



City of
Coeur d'Alene
IDAHO

Parks and Recreation

2020 Update Master Plan

Draft Plan / March 2020

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special Thanks

We would like to thank the many citizens, staff and community groups who provided extensive input for the development of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update. The project was a true community effort, anticipating that this plan will meet the needs and desires of all residents of our growing city.

City Staff

Bill Greenwood, Parks and Recreation
Melissa Brandt, Administrative Assistant
Monte McCully, Trails Coordinator
Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester
Parks and Rec Department Employees:
 Bill Andrews
 Paula Austin
 Robert Cooper
 Jeff Erickson
 Andrew Godley
 DeEtte Haralson
 Michael Kempton
 Adam Rouse
Hilary Anderson, Planning Director
Sean Holm, Planner
Troy Tymeson, City Administrator

City Council

Steve Widmyer, Mayor
Loren R. "Ron" Edinger
Dan English
Amy Evans
Dan Gookin
Woody McEvers
Kiki Miller

Parks and Recreation Commission

Scott Cranston, Chair
Mike McDowell, Vice-Chair
Loren R. "Ron" Edinger, Council Liaison
Bridget Hill
Jim Lien
Christie Wood
Ginny Tate

Prepared by:

Monte McCully and Michael Kempton

710 E Mullan Ave

City of Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

(208) 769-2250

parks@cdaid.org



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DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The main body of this report is organized as follows:

Chapter 1: Introduction: Chapter 1 provides an overview of the document organization, planning process, and public involvement effort. It also presents the Coeur d'Alene community's core values, vision, and goals for parks and recreation.

Chapter 2: Planning Context: Chapter 2 describes the planning context—the physical and political characteristics that form the framework for recommendations made in this Plan. Characteristics described include Coeur d'Alene's regional context, landscape, and demographics. This chapter also includes an inventory of existing recreation resources in the Coeur d'Alene planning area.

Chapter 3: Current Parks and Recreation Department Facilities: Chapter 3 lists all current facilities in the City and what amenities they offer.

Chapter 4: Public Input: Chapter 4 presents public involvement findings specifically relating to Coeur d'Alene's recreation needs. Building upon this input, this chapter details park land and recreation facility needs.

Chapter 5: Parks and Recreation Facility Recommendations: Chapter 5 provides recommendations for the development or redevelopment of parks, recreation facilities, waterfront access, natural park preserves and trails

Chapter 6: Proposed Parks and Recreation Facilities: Chapter 6 identifies future facility needs based on public input and future population estimates.

Chapter 7: Policy and Organization Recommendations: Chapter 7 offers recommendations on strategic directions for policies and operations.

Chapter 8: The Urban Forest: Chapter 8 provides an extensive plan outlining the management needs of the City's Public Tree Canopy.

Chapter 9: Funding and Implementation: Chapter 9 details funding resources and recommends a two-year, a five-year, and a 10-year capital improvement plan.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan, adopted in January of 2008, identified specific actions and goals that should be undertaken to enhance the parks and recreational facilities used by the public. Since that time many of these actions and goals have been accomplished. Other improvements and additions, not specifically identified in the Master Plan have also been completed as opportunities to do so have become available.

- Atlas Park was constructed in 2020.
- The master plan for Landings Park was implemented and the park was open to the public in 2009.
- A revised master plan for Sunshine Meadows was adopted and implemented. This park was open for public use in 2009.
- Landscaping and amenities have been installed in Legacy Place Park and this facility was open for public in 2010.
- Booster pump have been installed in Bluegrass Park and the six holes of the disc golf course have been relocated to other parks per the master plan recommendations.
- Booster pumps have been installed at Ramsey Park.
- An eighteen-hole disc golf course was created at Cherry Hill Park.
- Play equipment and a small satellite skate park have been added to Sunset Field and the west ballfield had lighting installed.
- Three and a half acres of sports fields at Person Field have been added, a playground installed and a master plan was created and is in the process of been implemented.
- Major improvements have been made to Phippeny Park including the installation of additional play equipment, replacement of the gazebo, renovations to the maintenance building, installation of artwork and resurfacing the courts and parking lot.
- Three-acre Bryan Park was acquired by the city for use as a public park.
- A baseball field with amenities was constructed at Ramsey Park and now serves as the home field for Coeur d'Alene's American Legion team.
- New playgrounds have been installed at Person Field, Northshire Park and Ramsey Park.
- Five off leash dog parks have been built and opened to the public located at Atlas Park, Northshire Park, Cherry Hill Park, McEuen Park and along the Centennial Trail near Riverstone Park.
- McEuen Field was completely rebuilt as a community park.
- Memorial Park has been extensively renovated and expanded.
- A new large skate park has been developed and opened at Memorial Park.

- Five acres of park land have been added to Cherry Hill Park for future expansion of the facilities.
- Four miles of the Prairie Trail have been constructed and opened to the public.
- A recreational lease has been secured for twenty-two acres of former railroad easement owned by the Bureau of Land Management. A master plan for this site has been developed and is in the process of being implemented.
- A two-mile section of former railroad easement has been purchased along the Spokane River to provide shoreline access and trail connectivity.
- A waterfront park on city owned land has been designed and is in the process of being developed at the old Atlas Mill site.
- An accessible trail was built on Tubbs Hill and the fire road completed.
- A trail system for hiking and mountain biking has been developed on the Canfield Trails Natural Area with a trailhead on Mountain Vista Drive.
- A trail system has been developed on the Fernan Lake Natural Area with a trailhead on Potlatch Hill Road.
- A master plan has been created for the Seagraves Veterans' Centennial property that will serve as a guide to creating a passive use park on this site.
- A management plan was created and adopted for Coeur d'Alene's Natural Open Spaces.
- An Urban Forestry management plan was created and is included in this plan.
- The Parks and Recreation Department has secured use of the old National Guard Armory and is using it as a maintenance facility.
- The Parks Department was combined with the Recreation Department to increase efficiency and co-ordination between these organizations. The department is now known as the Parks and Recreation Department.
- 26 miles of shared use paths have been built in the city since the 2008 plan, bringing the total miles of paved trails to 50 miles. The Parks Department maintains 23 miles of those trails.
- 43 miles of bike lanes have been added to city streets, bringing the total to 64 miles.
- Dedicated Pickleball and Futsal courts have been constructed at Memorial Park and shared Pickleball/Tennis courts have been created at Cherry Hill, McEuen and Northshire Parks.

Accomplishments

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

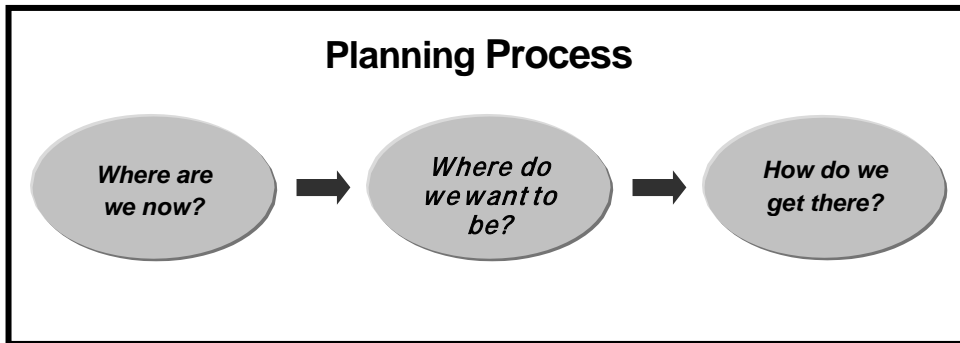
In 2018, the City of Coeur d'Alene began an update of its 2008 Long Range Plan for Parks and Outdoor Recreation. The result of the planning effort is this document, the *Coeur d'Alene Parks & Recreation Master Plan*, which is intended to provide the City with a guide for managing and expanding its park system over the next ten to twenty years. An extensive citizen outreach process was an integral part of the planning process to capture the visions, values, and preferences of Coeur d'Alene's residents.

At the time of the original 1994 Plan, it was clear that Coeur d'Alene was lacking in park land for a community of its population and size. Since then, the City has made acquisition of new park property a high priority, with considerable success. The City created a Parks Foundation, with the goal of taking donations of land for parks and matching these donations with grants from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Currently this organization has suspended its operations and should be reactivated with a clear direction and mandate in the near future. The City has also received donations of several large parcels of natural open space, as well as 1,000 linear feet of riverfront property. The primary objectives and most of the City's goals for park and recreation from previous plans have been met.

Since the 2008 update to the plan, the City had added three neighborhood parks, three natural areas, one baseball field, and upgraded and rebuilt two community parks. In that same time period, 26 miles of shared-use paths were constructed in the City of which the Parks Department maintains 11.5 miles. In 2018, the City purchased 50 acres of riverfront property in the Old Atlas Mill site, including nearly 4,000 linear feet of riverfront along the Spokane River. Open space, trails and other public amenities are planned within that property.

Since the 1994 Plan, Coeur d'Alene has experienced many changes, including population growth, an expanded and more highly developed park system, and changes in recreation participation. Building on the strong foundation set forth in the 1994 Plan and the 2008 update, this *Parks & Recreation Master Plan* sets forth a strategy for the next ten to twenty years. The year-long planning process included three phases, as depicted in Figure 1.

