

Astoria Parks & Recreation

MASTER PLAN 2026 - 2036



June 2026

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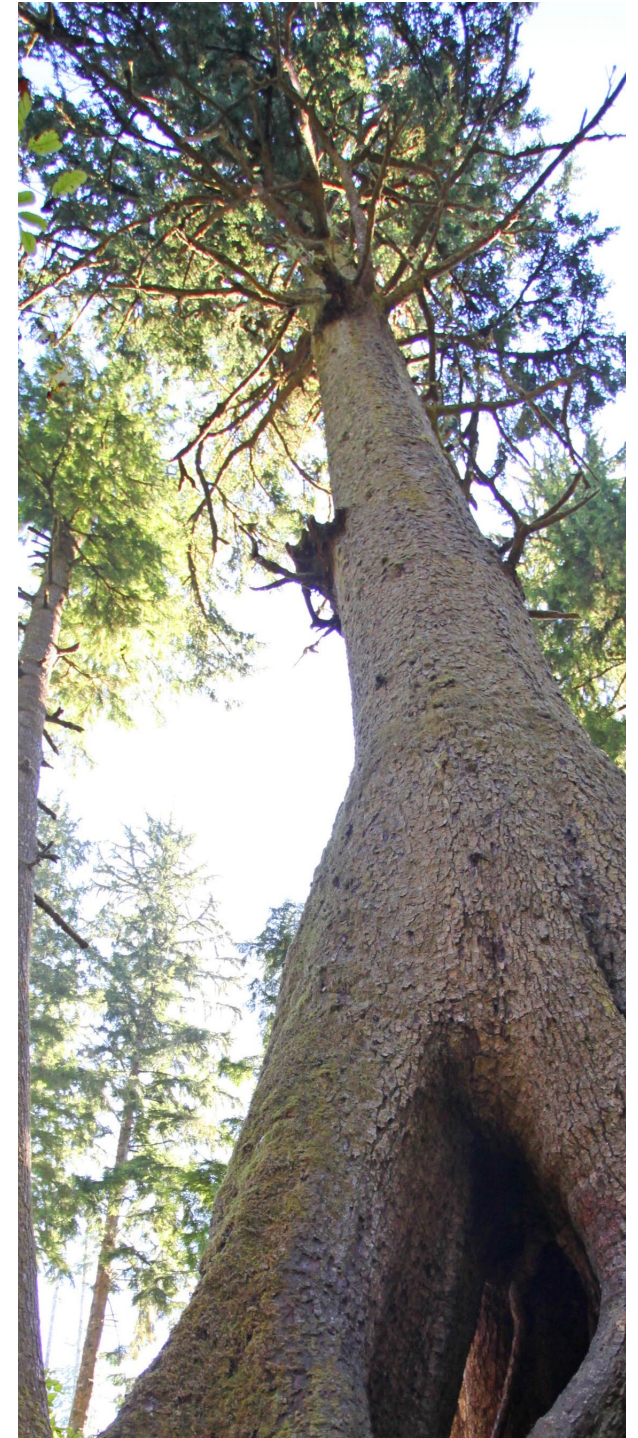
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Executive Summary

The Astoria Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2026-2036) provides a framework for maintaining, enhancing, and investing in the City's parks, recreation facilities, and programs

The purpose of the Plan is to establish a community-supported vision that guides decision making, supports funding pursuits, and ensures that Astoria's parks and recreation system continues to meet the needs of residents and visitors.

The Plan provides recommendations and implementation strategies informed by existing conditions, demographic indicators, and extensive community engagement.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Astoria Parks and Recreation Department (APRD) manages a broad range of facilities including over 30 parks and public sites, 8.7 miles of trails, the Astoria Aquatic Center, and Ocean View Cemetery. APRD's inventory includes multiple tourist-oriented facilities, historic and cultural monuments, and support facilities such as community

halls and public restrooms. APRD also provides youth recreation programs, adult recreation programs, and community events.

Over the past ten years, APRD has streamlined operations by prioritizing core programs and services, increasing full-time staff positions, and contracting maintenance for tourist-oriented facilities. Capital investments have primarily focused on maintaining and improving existing assets, such as replacing playground equipment, upgrading sport fields and courts, renovating community halls and restrooms, and installing lighting along the Riverwalk. APRD has also leveraged partnerships with community groups such as the Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association and Lower Columbia Preservation Society to undertake park improvements and maintenance at certain sites.

While these efforts have helped to stabilize resources and responsibilities, APRD continues to face ongoing challenges with maintaining a large and aging inventory of assets, balancing the needs of residents and tourists, and recruiting and retaining staff.

DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

Astoria's population has historically remained close to 10,000 residents and is not projected to grow substantially over the next ten years.

Key demographic indicators include:

- Higher share of residents over age 55 than the statewide average.
- Notable increase in residents between ages 25 to 44 over the past ten years.
- Notable increase in the Hispanic/Latino population over the past ten years.
- Median household income is 18% lower than the statewide median.
- Percent of households below the poverty level is 16.8%, which is nearly 5 percentage points higher than the statewide average.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Four in-person open houses and four online engagement opportunities were provided throughout the planning process to gather input on existing conditions and identify future needs and priorities. Community members consistently emphasized the value of parks and recreation in their quality of life and expressed appreciation for existing facilities and programs.

Key themes and priorities included:

- Maintaining and repairing existing parks, trails, recreation facilities, and other amenities (this was most frequently identified as the top priority).
- Replacing aging playground equipment and ensuring a range of equipment is available for all ages and ability levels.
- Improving safety by installing additional outdoor lighting, repairing trail surfaces, and addressing livability concerns.
- Increasing indoor and covered recreation space to support more year-

round activities, especially for youth and teens.

- Expanding the Aquatic Center to add flexible indoor recreation space including multi-use courts and fitness areas.
- Extending Aquatic Center hours and days of operation.
- Offering more community events and recreation programs for all ages.
- Enhancing existing parks with amenities such as a fenced off-leash dog area, permanent restrooms, trail connections, and signage.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The Plan provides a set of recommendations to pursue over the next ten years, organized into four categories:

- Operations & Maintenance
- Programs
- Planning Initiatives
- Capital Projects

The implementation strategy provides a framework that identifies timeframes for initiating and completing each recommendation, planning-level cost estimates, potential funding strategies, and project leads and partners. The recommendations and implementation strategy should be reviewed and updated regularly to align with evolving community needs and available resources.

Together, the elements of this Plan provide the City with a basis for making informed, strategic decisions that strengthen the parks and recreation system and address community priorities while allowing flexibility to adapt to changes over time.



1. Introduction



◀ Nordic Heritage Park

▼ Playground at Violet LaPlante Park



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A. Purpose

The Astoria Parks and Recreation Master Plan (the Plan) will guide Astoria Parks and Recreation Department's (the Department or APRD) facilities and programs over the next ten years by establishing a clear, community-shared vision and by providing policy recommendations for future improvements and efforts.

Astorians of all ages place high value on access to the area's parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, and programs, and APRD strives to provide facilities and services that meet the diverse needs of both residents and visitors. The Plan will assist the City's elected and appointed officials, management, and staff in making short- and long-term operational

decisions and will support pursuit of grants and funding opportunities for identified programs and projects.

This Plan updates the 2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2016 Plan), which similarly provided guidance for ten years and should be updated on a regular basis. Much has changed since then, and the purpose of this update is to ensure the Plan remains relevant for the next ten years by revisiting APRD facilities, programs, and operations along with community demographics and priorities, and by ensuring planning for parks and recreation is aligned with citywide needs and priorities.

The Plan is comprehensive and includes recommendations related to APRD operations and maintenance, programs, capital projects, and future planning initiatives.

Swimming lessons at Astoria Aquatic Center ▶

▼ A replica of Chinook leader Chief Comcomly's burial canoe



B. Planning Process

The Astoria Parks and Recreation Master Plan update project consisted of three phases beginning in August 2025.

The first phase began with reviewing existing documents and data and establishing project goals, milestones, and action items. A community engagement strategy was established to encourage broad participation from a variety of perspectives, to build trust, and to obtain feedback regarding APRD’s facilities and services. The goal of community engagement was to achieve the strongest possible outcome by listening to the voices and opinions of current and future park and recreation users.

The second phase was to inventory and assess the conditions of Astoria’s parks, trails, and recreation facilities. This involved cataloging existing facilities and evaluating existing conditions and maintenance levels to identify issues and opportunities. This phase included a Level of Service analysis to understand how the community’s recreation needs are being met, based in part on the supply, variety, and locations of available parks and recreation facilities, including those managed by other agencies. Two community open houses and corresponding online surveys served to inform the public about the project, to generate interest and participation in the planning process, and to collect input on existing conditions and priorities for the future.

The third phase involved preparing recommendations and strategies for implementation to guide APRD in prioritizing efforts, establishing funding approaches, and identifying project leads, partners, and key stakeholders. This phase included two additional open houses and corresponding online surveys to further inform the public about the planning process and seek community input to refine and prioritize Plan recommendations and implementation strategies. Project updates and opportunities for input were provided to the Parks Advisory Board, Planning Commission, and City Council throughout the planning process.

1. Project Initiation FALL 2025	2. Inventory & Assessment WINTER AND SPRING 2026	3. Master Plan Update SPRING 2026
• Review existing plans and documents • Develop Community Engagement Plan	• Evaluate existing parks, trails, and facilities • Collect community input - Open Houses 1 & 2 - Online Surveys 1 & 2 • Level of Service analysis	• Draft recommendations and Implementation Plan • Collect community input - Open Houses 3 & 4 - Surveys 3 & 4 • Finalize plan document • Present to City Council for adoption

Fig. 1 – Project Timeline

C. Related Plans and Documents

The following plans and documents may impact the Astoria Parks and Recreation system or provide relevant guidance for future planning and decision-making. These materials were reviewed to help inform the planning process and promote consistency between the Plan and other policies.

CITY OF ASTORIA GUIDING DOCUMENTS

Astoria City Code

The City's regulatory code. Chapters 1, 2, and 5 include park-related issues.

Administrative Practices

General rules and regulations for specific functions and the internal operations

▼ Astoria Aquatic Center sign by Roger McKay, 2018



of City departments. Section 400 and Section 501 include park-related issues.

Comprehensive Plan

The 1979 City vision plan with regular updates including goals, policies, maps, and supplemental reports relating to the future economic and physical growth and development or redevelopment of the City. The Comprehensive Plan is the guiding document that all other plans are based upon. Relevant sections include CP.260 to CP.275, "Parks, Recreation, and Open Space," and CP.240 to CP.255, "Historic Preservation."

Astor-East Urban Renewal Plan

Plan for the Astor-East Urban Renewal District (AEURD, generally 8th to 23rd

Streets, Marine Drive to Franklin Avenue, plus several adjacent sites), which is identified for redevelopment with tax increment financing. It includes proposed projects, public improvements and amenities, and proposed acquisition of land.

Astor-West Urban Renewal Plan

Plan for the Astor-West Urban Renewal District (AWURD, generally Smith Point to Columbia Avenue, Pierhead Line to Alameda Avenue), which is identified for redevelopment with tax increment financing. It includes proposed projects, public improvements and amenities, and proposed acquisition of land.

▼ Garden of Surging Waves





Aquatic Center Expansion Study

2024 feasibility study that reviewed expanding the Astoria Aquatic Center to include flexible indoor recreation spaces and streamline operations. The study was recommended as part of the 2016 Plan and identifies needed enhancements to the existing building, evaluates possible building additions, and estimates economic impacts (project costs, funding mechanisms, and potential revenues).

Bicycle Master Plan

A 1992 plan that identifies existing conditions and recommendations for future bicycle facilities to encourage multi-modal transportation.

Buildable Lands Inventory

Last updated in 2025, the inventory identifies the amount of land available for development for residential and employment lands. The purpose is to ensure the availability of a 20-year land supply to accommodate future growth.

Gateway Master Plan

The 1997 plan and vision for development and redevelopment of the Gateway Area (generally 16th to 29th Streets and the

River to Franklin Avenue). It includes policy recommendations for design review, open space, public parks, public trails, and multi-modal transportation which includes bike trails.

Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities Wellness Plan

2015 plan that identifies how various City codes, policies, and recreational facilities help residents to lead healthier lives.

Heritage Square Place Guide

A 2025 framework for the vision, design, and development strategy for Heritage Square. The plan includes detailed design guidelines, an event feasibility study, conceptual site layouts, and an overview of project timeline and cost estimates to facilitate implementation.

Historic Preservation Plan

A 2008 plan to identify existing historic preservation activities and address goals and recommendations for a five-year period. The plan includes policy recommendations for design review and preservation of historic properties, including historic City facilities.

◀ Bikers and walkers alike love the Astoria Riverwalk

History of Astoria Parks

Originally developed in conjunction with the 2016 Plan and updated in 2026, this report provides historical information about each City-owned park, including deeds, easements, ordinances and resolutions, photos, and news articles.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

The 2008 document is a multi-jurisdictional plan for natural hazards mitigation. It includes existing conditions, risk assessment, and the potential impacts of natural hazards on the infrastructure, including on historic properties, transportation, and other public facilities like schools and parks. It makes recommendations for facility upgrades to reduce risks to life and property.

Ocean View Cemetery Master Plan

This 2020 comprehensive plan for the cemetery was developed based on a recommendation in the 2016 Plan to address concerns about financial viability and quality of care and maintenance. The plan concludes that the cemetery has ample space and could consider other uses for the most northerly undeveloped area. The plan also identifies site needs

including updating rules and regulations, a new water supply, wayfinding signage, and entry area improvements.

Riverfront Vision Plan

Identifies conditions along the Columbia River waterfront and provides a vision and policy recommendations for how this area should develop. It includes recommendations for architectural design, natural features, parks and open spaces, trails, multi-modal transportation, and other public improvements. A major feature in this plan is the Riverwalk and public parks along the riverfront.

Trails Master Plan

A 2013 inventory of existing trails within the City with recommendations for future maintenance, improvements, and expansions.

Transportation System Plan

A 2014 plan that identifies existing and proposed conditions of the multimodal transportation system for a 20-year period. It includes policy recommendations on trails and bicycle activities and facilities.



Garden of Surging Waves ►



CLATSOP COUNTY PLANS

Clatsop 2040 Comprehensive Plan

The comprehensive plan describes the long-term vision for unincorporated Clatsop County and sets the direction for the County's growth over the next 20 years, creating common goals that guide development, including development recommendations related to recreational needs.

Parks and Recreational Lands Master Plan

Last updated in 2006, this plan guides the County and its partners in long-term planning and financial decisions regarding county parks and recreational lands. Recurring themes include improving parks, engaging with the community, linking recreational resources, and funding needs.

STATEWIDE PLANS

Oregon State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

Provides guidance and recommendations to federal, state, and local units of government in delivering quality outdoor recreational opportunities to Oregonians and visitors. The plan includes statewide survey data to identify recreation needs and priorities. The plan is updated every five years and was most recently updated in 2025.

Oregon Statewide Trails Plan

Provides information and recommendations to inform trail planning and decision-making by federal, state, local, nonprofit, and private sector partners across Oregon. The plan is updated every 10 years and was last updated in 2026.

◀ Cathedral Tree Trail improvements

D. 2016 Parks & Recreation Master Plan

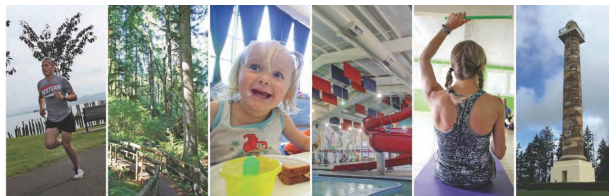
The 2016 Plan identified recommendations and implementation strategies for Maintenance, Planning, Communications and Marketing, Partnerships, Operations, and Capital Projects.

In the ten years since the 2016 Plan was adopted, APRD and community partners have completed many of these recommendations. APRD and partners have also utilized the 2016 Plan to pursue grants and raise funds for capital projects, including multiple grants from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's Local Government Grant Program, which have helped complete several projects that were identified in the 2016 Plan, detailed below.

