



CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND
December 4, 2008 Workstudy Agenda
25510 Lawson St., Black Diamond, Washington

6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

- 1.) Parks Comprehensive Plan
- 2.) Adjournment

Mr. Nix



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: AARON C. NIX, NATURAL RESOURCES/PARKS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND COMPREHENSIVE PARKS PLAN
DATE: 11/26/2008
CC: GWENDOLYN VOELPEL, CITY ADMINISTRATOR

It's with great pleasure that I bring forward the City of Black Diamond's first comprehensive parks plan. My hope is that we can answer any questions with regard to the plan at our study session and then bring the plan forward for public hearing and adoption at our December 18, 2008 council meeting. I look forward to hearing your comments and having a lively discussion.

CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND WASHINGTON



Jones lake, Black Diamond, WA

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

ADOPTED

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Introduction

Black Diamond is in the foothills of the Cascade Range, 30 miles southeast of Seattle. The City of Black Diamond was incorporated in 1959 and consists primarily of single-family dwellings on residential lots varying in size.

Although a Comprehensive Park Plan was created in 1989, park development has been virtually nonexistent due to budget and personnel constraints. At that time, School Park was Black Diamond's only existing active Public Park. In 1998, the boat launch and adjacent park were transferred from King County to the City of Black Diamond when Lake Sawyer was annexed into the city. The 150 acres designated for Lake Sawyer Regional Park were acquired from King County in 2006. With anticipated growth and development predicted in the near future, the City anticipates a need for the development of additional parks and playfields, as well as repair, renovation, and construction at the few properties that already exist in the city.

This Plan is a guide for capital investments in property, facility, and programs for the planning period 2008-2013. It represents an effort to address maintenance, safety, aesthetics, and service standards for existing parks as well as acquisition and development of future parks. It also provides a prioritized list of park and recreation projects and should be used as a guide when developing citywide policy and documents affecting parks and recreation now and into the future.

Growth Projections

The City's population has basically remained relatively stable for decades. The only significant population increase in the past several decades was a result of annexing the Lake Sawyer area. Because of the environmental sensitivity of adjacent land areas and the presence of resource extraction activities (forestry and mining), growth through annexation has been restricted. In 1994, the City annexed 783 acres located near Black Diamond Lake, followed by annexation of an additional 338 acres in the West Annexation Area north and west of the City (2005). The proportion of these areas that is considered "developable" is substantial. In 2005, the City amended its development regulations to establish a Master Planned Development process and criteria for development of these newly annexed areas, along with other large sites within the City, and entered into a number of Pre-Annexation and Development Agreements. Development is expected to take the form of residential, recreational, commercial and mixed-use development with substantial active and passive open space. In addition, the conversion of land currently zoned for Mineral Extraction and Forestry will add new developable land for residential and employment uses in the future.

Figure 1-1 indicates the City's internally generated growth projections and those of the PAA during the 20-year planning period. Of the 2025 projected population of 16,980, 13,075 are anticipated to be living in areas within the 2006 City limits.

Black Diamond Growth Projections

Figure 1-1

Year	Total Population	Total Households
2006	4,085	1,578
2010	4,868	1,901
2015	10,437	3,740
2020	15,770	5,776
2,025	16,980	6,302

Planning Process and Community Involvement

Considerable efforts have been made to encourage public participation during the development of a park plan. The methods used have included meetings with established groups, public meetings and hearings, community-wide surveys, and direct involvement of residents in planning committees and groups. Surveys were conducted in 1988 and in 2008 and there has been ongoing comment by the public on existing and future parks (2008 survey and results are in Appendix A of this document).

Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal: Develop a system of parks, walking trails, and recreation facilities that are financially sustainable, meet public recreation needs, and incorporate and enhance the natural environment.

Objective 1

Maintain an updated and financially viable plan for meeting park and recreation needs.

Policy 1.1. The Parks Improvement Program contained within this document shall be updated annually and included in the annual budget process.

Policy 1.2. The Parks Improvement Plan shall be incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Plan during the next update process.

Policy 1.3. The City shall establish criteria for the acquisition of new parkland and incorporate those criteria into the next Comprehensive Parks Plan update.

Objective 2

Enhance and maintain existing parks to provide a greater level of public enjoyment.

Policy 2.1. Park design shall be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) when feasible.

Policy 2.2. Restrooms and other convenience features shall be incorporated into the design and development of "destination parks".

Policy 2.3. The cost of operation and maintenance shall be considered when enhancing parks.

Policy 2.4. Ensure adequate annual funding for general and preventative maintenance of existing parks.

Objective 3

Open undeveloped parks in a safe, timely, and fiscally responsible manner.

Policy 3.1. High priority of available funding shall be accorded to projects that result in the elimination of a safety hazard or the opening of a new park.

Policy 3.2. Operation and maintenance costs associated with the opening of new parks shall be considered during project design and the annual budget process.

Objective 4

Park design shall protect and improve the functions of the natural environment and strike a balance between public use and preservation.

Policy 4.1. Park design shall incorporate features that enhance the existing environment and educate users of the presence and functions of environmental amenities.

Policy 4.2. Development and maintenance of parklands shall utilize eco-friendly methods and products.

Policy 4.3. Park development and management shall, where appropriate, incorporate natural resource conservation, restoration, and preservation.

Policy 4.4. Park design shall maximize retention of vegetation around ball fields for both environmental and aesthetic purposes.

Policy 4.5. Design for new parks will minimize road construction and utilize low-impact engineering techniques to soften the imprint of roads and trails on the land.

Objective 5

Park design shall provide a wide variety of recreation opportunities to serve multiple interests and a broad cross-section of the area population.

Policy 5.1. Park design shall incorporate play areas and sports courts to serve a range of age group interests from young to old.

Policy 5.1. Park design shall accommodate both large groups and small groups or single families by developing play areas and sports courts in different sizes.

Policy 5.2. Park design shall maintain continuity in design and appearance among park features and elements.

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Park, Recreation and Open Space Inventory

The City of Black Diamond has limited park and recreational lands, facilities and programs. The City owns two parks on Lake Sawyer. The 168 acre Lake Sawyer Regional Park (undeveloped), located at the south end of the lake was established by King County in 1999, shortly after Lake Sawyer was annexed by the City of Black Diamond. The County transferred the park to the City in 2005, but retained an easement for a regional trail. A comprehensive Park Plan was developed for the park and is included in Appendix A. The City also owns a public-access boat-launch facility on the northwest shore of Lake Sawyer.

The City maintains an outdoor BMX track next to the Old City Hall. In addition, as a component to the development of the Eagle Creek Plat, the City acquired a basketball court and grassy open space area at the entrance to the plat off of Roberts Road. Several park benches were installed as well as a concrete trail section for walkers.

Two passive "parks" are formed from public right-of-way, both incorporating historical markers and City gateway signature elements -- Coal Car Memorial Park and "Union Stump". The Coal Car Memorial Park at the intersection of SR 169 and the Auburn-Black Diamond Road contains a coal car marker reminiscent of the City's mining history. "Union Stump", which is near Morganville, served as the speaker platform during the union/mining era. Each site is less than .10 acres and do not provide recreation. In-town recreational programs are minimal due to the lack of facilities.

Table 1-1: Parks, Recreation and Open Space Inventory

Facility	Type	Acreage	Features
Union Stump	Passive	0.1	Historical Marker
Eagle Creek Community Park	Active	0.43	Basketball Court and Benches
Coal Car Triangle	Passive	0.1	Historical Marker
Lake Sawyer Regional Park	Undeveloped	168	Undeveloped
BMX Park	Active	3.1	BMX Track, City Maintenance Facility
Lake Sawyer Boat Launch	Active	1.8	Boat Launch
Total Parks		173.5	
Jones Lake Open Space	Passive	14	City acquired portion of Jones Lake Trail and Park
Ginder Creek Open Space site	Passive	27.3	Undeveloped city-acquired park site
Total Open Space		41.3	
Total Parks and Open Space		214.8	

In 1995, the City of Black Diamond acquired 14 acres of land adjacent to Jones Lake. County open space funds were used in the acquisition. A trail around the lake is part of the future construction for this open

space park. The City has also acquired the Webb (Grinder Creek) open space parcel and is planned as a future passive park.