Figure 1



The purpose of Phase I was to take inventory of the community’s current recreation and open space resources, including parks, cemeteries, trails, facilities, and programs. Tasks in this phase included a community analysis, a park evaluation and condition assessment, regional facility identification and park operations review. Recreation resources within Coeur d’Alene were identified and mapped.

During Phase II, public involvement activities, including a recreation survey, and outreach booths, helped identify public preferences and community needs for local parks and facilities, along with directions, goals, and objectives for the Plan. A technical analysis was completed, and Phase II tasks were incorporated into a Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment report.

Based on the vision and needs identified in Phase II, Phase III included the development of specific recommendations and actions for improving and developing Coeur d’Alene’s park and recreation system. Capital projects were prioritized to create a Capital Improvement Plan, and funding strategies to implement these projects were discussed. Data from all three phases are summarized and refined in this Plan. The draft plan was developed in early spring of 2019, and plan refinement and the adoption process continued through summer of 2019.

A. THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The *Parks & Recreation Master Plan* is based on an extensive public involvement process. This community input was used to assess community values and develop a vision and goals framework to guide the planning effort. Many opportunities for public participation were available, including:

- The Taste of the Coeur d’Alenes booth, where 204 attendees provided input during the 2018 Taste Event;
- The community recreation survey, hosted by Survey Monkey, was advertised on Social Media and 73 responded and filled out the survey.

277 Coeur d’Alene residents participated in the survey in 2018. The survey updated the results of the 2008 visioning process where more than 1,400 residents and visitors participated in the planning process. In addition to the survey in 2018, much of the public input gathered for the 2008 plan was still valid. Updating that information with the 2018 survey results gave us the framework for this plan. Citizen input directed the core value, vision, and goals which provide the framework for this plan.

The survey results will be covered in more detail in chapter 4.

B. CORE VALUES, VISION, AND GOALS

Through the public involvement process, several consistent themes emerged. These themes were analyzed to determine a set of community core values, which were then used to create a vision and goals framework to guide decision-making and help identify priorities. The following outlines the core values, vision, and goals that guide the Coeur d’Alene *Parks and Recreation Master Plan*.



Visioning Session

Core Values

The public involvement process participants identified five themes that are most valued by community members. These core values, as expressed by the community, provide the foundation of this Plan. Coeur d’Alene’s core values are:

- *Equity:* The park system will make every effort to provide equitable access to its parks and trail system. Available resources will be used to benefit all of Coeur d’Alene’s residents.
- *Conservation:* The park system will support conservation of local resources and will help protect Coeur d’Alene’s views, access to outdoor recreation, and its character.
- *Efficient use of resources:* The park system will be well-managed, from a financial and operational standpoint. It will be the responsibility of the City Council and staff to assure a well-coordinated effort in the implementation of both the Park Master Plan and the City Comprehensive Plan. These two documents are expected to be mutually supportive, sharing a common vision of the community’s future.
- *Stewardship:* Community assets will be managed for the long term, recognizing the importance of parks, recreation facilities, public spaces, trails and the urban forest to the community’s physical and environmental health. Day to day accountability for Parks and Recreation operations will reside with the Director, who will receive general guidance from the City Council.
- *Active Living:* Coeur d’Alene is located on a major lake with the

Accomplishments

associated recreational opportunities that an outdoor-oriented community with an active population values, and has a wealth of natural resources and recreational opportunities available in and around the city. City management will be proactive in securing water and land-based acquisitions for City parks and recreation needs.

Community Vision

The vision creates a picture of success for the Coeur d'Alene park system. This vision is drawn from the input gathered during the public involvement effort and City staff, and provides the foundation for the Plan's goals and recommendations. The following vision statement represents the ideal for the parks and recreation system.

Master Plan Vision Statement

We will actively strive to provide a quality parks and recreation system that offers a diverse range of experiences, preserves local resources, and supports a vibrant community spirit.

Goals

Using the core values and vision as a guide, a set of goals was developed. These goals are intended to assist the Coeur d'Alene Parks and Recreation Department in achieving the community's vision, and enhancing and preserving the core values of the community. A goal is typically a general statement that describes an outcome the Parks and Recreation Department strives to achieve. It does not change over time, unless community values or economic conditions make it necessary.

Through the planning process, nine goals were identified for the City of Coeur d'Alene's Parks and Recreation Department. These goals provide focus for the plan and key directions for the future.

- Goal 1: Provide safe, accessible and enjoyable parks, recreational facilities, trails, and natural areas.
- Goal 2: Develop an integrated open space network that helps to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Coeur d'Alene region.
- Goal 3: Create a comprehensive trail system that connects users to recreational amenities, parks and schools, as well as to downtown, the Spokane River, Coeur d'Alene Lake, and regional trails.
- Goal 4: Provide physical amenities and programs that support and enhance active living opportunities.
- Goal 5: Ensure that recreational programs and facilities are available to community members of all ages, incomes and abilities.
- Goal 6: Encourage cooperation and partnerships with local jurisdictions and public and private entities to ensure that parks and recreational services are effectively and efficiently delivered and coordinated.
- Goal 7: Provide efficient and high-quality maintenance of parks, trails, facilities, the urban forest, cemeteries and natural areas.
- Goal 8: Maintain sound financial practices that ensure the long-term stability of the park system.
- Goal 9: Encourage ongoing community involvement and public participation as a foundation for decision-making regarding parks and recreation.

CHAPTER 2: PLANNING CONTEXT

The City of Coeur d'Alene is located in North Idaho, at the southern end of the Idaho panhandle. Situated in the center of Kootenai County, Coeur d'Alene is bounded by Canfield Mountain to the east and Lake Coeur d'Alene to the south. The cities of Post Falls, Hayden, Hayden Lake, Dalton Gardens, and Fernan Village are located to the immediate west and north of Coeur d'Alene. The rural lands once separating these cities are gradually infilling with a mix of suburban residential and commercial development.

Coeur d'Alene is linked to the larger metropolis of Spokane, thirty miles west, via Interstate 90. Connections to smaller towns in Idaho, Montana and Washington are also provided via Interstate 90, as well as State Highway 95.

Figure 2
Coeur d'Alene's Regional Context



Source: *Data & Maps 2005 United States CDs, ESRI*

As it is the largest city in northern Idaho, Coeur d'Alene holds a position of regional economic importance. According to 2012 Economic Census Data (U.S. Census Bureau), over half of the retail trade, accommodation and food service establishments of Kootenai County are based in Coeur d'Alene. The city also plays the primary role in health care provision, education, future technologies, media, manufacturing, retail and recreation for the county. Given the City's location and its physical growth, Coeur d'Alene will continue to serve as a regional commercial, cultural and recreation hub in future years and will continue to serve as a destination of choice for both long term and day use visitors from throughout the region.

A. PLANNING AREA

The planning area for this Plan was determined in consultation with the Coeur d'Alene Planning Department, and it is consistent with the planning area used for the 2019 Coeur d'Alene Comprehensive Plan update. All maps in this Plan depict the 2019 city limits and the planning boundary.

B. THE COEUR D'ALENE LANDSCAPE

Coeur d'Alene's topography, natural resources and land use patterns give the City its unique character. These aspects of the landscape also affect the provision of parks and recreation.

Waterfront

The most visible water resource within the Coeur d'Alene area is Lake Coeur d'Alene. The St. Joe, St. Maries and Coeur d'Alene Rivers feed the lake; its elevation is kept constant by the Post Falls Dam on the Spokane River, which drains from its northwest corner.

Readers of travel and recreation magazines consistently vote Lake Coeur d'Alene as a top water recreation destination in the United States.

Downtown Coeur d'Alene is situated at the northern edge of the lake, encouraging both visitors and residents to use the lake's beaches, waterfront pathways and docks. Boating, swimming, fishing and water skiing are among the most popular recreation activities on this lake.



Mooring Docks

While Lake Coeur d'Alene is the most visible water resource in the area, other resources do exist. The Spokane River and Fernan Lake are popular for boating, fishing and swimming. South of the city of Fernan Village, there is a 54-acre waterfront parcel dedicated to the Coeur d'Alene Parks Department. The regional North Idaho Centennial Trail runs through or adjacent to all of Coeur d'Alene's water resources.

Downtown and Surrounding Neighborhoods

Coeur d'Alene has a vibrant downtown, located near City Park and the lake. Busy with residents and tourists, Coeur d'Alene's lakeside location and amenities attract visitors from throughout the region. The network of parks and greenways along Lake Coeur d'Alene is a major feature of the downtown area and its immediate neighborhoods. Surrounding the downtown core are older residential neighborhoods, designed for pedestrians and with good access to downtown parks, shops and amenities.

Recent Developments

Since the development of the 1994 Plan, most new residential subdivisions

have been encouraged by the City to provide a site for a neighborhood or community park. The Landings and Bluegrass Parks are excellent examples of the types of residential developments the City has desired, where a well-sited park is central to the neighborhood and attracts significant use. More planned residential sub-divisions have been developed or are in development in the northwest section of the city, transforming former agricultural areas into neighborhoods requiring city services, including parks.