▼ 2016 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan



ASTORIA PARKS & RECREATION
Comprehensive Master Plan



Maintenance

- Contracted maintenance for tourist-oriented facilities using Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) revenue. (2016)
- Contracted Recology for trash pickups system-wide (2017)
- Established new park maintenance staff positions (2022-2023)

Planning

- Parks System Tree Inventory (2017)
- Site-specific master plans for Shively Park and McClure Park (2017)
- Ocean View Cemetery Master Plan (2020)
- Aquatic Center Feasibility Study (2024)
- Heritage Square Place Guide (2025)

Communications and Marketing

- Contracted marketing support to external agencies (2018-2020)
- Increased social media visibility and engagement
- Updated APRD website (2022 & 2026)

Partnerships

- Park Adoptions (2017 – 2026)
 - Post Office Park, Tidal Rock Park, Birch Field, Customs House, Alderbrook Park

Operations

- Increased administrative staffing for aquatics and recreation programs (2016-18)
- Closed Lil' Sprouts Academy and leased ARC to Bumble Preschool (2022)
- Transferred management of Gray School Community Gardens to Clatsop County Master Gardeners' Association (2024)
- Reduced hours/days of operation at Astoria Aquatic Center to reflect staff capacity while balancing community demand for swimming/fitness availability (2025)

Capital Projects

- Doughboy Monument Restoration (2017)
- Riverwalk wayfinding and interpretive signage (2021)
- Portland Loo at Nordic Heritage Park (2021)
- Installed new, accessible play equipment at Violet LaPlante Park (2022)
- Renovated Downtown Restrooms (2022)
- Renovated Shively Hall interior (2022)
- Nordic Heritage Park (2022)
- Fred Lindstrom Park pickleball, tennis, basketball court improvements, replaced playground equipment (2023-2024)
- Riverwalk lighting – 23rd Street to 35th Street and Bay Street to Hamburg Avenue (2025)
- Upgraded and replaced critical infrastructure at Astoria Aquatic Center (2016-2026)

Doughboy Monument, restored 2017 ►

Nordic Heritage Park, completed 2022 ▼





2. Community Profile



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◀ Visitors to The Astoria Column

▼ View towards Youngs Bay from the Astoria Recreation Center



A. Setting and Context

The City of Astoria is located in northwestern Oregon, a few miles from where the Columbia River meets the Pacific Ocean.

Encompassing approximately 6.1 square miles, Astoria is located on the ancestral and traditional homelands of the Chinook and Clatsop peoples, as well as other Indigenous peoples of the Lower Columbia River region.

The City was incorporated in 1856 and was historically a major hub for shipping and trade, specifically fur and shipbuilding, and later fishing and salmon canning.

Today, Astoria is home to approximately 10,000 people who value the city's sense of community, quality of life, and access to natural areas.

▼ Trailhead for Cathedral Tree Trail



View of the Astoria-Megler Bridge from Astor Park ►

Youngs River Falls ▼

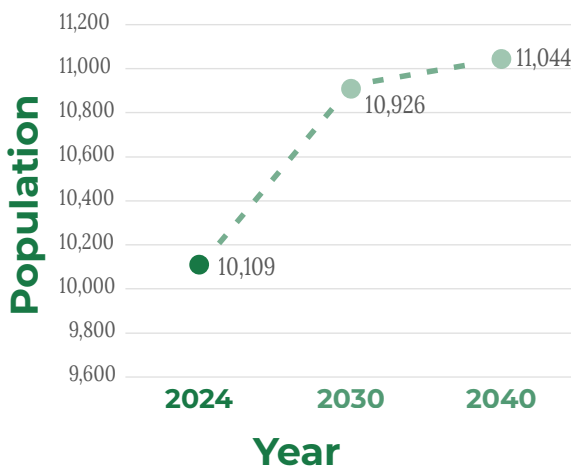


B. Demographics

POPULATION, GROWTH RATE, AND PROJECTIONS

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the City of Astoria’s population was 10,109 in 2024, which is in line with the City’s past population of around 10,000. According to the Portland State University Population Research Center, the City’s population is projected to increase slightly to 10,926 in 2030 and to just over 11,000 in 2040. Notably, Astoria has a higher share of residents over age 55 than the statewide average.

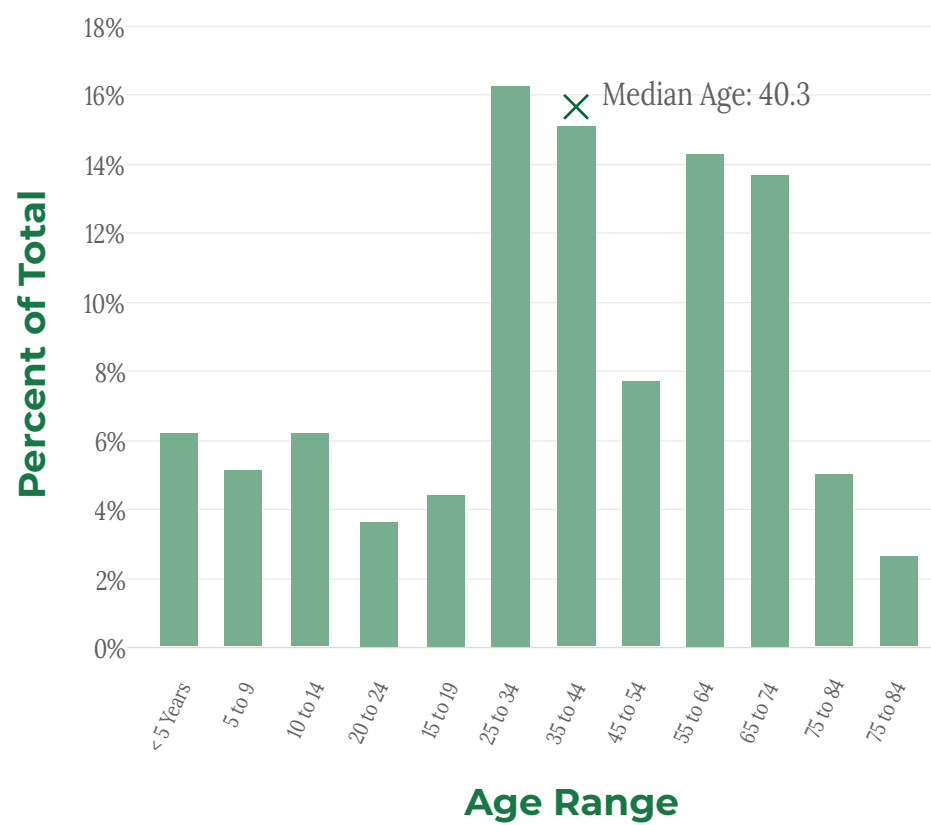
FIG. 2 - PROJECTED POPULATION GROWTH



Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2024 5-year estimates and Portland State University Population Research Center

There has also been a significant increase in residents between ages 25 to 44 over the past ten years.

FIG. 3 - AGE DISTRIBUTION IN ASTORIA



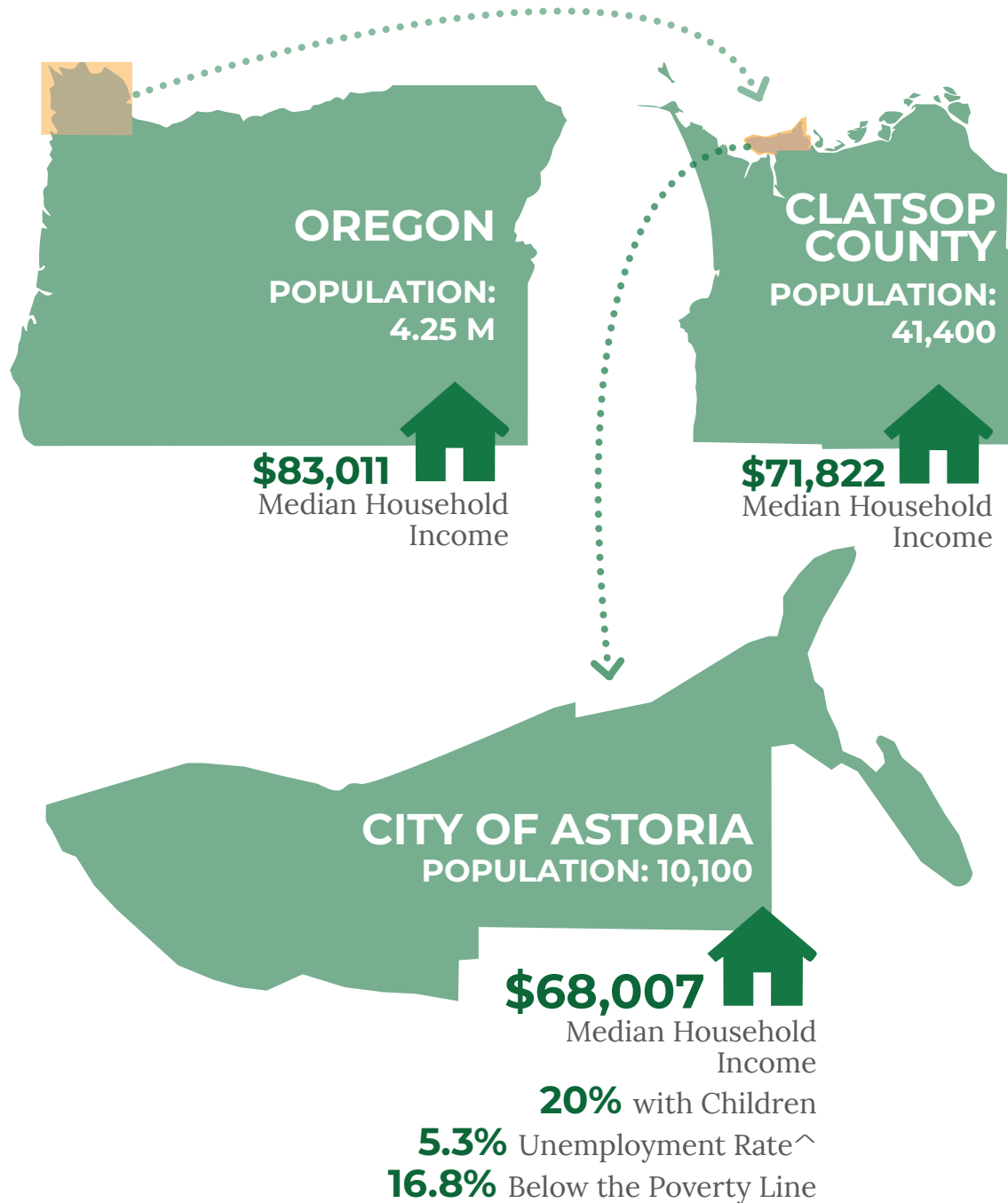
Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2024 5-year estimates: Table S0101 Age and Sex

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

According to 2024 U.S. Census Bureau estimates, the median household income for Astorians was \$68,007. This figure is lower than the median household income countywide and statewide. The City's unemployment rate is higher than the County's rate, though slightly lower than the state's unemployment rate. Astoria's 5.3% unemployment rate in 2026 is also significantly lower than the 2014 unemployment rate of 7.8%. Almost 17% of all Astoria residents live below the poverty level, while over 30% of children (under 18) live below the poverty level.

These economic indicators are important to consider in parks facilities and programmatic planning, for example when establishing fees, developing cost-savings opportunities for APRD, and planning free or low-cost programs for community members.

▼ Movies in the Park, Fred Lindstrom Park



Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2024 5-year estimates

Table DP02 Selected Social Characteristics
Table DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics

[^]Unemployment rate for civilian labor force

Fig. 4 - Economic Indicators and Demographics

RACE, ORIGIN,
AND LANGUAGE

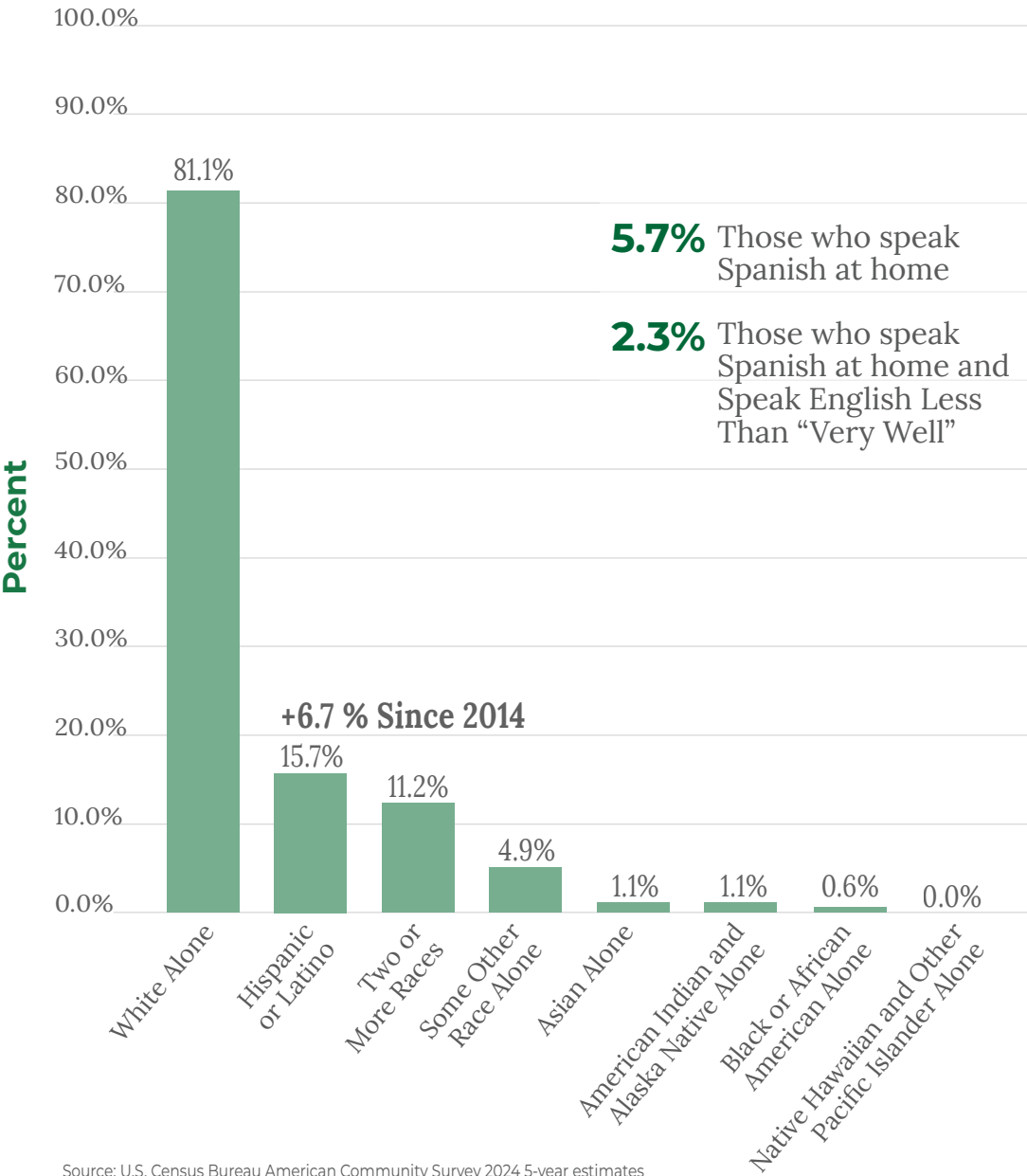
Astoria’s Latino population continues to increase, growing from 9% in 2014 to 15.7% in 2024.

This represents a higher share of Latino population than in Clatsop County and statewide, and also indicates the Latino population is growing at a faster rate in Astoria than countywide and statewide. This should be taken into consideration when APRD is planning culturally specific programming and events, hiring bilingual staff, and developing multi-lingual communication materials.

Community members at Open House 1



FIG. 5 - RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS IN ASTORIA



Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2024 5-year estimates
Table DP02 Selected Social Characteristics in the United States
Table DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimate



3. Existing Conditions



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◀ Historic Weinhard-Astoria column arch at Shively Park

▼ Alameda Park

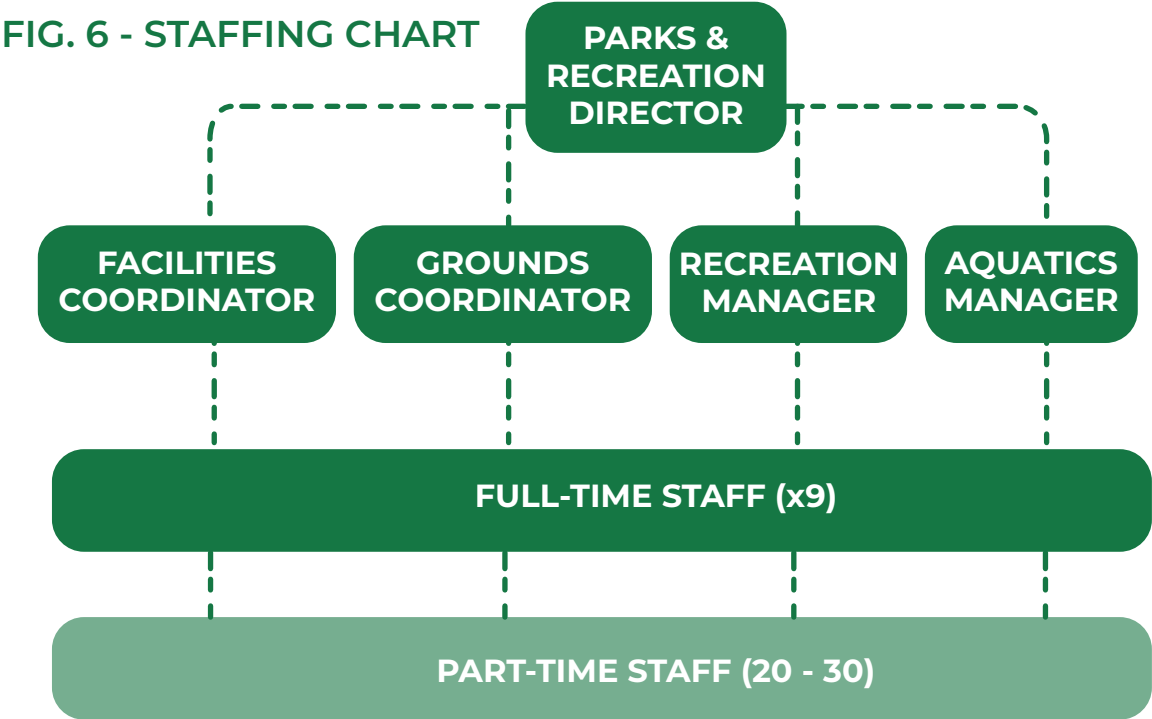


A. Parks and Recreation Department Overview

APRD has a mission to provide life-long learning, wellness, and well-being through recreational opportunities and is dedicated to the preservation of natural resources, open spaces, and facilities that inspire and bring neighbors and Astoria's many visitors together.