Area (Non-City) Parks, Recreation and Open Space

Washington State Parks

Kanaskat-Palmer State Park

Located 11 miles northeast of Enumclaw, WA.

Kanaskat-Palmer State Park is a 320-acre camping park on a small, low plateau in a natural forest setting. The park has two miles of shorelines on the Green River. Boat and raft launching is by hand only. River rafting and kayaking down the Green River Gorge is for expert-level enthusiasts only. Shoreline activities include nature appreciation, trout fishing and picnicking.

Nolte State Park

Located north of the town of Enumclaw, WA.

Nolte State Park is a 117-acre day-use park with 7,174 feet of freshwater shoreline on Deep Lake in the Green River Gorge. Covered with forests and blessed with water, the land was a resort for many years before it was donated to State Parks.

Flaming Geyser State Park

Located between Auburn, WA, and Black Diamond, WA.

Flaming Geyser State Park is a 480-acre day-use park with more than three miles of freshwater shoreline on the Green River. The park's most unique feature is its "geysers" (methane seeps). Park activities include whitewater rafting, tubing, and model airplane flying.

King County Parks

Black Diamond Natural Area

Maple Valley Black Diamond Rd and 241st Ave SE Black Diamond WA 98010

The Black Diamond Natural Area is 611 acres of undeveloped open space consisting of non-formal trails, in its natural state. Facilities such as bathrooms and parking areas do not currently exist.

Kentlake Athletic Fields

21401 SE 300th Street, Kent

This King County Park facility is located directly next to Kentlake High School. The facility contains 2 baseball diamonds, 1 softball facility and a regulation length soccer field. All fields are lit for night time play.

Overview of LOS Conditions

Applying the LOS standards with the current numbers, Black Diamond has a number of park and recreational facility deficits, which can be seen in Tables 1-5 and Table 1-6. Currently, 52 percent of the households are within 1.5 miles of a community park, well below the 90 percent standard (see Exhibit 2). The City has a fair amount of designated open-space (6%), but still below the 10 percent designated open-space standard, and no existing neighborhood parks or trails. Recreational facility needs include: a second youth baseball or softball field, two soccer fields, a second tennis court, and an adult baseball diamond.

Capital Facilities

Standards present the framework for which local LOS measures may be developed, but ultimately, local LOS measures should be a reflection of the community and the unique characteristics and values that are important to its residents and businesses.

Redefined Park Types

More comprehensive park classification systems, in place of the old ‘active’ and ‘passive’ classifications, will better meet the diversity of user needs in the community. The proposed new park types include:

- **Regional Parks** - large parks, two or more acres in size, capable of accommodating large numbers of people that offer facilities and activities for a wide service area. They include features such as parking areas, waterfront access, large natural areas, gardens, and/or amphitheaters.
- **Community Parks** - large parks, one to five acres in size that provide active recreation facilities for the broader community. They include features such as parking areas, baseball or softball diamonds, soccer fields, aquatic facilities and/or natural areas.
- **Neighborhood Parks** – small pedestrian-oriented parks, one acre or less, that serve residents of the immediate, usually residential, area. They include features such as play areas, basketball courts, community gardens and/or open areas.
- **Pocket Parks** – small pedestrian-oriented areas, one-half acre or less, that provide greenery and open-space in higher-density developed areas. They include features such as play equipment, community gardens, historical/information markers, landscaping, seating and public art.
- **Trails (Non-motorized)** - a network of pedestrian or bicycle-oriented paths for recreational and transportation uses. They can be within an existing park or open area or separate. Ideally, they should create a well connected city or region-wide system. They include features such as parking areas, paved or graveled paths, picnic areas and/or historical/informational markers.
- **Open-Space** - undeveloped areas or areas with limited development intended to preserve natural areas within the City for environmental, health, and/or aesthetic reasons. They include features such as picnic areas, trails, and/or interpretive facilities.

The new LOS standards focus on the percent of population with easy access to park and recreational facilities. Table 1-2 shows the proposed park types and associated LOS standard, while Table 1-3 shows how existing facilities have been reclassified.

New Park LOS Standards

Table 1-2

<u>Park Types</u>	<u>LOS Standard</u>
Regional	Not expected to have one
Community	90% of population within 1.5 miles of community park
Neighborhood	75% of population within 0.5 miles of a neighborhood park
Pocket	None
Trail (Non-motorized)	75% of population within 0.5 of a trail
Open-Space	10% of City's land area

Park Type Reclassification

Table 1-3

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>New Type</u>	<u>Features</u>
"School Park"	Active	Community	Basketball court, tennis court and Skate Park (privately owned)
Eagle Creek Park	Active	Community	Basketball Court
Little League ball field	Active	Community	Baseball Diamond (privately owned)
Lake Sawyer Boat Launch	Active	Boat launch	N/A
Union Stump	Passive	Pocket	Historical marker
Coal Car Park	Passive	Pocket	Historical marker
Jones Lake Open Space	Passive	Open-Space	City acquired portion of Jones Lake Trail and Park
Ginder Creek Open Space Site	Passive	Open Space	Undeveloped city-acquired park site
Lake Sawyer Park	Undeveloped	Regional	Undeveloped

Recreational Facility Standards

In addition to new park LOS standards, recreational facility standards are being proposed to ensure specific community recreational needs are met. These are citywide recreational needs that are usually met through the development of new or existing community parks. The combination of the recreational facilities standards and the park LOS standards will serve as a comprehensive guide for park and recreational development for the City of Black Diamond. Table 1-4 shows the proposed recreational facility standards.

Recreational Facility Standards

Table 1-4

<u>Facility Type</u>	<u>Minimum Units per Population</u>
Youth Baseball/Adult Softball Field	1:2,000
Soccer Field	1:2,000
Tennis Court	1:2,000
Basketball Court	1:2,000
Adult Baseball Diamond	1:5,000
Gymnasium	1:5,000
Youth Football Field	1:10,000
Track	1:10,000
Community Center	1:10,000
Swimming Pool	1:20,000

Current LOS Conditions

An analysis of Black Diamond’s current parks inventory based on the new park type classifications and LOS standards indicate the City is lacking community and neighborhood parks; trails and dedicated open-space; and a number of recreational facilities. Currently, 52 percent of the households are within 1.5 miles of a community park, well below the 90 percent standard. Only one park, “School Park,” provides recreational facilities for the community. The Black Diamond Elementary School playfields and the baseball diamond adjacent to the school are being considered part of the “School Park” recreational facilities. However, the property is owned by the Enumclaw School District and not the City of Black Diamond. The City currently has no existing neighborhood parks or trails. The City of Black Diamond has a fair amount of designated open-space, but is still below the 10 percent designated open-space LOS standard. Three parks have been designated open-space: Lake Sawyer Regional Park, the Grinder Creek site, and the Jones Lake site, for a total of 239 acres, or 6 percent of the City’s land area.