In addition to the residential development to the north and west, Coeur d'Alene has experienced significant growth in recent years along the Spokane River. Mixed use developments have been constructed, as industrial sites have been revitalized. This area of the City is served by the North Idaho Centennial Trail and the Prairie Trail, and it is also home to the education corridor, a partnership of three institutions of higher learning.

In 2018, the city acquired the old Atlas Mill site with the intent to build infrastructure, trails, parks and other recreational amenities. The site is a 47-acre parcel that runs along the Spokane River and is one of the last undeveloped open spaces along the waterfront within Coeur d'Alene's city limits.

Prairie

The Rathdrum Prairie extends from Coeur d'Alene to Spokane and north to Lake Pend Oreille. Once a forest, large portions of the Prairie are now home to Kentucky Bluegrass farms and, increasingly, residential development. Little of this area remains undeveloped within the city limits.

Forested Areas

The area of Coeur d'Alene near the Spokane River and Lake Coeur d'Alene is lowland, rising swiftly to over 4,000 feet at Canfield Mountain, directly east and southeast of the city. Tubbs Hill is the highest point in Coeur d'Alene proper at just over 2500 feet. These elevated areas are forested, and represent significant visual and natural resources that contribute to Coeur d'Alene's character.

C. POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Population growth creates an increased demand for park and recreation services, and demographic characteristics can influence recreational interests and levels of participation. This section highlights some of the key findings about population and demographics that influence the Plan.

Historical Growth

From 1990 to 2015, Coeur d’Alene increased its population by over 50%. Growth stagnated from 2010 to 2015 during the recession but then began to boom again in the post-recession boom. In 2017 and 2018 Kootenai County and Coeur d’Alene were the fastest growing communities in the country. As much of Kootenai County’s growth is based upon infill of the rural lands between Coeur d’Alene and the surrounding communities, it is likely that population growth rates within Coeur d’Alene and outside of Coeur d’Alene will increase in future years as completed subdivisions are annexed. Table 1 compares the City’s growth between 1990 and 2017 to that of Kootenai County and the State of Idaho.

Table 1
Population Growth 1990-2018
City of Coeur d’Alene, Kootenai County, Idaho

Year	City of Coeur d’Alene	Percent Increase	Kootenai County	Percent Increase	State of Idaho	Percent Increase
1990	24,563	--%	69,795	--%	1,006,749	--%
2000	34,514	40.5%	108,685	55.7%	1,293,953	28.5%
2005	40,459	65.0%	127,668	82.9%	1,429,096	42.0%
2018	51,303	109%	161,505	131.3%	1,787,065	77.5%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 population estimates

The impression that Coeur d’Alene’s recreational resources, including sports fields, public docks, beaches and natural areas are being utilized by a larger population than lives in the city proper is supported by the high rate of County growth noted above. High growth rates within the City, in conjunction with the County’s growth patterns, support the need for ongoing park land acquisition both inside and outside of the existing city limits. In addition to a rapidly expanding population, the City of Coeur d’Alene is a major tourist destination and therefore a large percentage of the use of our facilities, especially in the waterfront areas, are from non-residents and visitors.

Population

This planning process was based upon population data from the World Census Review and the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization. In summary, Coeur d’Alene’s 2018 population was 51,303 and the 2040 projected population is 84,943 based upon an average annual growth rate of 2.3%.

Since Coeur d’Alene is bounded on all sides by lakes, rivers, mountains, and the cities of Post Falls and Hayden, expanding outwards is not an option. Growth will primarily occur through infill, although there are a few small

areas within the Coeur d'Alene area of impact that could increase growth through annexation. The land still available is farmland on the west side abutting Huetter Avenue and to the east in the Fernan Hill and Nettleton Gulch areas along with some pockets of undeveloped land within the city limits. The only other option for expanding outward is across the Spokane River on Blackwell Hill and southward, requiring expanding urban services across the river if the City were to choose to do so.

For the purposes of this plan, the 2040 growth projection was used. While this plan was underway, the City began a Comprehensive Plan update. The Comprehensive Plan projects the current growth rate to be 2.3%. Since the park standards are a rate, e.g., 4 acres per 1,000 residents, the standards are flexible enough to work regardless of whether the population increases more quickly or slowly than projected.

Demographics

As of the 2000 Census, the median age in Coeur d'Alene was 34.8 years. The age profile for the City indicates a large number of children and youth age 19 and below, as well as a relatively large number of young adults. However, more than 20% of the population is age 55 or older. Coeur d'Alene appears to have successfully attracted young families and young adults in recent years, and has a significant population of older adults. This demographic picture has and should continue to influence the recreation facility choices of the Coeur d'Alene Parks Department.

Youth tend to participate in recreation activities more frequently than any other age group, and generally favor active and competitive activities, such as basketball, baseball, soccer, swimming and bicycling. Younger adults (ages 18-35) also participate in active recreation and typically form the core of adult competitive sports. Older adults generally have more time to devote to leisure activities than other adults. With the aging of the baby boomer population, the interest among older adults in active recreational activities has increased substantially in recent years. The traditional senior citizen age group historically has participated in more passive leisure activities. The changing national trends for older adults will influence Coeur d'Alene's park system. These trends should be monitored annually, or on a regular basis. New trends should be addressed accordingly.

D. EXISTING PARKS RESOURCES

In addition to serving local residents, the City of Coeur d'Alene is a regional provider of park and recreation services and supports a robust tourist industry, as this chapter demonstrates. While there are notable regional resources provided by other agencies, Coeur d'Alene is the major provider of parks and facilities in the area.

Coeur d’Alene’s park system is extensive, diverse and well-maintained. Many park sites are multi-use in nature, combining sport field resources with casual sport amenities, picnic facilities and support facilities such as parking and restrooms. Many parks are located near schools or are situated in residential settings, with designated pathways providing easy, non-vehicular access for youth and families. The City of Coeur d’Alene has done an excellent job of acquiring new park land as the city expands outward, and has developed these sites as funding has allowed.

Coeur d’Alene’s Park, Facility and Property Classification

Park land is classified to assist in planning for a community’s recreation needs. A park system is composed of various park types, each offering different recreation opportunities. Separately, each park type may serve only one function, but collectively the system will serve the entire range of community needs. By classifying park land by its function, a community can evaluate its needs and plan more easily, providing a more efficient, cost effective and usable park system that minimizes conflicts between park users and neighbors. In addition to maintaining public parks and open spaces, the Parks and Recreation Department is also responsible for the maintenance of other areas including cemeteries, beautification areas and the grounds of public buildings.

The City of Coeur d’Alene’s classifications for existing parks, facilities and properties it maintains include:



Cherry Hill BMX Track

Community Parks

Community Parks are larger facilities that are designed to serve people from a greater geographic area while providing a wide range of recreational opportunities. They support extensive amenities and often have unique features that draw specific user groups. These parks require support facilities including onsite parking, full restrooms and maintenance buildings.

Amenities and facilities typically found in community parks include picnic shelters, off leash dog parks, basketball courts, playgrounds, open play fields, splash pads and tennis/pickleball courts. Community parks often provide access to and support use of other recreational resources including sports fields, lakes rivers and natural open spaces.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are smaller facilities designed to serve the needs of the subdivision or neighborhood they are located in. They generally support non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. Neighborhood parks tend to be small in size, usually less than seven acres. They are accessible to nearby residents primarily by walking or bicycling to the site. Parking is usually limited and is sometimes restricted to on street parking. When restroom facilities are present, they may consist of portable restroom shelters, vault toilets and in some cases full restrooms. Facilities typically found in

neighborhood parks include playgrounds, outdoor sports courts, open play areas, benches and picnic tables, pathways and small picnic shelters. Some neighborhood parks include a ballfield as part of the facility.

Natural Parks

Natural Parks are properties primarily left in a natural condition that serves as preserves for wildlife and native plant communities. They also serve to protect community resources such as wetlands, waterfront shore lines, streams and creeks, hillsides, view-sheds, sensitive habitat and endangered plant species. They are typically owned and managed by government agencies. Natural Open Areas may serve as trail corridors and generally support passive nature-oriented leisure activities. Active recreation is a secondary and incidental use.

Trails and Greenways

Greenways are vegetated, linear, multi-purpose parks that serve as open space connectors, linking parks, natural areas, cultural features and historic sites with each other and the community as a whole. They are often created from abandoned railroad beds, canal tow paths, public right of ways and other utility easements. Greenways usually incorporate bike trails and/or footpaths, providing alternate transportation routes off public roadways while promoting healthy life styles along with community walkability and bicycle commuting. Greenways should not be confused with sidewalk trails that serve strictly to support pedestrian and bicycle transportation and do not share the other attributes of linear parks. Greenways serve to unify an entire parks system and link the community to its parks and natural areas.

Sports Complexes

Sports complexes are active-use parks that are specifically designed to support active, organized recreational use, often with a focus on a specific sport or activity. These facilities can include softball complexes, football fields, little league fields, soccer fields, tennis centers, aquatic centers and gymnasiums. Multisport complexes can include several sports-oriented facilities.