The Department is overseen by the Parks and Recreation Director and is generally organized into three divisions including Aquatics, Recreation, and Maintenance.

As of 2026 there were 14 full-time staff positions supported by 20-30 part-time and seasonal staff.



▼ Lazy River at the Astoria Aquatic Center



▼ APRD Maintenance Staff

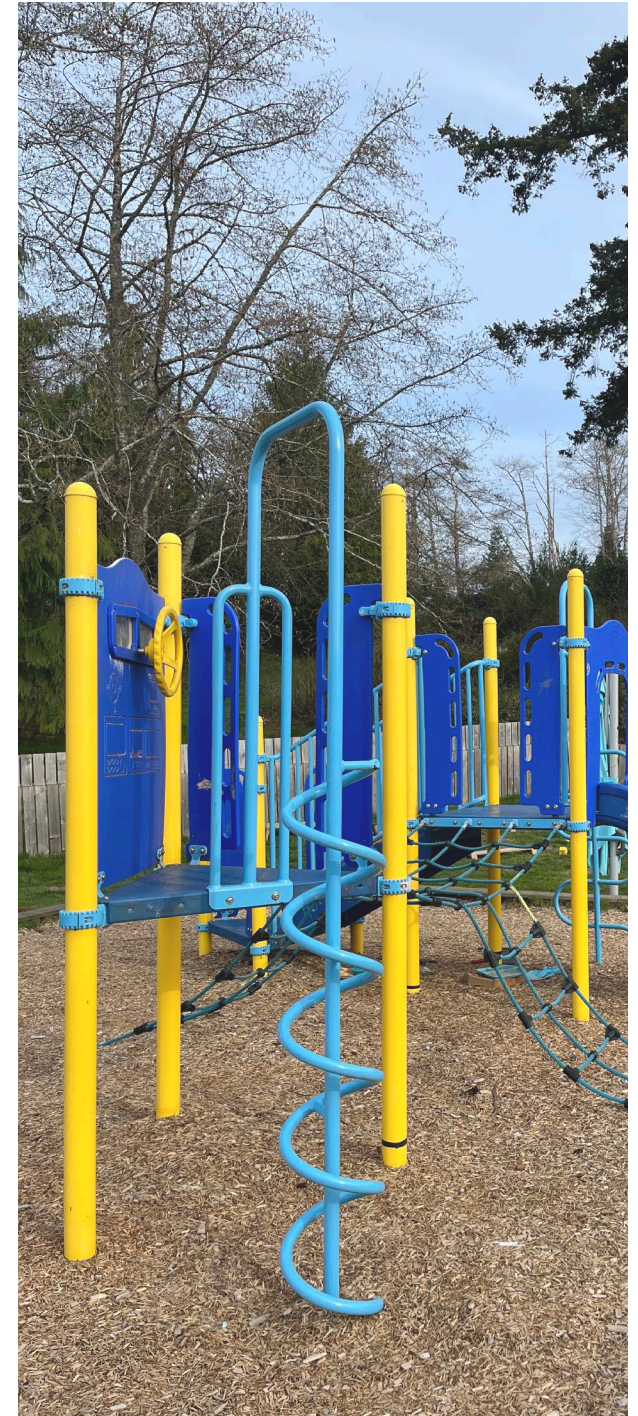


Notable changes implemented following adoption of the 2016 Plan include:

- Eliminating pre-kindergarten childcare services, which previously included the Lil' Sprouts Academy and Port of Play. Childcare services are now offered by a private provider that leases the Astoria Recreation Center.
- Adjusting staffing levels, roles, and responsibilities within the Aquatics, Recreation, and Maintenance divisions to streamline operations and balance staff capacity with APRD's quality and level of service benchmarks.
- Contracting with third parties for maintenance of tourist-oriented facilities using Transient Lodging Tax revenue.
- Contracting with Recology for waste collection services.
- Moved the budget for Ocean View Cemetery (OVC) from APRD's budget to its own fund, based on a recommendation from the 2020 OVC Master Plan. APRD staff continue to oversee grounds and burial operations at OVC, but the separate budget enables better tracking of revenue and expenses tied solely to cemetery management.

The playground at the Astoria Recreation Center is used by Bumble Preschool ►

Astoria Recreation Center ▼



BUDGET

Since 2016, the Department's annual operating budget has more than doubled, increasing from \$1.82 million to \$3.8 million.

This increase reflects a combination of expanded services since COVID-19, rising operational costs, inflation, and evolving community expectations for parks and recreation facilities and programs. Over the past decade, the Department has continued to maintain and improve the community's large inventory of parks, trails, recreation facilities, and public spaces, while also responding to significant increases in the cost of labor, materials, utilities, insurance, and contracted services.

The COVID-19 pandemic created substantial operational and financial challenges for the Department. During the pandemic, many recreation programs and Aquatic Center services were significantly reduced or temporarily suspended. Since reopening, the Department has focused on rebuilding programs, restoring participation levels, and adapting services to meet changing community needs and expectations.

FIG. 7 - TOTAL EXPENSES VS. TOTAL REVENUE

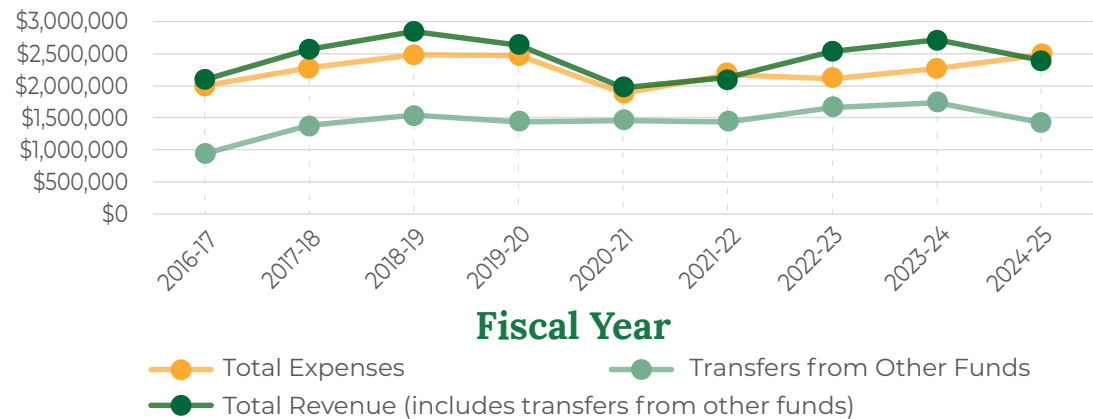


Fig. 7 - Total Expenses vs. Total Revenue

FIG. 8 - AQUATICS EXPENSES VS. REVENUE

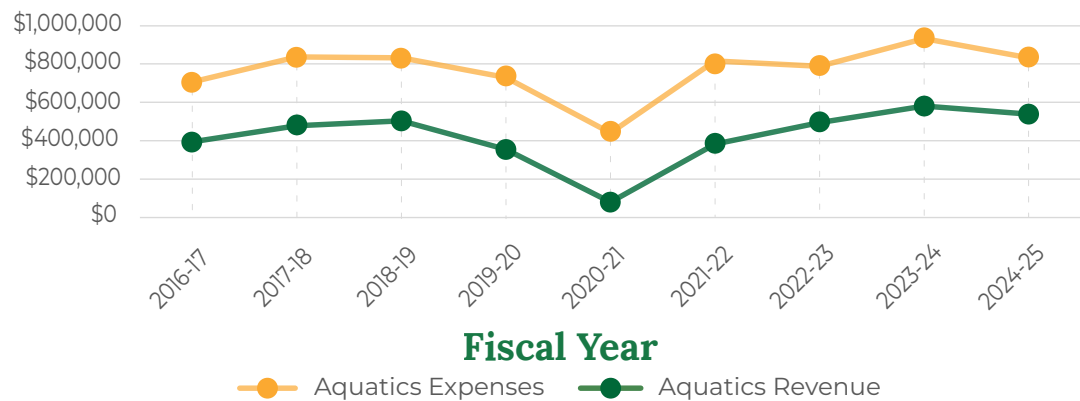


Fig. 7 - Aquatic Expenses vs. Revenue

▼ Panoramic view of the pools at Astoria Aquatic Center



Like many public agencies nationwide, the Department has also experienced ongoing staffing and workforce challenges. Recruiting and retaining qualified employees, particularly part-time and seasonal staff for aquatics and recreation services, has become increasingly difficult and competitive. Wage pressures, limited workforce availability, and higher training and certification costs have all contributed to rising personnel expenses, which now represent the largest portion of the Department’s operating budget. The Department has focused on expanding full-time positions in the past ten years and is working toward reducing its reliance on part-time labor as much as possible.

Operational costs have increased substantially since 2016 and the Department has continued to prioritize long-term financial sustainability, maintenance of existing assets, and strategic investments that improve quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

The Aquatics and Recreation divisions generate revenue through user fees, which recover a portion of their operating expenses, while Maintenance operations are funded entirely by outside sources such as the General Fund and the

Promote Astoria Fund. Capital projects continue to be funded primarily through grants, donations, and fundraising. A system development charge (SDC) for parks was implemented in 2023, which can also be used for capital projects.

This chapter catalogs and describes the programs, services, and facilities overseen by APRD, which will be used to inform Master Plan recommendations and implementation strategies to guide the Department toward satisfying its mission and providing functional services that are aligned with available resources and community priorities.

FIG. 9 - RECREATION & ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES VS. REVENUE

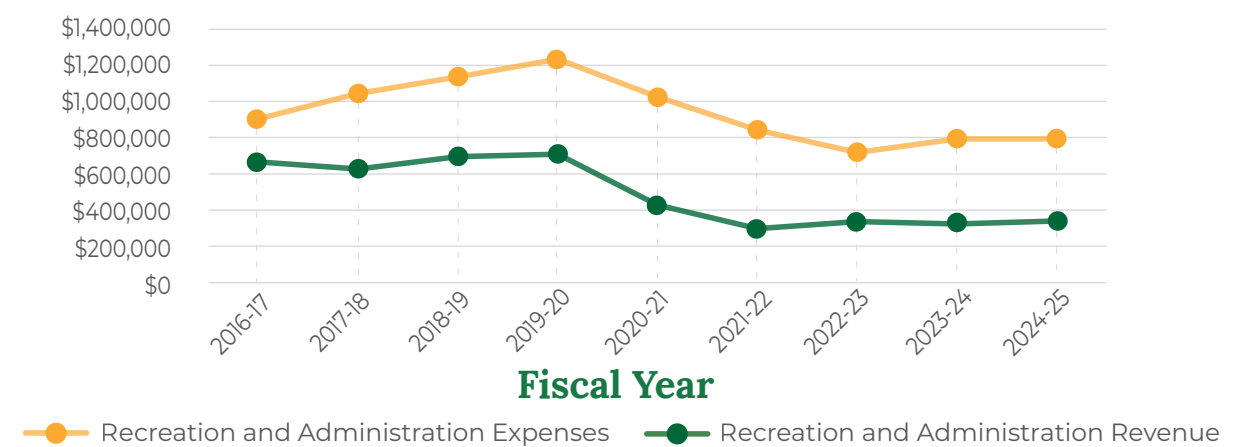


FIG. 10 - MAINTENANCE EXPENSES



B. Programs

The Department provides a variety of recreation and community programs that are a vital asset to quality of life and wellness.

Program offerings serve a wide range of community members regardless of age, income, or physical ability. As part of this effort, APRD partners with local organizations such as the Astoria School District and Clatsop Community College. A comprehensive list of current programs is provided below.

RECREATION PROGRAMS

- Youth sports leagues for K-8th grade
- After school programs for K-5th grade
- Summer programs for K-5th grade
- Adult fitness classes
- Adult sport programs including drop-in and tournament events

AQUATICS PROGRAMS

- Swimming lessons for age 6 months to 11 years
- Swim leagues for age 11 to 18 years

- Aquatic fitness classes
- Partner programming with U.S. Coast Guard, Tongue Point Job Corps, Astoria High School Swim Team, Clatsop County Special Olympics, and Warrenton High School Robotics Club

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

- Fun runs and walks
- Movies in the Park
- Holiday themed events
- Facility rentals
- Equipment rentals

▼ Turkey Trot 5k Run/Walk on the Riverwalk



▼ Swimming lessons at Astoria Aquatic Center



C. Parks, Trails, and Facilities Inventory

To help APRD and City decision-makers manage assets, APRD parks, trails, facilities, and other sites were inventoried and existing conditions, maintenance needs, and maintenance priority ratings were cataloged. The results provide a baseline for further analysis and compile relevant information for reference in policy writing, grant applications, budgeting, and planning for the future. The inventory also serves as a useful tool and accessible reference for informing the public. A map of existing parks and trails is included in Figure 11.

A comprehensive inventory of APRD sites was previously completed as part of the 2016 Plan. This has been updated to

reflect the current scope and condition of parks, trails, facilities, and other APRD properties. This process is useful for evaluating existing conditions to identify current and future maintenance needs.

Inventories were completed by compiling information provided by APRD staff, by site visits, and through mapping. This information is provided in the summary tables below, and in Appendix A, which includes inventory sheets for each facility with detailed information, photos, and aerial images. The inventory sheets identify current and future maintenance needs, maintenance priority level, and amenities.