Existing Parks LOS

Table 1-5

Type	LOS Standard	Existing LOS
Regional	None	N/A
Community	90% of population within 1.5 miles	52% within 1.5 miles
Neighborhood	75% of population within 0.5 miles	0% within 0.5 miles
Pocket	None	N/A
Trail (Non-motorized)	75% within 0.5 miles	0% within 0.5 miles
Open-space	10% of City land area	6% of City

Existing Recreational Facility Standards

Table 1-6

Facility Type	Minimum Units per Population	Existing Units per Population
Youth Baseball/Adult Softball Field	1:2,000	1:4,120
Soccer Field	1:2,000	0
Tennis Court	1:2,000	1:4,120
Basketball Court	1:2,000	1:2,060
Adult Baseball Diamond	1:5,000	0
Gymnasium	1:5,000	1:4,120
Youth Football Field	1:10,000	0
Track	1:10,000	0
Community Center	1:10,000	0
Swimming Pool/Beach	1:20,000	0

Parks and Recreational Facility Needs

To meet the current LOS deficit, new parks and trails will have to be added in the City, in addition to more extensive development of existing park land. The City’s existing needs are: 157 acres of additional dedicated open-space, one additional community park, at least four more neighborhood parks, and four or five segments of non-motorized trails. Recreational facilities needed include: a second youth baseball or softball field, two soccer fields, a second tennis court, and an adult baseball diamond.

Facility Development and Location

The location of new parks and facilities needs to account for the “geographic deficit” in certain areas of the city. For example, the City needs an additional community park to meet the community park LOS standard of having 90% of the population within 1.5 miles. To meet this standards a new park would have to be located in the northern end of the city where there is a large amount of housing but no community park facilities. Other options include the development of Lake Sawyer Regional Park or the Boat Launch with recreational facilities typical of a community park, such as soccer fields or baseball diamonds. Extensive development of a trail system will be required to bring the City up to the proposed LOS standard. There are a number of proposed and conceptual trails, but even if all these trails were built, only 52% of the current population would be within the 0.5 mile standard. Again, the northern end of the City around Lake Sawyer was the primary area lacking access. The City currently has no neighborhood parks and it will need to assess potential sites for new parks within or near existing neighborhoods. Additional open-space areas also need to be added and/or protected within the City’s boundaries, 157 acres total.

Future Development

In addition to the existing park and recreation needs, the City needs to consider the effects of future development. Notably, Yarrow Bay Communities’ proposed development would add 5,000 new housing units (about 11,800 people) to Black Diamond over an 11 year period starting in 2009. Development of this scale, a possible 200% increase in population, would significantly increase in the number of facilities needed in the city. A development the size of Yarrow Bay Communities’ alone would require the addition of two adult baseball diamonds under the proposed recreational facility standards, in addition to the existing need for a diamond already.

City of Black Diamond Park's Capital Improvement Projects

Current Needs

Data in both 1988 and 2006 surveys indicate that trails and nature paths were of the highest priority. Picnic facilities, ball fields, and playgrounds were also seen as important.

The other major need is for support of existing parks. Restrooms and benches for resting are important for encouraging use and increasing enjoyment.

The following inventory of parklands and facilities describe the facilities and a needs analysis for each park as expressed in public surveys, workshops, and hearings:

Table 1-7. City of Black Diamond Parks, Recreation and Open Space Capital Improvement Program

Facility	Acreage	Current Features	Proposed Improvements	Cost Estimate
Years 2008-2013				
School Park	3.5	Skate Park, tennis/basketball court and baseball field	Facility needs to be made more family friendly with a swing set, benches and picnic tables.	\$25,000
Union Stump Historical Site	0.1	Historical marker, benches	Improved parking facilities, fencing and signage	\$112,000
Coal Car Historical Triangle	0.1	Bare land	N/A	\$0
Eagle Creek Community Park	0.43	Basketball court, benches and grassy open space	Playground equipment	\$25,000
BMX Park	3.1	Off road bicycle course	General expansion and provide use area for street bicycles.	\$260,000
Lake Sawyer Boat Launch	1.8	Boat launch facility, parking, barbeque facilities and benches	Rehabilitate boat launch facility, increase parking area, add restrooms and provide access dock	\$948,000
City-Wide Trail System Development	N/A	N/A	Begin land acquisition and preliminary design work	\$340,000
Lake Sawyer Regional Park (Phase I)	40	Bare land	Trail system, improved access, parking, restrooms and athletic fields	\$4,200,000

Current Needs Project Descriptions

1. School Park

Type, Location and Description

25314 SE 323RD ST 98010



Facility and Equipment

The park maintains a tennis, basketball court, skate park and baseball playfield next to Black Diamond Elementary. Swing sets as well as a picnic table have been provided at the facility.

Principal Recreation Uses

Baseball, basketball, tennis and skate boarding

Need Analysis

Additional park benches and picnic tables needed in order to accommodate increased family use.

Cost Estimate of Improvements

\$25,000

2. Union Stump Historical Site

Type, Location and Description

Small Park located at the corner of Cemetery Road and Roberts Drive.

Site is a historical location where miners voiced their opinions and objections to activities associated with the Black Diamond Coal Mine. Old Douglas fir stump has been encased in concrete to preserve the location where these conversations took place.



Facility and Equipment

Several benches and an informative kiosk tells the history of the site and the events that occurred there.

Principal Recreational Uses

Observation and remembrance

Needs Analysis

The entirety of this small facility continues to be in fairly good shape. Modernization of the existing facility might include installing a low impact parking area, restrooms, better signage, identifying the park as an historical landmark, and replacing the existing split rail fence that is degrading. Sewer as well as water currently exists along the frontage of the existing park.

Cost Estimate of Improvements

Design -	\$50,000
Construction -	
Fencing (500 LF)	\$10,000 (\$20 LF)
Parking (500 LF)	\$50,000 (\$100 SF)
Signage	\$2000

Total Cost **\$112,000**

3. Coal Car Historical Triangle

Type, Location and Description

Located to the south of the intersection between Roberts Drive and State Highway 169



Facility and Equipment

The facility currently maintains a spigot for water use and landscaped area that includes an old coal car as the central theme.

Principal Recreation Uses

Observance and Remembrance

Needs Analysis

The facility currently lacks any parking facilities. Foot traffic is very limited. The site lacks signage or any information pertaining to the significance of the site ingress and egress could be significantly challenging.

Cost Estimate of Improvements

None proposed at this time.

4. Eagle Creek Community Park

Type, Location and Description

Corner of Roberts Drive and Bruckners Way



Facility and Equipment

This facility currently maintains a park bench and basketball court. A concrete trail provides access through the park to the Eagle Creek housing development off of Roberts Drive.

Principal Recreation Uses

Walking, picnicking and playing basketball

Needs Analysis

Parking is very limited at this facility and is limited to the street along Bruckners Way. Addition of play equipment would make park more conducive to younger children.

Cost Estimate of Improvements

\$25,000

5. BMX Park

Type, Location and Description

32802 4th Avenue



Facility and Equipment

Dirt mounds integrated into a round BMX track. Site is fully fenced around the track area.

Principal Recreation Uses

Circuit riding for BMX enthusiasts

Needs Analysis

Currently, the site does not maintain any seating area. Some benches are needed, as well as repair to the existing fencing. Further expansion could include the integration of a street bicycle course.

Cost Estimate of Improvements

Construction

Fencing (300 LF)	\$6,000 (\$20 LF)
2 Park Benches	\$5,000 (\$2,500 Each)

\$11,000.00

6. Boat Launch Park – 296th Avenue

Type, Location and Description

The existing boat launch park is on the west side of Lake Sawyer.



Facility and Equipment

This site has a boat launch, which is in need of repair, paid parking spaces for vehicles with boat trailers, a “sani-can”, picnic tables, and elevated barbecue facilities...

Principal Recreational Uses

Boat launching, fishing, swimming, picnicking.

Needs Analysis:

- Modernize and repair the existing boat launch
- Provide a public pier for boat access and fishing
- Add playground equipment
- Add restrooms
- Reconfigure parking to provide for vehicles without trailers (southwest edge of property)
- Adequate swimming facilities

Cost Estimate of Improvements

Design -	\$80,000
Permitting -	\$100,000
Construction -	
Launch Improvements	\$200,000
Dock (150’x10’)	\$18,000 (\$120 LF)
Restrooms (1,000 SF)	\$200,000 (\$200 SF)
Parking Area (2,000 SF)	\$200,000 (\$100 SF)
Playground Area & Equipment	\$150,000

Total Costs

\$948,000

7. Lake Sawyer Regional Park- South End of Lake Sawyer

Type, Location, and Description

In the late 1990's, King County purchased 165 acres of land on the south shore of Lake Sawyer for the future development of a regional park. The property was purchased from Palmer Coking Coal, who had acquired the property in 1988 from the Black River Quarry. King County paid \$9.3 million for the property. The money was assembled from a variety of grants and county funding sources. The land acquisition was completed in 1999. Shortly thereafter, the county began a master planning process but a final plan was never completed due to funding issues.

