Chapter 12 - Parks and Recreation

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Purpose

The purpose of the Parks and Recreation chapter is to:
- Guide the provision of parks and recreation opportunities throughout the City.
- Provide requirements for the maintenance and coordination of parks and recreation.
- Integrate parks and recreation with open spaces in the City in order to improve quality of life.

What values guided the Parks and Recreation chapter?

The values that are important to Spokane's future, as identified by the Citizens during preparation of the original Comprehensive Plan remain. Those include:
- Providing and maintaining parks to serve all neighborhoods.
- Maintaining open spaces, golf courses, and trails.
- Being close to the outdoors, recreation, and nature.
- Providing recreation facilities and programs.
- Maintaining linkages between parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces.

What’s New?

- This chapter was reviewed and edited by a Policy Focus Group.
- Two policies were removed, one because it was redundant with another chapter and one because it didn’t reflect current plans for Riverfront Park.
- A policy was moved here from Chapter 8, regarding urban forestry, because it was more applicable to this chapter.

What are the goals of the Parks and Recreation chapter?

PRS 1 Preservation and Conservation
Assure the preservation and conservation of unique, fragile, and scenic natural resources, and especially non-renewable resources.

PRS 2 Park and Open Space System
Provide a park system that is an integral and vital part of the open space system and that takes advantage of the opportunities for passive and active recreation that a comprehensive open space system provides.

PRS 3 Bicycle and Pedestrian Circulation
Work with other agencies to provide a convenient and pleasant open space-related network for pedestrian and bicyclist circulation throughout the City of Spokane.

PRS 4 Maintenance Program
Recognize and update Spokane’s existing park resources by continuing the park preventative maintenance program.

PRS 5 Recreation Program
Assure an indoor and outdoor recreation program, which provides well-rounded recreational opportunities for citizens of all ages.

PRS 6 Coordination and Cooperation
Encourage and pursue a climate of cooperation between government agencies, non-profit organizations, and private business in providing open space, parks facilities, and recreational services that are beneficial for the public.

PRS 7 Parks Service Quality
Provide a parks and recreation system that is enjoyable, efficient, financially responsible, and a source of civic pride.

Policy Focus Group

The Parks and Recreation chapter was one of several chapters that was reviewed by a Policy Focus Group of local residents, agency representatives, and City representatives. Each Focus Group reviewed the entire chapter and provided suggested edits, additions, and deletions - giving overall guidance to the update of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Policy Focus Group for Chapter 12 included the following members:

<table>
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<th>Member Name</th>
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<td>Garrett Jones</td>
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<td>Mike Peterson</td>
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<td>Kathy Ely</td>
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Riverfront Park is undergoing a significant redevelopment - including ambitious plans to update and upgrade many structures and amenities throughout the park. New buildings are planned, the Howard Street bridge will be completely replaced with a new design, and some features are being relocated - such as the ice skating rink. More information is available here: www.riverfrontparknow.com

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