Playground at Fred Lindstrom Park ▲



Historic Reconstruction of the first U.S. Customs Office on the Pacific Coast ►

Memorial at Nordic Heritage Park ▼



FIG. 11 - EXISTING PARKS AND TRAILS

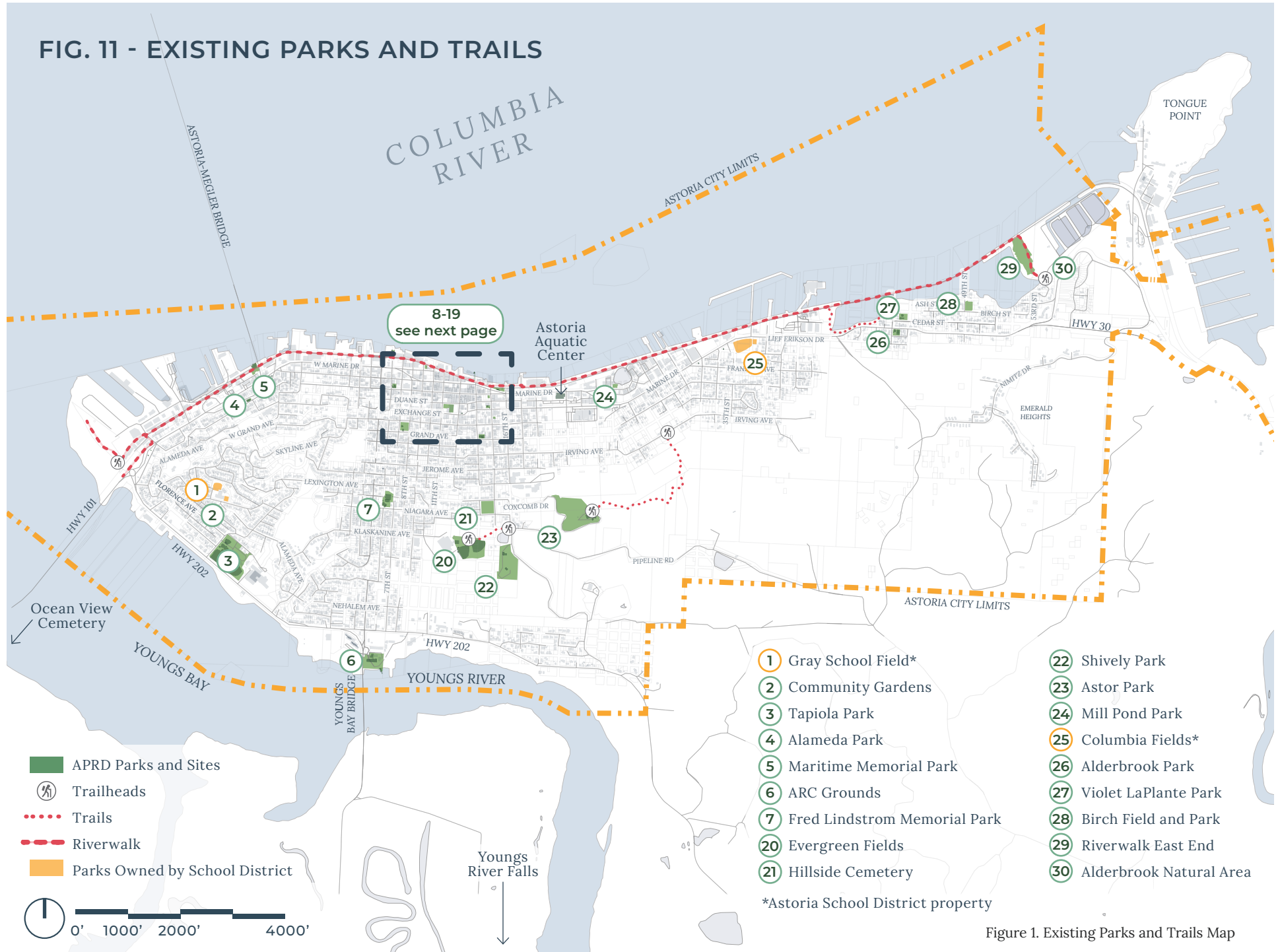


Figure 1. Existing Parks and Trails Map

FIG. 12 - EXISTING PARKS AND TRAILS ENLARGEMENT



Types of Parkland

Astoria's parklands are categorized into the following classifications, as described in the Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP):

TABLE 3.1 TYPES OF PARKLAND

Park Classification	Typical Size	Service Area	Description
Pocket Parks	<2 acres	Serve residents in immediately adjacent neighborhoods	Smallest park classification. Provide basic recreation opportunities (playgrounds, benches, tables). Do not typically provide off-street parking.
Neighborhood Parks	2-20 acres	Provide close-to-home recreation opportunities	Include amenities like playgrounds, outdoor sports courts/fields, and multi-use open grass areas (for non-organized recreation activities), picnic tables, and pathways. May or may not provide off-street parking.
Community Parks	15-100 acres	Serve broader purpose than neighborhood parks, including preserving unique landscapes and open spaces	Typically close to a neighborhood but normally designed as “drive-to sites” and include off-street parking. Designed to accommodate large numbers of people and offer a variety of amenities like group picnic areas, restrooms, shelters, splash pads, community gardens, extensive pathway systems, event space, and natural areas.
Regional Parks	100+ acres	Serve areas within a 45-minute drive	Large parks that provide access to natural or cultural features and often include green space, riverfront corridors, wetlands, agricultural, or forested areas. Typically have infrastructure (restrooms and parking) to accommodate large group events and festivals and activities like picnicking, boating, fishing, camping, and trail use.
Urban Plaza Parks	0.25-3 acres	Often attract visitors who are already in area for other purposes (e.g., shopping, dining, working)	Small public gathering spaces in urban areas that foster community interaction and civic pride. Typical amenities include drinking fountains, benches, waste receptacles, trees and shrubs, and paved walkways.

Types of Parkland

TABLE 3.1 TYPES OF PARKLAND CONT.

Park Classification	Typical Size	Service Area	Description
Nature Parks	Can vary in size, from less than 10 acres to greater than 200 acres	N/A	Lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. May be used to protect environmentally sensitive areas, and public access may be limited or could include interpretive displays, viewpoints, and seating areas.
Special Use Parks	N/A	N/A	Covers a broad range of specialized or single-purpose park and recreation lands like waterfront or ocean access parks, boat ramps, memorials, historic sites, dog parks, skate parks, or single-purpose sites for a particular field sport. Park size and required supporting facilities (e.g., restrooms and parking) are dependent on the specific use.
Linear Parks	N/A	N/A	Natural or built corridors that connect parks and neighborhoods. May include abandoned railroad lines, utility rights-of-way, wildlife corridors, or elongated natural areas defined by drainage features or topographical changes. Typically support trail-oriented activities like walking and biking and include amenities like benches, tables, trailhead kiosks, wayfinding markers, and parking at major trailheads.
Trails, Pathways, and Bikeways	N/A	N/A	Variety of trails to accommodate activities like running, walking, biking, rollerblading, skateboarding, and horseback riding. May be located within parks or along existing streets and can be made of a variety of materials, either hard surfaced or soft surfaced (e.g., soil, crushed rock). May include amenities like signage, gates, benches, overlooks, drinking fountains, lighting, and trailhead kiosks.
Regional Sports Parks	Typically require at least 25 acres, with 40-80 acres being more optimal sizing.	N/A	Consolidation of heavily programmed athletic facilities, including sports fields, racetracks. Typically require large parking area and restroom facilities.
Destination Parks	N/A	N/A	Can include same characteristics as other park classifications, but offer such outstanding natural, historic, scenic or recreational attractions that visitors travel more than an hour to several days to reach them. Usually well-known statewide and even nationally.

MAINTENANCE PRIORITY RATING

Maintenance priority ratings were determined by APRD staff using a set of quantitative and qualitative criteria based on level of use and core community needs. Rating criteria can be applied to any APRD site and are defined as follows:

Maintenance Priority A:

- High use sites with 50 or more daily visitors during average peak use.
- Restroom(s) on-site.
- Considered an important community resource, major historic or cultural site, and/or a major tourist attraction (e.g., Astoria Column).
- Associated with revenue generation.
- Includes unique amenities (e.g., Astoria Skate Park or Cathedral Tree Trail).
- No alternative sites with comparable amenities within ½ mile.



APRD Maintenance Staff ►
Sport courts at Fred Lindstrom Park ▼

Maintenance Priority B:

- Medium use sites with 25 to 50 daily visitors during average peak use.
- Smaller infrastructure onsite (e.g., single play structure, small picnic bench, etc.).
- Minor historic site (e.g., Old Post Office).
- Comparable amenities within ½ mile.

Maintenance Priority C:

- Low use sites with 25 or fewer daily visitors during average peak use.
- No amenities or very basic amenities (e.g., single bench/picnic table, etc.).
- No cultural or historic elements.
- Comparable amenities within ¼ mile.

Rating sites by maintenance priority helps APRD prioritize maintenance actions over time; however, safety concerns and hazards are addressed as quickly as possible regardless of priority ratings.



Park Inventory Summary

TABLE 3.2 PARKS MANAGED BY APRD

Parks	Maintenance Priority Level	Classification	Location	Acreage
6th Street River Park	A	Nature Park	6th St. & Riverwalk	0.15
9th & Astor St. Park	B	Pocket Park	9th St. & Astor St.	0.13
14th Street River Park	A	Nature Park	14th St. & Riverwalk	0.13
14th & Grand Playground	B	Pocket Park	14th & Grand Ave.	0.38
Alameda Park	C	Pocket Park	Alameda Ave. & Melbourne Ave.	0.11
Alderbrook Natural Area	C	Nature Park	53rd St. & Alder St.	13.3
Alderbrook Park	A	Pocket Park	45th St. & Lief Erickson Dr.	0.62
ARC Grounds	A	Neighborhood Park	1555 W. Marine Dr	3.5
Astor Park	A	Destination Park	1 Coxcomb Hill Dr.	37.5
Astoria Skate Park	A	Special Use Park	900 Marine Dr.	0.35
Birch Field & Park	C	Pocket Park	49th St. & Birch St.	0.96
Children's Park Playground	B	Pocket Park	6th St. & Commercial St.	0.23
Evergreen Fields	A	Neighborhood Park	Astoria Middle School	11.7
Fort Astoria Park	A	Special Use Park	15th & Exchange St.	0.14
Fred Lindstrom Park	A	Neighborhood Park	686 Niagara Ave.	1.9
Garden of Surging Waves	A	Plaza Park	11th St. & Duane St.	1.25
Hillside Cemetery	B	Special Use Park	15th St. & Niagara	2.1
Maritime Memorial Park	A	Special Use Park	Bay St. & Marine Dr.	0.24
McClure Park	C	Pocket Park	8th St. & Grand Ave.	0.92
Mill Pond Park	A	Nature Park	23rd St. & Mill Pond Ln.	0.29
Nordic Heritage Park	A	Plaza Park	16th St. & Marine Dr.	0.41
Ocean View Cemetery	A	Special Use Park	Warrenton*	100
Post Office Park	B	Special Use Park	15th St. & Franklin Ave.	0.11
Riverwalk	A	Linear Park	Maritime Memorial Park to West End Mooring Basin	36.4
Shively Park	A	Community Park	16th St. & Williamsport Rd.	11.7

*Located outside of Astoria city limits

Park Inventory Summary

TABLE 3.2 PARKS MANAGED BY APRD CONT.

Parks	Maintenance Priority Level	Classification	Location	Acreage
Tapiola Park	A	Community Park	S. Denver St. & W. Marine Dr.	12
Tidal Rock Park	C	Special Use Park	15th St. & Commercial St.	0.08
Violet LaPlante Park	B	Neighborhood Park	45th St. & Cedar St.	0.69
Youngs Bay Marine Park	A	Special Use Park	1555 W. Marine Dr.	0.9
Youngs River Falls	C	Destination Park	Young's River Loop Rd.*	12

TABLE 3.3 TRAILS MANAGED BY APRD

*Located outside of Astoria city limits

Trails	Maintenance Priority Level	Classification	Location	Miles
11th Street Steps	A	Hard Surface Trail	11th St. & Irving Ave.	0.05
Cathedral Tree Trail	A	Soft Surface Hiking Trail	28th St. & Irving Ave.	1.3
Evergreen to Shively	C	Soft Surface Hiking Trail	Evergreen Fields	0.2
Riverwalk	A	Linear Park & Hard Surface Trail	Maritime Memorial Park to West End Mooring Basin	6.4

TABLE 3.4 APRD PARKLAND

Parkland Type	Number of Park Sites	Acres Managed by APRD
Community Parks	2	23.7
Destination Parks	2	49.5
Linear Parks	1	36.4
Nature Parks	4	13.9
Neighborhood Parks	4	17.1
Pocket Parks	7	3.35
Special Use Parks	8	103.9
Urban Plaza Parks	2	1.7
Total	30	250.2

TABLE 3.5 APRD TRAILS

Trail Type	Miles Managed by APRD
Hard surface	6.5
Soft surface	1.5
Total Miles	8.0

Park Inventory Summary

TABLE 3.6 FACILITIES MANAGED BY APRD

Facilities	Maintenance Priority Level	Address	Area
Alderbrook Community Hall	A	4509 Lief Erikson Dr.	-
ARC - Bumble Childcare	A	1555 W. Marine Dr.	14,000 SF
ARC - Maintenance Shop	A	1555 W. Marine Dr.	3,500 SF
Astoria Aquatic Center	A	1997 Marine Dr.	25,000 SF
Astoria Column/Gift Shop/Caretaker House	A	1 Coxcomb Hill Dr.	2,000 SF
Doughboy Monument	A	Columbia & Marine Dr.	250 SF
Downtown Restrooms	A	1234 Exchange St.	300 SF
Ocean View Cemetery Chapel	C	575 SW 18th St., Warrenton	800 SF
Ocean View Cemetery Maintenance Shop	B	575 SW 18th St., Warrenton	1,200 SF
Portland Loo at Nordic Heritage Park	A	16th & Marine	66 SF
Shively Hall	A	1530 Shively Park Rd.	2,000 SF
U.S. Customs House	B	34th & Lief Erikson Dr.	1,500 SF

TABLE 3.7 OTHER PROPERTIES MANAGED BY APRD

Other Properties	Maintenance Priority Level	Address	Acreage
8th Street Triangle	A	8th St. & Marine Dr.	0.1
15th Street Triangle	A	15th St. & Marine Dr.	0.2
17th Street Flower Bed	A	17th St. & Riverwalk	0.01
18th Street Flower Beds	C	18th St. & Duane St.	0.2
Aquatic Center Grounds	A	1997 Marine Dr.	2.2
Bond Street Triangle	B	Bond St. & Marine Dr.	0.1
Exchange St. Parkway	B	17th St. - 23rd St. & Exchange St.	0.3
Marine Drive Bump-Outs	A	9th St. - 14th & Marine Dr.	-
Portal Park - East	A	33rd & Marine Dr.	0.2



4. Needs Assessment

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◀ 3-on-3 basketball at Fred Lindstrom Park

▼ Astoria Riverwalk from a distance



A. Introduction

Access to parks and recreation opportunities is one of the most highly valued qualities of living in Astoria, as identified by community members throughout this planning process. Responses to open houses and survey prompts described parks and recreation facilities as vital community assets.

The Needs Assessment evaluates multiple factors to better understand how well Astoria residents' park and recreation needs are met by existing facilities and programs. This information is used to develop recommended system improvements and identify long-range planning needs.

Evaluation factors include:

- State and national publications that provide guidance related to community recreation needs and other park system planning considerations.
- Level of Service (LOS) Analysis:
 - Time, distance, and other factors which affect ease of access to outdoor recreation facilities.
 - Quantity and variety of park types (e.g., neighborhood parks, pocket parks, urban plazas).
 - Quantity and variety of recreation amenities (e.g., picnic areas, sport fields, and courts).
- Recreation program opportunities (e.g., youth sports, fitness classes, community events).
- Facilities and programs provided by other public and private entities (e.g., school district facilities, state and national parks, private gyms and fitness studios).
- Community input on recreation needs, priorities, perceived level of service, and challenges or barriers to accessing recreation.

▼ Children's Park



▼ Basketball court at Tapiola Park



B. State and National Guidance

OREGON SCORP (2025-29)

The Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is updated every five years and provides information and guidance to recreation providers in Oregon to assist in park system planning. The SCORP includes statewide survey data regarding outdoor recreation needs and priorities and provides recommendations for recreation providers based on that data.

A notable difference between the current iteration of the SCORP (2025-29) and the version referenced in the 2016 Plan (2013-17 SCORP) is the elimination of LOS guidelines for acres of parkland and recreation amenities per capita. Instead, the current SCORP identifies themes from statewide survey results and encourages recreation providers to emphasize community engagement to evaluate LOS locally.

This section provides an overview of statewide survey results and compares how Astoria’s inventory of parks, amenities, and programs align with SCORP-recommended strategic actions for municipal recreation providers.

TABLE 4.1 SCORP SURVEY RESULTS: OUTDOOR RECREATION PROVIDERS

OUTDOOR RECREATION PROVIDER NEEDS Results from statewide survey of Oregon public recreation providers	
Statewide Need	Clatsop County Need
• Lighting and/or security cameras in key areas • Restrooms • Community Trail System • Accessibility and Opportunities for people with disabilities (i.e., trails for hand cycles or trail chairs) • Law enforcement officers	• Community trail system • Children's playgrounds and play areas built with manufactured structures like swing sets, slides, and climbing apparatuses • Restrooms

Source: SCORP 2025-29 Tables 9.1, 9.5 “Close-to-home Priorities”

TABLE 4.2 SCORP SURVEY RESULTS: OREGON RESIDENTS

OREGON RESIDENT NEEDS Results from statewide survey of Oregon residents		
Statewide Need	Households with Disabilities Need	Low Income Population Need
• Clean and well-maintained facilities • Restrooms • Free-of-charge recreation opportunities • Parks and recreation areas • Directional signs and details about trails (e.g., distance, difficulty, elevation gain) at trailhead	• Clean and well-maintained facilities • Restrooms • Free-of-charge recreation opportunities • Accessibility and opportunities for people with disabilities (e.g., trails for hand cycles or trail chairs) • Parks and recreation areas	• Clean and well-maintained facilities • Restrooms • Free-of-charge recreation opportunities • Nature and wildlife viewing areas • Parks and recreation areas

Source: SCORP 2025-29 Tables 9.38, 9.42, 9.43 “Close-to-home Priorities”

These results illustrate general consensus between recreation providers and residents regarding recreation needs. Through the Master Plan community engagement process, many Astoria residents identified these same needs (discussed further in Section D of this chapter).

Based on the statewide survey results, the 2025-29 SCORP identifies strategic actions for recreation providers to support outdoor recreation participation at all levels of age, income, and physical ability.

Strategic actions are categorized as follows:

1. Address the top outdoor recreation priorities of Oregon residents.
2. Address the top constraints to outdoor recreation for Oregon residents.
3. Increase engagement with low-income Oregon residents.
4. Increase engagement with Oregon households with disabilities.
5. Increase engagement with diverse racial/ethnic communities in Oregon.
6. Take actions to balance conservation and recreation at outdoor areas in Oregon.