In 2001, King County announced that it would be working to transfer ownership of many of its park sites to local cities to address financial shortfalls. The City of Black Diamond and King County entered into negotiations soon thereafter for the transfer of the property, until 2003 when the transfer was included as part of the larger implementation agreement for the Black Diamond urban growth area.

These negotiations resulted in an open space agreement known as the 'Black Diamond Area Open Space Protection Agreement' and allowed for the Lake Sawyer Park site to count toward the Black Diamond urban growth area open space requirements in exchange for additional consideration aimed at furthering the open space and recreation objectives of the City.

The open space agreement was finalized in June, 2005, and included a provision to convey ownership of approximately 150 of the original 165 acres of the Lake Sawyer Park site to Black Diamond. The transfer was completed in April, 2006, at no cost to the City. All 150 acres are located within the city limits. The 15-acre parcel retained by King County was held in County ownership for the future development of a regional trailhead parking area.

It is important to note that King County originally acquired the property utilizing a combination of grants and county funding sources, some of which required legal contractual commitments to develop and/or manage parts of the property in certain ways. These conditions and requirements transferred to the City of Black Diamond with the property and the city is legally bound to comply.

A Development Concept Plan was developed by the Lake Sawyer Park Citizen Advisory Committee with community input, as the first step in fulfilling the terms of the agreement and contains the following information:

- The community vision for developing the park
- The type of use and proposed facilities to develop in different areas of the park
- Maps, illustrations, and graphics
- A description of potential funding sources
- Implementation recommendations

In May, two former members of the Citizen Advisory Committee started a 'Friends of Lake Sawyer Park' group. The intent of this group is to get nonprofit status, which will make it easier to get certain grants, and to solicit funds and expertise from various sources.



Facility and Equipment

Currently the park exists as raw land.

Principal Recreation uses

Hiking and sightseeing

Needs Analysis

Please refer to Lake Sawyer Regional Park Plan in appendix B.

Cost Estimate of Improvements

Design -	\$500,000
Construction	
Restroom facility (2000 SF)	\$600,000 (\$300 SF)
Grass Athletic Fields (5)	\$2,500,000
Trail System (3 Miles)	\$47,520 (\$40 LF)
Roadway (1 Mile)	\$750,000
Parking Facilities (5,000 SF)	\$500,000 (\$100 SF)
<hr/>	
Total	\$4,547,520

Future Projects

Years 2008-2021
Lake Sawyer Regional Park (Phase II & III)
Jones Lake Park
Ginder Creek Open Space and Trail
The Villages
Lawson
Black Diamond Regional Trail System (Planning and property acquisition funded by 2008 CIP in the amount of \$340,000)

Funding Mechanisms to Reach Parks Needs

City of Black Diamond Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program

The Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program is a program that allows individuals to purchase and sell residential development rights from lands that provide a public benefit. Such lands include farm, forest, open space, regional trails and designated urban separator lands and habitat for threatened or endangered species. Landowners receive financial compensation without developing or selling their land and the public receives permanent preservation of the land. Transferred development rights can be used to build additional houses on other parcels in more appropriate areas.

A permanent conservation easement is placed on the sending site before density may be transferred off to maintain the property in forestry, farming or other uses consistent with the policy goals of the Program. Development rights may be transferred through private party transactions or under limited circumstances they may be purchased by the TDR Bank.

The City of Black Diamond initiated its TDR program in the summer of 2005. To date, there has been limited activity in the program, but the expectations are that this program will grow in order to benefit the public with more park and open space land in the near future. A TDR map that outlines receiving and sending for the program is included in Appendix B of this document.

Local jurisdictions face a growing demand for new recreational opportunities as they serve an increasingly diverse population and a large cohort of aging citizens. Unfortunately, this increased demand is coupled with diminishing tax revenues, federal funds, and other traditional resources.

This section summarizes traditional local funding options, state, and federal funding programs available to Washington cities and counties to fund parks and recreation planning, programs and projects. Several citizen's initiatives and referendums (e.g. I-695, Referendum 47, and Proposition 747) have taken a toll on several of the major traditional funding sources available to local governments since the GMA was first adopted in 1990. As a result, local jurisdictions are turning increasingly to several new funding sources created as a part of the growth management legislation, including impact fees and increased real estate excise taxes. Because of the heightened anti-tax climate, local jurisdictions may encounter resistance to such new forms of taxes. Even so, residents of many communities recognize the contribution that parks and recreation amenities make to the quality of community life. Residents of some communities have supported taxes increases, conservation futures levies, or bond referendums targeted for these purposes. Even in communities supportive of parks and recreation programs, it is clear that local jurisdictions must be alert to cost savings opportunities. They will likely need to supplement limited funds with some creative approaches to park finance. This section also describes public, private, and user group partnerships and cost sharing approaches, cost reduction measures, and other creative funding approaches used by some local jurisdictions to fill the funding gap.

Park Impact Fees

Impact fees are charges assessed by local governments against new development projects that attempt to recover the cost incurred by government in providing the public facilities required to serve the new development. Impact fees are only used to fund facilities, such as roads, schools, and parks, that are

directly associated with the new development. They may be used to pay the proportionate share of the cost of public facilities that benefit the new development; however, impact fees cannot be used to correct existing deficiencies in public facilities. In Washington, impact fees are authorized for those jurisdictions planning under the Growth Management Act (RCW 82.02.050 - .100), as part of “voluntary agreements” under RCW 82.02.020, and as mitigation for impacts under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA – Ch. 43.21C RCW). GMA impact fees are only authorized for: public streets and roads; publicly owned parks, open space, and recreation facilities; school facilities; and fire protection facilities in jurisdictions that are not part of a fire district. Setting fee schedules for impact fees is a complex process typically involving rate studies; generally, impact fees do not recover the full cost of a new facility since these fees must be directly and proportionately related to impacts associated with new development.

Traditional Local Funding Sources Authorized by Statutes

Most of these funding sources, such as property tax and sales tax, flow into the general fund and may be used to finance a wide variety of public programs and projects. As a result, funding requests for proposed parks and recreation programs will face stiff competition from other departments seeking to win limited general fund dollars.

User fees (fees charged to users of the park and recreation facilities) are becoming an increasingly important source of funding for park operation and maintenance costs, but are not always popular. Enterprise funds may be created for a park or recreation activity that has a revenue source sufficient to finance all costs. The enterprise revenues, derived from user fees and service charges, are used to pay operating costs, retire capital facility debt, and plan future replacement and expansion projects. Enterprise funds have been used on a limited basis for golf courses, marinas, and similar self-financing operations.

Several Newer Funding Sources Adopted as a Part of GMA Legislation

Recognizing the need for additional revenue sources for the funding local capital facilities, the Legislature included authority for park impact fees and additional real estate excise tax (REET) monies as a part of GMA legislation. The act authorizes counties and cities planning under the GMA to impose impact fees on development activity to finance public facility improvements needed to serve the new development. These facilities must be included in the Capital Facilities Element of a comprehensive land use plan. Impact fees are specifically authorized for publicly owned parks, open space, and recreation facilities in addition to several other types of facilities [RCW 82.02.090(7)].