Community Centers

Community centers are buildings designed to support indoor recreational programs. They can be facilities that support use by the entire community or have a focus on a specific user group such as youths or senior citizens. Although often located in public parks, community centers can be free standing facilities. Often community centers contain gymnasiums, meeting rooms and fitness centers. They may or may not have aquatic facilities and other specialized amenities. Many community centers are operated by non-profit organizations.

Waterfront Facilities

Waterfront facilities are assets owned or open to the public that provide access to publicly owned water bodies including lakes and rivers. These facilities are often, but not always located in public parks. They can be free standing public facilities in nature or they can be privately owned and maintained, but open to public use by ordinance similar to a sidewalk. These facilities include public swimming beaches, docks, boardwalks and boat ramps.

Cemeteries

Cemeteries are areas set aside for the burial of the deceased and the internment of urns containing their remains of the deceased. They are usually not associated with churchyards which are typically referred to as graveyards. Cemeteries can be publicly or privately owned. Traditionally, operating cemeteries involves the setting aside of land for burial, the digging and filling of graves and the maintenance of the landscape. Detailed records are kept to ensure burials are performed at the correct location.

Non-Park Areas

Beautification Areas

Beautification areas are parcels of land either owned by the city or maintained by the city by agreement with the landowner for the primary purpose of improving the appearance of the community. They generally do not support recreational use. These include landscaped areas along roadways that are part of the city's streets and right-of-way's such as median strips, swales, interchanges and round-a-bouts. Other beautification areas can include the grounds of public buildings, utility easements and miscellaneous public spaces.

Maintenance Facilities

Maintenance facilities are buildings and yards that support the maintenance of public parks and other properties. They include shops which can be located inside of parks and free-standing buildings. They are used as a base of operations and are used to store equipment and materials used in the day to day maintenance of public properties. Employees report to and work out of maintenance facilities.

CHAPTER 3: CURRENT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FACILITIES

Coeur d’Alene’s Park system includes 7 community parks, 11 neighborhood parks, 6 sports complexes, 4 city-owned docks, 6 beach areas, not associated with parks, and 4 natural parks. The City also owns and maintains 2 public cemeteries and 22 miles of shared-use paths. In addition to these facilities, the Parks and Recreation Department maintains 26 non-park areas, which include landscaped beautification areas and buildings. This chapter details the City of Coeur d’Alene’s current park and recreation facilities inventory.

Table 2 at the end of the chapter lists all the parks in Coeur d’Alene inventory and details the acreage. Table 3 lists all the sports fields.

The following sections will have every park broken out into a detailed description.

A. Existing Community Parks

Atlas Community Park

The City of Coeur d’Alene purchased nearly 47 acres of Spokane River waterfront property that was the former Atlas Mill site immediately west of the Centennial Trail. The City purchased the property to create permanent, public waterfront access and encourage economic development initiatives on the site. The Atlas Mill site contains nearly three-quarters of a mile of shoreline on the Spokane River, the east end of which is across the Centennial Trail from Riverstone Park. The is a 15 acres Community Park that was built in 2020. The entire shoreline is parkland and is useable by the public. This park has off-street parking, restrooms, a small pavilion, a large playground, a food trailer court, a space for a possible food vendor, an accessible swim ramp and area, an accessible kayak launch, a water dog park and a park shop building. This park is connected to the Centennial Trail and to Riverstone Park. A waterfront trail extends the length of the park and will eventually connect through to Mill River Park and, eventually, to the City of Post Falls at Huetter. Once this trail is completed, there is an opportunity to name it as part of the main line of the Centennial Trail.

Bluegrass Community Park

Bluegrass Park is an eleven-acre community park located on Dalton Avenue in the center of the Coeur d’Alene Place residential development on Courcelles Parkway. This park has off-street parking, restrooms, a gazebo, a large playground with an adjacent splash pad, a basketball court, a three-hole practice disc golf course and a park shop building. The park is connected to the Prairie Trail to the south and recreational sites to the north via multi-use trails maintained by the home owners association. The Home Owners Association also owns and maintains large common areas adjacent to the park. This community park serves the needs of the entire community as well as the nearby residential neighborhoods.

Cherry Hill Community Park

Cherry Hill Park is a 30-acre community park at the base of Best Hill located on the corner of 15th Street and Hazel Ave. near the intersection of I-90 and 15th Street. The park contains a BMX track, a winter sledding hill, an emergency services themed playground, a 911 memorial, six shared tennis/pickleball courts, basketball courts, an off-leash dog park and an eighteen-hole disc golf course. Approximately half of the site is classified as a natural area. The park has vehicle entrances on both Hazel Av. and 15th St. accessing two large parking lots. Public restrooms are located in the Fire Station adjacent to the park. Additionally, there is a vault toilet at the base of the sled hill and a port-a-pottie shelter is located near the BMX track and playground. Serving as a community park, Cherry Hill Park can support additional facilities and amenities.

City, Independence Point, and Memorial Community Park Complex

City Park, Independence Point and Memorial Park offer a combined thirty-three acres of developed park land, extending from the shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene, with its waterfront access and public swimming beaches, across pedestrian friendly Ft. Ground Drive to the historic grandstand at Memorial Field and to the newly developed Memorial Park. The North Idaho Centennial Trail passes through the parks and connects via a pedestrian plaza to McEuen Park two blocks to the east and to the BLM corridor greenway northwest of the parks. Although technically three different parks, they are perceived by the public as one large recreational site and are managed as such. These resources should be viewed as a recreational whole and work should be planned in a harmonious manner to best meet the needs of residents and visitors. This park complex attracts users and visitors from throughout the region and therefore requires a high standard of maintenance and demands more resources than typical of this type of facility. By hosting regional events and serving as a tourist destination, the City Park, Independence Point, Memorial Park complex is disproportionality impacted by heavy use and demands a large share of the department's time and funding to maintain and improve it. The Four Corners Master Plan covers all or parts of these three sites and is in the process of being implemented.



Independence Point

City Park

City Park is Coeur d'Alene's oldest and best-known park. The park is approximately eighteen acres in size and includes City Beach, the North Idaho History Museum and the Human Rights Institute. The site hosts many festivals, special events and concerts. The Kiwanis Bandshell located next to the lake is the site of music concerts and contains public restrooms. An additional public restroom building (the Bricks Restroom) is located on the north end of the park. Other facilities include two basketball courts, a large gazebo, a park maintenance shop, the Fort Sherman playground, two sand volleyball courts and three public parking lots. This park is extremely well used throughout the summer months and hosts some of the largest events

in north Idaho including the annual Fourth of July celebration and fireworks show, the three-day Taste of Coeur d'Alene arts and crafts show and numerous organized races, such as the Ironman and the Coeur d'Alene Triathlon.

Independence Point

Independence Point is a four-acre park located on Lake Coeur d'Alene immediately east of City Park and west of the Coeur d'Alene Resort. There is no physical separation of this site from City Park. The Commercial Dock is located in the park as is a swimming beach on Lake Coeur d'Alene. The site also contains a water feature, a public parking lot and a pump house which supplies water to the water feature and the irrigation systems for both this park and City Park. Currently a portable food concession trailer is based in the park seasonally. Daily maintenance is performed by the park staff based in City Park.

Memorial Park

Memorial Park is a recently re-developed site that with the acquisition of a previously privately owned site (the Kerr Oil property), the incorporation of the BLM leased railroad easement, and a land exchange with Ignite CDA is now an eleven-acre park. It is separated from City Park by pedestrian friendly Ft. Ground Drive which is closed to vehicle traffic from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. In addition to the historic grandstands for Memorial Field which are in the process of being rebuilt, the park contains a privately-owned building housing the carousel which is operated seasonally by a non-profit group. Other amenities include a large shared use parking lot, a playground, pickle ball courts, a futsal court, a new restroom/gazebo building and an extensive skate park. The newly completed Commuter Trail runs through the park parallel to Northwest Boulevard. The park staff based in City Park is responsible for the daily maintenance of this site.

Landings Community Park

Landings Park is a ten-acre community park located in the northwest corner of the city in The Landings development. This park has off-street parking, restrooms, two gazebos, a large playground with an adjacent splash pad, two basketball courts, a tennis court, a portable restroom shelter and a park shop building. The park is connected to the community via multi-use trails maintained by the home owners association. With its diverse facilities the park draws users from the entire community and is well used. The park is well designed and relatively new.

McEuen Community Park

McEuen Park is a twenty-two-acre public park (twenty-eight acres with the City Hall and library grounds included) located between Front Street and the base of Tubbs Hill. The park was extensively rebuilt in 2012 and now serves as a community park for the city and is the site of numerous festivals and

concerts. Amenities in the park include a large playground, a splash pad (the SS Kiwanis) , a large picnic shelter (the Avista Pavilion) with attached public restrooms and a small park shop, two tennis/pickleball courts, two basketball courts, a public boat-ramp, a veterans' memorial plaza, public mooring docks, the K-27 memorial water feature, several pieces of art, paved walking trails, an off leash dog park and a concession building (the Rotary Harbor House) overlooking the lake with additional public restrooms. The public parking structure along Front Street and the parking lots at the library and City Hall are managed as part of the park as are the library and City Hall grounds and the Front Street promenade overlooking the park. Tubbs Hill, a one-hundred-and-sixty-acre natural open space preserve, is directly connected to the McEuen Park and the primary access to this natural area is located next to the Harbor House. The North Idaho Centennial Trail is routed through the park on a paved bikeway with a parallel sidewalk for pedestrians. McEuen Park is one of the most used facilities in the city. As it draws recreational users from a wide region and serves as a destination unto its self, McEuen Park requires more maintenance and resources than other parks of its size and type. By hosting regional events and concerts, the park functions as an economic generator for the downtown business district and the city at large.