Trail signage ►

Strategic actions that are specific to municipal recreation providers and may be relevant to APRD include:

1. Providing clean and well-maintained facilities and restrooms.
2. Prioritizing free-of-charge recreation opportunities and low-cost equipment rentals.
3. Providing more information to the public on websites, at visitor centers, and on maps and brochures (e.g., signage at trails with details about accessibility, posting information about the cost of recreation participation).
4. Examining how well local community needs are met by farmers' markets, community gardens, outdoor sports, outdoor concerts and movies, and educational activities.
5. Offering programs specifically for households with disabilities and households from diverse racial/ethnic communities.
6. Collaborating with community partners to increase engagement with households that are low income, racially/ethnically



diverse, and/or that include members with disabilities.

7. Advancing accessibility and universal design principles.
8. Promoting a sense of belonging and safety for all communities: incorporate history of diverse communities' relationships to recreation areas, host events and festivals serving and celebrating diverse communities, identify ways to take appropriate action when residents report harmful encounters in recreation areas, promote internal and external organizational diversity.
9. Providing transportation assistance: work with ride-share companies, city transit authorities, local schools, and/or Community based organizations.
10. Promoting practices and principles to minimize visitor impacts and adapt current infrastructure to address crowding and natural resource impacts
11. Examining ways to lower barriers related to social constraints of participating in outdoor recreation.

▼ Gravel trail improvement on Cathedral Tree Trail



NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION (NRPA)

The NRPA is a national non-profit organization that conducts research and issues publications on a wide variety of parks and recreation issues to define, measure, and understand the impact of parks and recreation.

NRPA publishes an annual report exploring the public's relationship with parks and the role of parks and recreation in everyday life. The 2025 Engagement with Parks Report provides insight into community-level needs and experiences with parks and recreation. This information can supplement guidance in the SCORP and provide further context for local parks and recreation planning and LOS evaluation.

▼ Easter activities, 2017



Relevant findings in the 2025 Engagement with Parks Report include:

- About 3 in 5 (63%) of U.S. residents say proximity to parks and recreation is “highly” important when choosing a place to live.
- The top three uses for park and recreation facilities are:
 1. “Visited a local park, playground, dog park, or open space,”
 2. “Used a hiking/biking/walking trail,” and
 3. “Attended a special event at a park/recreation center.”
- The top three reasons the public use park and recreation facilities are:
 1. “To be with family or friends,”
 2. “To be closer to nature,” and
 3. “To exercise or be physically fit.”
- “Lack of time” is the top obstacle keeping residents from using parks and recreation
- More than 2 in 3 (68%) U.S. residents agree local park and recreation agencies are a “very valuable” government service, and nearly all (95%) agree they are at least “somewhat” valuable.
- 74% of respondents agree it is “very valuable” for local and state governments to sufficiently fund local park and recreation agencies to ensure every community member has access to these resources.

▼ Shively Park



C. Level of Service Analysis

The Level of Service analysis considers the spatial distribution of parkland in Astoria as well as the variety of available parks, trails, and facilities. This information is used to develop planning strategies to ensure there is a broad range of recreation opportunities available to the community and to better address recreation needs in any underserved areas.

ACCESS TO RECREATION

The map in Figure 13 illustrates LOS based on proximity to parks and recreation facilities, highlighting areas of the City that are within ½ mile (approximately a 10-minute walk) and ¼ mile (approximately a 5-minute walk)

▼ Astoria Riverwalk



from a park or trail access point. This spatial analysis was created using the Network Analyst Service Area tool in Arc GIS Pro, which considers walking routes on existing roads and paths.

As shown on the map, most developed areas within the City are within a 5-10 minute walk from one or more parks or trail access points. Areas that require more than a 10-minute walk to reach designated parks or trails include the Emerald Heights neighborhood and the southeastern portion of the South Slope neighborhood. These areas may be further evaluated for opportunities to add new facilities or otherwise improve access to recreation. One notable challenge for APRD to improve recreation access in Emerald Heights is the lack of City-owned property in this neighborhood.

RANGE OF PARKLAND TYPES AND AMENITIES

In addition to evaluating ease of access to parks and recreation facilities, LOS is commonly measured by identifying the amount of existing parkland within various park classifications (see Section 3.C for definitions). This section identifies the supply of parkland within each category, including land within City limits and in surrounding areas within five miles.

The 2016 Plan included an evaluation based on guidelines from the 2013-17 SCORP, which identified recommendations for acres of parkland per 1,000 residents within each category of parkland. At that time, these guidelines were met or exceeded in all categories except Urban Plaza Parks. Since 2016, the opening of Nordic Heritage Park has increased the supply of Urban Plaza Parks to meet the 2013-17 SCORP guideline. This site was previously known as “People’s Park” and was classified as a Nature Park. After being redeveloped as an Urban Plaza Park, APRD would still meet the 2013-17 SCORP guideline for supply of land in the Nature Parks category. No other significant

changes to the supply or classification of parklands has occurred since the 2016 Plan was adopted. No other significant changes to the supply or classification of parklands has occurred since the 2016 Plan was adopted.

As the current SCORP no longer provides recommendations for parkland per capita, public input on the available supply and variety of parklands is emphasized in evaluating LOS and identifying system needs (see Section 4.D).

The tables in Chapter 3 include an inventory of parks, trails, and other recreation facilities managed by APRD. In evaluating LOS, it is also important to consider public recreation facilities that are available to the community but not managed by APRD, such as county parks, state and national parks, and school district facilities. Table 4.3 indicates recreation facilities that are within Astoria and/or the surrounding area which also contribute to LOS.

Park Amenities

The 2016 Plan also considered LOS based on the supply and variety of park amenities, such as sport courts, fields, and picnic shelters, compared with recommendations identified in the 2013-17 SCORP. The analysis

found that Astoria met or exceeded all recommendations. Since 2016, APRD has installed additional new amenities, including pickleball courts, public restrooms, and playground equipment, indicating the previous benchmarks continue to be met or exceeded.

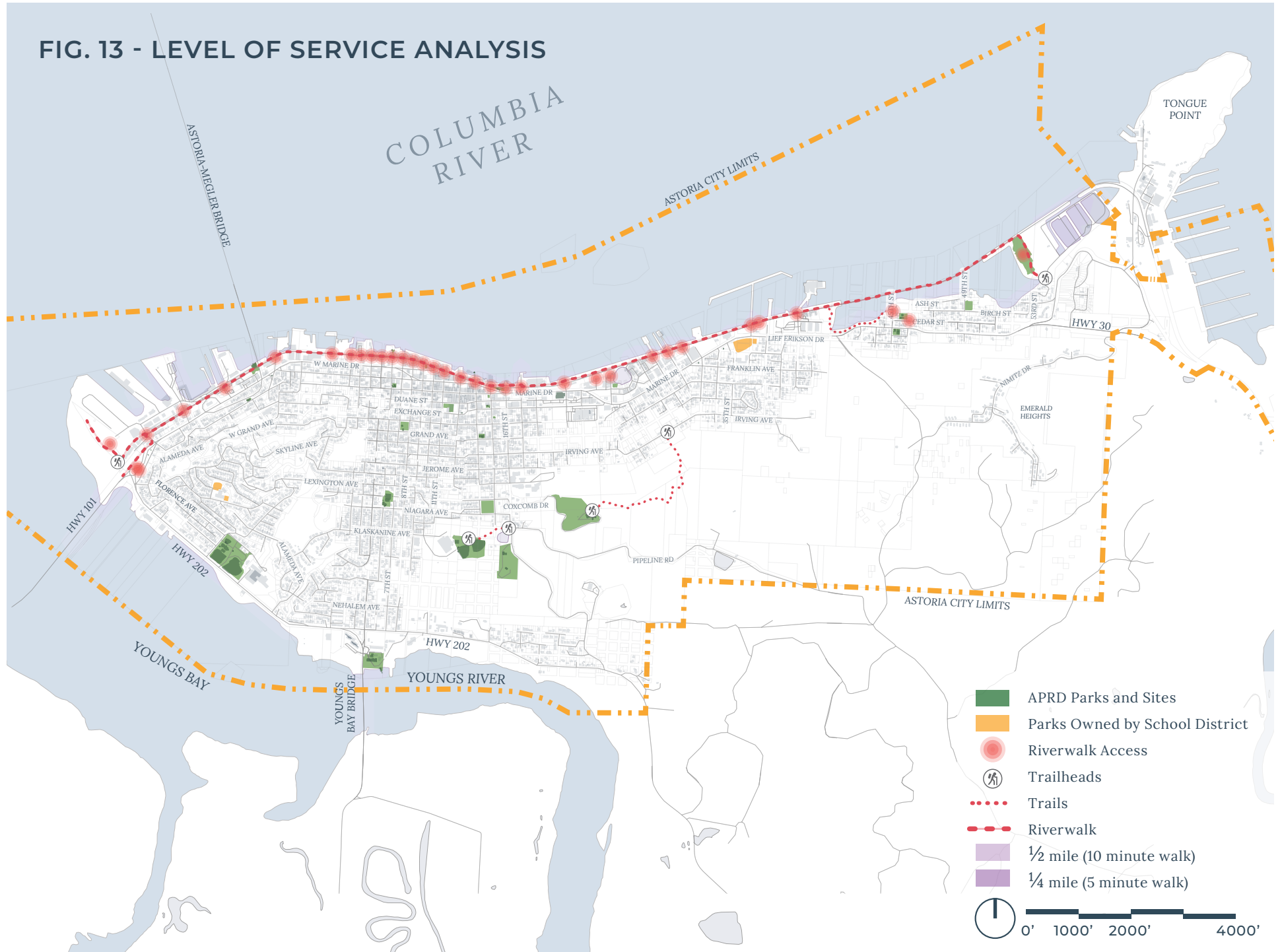
The current SCORP no longer provides quantitative guidance for park amenities,

so the LOS analysis relies more heavily on public input, which is summarized in Section 4.D. Identified needs included more covered recreation areas, fenced off-leash dog areas, disc golf, skate park features, and additional public restrooms. The community also highlighted maintenance of existing facilities and amenities as a top priority.

TABLE 4.3 ADDITIONAL PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES WITHIN 5 MILES OF ASTORIA

Park Name	Acreage	Land Manager	Amenities
Carruthers Memorial Park	7	City of Warrenton	Community Park with open space, picnic area, playground equipment, restrooms, parking, waterfront trail access, and two large fenced-in dog park areas (one for large breeds and one for small breeds) with amenities.
Columbia Field	2.9	Astoria School District	Multi-use park with two ball fields, tennis courts, and a large grass area used by multiple sports programs. Gravel parking lot, concession stand, dugouts, and bleachers. Owned by the Astoria School District.
Fort Stevens State Park	4,700	Oregon Parks and Recreation Department	476 campsites, 11 cabins, 15 yurts, beaches, several miles of paved and natural trails, equipment rentals, restrooms and showers, interpretive programs, and special events
Gray School	1	Astoria School District	Large fenced-in grass field with backstop and semi-covered outdoor playground. Adjacent to the Community Gardens
John Day County Park	54	Clatsop County	Boat launch with parking and restrooms, landscaped open space, and interpretive signage.
Lewis and Clark National Historical Park	97	National Parks Service	Visitor center, Fort Clatsop replica, several miles of natural trails, interpretive programming, lectures and special events.
Lewis and Clark National Wildlife Refuge	33,000	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Wetland reserve with hiking trails, water access, and interpretive signage

FIG. 13 - LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS



D. Community Engagement

Throughout the development of this Master Plan, APRD regularly engaged the community and stakeholders to better understand issues and opportunities related to parks and recreation.

This process collected feedback on existing conditions and gathered input on needs and priorities for the future of APRD's facilities and services.

The community engagement process included four open houses and corresponding online surveys between November 2025 and April 2026. These events were promoted to residents of Astoria and surrounding areas. There was also outreach to specific

stakeholder groups and community-based organizations, including Astoria Downtown Historic District Association (ADHA), Astoria Senior Center, and Sunset Empire Parks and Recreation District (SEPRD). Outreach included social media posts, press releases, and physical flyers posted in strategic locations.

Detailed summaries of each open house and online survey are included in Appendix B.

OPEN HOUSE 1

- Purpose: To introduce the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update project and obtain feedback on how the community currently uses the parks and recreation system and how they would like to be able to use it in the future.
- This event, held at the Astoria Armory in November 2025, included a series of informational stations and interactive activities for participants to provide input. Feedback opportunities included identifying most-visited parks, favorite recreation activities and programs, priorities for future investments, and ideas for future project opportunities such as expanding the Aquatic Center.

▼ Open House 1 at Astoria Amory



▼ Open House 1 participants comment on local parks



OPEN HOUSE 2

- Purpose: To share findings from initial engagement and request input on how to refine and prioritize the range of identified needs and goals to inform Master Plan recommendations.
- This event was held at the Astoria Public Library in January 2026. Participants were asked to identify timeframes and priority levels for various opportunities related to APRD facilities and programs.

OPEN HOUSE 3

- Purpose: To share updated community engagement results, present draft Master Plan recommendations.
- This event was held at the Astoria Public Library in March 2026. Participants were asked to provide feedback to help refine and prioritize the draft recommendations.

OPEN HOUSE 4

- Purpose: To share refined recommendations and present a draft implementation plan.
- This event was held at the Astoria Public Library in April 2026. Participants were invited to identify any remaining questions or concerns for the project team to address before finalizing the Master Plan for adoption by City Council.

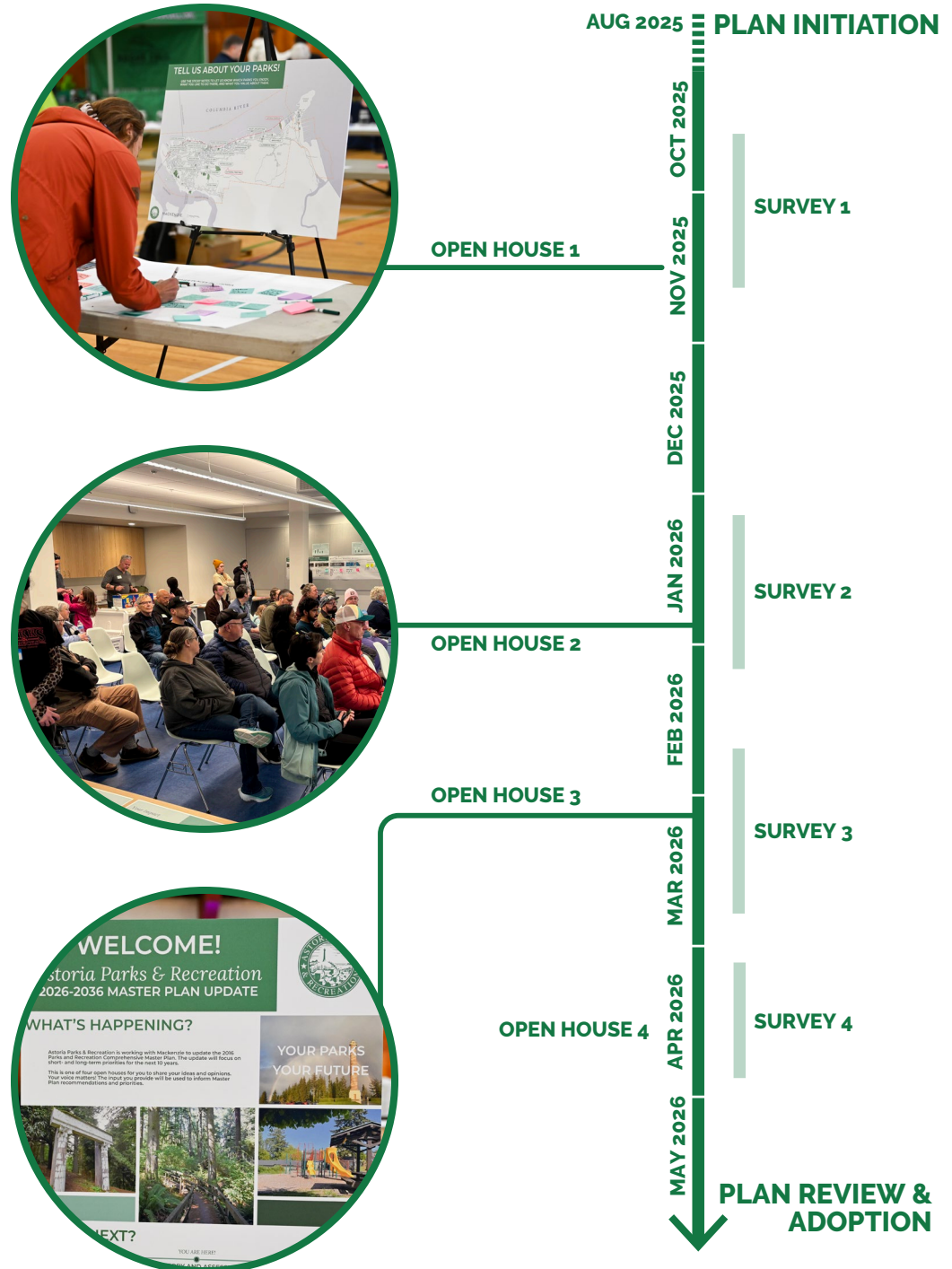


Fig. 14 - Community Engagement Timeline

KEY THEMES FROM COMMUNITY INPUT

Based on the open houses and surveys, it is evident that parks and recreation opportunities are highly valued by the community:

- 67% of participants reported using parks/trails at least weekly.
- The Riverwalk and Aquatic Center were identified as the most-visited APRD facilities.
- Walking and hiking were identified as favorite activities.
- Participants rated APRD's quality of service at an average of 4 out of 5 stars.