The state of Washington is authorized to levy a REET on all sales of real estate, measured by the full selling price (including the amount of any liens, mortgages and other debts given to secure the purchase) at a rate of 1.28 percent. These tax revenues may be used to fund certain park and recreation facilities that are included in the local jurisdiction’s capital improvement plan (Capital Facilities Element). However, the rate at which it can be levied and the uses to which it may be put differs by city or county size and whether the city or county is planning under the GMA. A locally imposed REET tax is authorized in addition to the state REET tax. All cities and counties may levy an optional quarter percent tax (described as the first quarter percent of the real estate excise tax or REET 1) – [RCW 82.46.010](#). Cities and counties that are planning under GMA have the authority to levy a second quarter percent tax (REET 2) – [RCW 82.46.035\(2\)](#). Note that this statute specifies that if a county is required to plan under the GMA, or if a city is located in such a county, the tax may be levied by a vote of the legislative body. If, however, the county chooses to plan under GMA, the tax must be approved by a majority of the voters. San Juan County has imposed a 1 percent tax for acquisition and maintenance of conservation areas under

RCW 82.46.070. Limitations on uses, levy rates, and other information related to the optional REET taxes are covered in greater detail at www.mrsc.org/Subjects/Finance/reet/reetweb.aspx.

Interlocal Cooperation

Intergovernmental cooperation may offer one of the most promising opportunities for local governments to do more with less to meet these changing recreational needs. Cooperative efforts and a pooling of resources can eliminate unnecessary duplication of services, reduce overall park and recreation costs, and can more effectively employ limited tax revenues to meet the recreational needs of a region.

DRAFT

Appendix A

DRAFT



CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND

24301 Roberts Drive- PO Box 599

Black Diamond, WA 98010

360-886-2560

www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us

Please send completed survey to address listed above

The City of Black Diamond is in the process of updating its parks and open space plan. As the City grows, we anticipate the need for additional parks and playfields, as well as the repair, renovation and construction of existing park land. To guide that development and assist the City Council in prioritizing projects, we are seeking citizens' input. Please take a few minutes to fill out and return the following survey to help the City plan park and recreation projects.

1. Which parks and facilities do you or a member of your household use in the City of Black Diamond? Please check all that apply:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Union Stump | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Sawyer Park (South end of Lake Sawyer) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In-city Forest (Near Jones Lake and Lawson Street) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Sawyer Boat Launch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Courts | <input type="checkbox"/> Eagle Creek Drive Basketball Park (Near Bruckners Way and Roberts Drive) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skate Park | <input type="checkbox"/> BMX Bike Track (Lawson Street next to gym) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Little League Ball Field (Adjacent to elementary school) | |

2. Which park do you visit most often? Check one:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Union Stump | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Sawyer Park (South end of Lake Sawyer) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In-city Forest (Near Jones Lake and Lawson Street) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Sawyer Boat Launch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Courts | <input type="checkbox"/> Eagle Creek Drive Basketball Park (Near Bruckners Way and Roberts Drive) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skate Park | <input type="checkbox"/> BMX Bike Track (Lawson Street next to gym) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Little League Ball Field (Adjacent to elementary school) | |

3. How would you rate the following in the City of Black Diamond?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know
Amount of park land	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of park facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Open spaces/natural areas	1	2	3	4	5
Park maintenance	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of access to parks	1	2	3	4	5
Recreational programming	1	2	3	4	5
Arts and cultural events	1	2	3	4	5

4. How important are the following?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Amount of park land	1	2	3	4
Variety of park facilities	1	2	3	4
Open spaces/natural areas	1	2	3	4
Park maintenance	1	2	3	4
Ease of access to parks	1	2	3	4
Recreational programming	1	2	3	4
Arts and cultural events	1	2	3	4

5. How would you rate existing parks and recreational offerings for the following ages?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know
Pre-School	1	2	3	4	5
Elementary School	1	2	3	4	5
Middle School	1	2	3	4	5
High School	1	2	3	4	5
Adults (under 55)	1	2	3	4	5
Adults (55 and over)	1	2	3	4	5

6. How important are developing additional parks and recreational offerings for the following ages in Black Diamond?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Pre-School	1	2	3	4
Elementary School	1	2	3	4
Middle School	1	2	3	4
High School	1	2	3	4
Adults (under 55)	1	2	3	4
Adults (55 and over)	1	2	3	4

7. What facilities, equipment or programs are you interested in seeing more of in Black Diamond? Please check all that apply:

Outdoor Activities:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bicycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball
<input type="checkbox"/> Power boating	<input type="checkbox"/> Badminton (outdoor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water skiing	<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball
<input type="checkbox"/> Scuba diving	<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling
<input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing/Kayaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Shuffleboard
<input type="checkbox"/> Sailing	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennis
<input type="checkbox"/> Family camping	<input type="checkbox"/> Soccer
<input type="checkbox"/> Group camping	<input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking
<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming (outdoor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail hiking	<input type="checkbox"/> Golf
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature walking	<input type="checkbox"/> Ice skating
<input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding	<input type="checkbox"/> Jogging
<input type="checkbox"/> All-terrain vehicle riding	<input type="checkbox"/> Archery
<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball	<input type="checkbox"/> Horseshoes
<input type="checkbox"/> Softball	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-amplified music (outdoor)
Indoor Activities:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics	<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball
<input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Crafts	<input type="checkbox"/> Badminton (indoor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Photography	<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball
<input type="checkbox"/> Drama	<input type="checkbox"/> Handball
<input type="checkbox"/> Library	<input type="checkbox"/> Playing table games
<input type="checkbox"/> Music listening	<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming (indoor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dancing	<input type="checkbox"/> Gourmet Cooking
<input type="checkbox"/> Bowling	<input type="checkbox"/> Roller skating
<input type="checkbox"/> Pool or Billiards	<input type="checkbox"/> Playing instruments
<input type="checkbox"/> Wrestling	<input type="checkbox"/> Squash

8. Which facilities, equipment or programs are the most important to you? Please check three (3) that apply:

Outdoor Activities:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bicycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball
<input type="checkbox"/> Power boating	<input type="checkbox"/> Badminton (outdoor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water skiing	<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball
<input type="checkbox"/> Scuba diving	<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling
<input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing/Kayaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Shuffleboard
<input type="checkbox"/> Sailing	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennis
<input type="checkbox"/> Family camping	<input type="checkbox"/> Soccer
<input type="checkbox"/> Group camping	<input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking
<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming (outdoor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail hiking	<input type="checkbox"/> Golf
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature walking	<input type="checkbox"/> Ice skating
<input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding	<input type="checkbox"/> Jogging
<input type="checkbox"/> All-terrain vehicle riding	<input type="checkbox"/> Archery
<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball	<input type="checkbox"/> Horseshoes
<input type="checkbox"/> Softball	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-amplified music (outdoor)
Indoor Activities (continued on next page)	

Indoor Activities (cont'd)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics	<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball
<input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Crafts	<input type="checkbox"/> Badminton (indoor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Photography	<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball
<input type="checkbox"/> Drama	<input type="checkbox"/> Handball
<input type="checkbox"/> Library	<input type="checkbox"/> Playing table games
<input type="checkbox"/> Music listening	<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming (indoor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dancing	<input type="checkbox"/> Gourmet Cooking
<input type="checkbox"/> Bowling	<input type="checkbox"/> Roller skating
<input type="checkbox"/> Pool or Billiards	<input type="checkbox"/> Playing instruments
<input type="checkbox"/> Wrestling	<input type="checkbox"/> Squash

9. Indicate your level of interest in the following amenities for existing and future parks.

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know/No opinion
Picnic Areas	1	2	3	4
Covered picnic areas for groups	1	2	3	4
Roped-off swimming areas	1	2	3	4
Playgrounds	1	2	3	4
Paved running and walking trails	1	2	3	4
Natural footpaths, nature trails and boardwalks	1	2	3	4
Wildlife viewing areas	1	2	3	4
Dog walking areas	1	2	3	4
Open lawn areas	1	2	3	4
Areas for canoes/kayaks/un-powered boats	1	2	3	4
Fishing docks	1	2	3	4
Youth athletic fields	1	2	3	4
Softball fields	1	2	3	4
Soccer/football fields	1	2	3	4
Regulated lights on fields	1	2	3	4
Activity centers/multiple use buildings	1	2	3	4
Interpretive signs	1	2	3	4
Environmental education centers	1	2	3	4
Concessions stands	1	2	3	4
Other:	1	2	3	4

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

What is your age?

