mark Peterson
Francisco Cuevas

Parks and Recreation Staff: David Erickson
Caryl Morrell
Sarah Fitzgerald

Parks and Recreation Director
Recreation Supervisor
Recreation Coordinator

Public Works Staff: Dan Frazier
Rob Richards

Public Works Director
Parks Maintenance Supervisor
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