Riverstone Community Park

Riverstone Park is an eleven-acre park acre park located in the Riverstone development. The main part of the park is a five-acre site at the end of Beebe Avenue. It was built with urban renewal district funding and deeded to the city in 2007 by SRM Development Corporation. SRM Development also built a pond on a six-acre site and turned the land over to the city while maintaining ownership of the pond itself and the associated water features. The walkway around the pond is owned and maintained by the city as part of the park. The North Idaho Centennial Trail runs along the south edge of the park and connects it to the Riverstone Dog Park five hundred feet to the west. The park has water features, extensive public artwork, an amphitheater, a gazebo, a playground, a restroom building with a shop and a public parking lot with fifty spaces.

B. Existing Neighborhood Parks

Bryan Park

Bryan Park is a just under two-acre neighborhood park located on 10th Street between Harrison and Maple streets. The site was purchased in 2012 from the Coeur d'Alene School District. Up to that time it was used as a playfield for nearby Bryan Elementary School, but maintained by the Coeur d'Alene Parks and Recreation Department so as to allow use by the general public. Before its acquisition by the city, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan identified the need for a neighborhood park in the vicinity of Bryan Elementary School. Over half of the site is occupied by a seldom used

softball field. In addition to a recently installed swing set, the park contains an obsolete set of climbing bars. There is also a piece of public art located near the northeast corner of the park.

East Tubbs Park

East Tubbs Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located on the west side of Lakeshore Drive between Mountain Drive and Lake Coeur d'Alene in the Sanders Beach residential area. The park is bounded on the east side by the base of Tubbs Hill, a one-hundred-and-sixty-acre natural area. East Tubbs Park serves as one of the two trailheads for this natural area and also provides access to Lake Coeur d'Alene with 100 feet of shoreline on that body of water. The park contains an off-street parking lot, artwork and a portable restroom shelter.

Johnson Mill River Park

Johnson Mill River Park is an almost two-acre neighborhood park in the Mill River subdivision on the Spokane River. The park was built and dedicated for public use in 2007 as part of an annexation agreement with the developers of the surrounding subdivision. Johnson Mill River Park has over one thousand feet of shoreline on the north bank of the Spokane River and is separated from the BNSF railroad easement recently acquired by the city near a one-way local street. A private Home Owners Association Park is located adjacent to the public beach. The park contains a small gazebo, an art piece, a restroom shelter, swimming beach with a floating day use mooring dock, a small public parking lot and a walkway with overlooks along the river.

Legacy Place Neighborhood Park

Legacy Place Park is less than one-acre park in the Legacy Place subdivision on Joy Avenue between Barbie and Aaron Streets. Other than two permanent picnic tables this site has no amenities.

North Pines Neighborhood Park

North Pines Park is an approximately three-and-a-half-acre neighborhood park located on the northwest corner of Lunceford Avenue and 12th Street. The park was dedicated to the public in 2006. The site contains an off-street parking lot, a playground, picnic gazebo, sidewalks and paved trails, a port-a-pottie shelter and a basketball court.

Northshire Park

Northshire Park is a three-and-a-half-acre neighborhood park located at the northwest corner of Atlas Road and Nez Perce Drive. The Atlas Trail is located along the eastern boundary of the park. Dedicated in 1978, Northshire Park is one of the oldest neighborhood parks in the city. Existing park amenities include a parking lot, restroom building, playground,

basketball courts, horse shoe pits and three tennis/pickle ball courts. Since 2009 the park has been the site of Coeur d'Alene's first and busiest off lease dog park, Central Bark. This facility was constructed on an acre of adjacent property that was owned at that time by the Coeur d'Alene School District. Since then the property was sold and a scaled down Central Bark was constructed in park property east of the tennis courts as the original site is now slated for development.

Phippeny Park

Phippeny Park is a two and a quarter acre neighborhood park located in an established older residential district of the city. At one time the park was the site of Coeur d'Alene High School and Coeur d'Alene Middle School. When newer facilities were built for these institutions, the property was turned over to the City of Coeur d'Alene for use as a public park and community center. Since that time the school buildings have been demolished with only a maintenance building remaining that is currently used as the shop and office for the Facilities Maintenance Division. Because of its history as a high school several alumni groups have donated amenities and funds to preserve the memory of old Coeur d'Alene High School. The park has a picnic gazebo, restroom shelter, playground, basketball court, off street parking lot, two pieces of public art, interpretive signage on the maintenance building and several benches.

Ramsey Park (north)

Ramsey Park is a 28-acre special use facility that primarily supports softball and baseball. The northern most five acres of this park contain additional amenities not related to sports fields and functions well as a neighborhood park for the surrounding densely populated residential area. Amenities and facilities in the northern five acres of the park include an older small playground, a restroom building, two tennis courts, a basketball court, a picnic gazebo, volleyball courts and a park maintenance building. Ramsey Park is located on Ramsey Road and parking is available at the northern most of the Ramsey Park parking lots. The Prairie Trail defines the western edge of the park and is connected to it by a paved trail.

Shadduck Neighborhood Park

Shadduck Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located between Shadduck Lane, Deerfield Drive and Magnolia Drive. It has an off-street parking lot, a portable restroom shelter, a playground, basketball courts, and a picnic gazebo. The park has perimeter walking paths part of which is the Born Learning Trail with 10 stations. Shadduck Park functions very well as a neighborhood park and needs few improvements.

Sunshine Meadows Neighborhood Park

Sunshine Meadows Park is a two-and-a-half-acre park located in the Sunshine Meadows subdivision. This small park contains a portable restroom shelter, a picnic gazebo, a playground, basketball courts, horse shoe pits and

a perimeter walkway. This park was developed and opened to the public in 2009 and needs few improvements.

Winton Park

Winton Park is an approximately six-acre neighborhood park located on the southwest corner of Melrose Street and Lacrosse Street next to Winton Elementary School. The park is made up of parcels owned by both the City of Coeur d'Alene and School District 271. The school district owns about three and a half acres of the site much of which was purchased with funding from Land and Water Conservation grants and therefore must remain open to the public and left in a natural state. The city owns the remaining acreage, primarily along Melrose and Lacrosse streets. The softball field in the park is located on parcels owned by both agencies. The park contains a restroom building, sixteen sets of horseshoe pits, a basketball court, a picnic gazebo, a paved parking lot and paved walking trails. The Kootenai County Horseshoe Association performs regular maintenance on the horseshoe pits and uses the park as the site of its tournaments. Approximately half of the park is classified as a natural area and managed as such. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for all maintenance on the entire site, including the ballfield which is used as Winton Elementary's P.E. field during school hours.

C. Existing Natural Parks

Canfield Natural Park

The Canfield Natural Area is a 23 acre preserve located on the west facing lower slope of Canfield Mountain adjacent to the Copper Ridge subdivision. This natural area was acquired in 2006 and a trail system was open for public use in 2008. The Canfield Natural Area is accessed from Mountain Vista Drive where on street parking is available and the entrance to the trail system is located. The site currently supports one and a half miles of single-track trail open for hiking and mountain biking. This trail system is very popular and well used. The natural area is separated from extensive US Forest Service lands located higher up the mountain by a single private land holding.

Fernan Lake Natural Area

The Fernan Lake Natural Area is a 54 acre preserve located on the north facing slope of Potlatch Hill and along the south shore of Fernan Lake. The preserve was acquired in 2008 and open for public use in 2009. The Fernan Lake Natural Area is accessed through a trailhead on Potlatch Hill Road and contains approximately one and a half miles of single-track hiking trails that provides access to the lake shore and the ridge tops.

Seagraves Veterans' Park

Seagraves Veterans' Park is an eighteen-acre parcel of land donated to the

city and held in trust by the Panhandle Parks Foundation in 1997 and has remained undeveloped since. The park is located on Fernan Hill Road at the eastern edge of the city. Approximately half of the site is woodlands and the remainder is an old field that is slowly reverting into a natural habitat. A masterplan for the site was developed and approved in 2017. This masterplan serves as a guideline to developing a passive use natural park for the public and contains provisions to providing public access and creating limited support facilities.

Tubbs Hill Natural Area

Tubbs Hill is the best known and most heavily used natural area in the city. The city owns approximately 160 acres of forested hillside on Tubbs Hill. The top of the hill is over four hundred feet above the lake and the site includes over 8000 feet of shoreline on Lake Coeur d'Alene. An extensive and well used trail system encircles the hill which provides access to swimming beaches, scenic vistas and unique natural features. Common recreational activities on the site include swimming, hiking, rock-climbing, exercising, and nature appreciation. Tubbs Hill is accessed from two official trailheads, one of which is located next to the Harbor House in McEuen Park and the other, the East Tubbs Park trailhead which is located on 10th Street. The East Tubbs Park trailhead includes a paved parking lot, a portable restroom shelter and artwork.