- Under 25
- 25-35
- 36-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 and over

How long have you lived in Black Diamond?

- Under two years
- Two to five years
- Six to 10 years
- 11 to 20 years
- 21 years and over

What is the number of people living in your household?

- 1-5
- 6+

What are the ages of persons living in your household? Check all that apply:

- Under 5 years
- 5-9 years
- 10-14 years
- 65+ years
- 15-19 years
- 20-24 years
- 25-34 years
- 35-44 years
- 45-54 years
- 55-64 years

Add any additional comments below.

**Please return completed survey to the City of Black Diamond at
24301 Roberts Drive or by mail at PO Box 599, Black Diamond, WA 98010.**

Thank you for your participation!



CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: CITIZENS OF BLACK DIAMOND
SUBJECT: PARKS SURVEY RESULTS
DATE: 8/25/08

Dear Residents of Black Diamond,

It's with great excitement that we submit to you the results from the recently completed City-wide park survey. To date, we've had a little over 150 responses to the survey that was mailed out June 1st of this year. You'll find as you go through the results that many people placed emphasis on enhancing our natural paths and hiking trails throughout the City. There is a significant need for more playgrounds as well as picnic amenities at our current facilities.

As discussed with the Park's Committee, we believe that the City has several options when it comes to maintaining our current parks, while planning for future growth. Staff will be bringing to the Council, within the next month or so, a six-year capital improvement program, that is meant to provide guidance to staff on areas of interest and upkeep of existing facilities. Several funding options will be presented to the Council. In addition, staff is nearing completion of the City's Comprehensive Parks Plan that will allow the City to actively engage in parks, recreation and open space grant opportunities. To date, the City has not been able to participate in these grant programs because of the lack of a complete Comprehensive Parks Plan. Also real estate excise tax (REET II) monies will be allowed to be used when the Comprehensive Parks Plan is passed and approved by the Council.

Thank you all for the time you've taken in completing the Parks Survey. The results will serve as useful guide in directing the City's efforts now and into the future.

Frequently Asked Questions and Comments, Survey 08'

General Comments and Questions

1. As a young, growing family we would like to see more family-friendly indoor/outdoor facilities and activities as Black Diamond grows in population.

The Mayor and City Council have made it a priority that as the City of Black Diamond's population grows and development occurs, so will the quantity and the quality of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space provided to the City and its residents. New development will be required to help pay for this.

2. If there are toddler friendly parks near town, I don't know where they are. A map of park facilities or clearly visible signs would be helpful.

The City understands the lack of these types of resources throughout Black Diamond. Financial limitations currently exist within the City's budget, but the City is aggressively pursuing grant opportunities and other funding mechanisms to help improve our Parks, Recreation and Open Space Program. A map is currently being developed that identifies Black Diamond Parks, Recreation and Open Space opportunities. Keep an eye on our website for this.

3. My husband and I are greatly disappointed with the playgrounds in Black Diamond. We regularly drive to Mud Mountain Dam or to Point Defiance Zoo just to find a nice play area for our three children.

Upgrades to existing parks will be included in the City's Comprehensive Parks Plan, currently being developed. The City is actively looking at funding opportunities and will continue to aggressively apply for granting opportunities and other sources of revenue available to us.

Lake Sawyer Park and Boat Launch

4. Lake Sawyer needs a dock at the boat launch.

The City is in the process of letting a contract with Anchor Environmental Consultants in getting a design together for an improved boat launch, docking facility and swimming area. The City is hoping to obtain a Recreation and Conservation Office Grant from the State of Washington in order to construct the facility in the summer of 2010.

5. Where is the dock that was supposed to be built at the Sawyer Boat Launch Park? What are we paying \$5.00 to park for?

Without a consistent funding source, the Parks, Recreation and Open Space program is very limited in what it can utilize the \$5.00 fee for. At this time, a majority of the funds are going towards maintenance and operations of the boat launch.

6. Are these questions related to the Lake Sawyer Master Plan? What has changed from the original plan?

There has been a master plan put together for the South end of Lake Sawyer since 2005. The City has never maintained a Comprehensive Park's Plan that addresses the needs and wants of its citizens for the entire City. Information from this survey will be utilized in putting together a Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan for the first time in the City's history. With this completed, the City will have more flexibility in pursuing grants and other funding opportunities.

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Maintenance

7. I would like to see an expansion of the Public Works Division into another (separate) Parks Maintenance Division along with the expansion of Park Facilities.
8. We need more workers in the City - The three that you have keep up a lot already - some things look shady as far as weeding goes. We have enough to do now.

The City, in coming months, will be pursuing many options as it pertains to maintaining and funding its current park inventory. Your input is essential to this process.

Trails, Open Space and Bicycling

9. One thing that would be important is to be able to safely walk/ride bikes to these recreational facilities. Right now, we don't have wide streets or sidewalks throughout the City.
10. Walking/Bicycle trails foster a real sense of community. You see many of your neighbors out on them and it encourages a healthy activity that is easy to do and convenient.
11. We need off road walking paths suitable for people and dogs on leashes.

The development of a comprehensive Parks and Transportation plan will help us prioritize these needs and apply for funding. The Natural Resources Division is nearing completion of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan and the Public Works Division is beginning hearings on the City's Comprehensive Transportation Plan. The City's goal is have both plans completed and adopted by the end of the year 2008.

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Program Interest

12. This is Black Diamond, stop trying to turn it into Seattle. We don't need all that stuff that progress brings, i.e. crime, congestion, etc.
13. If Black Diamond could become a destination for outdoor activities that would be beyond wonderful. We love the feel of our Small Town and are concerned that there's a good possibility it could be gone forever.
14. Thank you for this survey. Although we do not make use of our local parks and other offerings currently, we did extensively when our children were growing up. We feel that the subjects referenced in this survey are important aspects in the quality of life here in Black Diamond.

Staff truly appreciates any and all comments offered by the citizens of Black Diamond in regard to it Parks, Recreation and Open Space Program. We are committed to providing the very best service we can to all residents of the City. We strongly believe in the quality of life and small town character inherent to Black Diamond and are working strongly to ensure that this continues as the City develops, now and into the future.



CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: AARON C. NIX, NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR
CC: GWEN VOELPEL, CITY ADMINISTRATOR
SUBJECT: PARKS SURVEY RESULTS
DATE: 8/12/09

Honorable Mayor and Council Members,

It's with great excitement that I submit to you the results from our recently completed City-wide park survey. To date, we've had a little over 150 responses to the survey that was mailed out June 1st of this year. You'll find as you go through the results that many people placed emphasis on enhancing our natural paths and hiking trails throughout the City. There is a significant need for more playgrounds as well as picnic amenities at our current facilities.

As discussed with the Park's Committee, I believe that the City has several options when it comes to maintaining the current parks we have, while planning for future growth. Staff will be bringing to the Council, within the next month or so, a six-year capital improvement program, that is meant to provide guidance to staff on areas of interest and upkeep of existing facilities. Several funding options will be presented to the Council. In addition, staff is nearing completion of the City's Comprehensive Parks Plan that will allow the City to actively engage in parks, recreation and open space grant opportunities. To date, the City has not been able to participate in these grant programs because of the lack of a complete Comprehensive Parks Plan. Also real estate excise tax (REET II) monies will be allowed to be used when the Comprehensive Parks Plan is passed and approved by the Council.

I look forward to our discussion on these issues in the near future. I've included a section on comments received on the park's surveys for your review. Thanks for your time in looking it over.