The following themes emerged as top priorities for APRD to address as part of this Master Plan:

Maintenance

- Invest in repairing and maintaining existing parks, trails, and facilities. Prioritize these investments over developing new facilities.
- Improve safety by providing additional lighting, repairing uneven trail surfaces, and addressing illegal camping and antisocial behavior at park sites.

Programs

- Increase community events, youth sports, teen programs, and adult sports and fitness opportunities.

Indoor and Covered Recreation Facilities

- Provide additional indoor and covered recreation areas. Community members, especially those with children and teenagers, highlighted the challenge of finding spaces for indoor activity in a rainy climate.

Aquatic Center

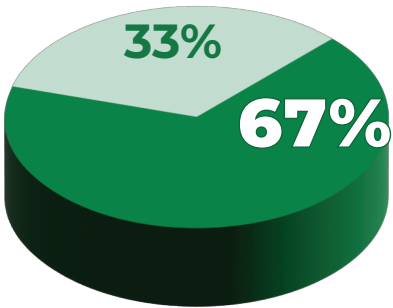
- Pursue expansion of the Aquatic Center to address the need for more indoor recreation space for play, fitness classes, and community programs. Concerns were shared regarding project funding and ongoing staffing and operational costs.
- Expand Aquatic Center hours and days of operation.

Trails

- Enhance existing trails and create new trails, especially to connect existing parks and trails.
- Establish mountain biking trails in the areas surrounding the Cathedral Tree Trail and Pipeline Road.
- Improve trailhead signage and wayfinding.



Average 4/5 Stars
for quality of APRD service



of Participants
**Use parks and/or
trails at least weekly**

Other Projects

1. Heritage Square
 - Fill the existing site.
 - Develop the site with functional space such as parking and/or flexible community gathering space.
2. Dog park
 - Establish a fenced, off-leash dog area at Tapiola Park and/or within other existing City-owned parks or sites. This emerged as a polarizing topic with detractors expressing concerns around location and safety.
3. Playground equipment
 - Replace aging play equipment. Provide new equipment that meets the needs and interests of all ages and ability levels.
4. Public restrooms
 - Install a permanent restroom at Fred Lindstrom Park (most popular location identified).
 - Install additional restroom(s) along the Riverwalk.

In-Person Engagement

4
OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

244
OPEN HOUSE
PARTICIPANTS

Online Engagement

4
SURVEYS
2,109
SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

3,000+
WRITTEN
COMMENTS!

**“The Riverwalk
is Astoria’s most
important amenity.”**

**“I don’t know what I’d do
without the pool in the
winter time especially.”**

**“I love the Astoria
Aquatic Center lap
pool and swim at
least 3 times a week.
The facilities are
wonderful, better
than many other
communities in our
state - we are so
fortunate to have such
a gem.”**

▲ Open House comments

E. Needs Assessment Conclusions

Based on spatial analysis, state and national guidance, and community feedback, the City of Astoria appears well-served by existing parks and recreation opportunities, though there are still unmet needs and room for improvement.

Most developed areas within the City are well-served by parks with easy access: almost all residents live within a ½ or a ¼ mile from an APRD facility, with the exception of the southeastern area of South Slope and the Emerald Heights neighborhood.

The provider and resident needs laid out in the 2025-2029 Oregon SCORP are also

aligned with local community feedback and with ongoing APRD efforts, such as prioritizing clean and well-maintained facilities, providing restroom facilities, and offering free and low-cost recreation opportunities and community events.

Community feedback highlights that residents in Astoria feel well served by APRD, illustrated in high quality service ratings and positive feedback about ease of park access and the range of available opportunities for recreation. Community feedback encouraged prioritizing maintenance and investment in existing facilities and noted opportunities for improvement, such as providing additional covered and indoor recreation space,

public restroom facilities, new playground equipment, enhanced park and trail amenities, expanded Aquatic Center operating hours, and more community events and recreation programs for youth, teens, and adults.

▼ Downtown Restrooms



▼ Picnic Shelter at Fred Lindstrom Park





5. Recommendations



◀ The Riverwalk

▼ Community members participating in 2017 Easter festivities



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A. Introduction

The following Master Plan recommendations are the result of a comprehensive evaluation of existing conditions, an assessment of notable changes since the adoption of the 2016 Master Plan, and extensive community engagement

Together, these inputs identify both current system needs and emerging priorities for APRD to address through a coordinated set of strategies, initiatives, and capital investments.

These recommendations, along with the Implementation Plan outlined in the following chapter, provide a framework for the Department's ongoing administration, operations, planning, and budgeting. The primary objective of this framework is to

achieve APRD's mission and align parks and recreation facilities and programming with the needs of the community and available resources by:

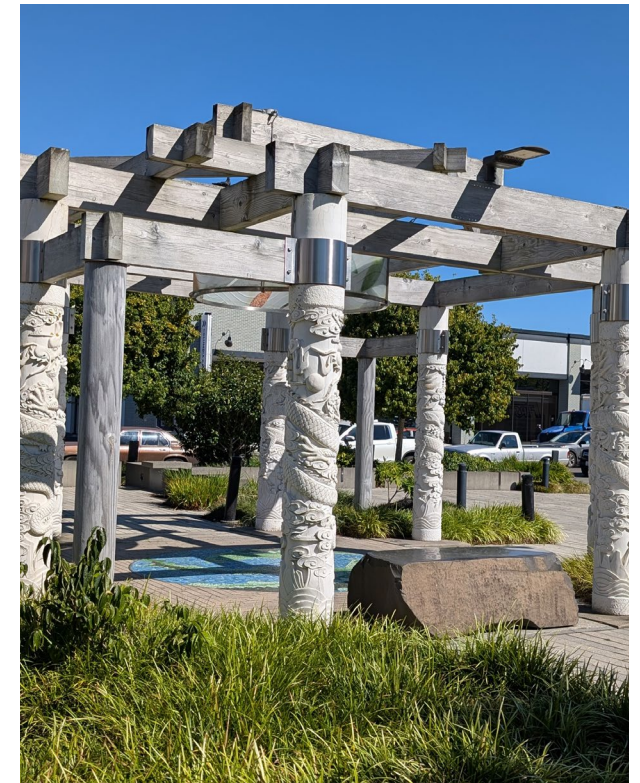
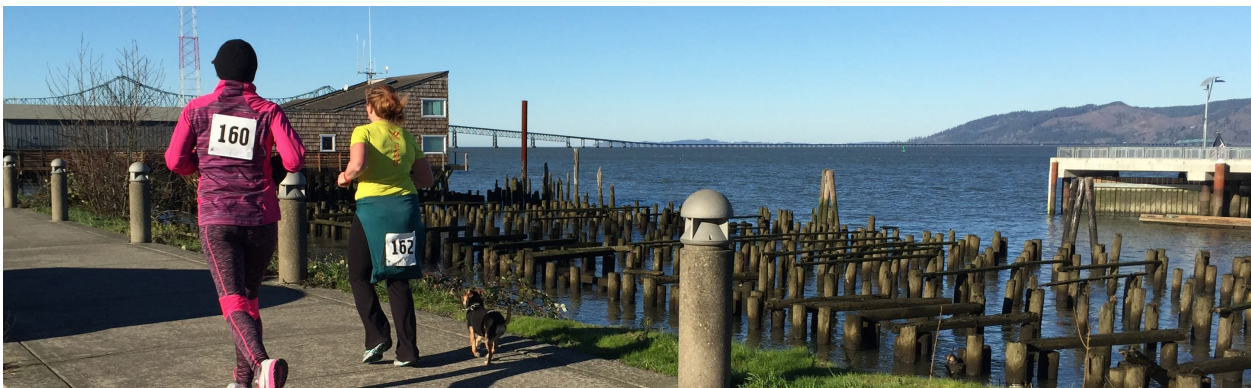
- Maintaining and enhancing existing assets.
- Ensuring equitable access to parks and recreation opportunities.
- Improving APRD's operational efficiency and financial sustainability.
- Responding to evolving community needs and priorities.
- Identifying short- and long-term capital investments.

This chapter organizes recommendations into four categories:

- Operations & Maintenance
- Programs
- Planning Initiatives
- Capital Projects.

Garden of Surging Waves ►

Community members participating in a New Years Fun Run ▼



B. Operations & Maintenance

These recommendations focus on APRD's administrative functions and on maintaining and improving parks, trails, and facilities to keep them clean, functional, and safe.

Emphasis is placed on preserving existing assets, enhancing user experience, and improving operational efficiency and long-term financial sustainability.

OM-1: Park and Trail Maintenance

- Prioritize maintenance and repair of existing parks, trails, and recreation amenities.
 - Enhance maintenance at highest-use parks and trails.
 - Increase frequency of trash pickups at highest-use parks and trails.
 - Invest in improvements to sport courts and fields (e.g., resurfacing, drainage, specialty training infrastructure, and irrigation).
 - Establish a capital improvement program (CIP) to address deferred maintenance.

OM-2: Replace Aging Playground Equipment

- Establish priorities based on park use levels, safety considerations, variety of

options for different age groups and ability, and neighborhood Level of Service.

- Incorporate accessible and inclusive play equipment to increase opportunities for people with disabilities.

OM-3: Safety – Coordination with Other Agencies

- Continue to coordinate with Astoria Police Department and other local agencies, service providers, and non-profit organizations to address issues related to illegal camping and accumulation of waste and personal belongings at public sites.

OM-4: Safety – Lighting

- Provide additional lighting at highest-use sites.

The Riverwalk looking west ►

Swing sets at Tapiola Park playground ▼



OM-5: Aquatic Center – Maintenance

- Address concerns with deferred maintenance, safety, and cleanliness.
- Continue investment in updated mechanical/operational systems to improve patron experience and increase efficiency.

OM-6: Aquatic Center – Operating Hours

- As part of the budget process, assess staffing needs to accommodate expanded hours and days of operation. This assessment should address compensation, budget impacts, and recruitment challenges.

OM-7: Department Revenue and Fees

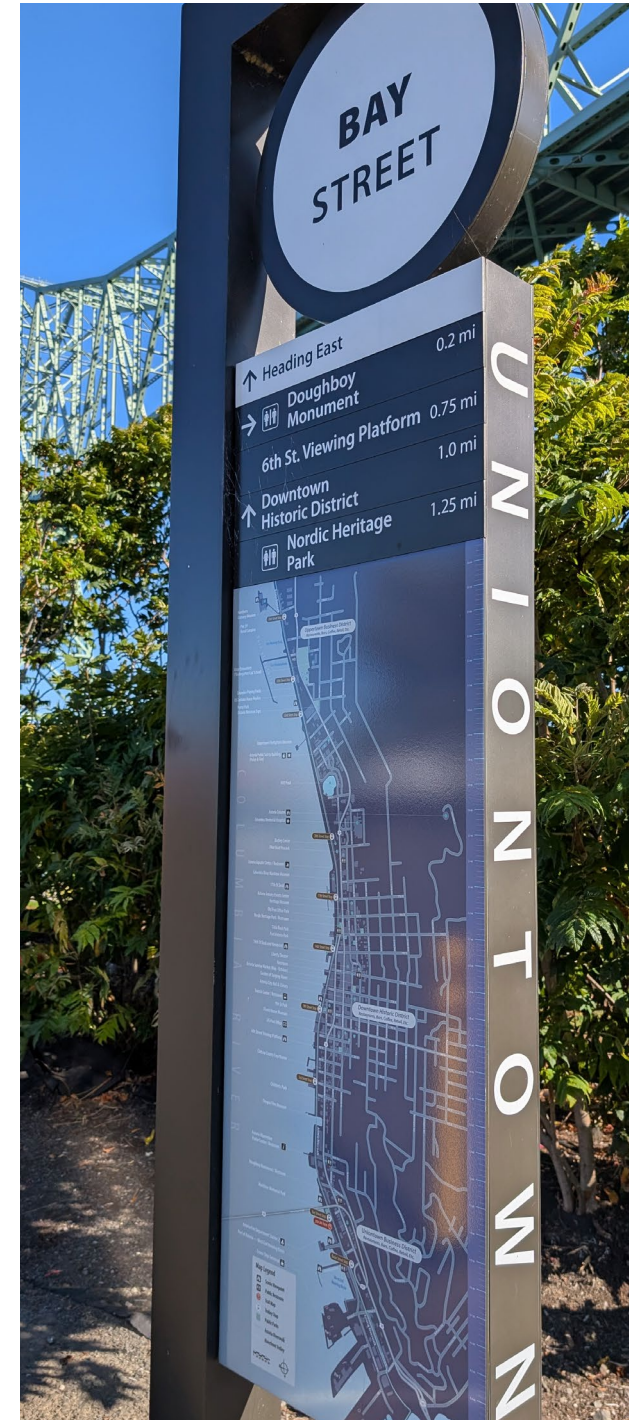
- Ensure sustainable revenue generation by reviewing user fees and operating expenses annually.
 - Consider engaging outside consultants to evaluate issues and opportunities.
 - Evaluate timing for any planned adjustments to user fees.

OM-8: Communications and Marketing

- Update APRD web page to enhance the user interface and accessibility of information.
 - Provide easy access to schedules, information, and registration opportunities for upcoming community events, youth recreation programs, and adult recreation programs.
 - Provide an interactive map of parks, trails, and indoor recreation facilities.
- Provide multi-lingual communication materials to improve accessibility for non-native English speakers.

Enhanced Riverwalk wayfinding signage was installed in 2022

Lap pools at the Aquatic Center



C. Programs

Program recommendations respond to community feedback regarding desired program types, with emphasis placed on prioritizing core services and identifying opportunities to expand and diversify programming to serve users at all ages, abilities, and income levels.

PR-1: Community Events

- Increase free and/or low-cost events (e.g., movies in the park, festive occasions, and fun runs)

PR-2: Youth Recreation Programs

- Increase swimming lessons and other swimming opportunities for advanced techniques and competitive programming.
- Increase athletics programs for K-5 age range.

▼ Youth Pickleball class



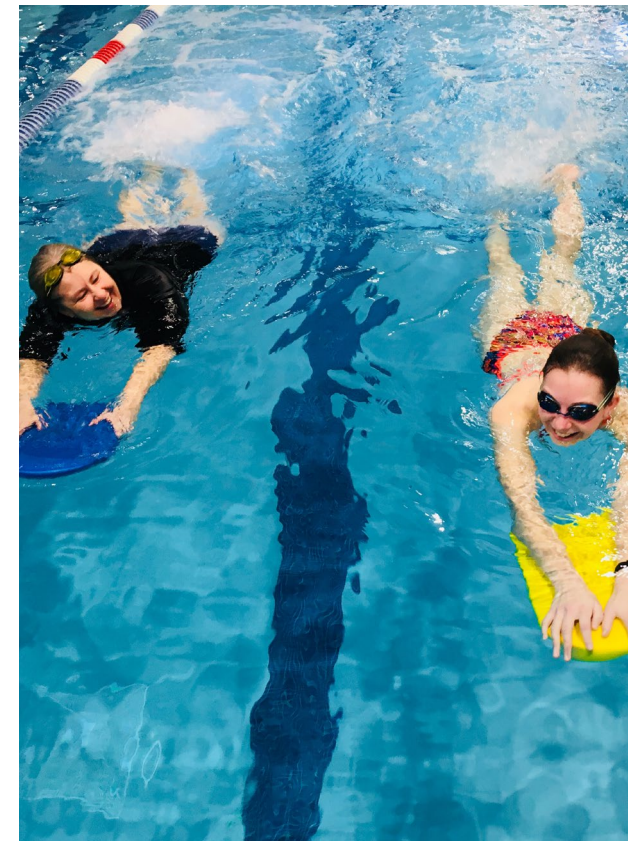
- Provide non-sports activity programs for K-5 age range.
- Provide non-sports activity programs and indoor recreation opportunities for teens.

PR-3: Adult Recreation Programs

- Increase quantity and variety of fitness classes (e.g., spin, barre, and aquatic-based programs).
- Improve offerings by investing in high quality equipment and certifications and training for instructors.
- Provide drop-in indoor recreation options (such as volleyball, basketball, pickleball, etc.).
- Provide league sports options (such as volleyball, basketball, softball, etc.).
- Provide non-sports classes and activity programs (such as wellness classes,

Swimming lessons at Astoria Aquatic Center ►

- social activities, nature education, outdoor skills, etc.).
- Increase program opportunities that are accessible for or specific to seniors.
- Explore opportunities for collaborative marketing with Clatsop Community College to improve community awareness of available programs.