D. Existing Trails and Greenways

Kathleen-Atlas Trail

The Kathleen-Atlas Trail is a multi-use paved trail constructed by the city on city owned rights-of-way and is maintained by the city. The Kathleen leg of the trail is a just under half mile section on the north side of Kathleen Avenue from Atlas Road to Woodland Middle School where it connects to the Prairie Trail. This trail is connected via a signalized crosswalk to the Atlas leg of the trail. The Atlas leg is a just over a mile and a half long trail on the west side of Atlas Road from Seltice Boulevard to just north of the intersection of Atlas and Kathleen. A spur trail with a non-signalized crosswalk and a ramp connects to the North Idaho Centennial Trail just south of the I-90 bridges. Northshire Park is next to the trail at the intersection of Atlas and Nez Perce. This trail is an important asset and recreational facility linking the residential neighborhoods and schools to the larger trail network and is critical in creating a high level of connectivity in the northwestern areas of the city.

North Idaho Centennial Trail (Mile 10.5 to 18.5)

The Centennial Trail is an east/west greenway through the city. Portions of the trail are routed along Lake Coeur d'Alene and the Spokane River. The section of the trail along Interstate 90 is on the ITD easement associated

with this roadway and is maintained by the city. From McEuen Park to the Rutledge Trailhead, the Centennial Trail is an on-street facility. Between Memorial Park and I-90 the trail is routed on old railroad easements and functions as a greenway or linear park connecting Riverstone Park to Memorial Park.

North Idaho Centennial Trail Loop-Seltice Trailhead

The Centennial Trail Loop is an original section of the North Idaho Centennial Trail that has been superseded by newer, more used and more scenic sections of trail. The city still maintains the Centennial Trail Loop and this loop remains a key trail connection and contains the only trailhead on the Centennial Trail within the city limits. This loop trail starts at the intersection of the North Idaho Centennial Trail and the Prairie Trail by the I-90 Bridge and parallels Seltice Way to the Seltice Trailhead on the ITD easement for I-90. From the Seltice Trailhead to Riverstone, the trail runs along the west side of Northwest Boulevard. Through the Riverstone development the trail is located on easements through Riverstone common areas to the point it rejoins the mainline of the North Idaho Centennial Trail near Beebe Boulevard. Other than snow removal, routine maintenance of the section of the trail is completed by the Riverstone Association. The Seltice Trailhead is located on surplus easement of I-90 owned by the Idaho Department of Transportation and is maintained by the Parks Department. The trailhead is located on the southwest corner of the east bound off ramp for the interstate and Northwest Boulevard. Seltice Way is on the west side of the trailhead and a driveway from that roadway accesses a parking lot on the site which in addition to serving trail users is also utilized as a park and ride lot for commuters. Other amenities on the Seltice Trailhead include a portable restroom shelter, park bench, drinking fountain and two pieces of artwork. The site is just less than two acres in size and is covered in irrigated turf and landscape beds.

The Prairie Trail

The Prairie Trail is a three-and-a-half-mile long greenway, or linear park located on the former Union Pacific railroad easement from Riverstone Park to Huetter Road near its intersection with Prairie Avenue. The greenway is uniformly 100 feet wide and in addition to supporting a paved bicycle trail throughout its length also contains parallel secondary trails used by BMX bicycles and walkers. The greenway contains areas of pine forests along the sides of the paved trail. The city also owns an additional one mile of the railroad easement continuing to Meyer Road which has not been developed for public use as of this time. The trail connects Riverstone Park with the Kroc Center and Ramsey Parks. It also provides easy access via other paved bike trails to Bluegrass Park and The Landings Park. The planned park at Hanley and Prairie Avenue, Woodland Middle School, the US Forest Service Tree Nursery and the North Idaho offices of Idaho State Parks and Recreation are also adjacent to the trail. The Prairie Trail is heavily used and provides access to bicyclist and pedestrians from the newer residential neighborhoods in the northwest areas of the city to downtown Coeur

d’Alene and the lakefront. Numerous neighborhood trails connect to the Prairie Trail, creating a high degree of connectivity on the western side of Coeur d’Alene.

Seltice Corridor

The Seltice Corridor is a one-and-a-half-mile greenway that connects the Centennial Trail to the eastern edge of the city at Huetter Road. This greenway was created in 2018 as part of the rebuilding of Seltice Way, a major roadway connecting Coeur d’Alene with Post Falls. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the maintenance of paved multi-use trails on both sides of this roadway adding a total of three miles of trails to the department’s inventory. Trail maintenance includes snow removal, litter control and long-term projects such as seal coating. The departments scope of responsibility for maintaining the associated landscaping and amenities such as the bus stops have not yet been determined.

US-95 Trail (Mile 0 to 3.0)

The US-95 Trail is a paved multi-use trail on the east side of and parallel to US Highway 95. It is currently owned and maintained by the Idaho Department of Transportation. The trail begins at Apple Way and continues north for eight miles to Garwood Road. The three miles from Apple Way to Prairie Avenue are located within the city limits of Coeur d’Alene. When the trail was originally built ITD did not secure a maintenance agreement with the local governments that it was located in. ITD focuses on maintenance of roadways and highways and over the ensuing years the condition of this trail deteriorated dramatically to the point it has become unusable for road bicycles. Recently Coeur d’Alene and ITD reached an agreement that will turn over maintenance of this facility to the city. As part of the agreement, ITD will completely rebuild the trail by 2020. Once this is accomplished the northern three miles of the US-95 Trail will be turned over to the city. Also, the trail will be extended several miles to the Silverwood Theme Park and on to the Bonner County line. Long range plans call for a further extension of the trail to Sandpoint as the road is widened.

E. Existing Sports Complexes

Canfield Sports Complex

Canfield Sports Complex is a fourteen-acre recreational complex located on the southwest corner of Canfield Avenue and Mountain Vista Drive. The complex is immediately adjacent to Canfield Middle School and its recreational facilities. The primary access to the site is through an entrance road off of Mountain Vista Drive into a large centrally located parking lot. A second road with more parking connects from 15th Street. Canfield Sports Complex is the home of the Coeur d’Alene Little League and has four baseball fields. The complex also contains a full-size soccer field. A portable restroom shelter is located adjacent to the baseball fields. The site is fenced

and gated and is seasonally closed to motor vehicle traffic.

Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex

Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex is a ten-acre recreational complex located on the southwest corner of Courcelles Parkway and Moselle Drive. The complex is immediately north of Skyway Elementary School. Parking for this facility is primarily on street and on an informal dirt parking area at the north end of the site. A pedestrian access is located at the southwest corner of the property and connects to Coeur d'Alene Place's trail system. Limited parking can be a challenge at this site. The Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex is used as its name implies primarily to support soccer programs including those operated by the city. Utilizing a flexible layout, the site can support three full sized soccer fields or as many as twenty mini fields. A narrow-wooded buffer strip separates the fields from the residences to the west. Extensive residential development has been approved and is in the process of being constructed east of the park and it is anticipated that this will lead to an increased demand for park facilities in the immediate area.

Jenny Stokes Field

Jenny Stokes Field is a three-acre sports facility on the southeast corner of Ramsey Road and Kathleen Avenue. The site is primarily used to host youth soccer and is adjacent to the city's north campus which includes Fire Station #2 and the Street Department Maintenance Facility. This sports field includes an off-street parking lot with a shared entrance with the neighboring commercial building. A public restroom facility attached to Fire Station #2 is available for public use. The site was recently bisected by a roadway to provide access to the neighboring Street Department Facility, effectively reducing the size of this complex. Due to the extremely narrow width of the site other sports uses are not compatible.

Person Field, Ron Edinger Park

Person Field is a seven-acre special use facility located on Garden Street between 15th and 13th streets. The field was originally the site of Coeur d'Alene High School's athletic complex and included a football field, field house, baseball field and a running track when the high school was in the building now housing Lakes Middle School. The city acquired the site in two different transactions when the field was deemed surplus by the school district. The original part of the facility which includes the playground and the softball field was dedicated as Ron Edinger Park after a long-time public servant and advocate for the Parks and Recreation Department. Person Field is primarily used by Junior Tackle Football and supports two full sized football fields one of which partially overlaps with the dirt infield of the softball diamond. When fully acquired by the city, it was determined that the community desired that the existing uses be maintained while adding some amenities to support neighborhood use. Using that information, a master plan for the site was created and is in the process of being implemented. Since that time improvements to the site have included the installation of a

modern irrigation system, upgrades to the old field house that allow it to function as a maintenance building for this site and other nearby parks, the addition of a small playground between the football fields and the construction of a maintenance building funded by and for the use of the Junior Tackle Association.

Ramsey Park Sports Complex

Ramsey Park is a 28-acre special use facility that primarily supports softball and baseball. The northern most five acres of this park contain additional amenities not related to sports fields and functions as a neighborhood park for the surrounding residential area. The Park contains five softball fields with bleachers and dugouts along with Thorco Field, a baseball field with grandstands, dugouts and batter cages. Additional amenities and facilities that directly support the parks use as a ballfield complex include a concession building with attached restrooms and picnic shelter, a vault toilet, three large parking lots, a storage building, a secondary site for a concession trailer and a playground. Additional amenities and facilities in the northern five acres of the park include a second playground, a restroom building, two tennis courts, a basketball court, a picnic gazebo, volleyball courts and a park maintenance building. Ramsey Park is located on Ramsey Road immediately north of the Kroc Center. The Prairie Trail defines the western edge of the park and is connected to it by two paved trails.