AARON C. NIX

Parks Survey Comments

- 1 If there are toddler friendly parks near town, I don't know where they are. A map of park facilities or clearly visible signs would be helpful.
- 2 Lake Sawyer needs a dock at the boat launch. Soccer field would be good in outfield at Black Diamond Elementary.
- 3 Parks, open space and recreation programming is a wonderful way to improve the quality of life for residents in Black Diamond. I am so pleased to see the City actively seeking the input of its people. Great Survey! I hope the information gathered is put to good use. Don't forget volunteers.
- 4 Looking forward to the development of Parks and Outdoor spaces in Black Diamond. The sooner the better!
- 5 Thanks for the survey. It was great!
- 6 Hope I'm not too late.
- 7 Add model airplane and boats to the approved activities at Lake Sawyer Park. Area modelers can use the water to land and take off their planes and run their model boats. Do not use noise as an excuse.
- 8 Where is the dock that was supposed to be built at the Sawyer Boat Launch Park? What are we paying \$5.00 to park for?
- 9 Is this the Park plan? Has that changed?
- 10 Please keep the hours of fast travel on the lake as it stands today. Those of us who live along the fast travel course take a pretty good beating from wave/wakes. Thank you!
- 11 Need more open space for parks for picnics and kids to play.
- 12 We would love to see more parks, playgrounds and paved walking trails! Thanks!
- 13 Leave the current mountain bike and biking trails as they are. Thank you for providing a garbage can and sign for the lake sawyer park. Provide a map for the Lake Sawyer Park and vicinity.
- 14 A dog park would be nice since dogs are no longer allowed at the cemetery. Sidewalks would be nice around town too!
- 15 One thing that would be important is to be able to safely walk/ride bikes to these recreational facilities. Right now, we don't have wide streets or sidewalks throughout the City.
- 16 Parks and Recreation areas around town would be a wonderful addition to the City, but we need sidewalks to walk on to get us there safely. Walking on the roads is not safe anymore.
- 17 Soccer fields please! Try to get a YMCA in town. This would give you an indoor swimming and multi-use basketball and all other indoor facilities mentioned above.
- 18 Where is park at the coal car at the north entrance to town? Park maintenance is very good considering we only have 2 City workers to handle the City maintenance work.
- 19 We would really want sidewalks especially on Roberts Drive because it's busy and the kids are always walking on the road by the cars. It would make Black Diamond safer.
- 20 You made the tennis court too small. It needs to be another 6 feet at each end.
- 21 My husband and I are greatly disappointed with the playgrounds in Black Diamond. We regularly drive to Mud Mountain Dam or to Point Defiance Zoo just to find a nice play area for our three children.
- 22 We would really like to see something here sooner than later. We were disappointed with the decision to build a skate park here.
- 23 Regarding the South end of Lake Sawyer Park. We use it for many reasons - Observing wildlife, the only true park with wilderness trails. There are plenty of parks in the area with developed ball fields and playgrounds
- 24 This area has been over developed and some areas need to remain natural for people, animals and the environment.
- 25 I would like to see an expansion of the Public Works Division into another (separate) Parks Maintenance Division along with the expansion of Park Facilities.
- 26 It would be really nice to have a park with a playground for pre-schoolers or younger children.
- 27 Roberts Drive Park is not maintained grass is not being mowed enough and plants are dying

- and beds are full of weeds. Does not look nice considering this is the entrance to our neighborhood. Very disappointing.
- 28 We need more open spaces of grass and picnic areas and I would like to see a small child playground. Toddler age.
- 29 There may be more activities or areas I don't know about. A map with areas and activities would be nice.
- 30 We need to preserve as much open natural space as possible. The open areas currently being used for mountain biking, horseback riding, hiking, running and walking accommodate a large %of the people living in the area and draw many others from elsewhere.
- 31 We have only used the library most. The areas you mentioned in the survey, we did not know they were for public use. We will be thrilled to see more trails, horseback riding and community activities.
- 32 We like living in this little town and hope that it stays quaint with a peaceful atmosphere.
- 33 I would like to see the park stay natural - trails for jogging and hiking and dogs. A good swimming area.
- 34 We need more workers in the City - The three that you have keep up a lot already - some things look shady as far as weeding goes. We have enough to do now.
- 35 Where we used to live, the library had an auditorium. It would be nice to have that, with lights and a sound system so that people don't have to go elsewhere.
- 36 Take your time and do it right the first time.
- 37 If you have swimming areas you need a lifeguard. You shouldn't have to pay to launch your boat or pay for parking.
- 38 This is Black Diamond, stop trying to turn it into Seattle. We don't need all that stuff that progress brings, i.e. crime, congestion, etc.
- 39 We are known for our biking areas, yet it's not safe to ride from my neighborhood to the library or the bakery and bookstore. We really need bike paths.
- 40 Hate to see the big city move in and spoil a wonderful small town.
- 41 This survey sounds like you're planning out Lake Sawyer again. I thought that Park's planning has been completed. Follow that plan. The trails at the north end of Black Diamond and South Lake Sawyer should be retained as they are heavily used and are excellent single-track trails.
- 42 If Black Diamond could become a destination for outdoor activities, that would be beyond wonderful. We love the feel of our Small Town and are concerned that there's a good possibility it could be gone forever.
- 43 In a beautiful town like Black Diamond, the emphasis should be on nature trails and green areas to preserve the uniqueness of the town and to keep it from turning into a Covington.
- 44 We would love more parks space for enjoying the outdoors, but only if they are kept litter free and well-maintained.
- 45 Pave Roberts Drive! Some kid on a bike is going to get killed one of these days. We need kid's playground equipment at a park. Everyone I know leaves BD to go to a park.
- 46 Although the biking area at the north of town is not a park, we use it more than any other park in town.
- 47 More parking spaces at the boat launch - The current # makes this almost a private lake - People are parking on the narrow side of the street.
- 48 Parks are critical in making Black Diamond a desirable community for our citizens. A long tern process, we must arrive at an adequate tax base to pay for all the parks and other amenities.
- 49 As a young, growing family we would like to see more family-friendly indoor/outdoor facilities and activities as Black Diamond grows in population.
- 50 Please keep Black Diamond on the edge of wilderness as much as humanely possible. This is our reputation.
- 51 We need to make sure that we have recreation facilities for kids, youth and family
- 52 Boys and Girls Club with both parents working these days, kids need to be kept busy and out of trouble Healthy Body = Healthy Mind
- 53 Leave the majority of the land at the south end of Lake Sawyer - just the way it is - Make access easier. No ball fields, boat ramps or auditoriums - no food facilities. Leave it alone – people us it just as it is now.