D. Planning Initiatives

The following planning initiatives establish a foundation for future system improvements by identifying strategic efforts that will inform planning processes, policy updates, and decision making.

These initiatives identify areas for more targeted analysis, policy alignment, and coordination with other departments and outside partners. As part of these efforts, additional opportunities for public input will help to ensure future investments and decisions reflect community needs and priorities.

PL-1: Update Comprehensive Plan Policies

- Update Comprehensive Plan policies and maps related to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space element to ensure relevance and consistency with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

PL-2: Park and Trail Enhancement Opportunities

- Assess opportunities to enhance existing park sites and trails with additional amenities such as disc golf baskets, fitness stations, skate park

features, accessible play equipment, picnic tables/shelters, and public art.

- Consider the specific needs and interests of older youth and teens.
- Ensure new amenities are maintenance-friendly and do not require substantial effort beyond current maintenance levels.

PL-3: Update Trails Master Plan

- Establish funding sources and release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for planning services.
- Assess the existing trail system, identify needs, and evaluate potential new trail locations.
- Consider how to improve system-wide connectivity among parks and trails.
- Evaluate the feasibility of mountain biking trails on City- and County-owned land surrounding Pipeline Road and Cathedral Tree Trail.
- Evaluate where and how to enhance signage at trailheads and trail connections.

PL-4: System-Wide Wayfinding and Signage Plan

- Obtain funding and release an RFP for planning services.

- Develop a comprehensive system-wide signage plan with a uniform visual identity.
- Incorporate park identification, wayfinding, and informational signage.
- Establish a schedule and funding sources for implementation.

PL-5: Level of Service – Underserved Areas

- Assess opportunities to improve access to parks and recreation for geographically underserved areas, including:
 - Emerald Heights.
 - South Slope (southeast portion).

PL-6: Level of Service – Access Improvements

- Assess opportunities to improve ease of access to parks, trails, and recreation facilities city-wide:
 - Pedestrian access, including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) considerations.
 - Bicycle access and parking.
 - Vehicle parking.

E. Capital Projects

The following capital projects identify investments in parks, facilities, and supporting infrastructure to enhance the parks and recreation system, address community priorities, and improve user experience.

These projects reflect short- and long-term opportunities and will require strategic coordination, funding, and decision-making with careful consideration of operational and budget impacts such as maintenance and staffing needs.

CP-1: Riverwalk Lighting

- Complete lighting on the Riverwalk east of 35th Street.

CP-2: Public Restroom – Fred Lindstrom Memorial Park

- Determine facility type, location, and utility connection needs.

CP-3: Dog Park – Tapiola Park

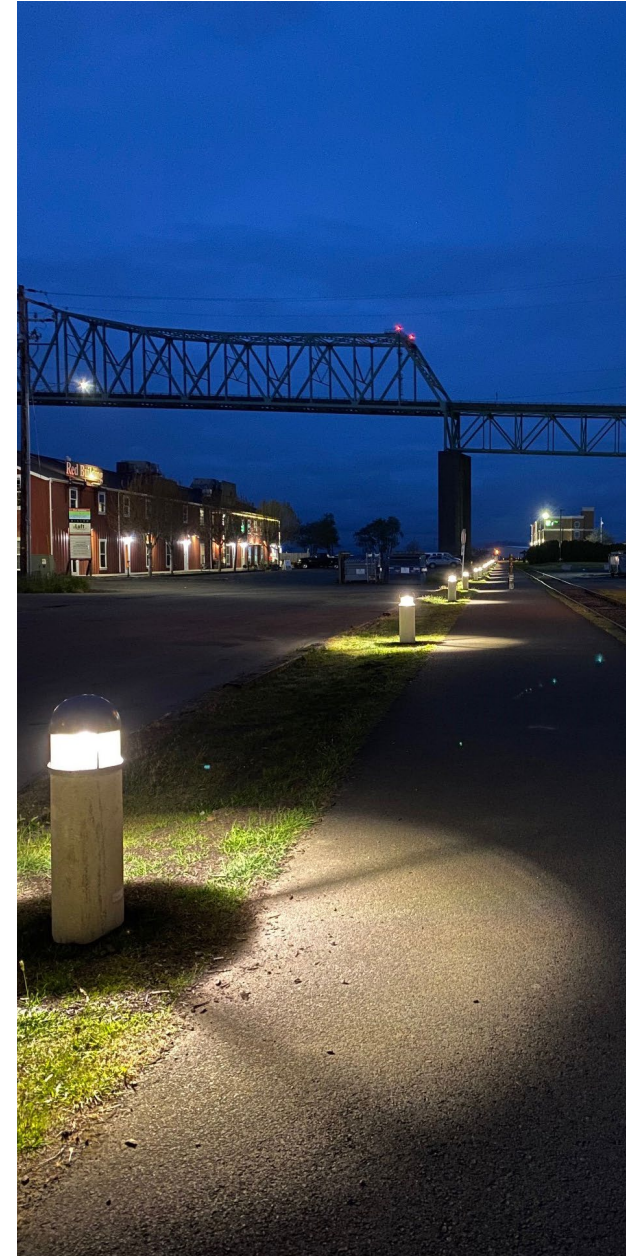
- Provide a ±1-acre fenced area with double gates at entries and segregated subareas for large dogs and small dogs.
- Ensure surface is well drained to minimize mud and ponding.

- Prioritize proactive communication with the public about project cost, funding sources, and sustainability of maintenance and safe operation.
- Consider amenities such as:
 - Signage with posted rules and etiquette.
 - Waste bag station(s).
 - Water station(s).
 - Benches and rain/shade shelter(s).
 - Trash receptacle(s).
 - Lighting.

CP-4: Heritage Square

- Fill the existing site through grant-supported effort.
- Develop a flexible, multi-use community gathering space. Refer to *Heritage Square Place Guide* (2025).
 - Obtain initial funding from City sources and grants.
 - Release an RFP for qualified firms to provide design, project management, and community engagement services.
 - Begin phased construction.

Lighting on the Riverwalk ►



CP-5: Aquatic Center Expansion

- Enhance the existing facility and expand the building by +/-10,000 square feet with flexible indoor recreation space for play, organized sports (e.g., pickleball, volleyball, basketball), fitness programs, and community events. Refer to concept plans by Scott Edwards Architecture (2024).
- Evaluate how to design and implement the building expansion without substantial increases to staffing or other associated operational costs.
- Establish funding sources for design and construction.
- Release an RFP for qualified firms to provide design, project management, and community engagement services.

- Prioritize proactive communication with the public about project costs, funding sources, and ongoing staffing, maintenance, and other operational considerations.

CP-6: Covered Recreation Areas

- Add open-air shelter(s) at existing play areas and/or sport courts (e.g., Tapiola Park basketball courts, Niemi Field batting practice area, Fred Lindstrom Park Pickleball/Tennis Courts).

CP-7: Public Restroom

- Riverwalk at 9th Street

- Determine facility type, location, and utility connection needs.

CP-8: Dog Park - Other Location

- Consider additional locations within existing parks that may be appropriate for fenced off-leash dog areas.

Portland Loo at Nordic Heritage Park

Aquatic Center expansion concept by Scott Edwards Architecture (2024)





6. Implementation Plan



Community members participate in the 2024 Turkey Trot 5K

14th and Grand Park



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A. Introduction

The purpose of the Implementation Plan is to translate the recommendations from the previous chapter into actionable steps by identifying when projects should be initiated, providing approximate project costs and possible funding sources, and establishing the roles of APRD staff and partners in carrying each recommendation forward. See the Implementation Matrix in Section F, Tables 6.1 through 6.4.

This plan is intended to serve as a practical tool for APRD staff, City Council, and other decision-makers to guide budgeting, planning, and policy direction. It also provides transparency

for the public and community by clearly communicating anticipated priorities, timelines, and funding considerations.

The Implementation Plan is designed to be flexible and should be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect changing conditions, funding availability, community priorities, and organizational capacity. While it establishes a framework for action, successful implementation will depend on ongoing coordination, evaluation, and adaptation over time.

Community members utilizing Aquatic Center amenities

Trail work on Cathedral Tree Trail



B. Cost Estimates and Timeframes

Cost estimates included in the Implementation Matrix (Section F, Tables 6.1 through 6.4) are planning-level approximations based on previous studies, comparable projects, and estimates provided to APRD by outside design firms and/or contractors. These figures, which are in 2026 dollars, support high-level financial planning and should be revisited and refined as projects advance. For example, construction costs may increase over time and may vary by location. Similarly, changes in labor costs and other overhead expenses may affect the cost of recommended recreation programs and/or planning initiatives.

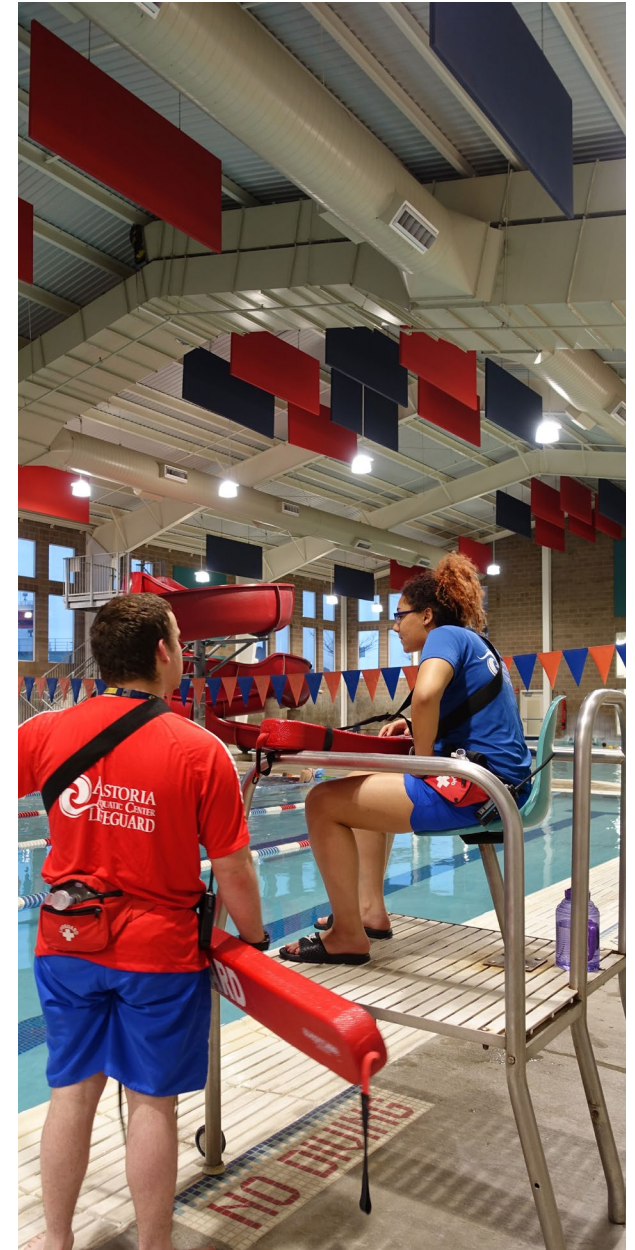
The Implementation Plan also identifies timeframes for initiating each recommendation, generally categorized as short-term (0-2 years), mid-term (3-5 years), or long-term (6 or more years). These timeframes are informed by community input, identified system needs, and the relative urgency and complexity of each action.

Additionally, target completion windows are identified for recommendations that are not otherwise identified as ongoing. These timelines reflect the anticipated

duration required to complete steps such as project scoping, design, permitting, funding and construction, or program development and launch. Actual timelines may vary depending on funding availability, staffing capacity, contractor availability and construction schedules for capital projects, and other external factors.

Some recommendations, particularly in the Operations & Maintenance and Programs categories, do not have a set timeframe to initiate or complete and are instead identified as items to evaluate or revisit on an ongoing basis by APRD and City decision-makers.

Together, the cost estimates and timeframes provide a framework for sequencing projects in a way that is both strategic and responsive to community priorities. However, the framework is intended to be flexible to accommodate opportunities that may arise outside the identified timeframes, such as through donations, grants, or projects led by community groups.



Lifeguards at the Aquatic Center ►

C. Project Leads Partners

Successful implementation of the Master Plan will require coordination across multiple City departments, outside agencies, and community stakeholders. The Implementation Matrix (Section F, Tables 6.1 through 6.4) identifies anticipated project leads and supporting partners for each recommendation to clarify roles and responsibilities.

Project leads may include APRD administration and support staff, with support from other departments such as Public Works and Community Development. In some cases, particularly for complex planning efforts or large capital projects,

consultants may be engaged to provide specialized expertise in design, engineering, or project management.

Supporting partners will also play a critical role in advancing projects and may include the City Council, Parks Advisory Board, community organizations, advocacy groups, volunteers, and regional or state agencies. These partners may assist with project development, funding, outreach, and implementation.

Clearly identifying roles at the outset of each project will help improve coordination, accountability, and overall project delivery.

Astor Park is maintained by Friends of the Astoria Column ►

Mill Pond Park is maintained by the Mill Pond Homeowners Association (HOA) ▼



D. Funding Sources

The feasibility and appropriateness of funding sources will depend on project type, scale, and community support. In many cases, implementation will require combining multiple funding sources, including grants, City funds, and outside partnerships.

Ongoing evaluation of funding strategies will be important to ensure that investments in parks and recreation remain financially sustainable and aligned with community priorities.

CURRENT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding for projects and activities identified in the Master Plan can come from a variety of sources, as summarized below.

User Fees

Class fees, admission fees, etc.

The City of Astoria General Fund

As this pays for a variety of City services, only a portion of the budget would be available for APRD.

Transient Lodging Tax (TLT)

The TLT is imposed on guests at hotels and other lodging facilities, and a portion of the collections may be used to fund parks projects via the City's Promote Astoria Fund.

APRD pass ►

User fees help fund Aquatic Center operations ▼



Grants

Park and recreation planning and projects may be eligible for grant funding from organizations such as Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, National Recreation and Park Association, or other sources.

System Development Charges (SDCs)

SDCs can fund eligible construction projects identified on the City's Capital Improvement Plan.

Sponsorships and Donations

Organizations (e.g., Astoria Community Foundation or Oller Trust), community groups (e.g., Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association), or individuals (e.g., volunteers) may be willing to contribute funds or labor for specific projects or programs.

Urban Renewal Funds

Funds may be available for projects within the City's two urban renewal districts (Astor-East Urban Renewal District and Astor-West Urban Renewal District).

General Obligation (GO) Bonds

These bonds for specific construction projects would require approval by voters to increase property taxes for a specified time period.

EXAMPLE FUNDING SOURCES

While not currently used or planned by APRD, there are additional funding sources that some park and recreation providers utilize to fund construction projects, operations, and programs.

Local Option Levy

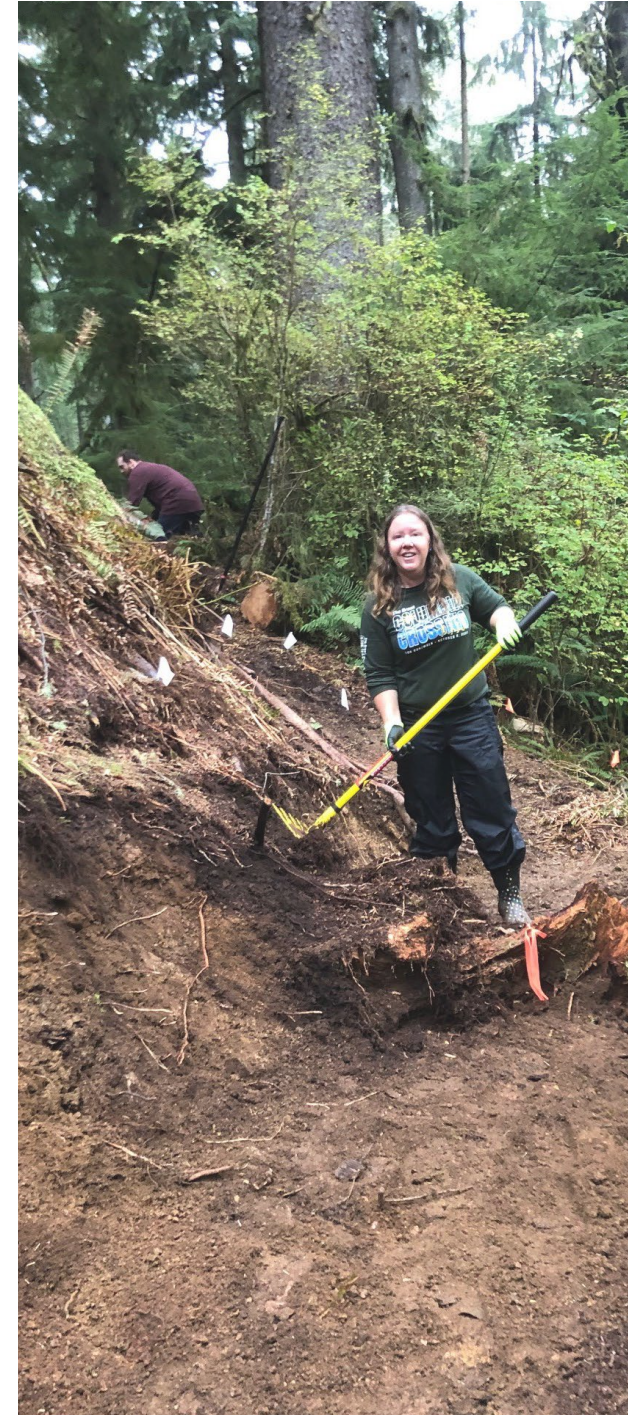
A levy establishes a temporary (typically five-years or shorter) property tax to fund specific categories of spending, and could be used for parks if approved by voters.