Sunset Rotary Field

Sunset Rotary Field is a five-acre complex on Best Avenue between 15th and 13th Streets that is primarily used to support softball. There are two lighted fenced softball fields on the site with score boards, bleachers and a storage building. Additional amenities and facilities at Sunset Field include the city's Satellite Skate Park, a playground, a picnic shelter and a basketball court. The Satellite Skate Park was added to the park in 2016 with portable elements relocated from Memorial Park. To support recreational use, the site also has a parking lot off of Best Avenue, a second smaller parking lot next to the skate park, a pedestrian gate at the end of 14th Street, and a portable restroom shelter

F. Existing Community Centers

Jewett House Senior Citizen Recreation and Event Center

The Jewett House is a special use facility located at 1501 S 15th Street on Lake Coeur d'Alene. The site contains a historic house facing the lake and was donated to the city by the Potlatch Corporation for the benefit of Coeur d'Alene's senior citizens. The Jewett House functions as a senior citizens center. The two and a quarter acre site also contains a paved parking lot, a detached garage and an old green house. Recently significant renovations have been made to the main house and the grounds. The site has become

much more popular for rentals including weddings and private parties.

G. Existing Water Front Facilities



*Independence Point and
City Park Beach*

12th Street Beach

The 12th Street Beach is a quarter of an acre lakefront lot on East Lakeshore Drive at the end of 12th Street. It provides public access to Sanders Beach and has over 100 feet of waterfront. Currently the site has no amenities.

Atlas Park Beach

The Atlas Park Beach is a 3,700-foot stretch of shoreline along the Spokane River adjacent to Atlas Park. The entire shoreline is publicly accessible and has beach areas, stairs and landscaped areas. The beach has an accessible swim ramp and swim area, an accessible kayak launch, and a water dog park.

City Park Beach

City Beach is a one-acre sandy public beach with 920 feet of shoreline. It is located next to City Park and is in the heart of the downtown. It is one of Coeur d'Alene's most popular summertime destinations and has amenities in adjacent City Park.

Hubbard Street Beach

The Hubbard Street Beach is a third of an acre lakefront lot on West Lakeshore Drive between Hubbard Avenue and Forest Street. It abuts the public beach at North Idaho College to the west. It is used for swimming and occasionally for landing non-motorized watercraft such as kayaks and canoes. The beach is maintained by the staff out of City Park. Currently the only site amenities are a ground anchored picnic table.

Sanders Beach

The Sanders Beach is two thirds of an acre beach with over 700 feet of shoreline on Lake Coeur d'Alene at the east end of the Sanders Beach neighborhood and is adjacent to the Jewett House. The section of beach immediately south of the Jewett House is owned out right by the city. The remaining two thirds of the site is owned by Hagadone Hospitality and is open for public use through an agreement in exchange for allowing use of part of the lake bottom for their golf course.

1st Street Dock

The 1st Street Dock is a public dock located on the former right-of-way of 1st Street. It is located inside the Coeur d'Alene Resort boardwalk and is approximately 250 feet southeast of the Independence Point parking lot. The dock is used for short term daylight mooring.

Commercial Dock/Independence Point Beach

The Commercial Dock at Independence Point is a 240-foot 8000 square foot dock owned and maintained by the City of Coeur d'Alene that is used to support commercial activities by private businesses. Fees for leases on this dock are used to fund waterfront improvements. Independence Point Park adjacent to the Commercial Dock also has a wide public beach with 275 feet of shoreline.

Mooring Docks

The City of Coeur d'Alene owns and operates overnight mooring docks adjacent to the Harbor House at McEuen Park. The Mooring Docks have 32 slips for short term moorage and is accessed via a gangway from the Harbor House. Customers can use the public restrooms at the Harbor House during normal hours. The facility is lighted and hosts a sewage pump out station for boaters to use. The Mooring Docks are next to the base of Tubbs Hill and are protected by a breakwater. A pay box with posted rates is located at the top of the gangway.

3rd Street Boat Ramp

The 3rd Street Boat Ramp is a public boat ramp located in McEuen Park next to the Coeur d'Alene Resort. This ramp has four launch lanes and three docks. User fees collected from launching boats are used to fund waterfront improvements.

H. Existing Cemeteries

Forest Cemetery

Forest Cemetery is a 20.7-acre public cemetery owned and operated by the City of Coeur d'Alene located at 1011 Government Way. The property was acquired by the city in 1905 from the United States government. The cemetery is bordered by Lincoln Way to the west and C Street to the north. Cemetery maintenance is performed by staff based at the parks shop across C Street from the cemetery. Cemetery records are maintained and kept at city hall at 710 Mullan Street. A perpetual care fund has been created to ensure the long-term maintenance of the cemetery. Approximately 18000 people are buried or interred in Forest Cemetery. All burial lots have been sold and most of them are occupied. Only cremain niches are still available. Guides to a historical walking tour of the facility are available to the public. The cemetery contains several sculptures and niche walls.



Forest Cemetery

Riverview Cemetery

Riverview Cemetery is a seven-and-a-half-acre public cemetery owned and

operated by the City of Coeur d'Alene located at 1065 North Lincoln Way. This facility was acquired in the late 1960's as an addition to Forest Cemetery to provide space for burials and internments well into the twenty first century. The cemetery is bordered by Lincoln Way to the east and sloped down towards Northwest Boulevard. Cemetery maintenance is performed by staff based at the parks shop at 1053 C Street. Cemetery records are maintained and kept at city hall at 710 Mullan Street. A perpetual care fund has been created to ensure the long-term maintenance of the cemetery. Riverview Cemetery still has thousands of full burial lots available and has an extensive inventory of cremain niches available.

I. Existing Non-Park Areas

Beautification Areas

The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for overseeing and completing the landscape maintenance in at least eighteen different locations on sites used for beautification that are primarily part of the city's streets and rights-of-way. These include roundabouts, interchanges, median strips and swales. These sites vary in size from under 1000 square feet to over ten acres as in the case of the I-90 Northwest Boulevard interchange. The sites maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department include:

- Seltice/Grand Mill Roundabout
- Seltice/Atlas Roundabout
- Interstate 90/Northwest Boulevard Interchange, including the Seltice Trailhead
- Days Inn Strip
- Seltice/Northwest Boulevard Rock Bed
- US-95/Northwest Boulevard Interchange
- Ramsey Swales Hanley to Apple Way
- Northwest Boulevard Islands Seltice to First St.
- Gibbs Island
- Lincoln Triangle
- Government Way Islands Harrison to Northwest Boulevard
- Lakeside Triangle
- Rotary Triangle at 23rd and Sherman
- 4th Street Triangle at 3rd Street
- 4th Street Roundabout at Kathleen
- 4th Street Strip at CDA High School
- Walnut Island at US-95
- Shaddock Lift Station

In addition to these landscape areas, the Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for overseeing and completing the landscape maintenance at seven locations throughout the city that support public buildings. These include

- Fire Station #1 and the Fire Department Administration Building,

- Fire Station #2 and the Street Department Maintenance Facility,
- Fire Station #3,
- Fire Station #4,
- Police Department Headquarters,
- Coeur d'Alene Library
- Coeur d'Alene City Hall.

These responsibilities include trash removal, tree maintenance, turf management, managing and repairing the irrigation systems, herbicide application and maintaining the planting beds. Recently the department has started to use and oversee contractors to perform some of this work with so that the department can focus its resources on public parks. Contractors currently are used to complete regular mowing of the Police Headquarters and Fire Stations #1, #3, #4 and the Fire Department Administration Building. Due to the success of this program the department plans to expand the use of private contractors in non-park areas. The maintenance of the grounds at the Library and City Hall is treated as an extension of the maintenance of McEuen Park as these facilities are adjacent to the park and the public utilizes them and the parking lots as public space.

Much of the work performed on these sites is carried out around heavy traffic and at times requires lane and road closures. Responsibility for the maintenance of these sites has been assigned to the Parks and Recreation Department through a series of agreements with other agencies and private landowners as well as by default as the department is the only city organization that is able to complete these tasks. Landscape maintenance on the I-90 Northwest Boulevard interchange including the Seltice Trailhead was assigned to the department through an agreement with the Idaho Transportation Department. This was also the case with the US-95 Northwest Boulevard interchange. Maintenance of the Ramsey Road swales is done by an agreement with the Coeur d'Alene Storm Water Division and that department pays for much of this work. At Days Inn on Northwest Boulevard, the department maintains the landscape along the roadway through an agreement that allowed for the installation of public utilities on the site. Maintenance of these non-park areas requires a great deal of the department's time and resources.