- 54 Having kids who grew up in town, we always had to drive to Enumclaw for facilities involving any sports or even to play on a decent sized playground. The City has improved their outdoor amenities considerably.
- 55 There still is a great need for indoor facilities and activities. Thank you for your efforts on our behalf.
- 56 It is very important to keep the boating hours on Lake Sawyer. It is a wonderful place to live.
- 57 Need facilities for the flying of model airplanes.
- 58 Need a place to fly model airplanes.
- 59 Please keep Black Diamond small. We don't need another Issaquah/Kent/Renton More people = Less Safe!
- 60 The boat launch is unsafe with the concrete piling and no dock. Improving this would be a great improvement. Black Diamond needs serious help to become a place we would want to stay for our leisure time.
- 61 We feel the need to leave Black Diamond to find community recreation and it is unfortunate.
- 62 Thank you for this survey. Although we do not make use of our local parks and other offerings currently, we did extensively when our children were growing up. We feel that the subjects referenced in this survey are important aspects in the quality of life here in Black Diamond
- 63 Sand volleyball courts are needed.
- 64 Walking/Bicycle trails foster a real sense of community. You see many of your neighbors out on them and it encourages a healthy activity that is easy to do and convenient.
- 65 It would be great to have one throughout the community that ties into the lake.
- 66 I'd really like to see a walking path (not a bike path) through town and natural areas around new library. I'd love to see sidewalks all through 3rd street. Right now the town looks like a junkyard when you drive in and when you drive out.
Thanks for asking!
- 67 Outdoor music would be nice for the community. Indoor activities are very important because of our weather. Like bowling, roller skating, movie theatre, billiards, basketball, tennis, volleyball, etc.
There are not enough of these activities in our area.
- 68 I do not want an entrance to the park on 312th. There are already too many cars that use it to park, while they are using the park.
- 69 Thank you for doing this survey! We would love a paved bike trail!
- 70 We are very satisfied with the area as it is meeting our needs.
- 71 I would not count the school field as a park. \$5.00 for parking at Lake Sawyer - Shouldn't BD residents park for free? Black Diamond lacks in useable parks, we have to drive to Lake Sammamish to swim. That's pretty sad.
- 72 Please keep the parks as natural as possible so that people, dogs, horses and all wildlife can enjoy the area.
- 73 We would like to see Black Diamond kept as natural as possible with minimal impact to Lake Sawyer.
- 74 Prevent construction of large industrial buildings such as in Enumclaw, in Black Diamond. Keep Lake Sawyer Park Wild!
- 75 We need off road walking paths suitable for people and dogs on leashes. Need evening exercise programs such as yoga, dancing, etc. for adults.
- 76 Buoy placement on Lake Sawyer requires corrections.
- 77 Black Diamond is already an outstanding community.
- 78 I think more items for family and high schoolers. Maybe movie night in the gym or playing pool or weight lifting or High School grill competition with hamburgers seasoned differently.
- 79 A climbing wall and synthetic turf soccer fields are sorely needed. The boat launch needs more obvious signs warning people to remove plants from boats and trailers.
- 80 We need a nice park with lawn and flowers and comfortable benches where the elderly (myself) could sit on a nice afternoon with shade and birds, squirrels, etc.
- 81 Keep the mountain bike trails. They are a huge asset to the area. Update the skate park to allow bikes.

Park Survey (City of Black Diamond)

1. Which parks and facilities do you or a member of your household use in the City of Black Diamond?

<u>PARK</u>	<u>USE</u>
Union Stump	9
Coal Car Park	11
Tennis Courts	25
Skate Park	39
Ball Field	35
Lake Sawyer Park	63
Boat Launch	65
Eagle Crest Park	11
BMX Park	25

2. Which Park do you visit most often?

<u>Park</u>	<u>USE</u>
Union Stump	3
Coal Car	6
Skate Park	21
Ball Field	22
Boat Launch	61
Eagle Crest Park	5
BMX Park	3

3. How would you rate the following parks in the City of Black Diamond?

<u>SPECIFIC PARK ELEMENT</u>	<u>EXCELLENT</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>
Amount of Park Land	12	30	48	46	9
Variety of Park Facilities	7	32	59	42	6
Open Spaces/natural areas	24	44	37	31	6
Park Maintenance	14	51	38	18	16
Ease of Access to Parks	15	60	33	34	10
Recreational Programming	5	12	34	46	45
Arts and Cultural Events	4	8	34	56	43

4. How important are the following?

<u>SPECIFIC PARK ELEMENT</u>	<u>VERY IMPORTANT</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT</u>	<u>NOT IMPORTANT</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>
Amount of Park Land	88	39	7	2
Variety of Park Facilities	79	48	8	3
Open Space/Natural Areas	104	30	1	1
Park Maintenance	79	52	1	2
Ease of Access to Parks	56	71	7	1
Recreational Programming	42	59	29	5
Arts and Cultural Events	37	60	31	7

5. How would you rate existing parks and recreational offerings for the following ages?

<u>AGE GROUPS</u>	<u>EXCELLENT</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>
Pre-School	4	13	29	42	36
Elementary School	5	35	42	11	34
Middle School	8	33	35	14	36
High School	8	24	31	26	35
Adults (Under 55)	6	24	36	34	24
Adults (55 and Over)	6	19	20	43	39

6. How important are developing additional parks and recreational offerings for the following ages in Black Diamond

<u>AGE GROUPS</u>	<u>VERY IMPORTANT</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT</u>	<u>NOT IMPORTANT</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>
Pre-School	59	29	13	17
Elementary School	68	35	10	17
Middle School	63	33	10	20
High School	61	33	14	22
Adults (Under 55)	56	47	12	17
Adults (55 and Over)	57	39	13	25

7. What facilities, equipment or programs are you interested in seeing more of in Black Diamond? Please check all that apply:

8. Which facilities, equipment or programs are the most important to you? Please check three (3) that apply:

<u>OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>USE (#7)</u>	<u>USE (#8)</u>
Bicycling	74	51
Power Boating	15	10
Water Skiing	13	5
Scuba Diving	4	1

Canoeing/Kayaking	46	14
Sailing	11	3
Family Camping	33	13
Group Camping	19	3
Fishing	52	27
Trail Hiking	101	59
Nature Walking	110	77
Horseback Riding	23	2
All-Terrain Vehicles	19	9
Baseball	38	15
Softball	43	11
Volleyball	35	9
Badminton	28	1
Basketball	29	6
Motorcycling	10	5
Shuffleboard	7	1
Tennis	41	9
Soccer	41	14
Picnicking	84	23
Swimming (Outdoor)	62	21
Golf	28	13
Ice Skating	14	3
Jogging	49	13
Archery	15	
Horseshoes	24	5
Non-Amplified Music	46	11

INDOOR ACTIVITIES

USE (#7)

USE (#8)

Gymnastics	36	14
Arts and Crafts	50	24
Photography	32	12
Drama	32	16
Library	50	33
Music Listening	31	12
Dancing	43	20
Bowling	44	19
Pool or Billiards	22	5
Wrestling	8	4
Basketball	38	11
Badminton	19	4
Volleyball	34	8
Handball	15	
Playing Table Games	24	2
Swimming (Indoors)	69	40
Gourmet Cooking	36	8
Roller Skating	29	9

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Playing Instruments	23	1
Squash	12	1

9. Indicate your level of interest in the following amenities for existing and future parks:

<u>Park Amenities</u>	<u>VERY IMPORTANT</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT</u>	<u>NOT IMPORTANT</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>
Picnic Areas	76	41	15	3
Covered Picnic Areas for Groups	57	48	22	5
Roped-off Swimming Areas	47	61	23	5
Playgrounds	66	43	15	4
Paved Running and Walking Trails	65	34	29	1
Natural Footpaths, Nature Trails and Boardwalks	91	32	5	3
Wildlife Viewing Areas	70	51	20	5
Dog Walking Areas	47	36	38	5
Open Lawn Areas	47	58	19	4
Areas for Canoes/Kayaks/Un-Powered Boats	29	52	32	10
Fishing Docks	34	55	29	8
Youth Athletic Fields	47	60	22	7
Softball Fields	43	44	31	6
Soccer/Football Fields	40	45	31	7
Regulated Lights on Fields	34	40	47	8
Activity Centers/Multiple Use Buildings	44	43	33	9
Interpretive Signs	19	38	48	18
Environmental Education Centers	22	46	46	10
Concession Stands	4	20	87	12
Other	18	2	7	12

10. What is your gender?

Male	62
Female	97

11. What is your age?

Under 25	2
25-35	26
36-44	39
45-54	34
55-64	25
65 and Over	28

How long have you lived in Black Diamond?

1-2 years	16
2-5 years	21
5-10 years	30
10-20 years	46
20+	38

What is the number of people living in your household

One to 5	144
6+	7

What are the ages of persons living in your household? Check all that apply:

under 5 years	27
5-9 years	30
10-14 years	28
15-19 years	33
20-24 years	13
25-34 years	30
35-44 years	48
45-54 years	45
55-64 years	34
65+	29

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Appendix B

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