Parks Utility Fee

These are monthly fees on utility bills that fund park operations and maintenance.

Food and Beverage Tax

Some cities (e.g., Ashland, Oregon) charge a tax on prepared foods and beverages, and direct a portion of the revenue to parks.



Volunteers help improve Cathedral Tree Trail

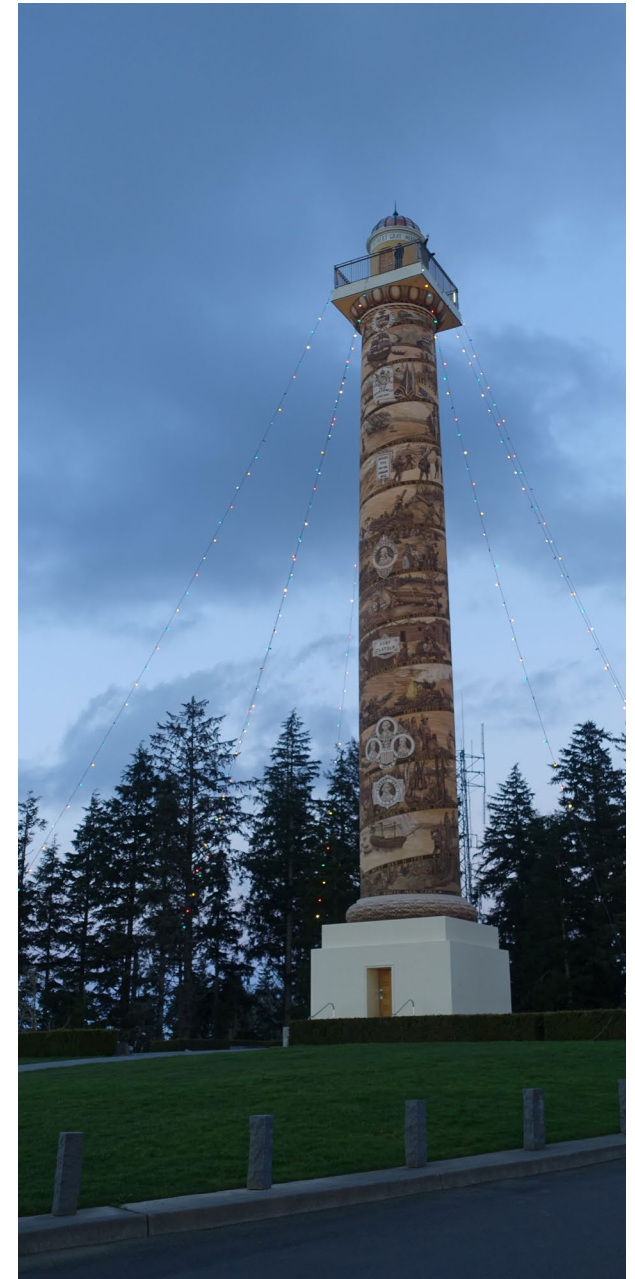
E. Plan Monitoring and Updates

This Master Plan should be considered a living document.

APRD should periodically review progress on implementation, track completion of recommendations, and update priorities as needed to reflect changing conditions and community needs. Establishing a regular reporting process, such as annual updates to the Parks Advisory Board and City Council, can help maintain momentum and relevance over time.

The Astoria Column at dusk

Viewfinder looking out towards Astoria-Megler Bridge



F. Implementation Matrix

TABLE 6.1 OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Park and Trail Maintenance	OM-1	• Prioritize maintenance and repair of existing parks, trails, and recreation amenities. - Enhance maintenance at highest-use parks and trails. - Increase frequency of trash pickups at highest-use parks and trails. - Invest in improvements to sport courts and fields (e.g., resurfacing, drainage, specialty training infrastructure, and irrigation). - Establish a capital improvement program (CIP) to address deferred maintenance.	Ongoing	Revisit Annually	Staff time and materials	General Fund, Transient Lodging Tax, Sponsorships, Donations, Volunteers	APRD Staff
	OM-2	• Replace aging playground equipment. - Establish priorities based on park use levels, safety considerations, variety of options for different age groups and ability, and neighborhood Level of Service. - Incorporate accessible and inclusive play equipment to increase opportunities for people with disabilities.	0-2 years	2030	Varies based on site conditions, equipment type, installation requirements, and play surface	Grants, SDCs, General Fund, Sponsorships, Donations	APRD Staff

TABLE 6.1 OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE CONT.

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Safety	OM-3	Continue to coordinate with Astoria Police Department and other local agencies, service providers, and non-profit organizations to address issues related to illegal camping and accumulation of waste and personal belongings at public sites.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Staff time and materials	General Fund, Transient Lodging Tax	APRD staff
	OM-4	Provide additional lighting at highest-use sites.	0-2 years	2030	Varies based on fixture type, installation Requirements, and electrical service	Grants, General Fund, Transient Lodging Tax	APRD staff
Aquatic Center Operations	OM-5	Maintenance - Address concerns with deferred maintenance, safety, and cleanliness. - Continue investment in updated mechanical/operational systems to improve patron experience and increase efficiency.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Staff time and materials	User fees, General Fund	APRD staff
	OM-6	Operating Hours As part of the budget process, assess staffing needs to accommodate expanded hours and days of operation. This assessment should address compensation, budget impacts, and recruitment challenges.	0-2 years	Ongoing	Staff time and consultant fees	User fees, General Fund	Project Lead: APRD staff, consultants as needed Support: City Council, Parks Advisory Board

TABLE 6.1 OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE CONT.

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Department Revenue and Fees	OM-7	• Ensure sustainable revenue generation by reviewing user fees and operating expenses annually. - Consider engaging outside consultants to evaluate issues and opportunities. - Evaluate timing for any planned adjustments to user fees.	Ongoing	Revisit Annually	Staff time and consultant fees	User fees, General Fund	Project Lead: APRD staff, consultants as needed Support: City Council, Parks Advisory Board
Communications and Marketing	OM-8	• Update APRD web page to enhance the user interface and accessibility of information. - Provide easy access to schedules, information, and registration opportunities for upcoming community events, youth recreation programs, and adult recreation programs. - Provide an interactive map of parks, trails, and indoor recreation facilities. • Provide multi-lingual communication materials to improve accessibility for non-native English speakers.	Ongoing	Revisit Annually	Staff time	General Fund, Volunteers	APRD staff, City IT Services

TABLE 6.2 PROGRAMS

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Community Events	PR-1	• Increase free and/or low-cost events (e.g., movies in the park, festive occasions, and fun runs)	0-2 years	Revisit annually	\$5,000-\$20,000	Grants, User fees, General Fund, Sponsorships, Donations, Volunteers	Project Lead: APRD staff Support: Parks Advisory Board, Astoria Community Foundation
Youth Recreation Programs	PR-2	• Increase swimming lessons and other swimming opportunities for advanced techniques and competitive programming.	0-2 years	Revisit annually	\$30,000-\$50,000	User fees, Sponsorships, Oller Trust	Project Lead: APRD staff Support: Parks Advisory Board, Astoria Community Foundation
		• Increase athletics programs for K-5 age range.	3-5 years	Revisit annually	\$75,000-\$150,000	User fees, Sponsorships, Donations, Volunteers	
		• Provide non-sports activity programs for K-5 age range.	3-5 years	Revisit annually	\$10,000-25,000	User fees, Sponsorships, Donations, Volunteers	
		• Provide non-sports activity programs and indoor recreation opportunities for teens.	3-5 years	Revisit annually	\$30,000-\$50,000	User fees, Sponsorships, Donations, Volunteers	

Notes:

1. All costs are listed in 2026 dollars.
2. Costs are planning-level approximations based on estimated staffing needs.
3. Actual costs may vary and should be revisited and refined as projects advance.

TABLE 6.2 PROGRAMS CONT.

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost*	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Adult Recreation Programs	PR-3	• Increase quantity and variety of fitness classes (e.g., spin, barre, and aquatic-based programs).	0-2 years	Revisit annually	\$10,000-\$25,000	User fees	Project Lead: APRD staff Support: Parks Advisory Board, Astoria Community Foundation
		• Improve offerings by investing in high quality equipment and certifications and training for instructors.	0-2 years	Revisit annually	\$10,000-\$25,000	User fees	
		• Provide drop-in indoor recreation options (such as volleyball, basketball, pickleball, etc.).	0-2 years	Revisit annually	\$20,000-\$40,000	User fees	
		• Provide league sports options (such as volleyball, basketball, softball, etc.).	3-5 years	Revisit annually	\$75,000-\$150,000	User fees, Sponsorships, Donations, Volunteers	
		• Provide non-sports classes and activity programs (such as wellness classes, social activities, nature education, outdoor skills, etc.).	3-5 years	Revisit annually	\$10,000-\$25,000	User fees	
		• Increase program opportunities that are accessible for or specific to seniors.	3-5 years	Revisit annually	\$10,000-\$25,000	User fees	
		• Explore opportunities for collaborative marketing with Clatsop Community College to improve community awareness of available programs.	0-2 years	Revisit annually	\$10,000-\$25,000	General Fund	

Notes:

1. All costs are listed in 2026 dollars.

2. Costs are planning-level approximations based on estimated staffing needs.

3. Actual costs may vary and should be revisited and refined as projects advance.

TABLE 6.3 PLANNING INITIATIVES

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Update Comprehensive Plan Policies	PL-1	Update Comprehensive Plan policies and maps related to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space element to ensure relevance and consistency with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.	0-2 years	2026	Staff time	General Fund	Community Development and APRD staff
Park and Trail Enhancement Opportunities	PL-2	Assess opportunities to enhance existing park sites and trails with additional amenities such as disc golf baskets, fitness stations, skate park features, accessible play equipment, picnic tables/shelters, and public art.	0-2 years	2028	Staff time and Materials	General Fund, Transient Lodging Tax, Sponsorships, Donations, Volunteers	APRD staff and volunteers
		Consider the specific needs and interests of older youth and teens.					
		Ensure new amenities are maintenance-friendly and do not require substantial effort beyond current maintenance levels.					

Notes:

1. All costs are listed in 2026 dollars.

2. Costs are planning-level approximations based on previous studies and comparable projects.

3. Actual costs may vary and should be revisited and refined as projects advance.

TABLE 6.3 PLANNING INITIATIVES CONT.

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Update Trails Master Plan	PL-3	- Establish funding sources and release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for planning services. - Assess the existing trail system, identify needs, and evaluate potential new trail locations. - Consider how to improve system-wide connectivity among parks and trails. - Evaluate the feasibility of mountain biking trails on City- and County-owned land surrounding Pipeline Road and Cathedral Tree Trail. - Evaluate where and how to enhance signage at trailheads and trail connections.	0-2 years	2030	\$100,000-\$125,000	SDCs, General Fund, Grants	APRD staff, consultants, Public Works staff, Community Development staff, and Clatsop County staff
System-Wide Wayfinding and Signage Plan	PL-4	- Obtain funding and release an RFP for planning services. - Develop a comprehensive system-wide signage plan with a uniform visual identity. - Incorporate park identification, wayfinding, and informational signage. - Establish a schedule and funding sources for implementation.	3-5 years	2032	\$50,000-\$80,000	SDCs, General Fund, Grants, Transient Lodging Tax, Donations	APRD staff, consultants

Notes:

1. All costs are listed in 2026 dollars.

2. Costs are planning-level approximations based on previous studies and comparable projects.

3. Actual costs may vary and should be revisited and refined as projects advance.

TABLE 6.3 PLANNING INITIATIVES CONT.

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Opportunities for Improving Level of Service	PL-5	- Assess opportunities to improve access to parks and recreation for geographically underserved areas, including: - Emerald Heights. - South Slope (southeast portion).	3-5 years	2032	Staff time	SDCs, General Fund	APRD staff, Public Works staff, Community Development staff
	PL-6	- Assess opportunities to improve ease of access to parks, trails, and recreation facilities city-wide: - Pedestrian access, including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) considerations. - Bicycle access and parking. - Vehicle parking.					

Notes:

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TABLE 6.4 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Riverwalk Lighting	CP-1	Complete lighting along the Riverwalk east of 35th Street.	0-2 years	2028	\$100,000-\$350,000	Grants, SDCs, Transient Lodging Tax	APRD staff
Public Restroom - Fred Lindstrom Park	CP-2	Determine facility type, location, and utility connection needs.	0-2 years	2028	\$200,000-\$350,000	SDCs, Grants, Donations, Community Groups	Project Lead: APRD staff Support: City Council, Parks Advisory Board
Dog Park - Tapiola Park	CP-3	- Provide a ±1-acre fenced area with double gates at entries and segregated subareas for large dogs and small dogs. - Ensure surface is well drained to minimize mud and ponding. - Prioritize proactive communication with the public about project cost, funding sources, and sustainability of maintenance and safe operation. - Consider amenities such as: - Signage with posted rules and etiquette. - Waste bag station(s). - Water station(s). - Benches and rain/shade shelter(s). - Trash receptacle(s). - Lighting.	0-2 years	2028	\$50,000	Donations, SDCs, General Fund, Grants, Community Groups	APRD staff

Notes:

1. All costs are listed in 2026 dollars.

2. Costs are planning-level approximations based on previous studies, comparable projects, and estimates provided to APRD by outside design firms and/or contractors.

3. Actual costs may vary and should be revisited and refined as projects advance.

TABLE 6.4 CAPITAL PROJECTS CONT.

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Heritage Square	CP-4	Fill the existing site through grant-supported effort.	0-2 years	2028	\$200,000-\$250,000	Grants	Project Lead: APRD staff, consultants Support: City Council, Parks Advisory Board
		- Develop a flexible, multi-use community gathering space. Refer to Heritage Square Place Guide (2025). - Obtain initial funding from City sources and grants. - Release an RFP for qualified firms to provide design, project management, and community engagement services. - Begin phased construction.	6-8 years	2036	\$2.6-\$4.7 million*	Donations, General Fund, Grants, Urban Renewal Funds, GO Bond	
Aquatic Center Enhancement and Expansion	CP-5	- Enhance the existing facility and expand the building by +/-10,000 square feet with flexible indoor recreation space for play, organized sports (e.g., pickleball, volleyball, basketball), fitness programs, and community events. <i>Refer to concept plans by Scott Edwards Architecture (2024).</i> - Evaluate how to design and implement the building expansion without substantial increases to staffing or other associated operational costs. - Establish funding sources for design and construction. - Release an RFP for qualified firms to provide design, project management, and community engagement services. - Prioritize proactive communication with the public about project costs, funding sources, and ongoing staffing, maintenance, and other operational considerations.	0-2 years	2034	\$6.5-\$7.5 million†	Donations, SDCs, User fees, General Fund, Grants, GO Bond	Project Lead: APRD staff, Design Firm Support: City Council, Parks Advisory Board

Notes:

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3. Actual costs may vary and should be revisited and refined as projects advance.

* Cost estimates are from 2025 Heritage Square Place Guide.

† Cost estimate is from 2024 SEA report.

TABLE 6.4 CAPITAL PROJECTS CONT.

Description	No.	Action Items	Timeframe to Initiate	Target Completion	Approximate Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Project Leads and Partners
Covered Recreation Areas	CP-6	Add open-air shelter(s) at existing play areas and/or sport courts (e.g., Tapiola Park basketball courts, Niemi Field batting practice area, Fred Lindstrom Park Pickleball/Tennis Courts).	3-5 years	2030	\$250,000-\$1 million	Donations, SDCs, General Fund, Grants	APRD staff
Public Restroom - Riverwalk at 9th Street	CP-7	Determine facility type, location, and utility connection needs.	3-5 years	2030	\$200,000-\$350,000	SDCs, Transient Lodging Tax, Grants, Donations, Community Groups	Project Lead: APRD staff Support: City Council, PAB
Dog Park - Other	CP-8	Consider additional locations within existing parks that may be appropriate for new fenced off-leash dog areas.	3-5 years	Ongoing	\$50,000	Donations, SDCs, General Fund, Grants, Community Groups	APRD staff

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Astoria Parks & Recreation

MASTER PLAN 2026 - 2036



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