Park Maintenance Facilities

C Street Parks Department Maintenance Facility

The C Street Parks Department Maintenance Facility is the primary base of field operations for the Parks and Recreation Department. It is also used as the base of operations for the maintenance and operations of both of the city cemeteries which are located in the immediate vicinity. The facility consists of two parcels of land located at 1053 and 1054 C Street totaling just over an acre. A 5000 square foot heated shop with a restroom and offices is located on site as are two pole barns with a total of 2800 square feet. Most of the department's rolling stock is based at the C Street shop. In house vehicle and

equipment maintenance is carried out at the shop as is metal fabrication and concrete work. The shop is used to store irrigation parts and hardware for field repairs. The offices contain work stations for the full-time employees to complete their administrative work.

Old Armory Maintenance Facility

Due to the expansion of the department and the increase in responsibilities over the past decade, the C Street Parks Maintenance Shop was becoming increasingly cramped to the point that the lack of space was adversely effecting operations. Recently the city acquired the use of the old National Guard Armory at Walnut and 7th Street and turned this facility over to the Parks Department for use as a satellite shop. This facility is 2.3 acres in size and contains a 9000 square foot heated shop building with restrooms. The Parks Department was moved its wood working equipment to this site and also uses it to store seasonal equipment, bulky items and old records. The shop yard is fenced and the site has a secondary access easement from Spokane Street. The departments mow crew and equipment is based out of this facility because of the ample space and easier street access that this site affords. The Old Armory Shop is the primary location for refurbishing park amenities.

Other Park Maintenance Facilities

Other maintenance facilities include free-standing shops and storage yards located at many of our parks.

- City Park, 2200 square foot three bay shop with a fenced yard.
- Person Field, 3400 square foot heated shop-storage building.
- Ramsey Field, 600 square foot two bay shop building.
- Phippeny Park, 2000 square foot heated shop-office building used by the Building Maintenance Division.
- Landings Park, 800 square foot shop building.
- Atlas Park, 1500 square foot heated shop building with a fenced yard under construction.

Regional Resources

Coeur d'Alene's system of parks is supplemented by park and recreation resources owned by other agencies and groups. Major regional resources include:

- *Federal Land.* Large tracts of federal land exist at several points in and around Coeur d'Alene. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) currently owns a nursery near the northwest edge of town, surrounded on all sides by land within the city limits and is the largest tract of undeveloped land in the

area. In addition to this in-town site, state and federal agencies also own and maintain recreation sites at Blackwell Island, along the Spokane River, Canfield Mountain, and Higgens Point.

- *Beach Access.* North Idaho College, located west of downtown, owns and maintains beach access at the origin of the Spokane River at Lake Coeur d’Alene. This beach is open to the public as well as to students, and equipment such as non-motorized boats is available for rent.
- *North Idaho Centennial Trail.* Coeur d’Alene has built segments of the North Idaho Centennial Trail within city limits, but the North Idaho Centennial Trail extends far beyond the City. Extending west to the Washington border, the North Idaho Centennial Trail continues as Spokane River Centennial Trail. The North Idaho Centennial Trail continues east to Higgens Point, and there is discussion to extend it further.
- *KROC Center.* In the spring of 2009, one of only seven Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Centers in the nation was completed adjacent to Ramsey Park and the Prairie Trail corridor. The Center is a state of the art, full-service recreation center that includes a gymnasium (dividable into three courts with a jogging/running track), a freestanding climbing wall, a dance/aerobics room, swimming pool and leisure pool, a fitness center and other classrooms and public space. This center provides a wide range of recreation options for the entire Coeur d’Alene community. The Kroc Center is operated by the Salvation Army, and an operating endowment was established as part of the gift. The Coeur d’Alene Parks and Recreation.
- *The Boys and Girls Club*
- *The Lake City Center*
- *Cougar Bay.* The Nature Conservancy

Table 2 on the next page summarizes the existing parks by classification, including acreage.

Table 3 on the following page summarizes the existing ball fields including use.

Maps 1 and 2 depict the Coeur d’Alene park system in 2020, illustrating the planning boundary and the existing parks by classification.

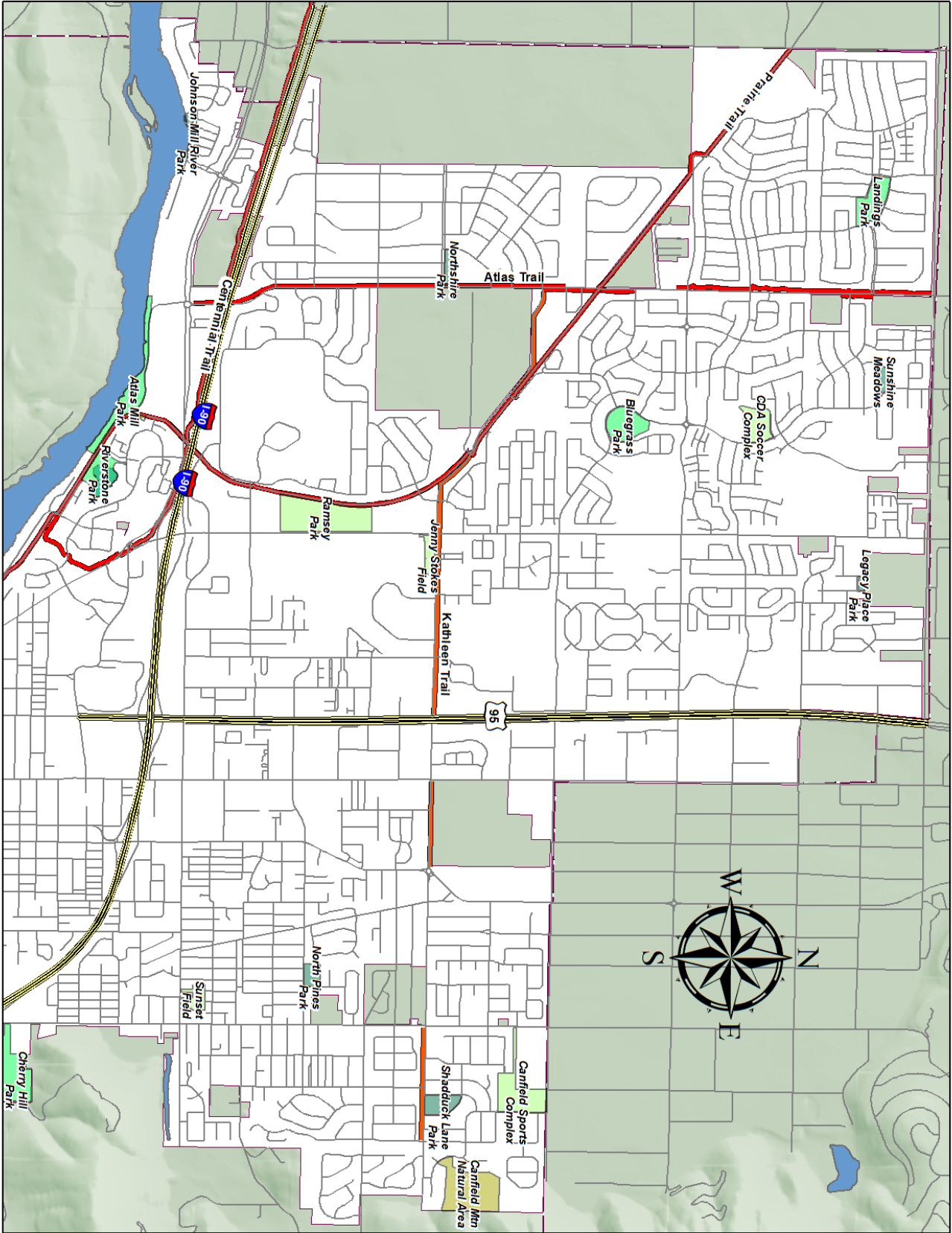
Table 2
Coeur d'Alene Park Land Inventory by Classification, 2020

Park Land	Total Acreage
Community Parks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlas Community Park • Bluegrass Park (11.0 acres) • Cherry Hill Community Park (30.0 acres) • City Park, Independence Point, & Memorial Field (33 acres) and beach (14.8 acres) • Landings Park (11.0 acres) • Riverstone Park (10.0 acres including the pond) • McEuen Park (22 acres) 	153 acres
Neighborhood Parks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan Park (2 acres) • Johnson Mill River Park (1.7 acres) • Legacy Place Park (1.0 acres) • North Pines Park (3.5 acres) • Northshire Park (3.5 acres) • Phippeny Park (2.7 acres) • Ramsey Park North (5 acres) • Shaddock Lane Park (6.0 acres) • Sunshine Meadows Park (2.3 acres) • Winton Park (6.0 acres) 	32 acres
Sports Complexes/Special Use Areas/Waterfront	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canfield Sports Complex (16.0 acres) • Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex (8.5 acres) • Jenny Stokes Field (3 acres) • Person Field (7.0 acres) • Ramsey Park (30 acres) • Sunset Rotary Field (5 acres) • Water Front (acreage not applicable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Street Dock Commercial Dock Third Street Launch and Mooring Dock 12th Street Beach Hubbard Beach Sanders Beach 	69.5 acres
Natural Park Preserves	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canfield Mountain Natural Area (24.0 acres) • Fernan Lake Natural Area (54.0 acres) • Tubbs Hill Natural Area (160.0 acres) • Seagraves Veterans' Centennial Park (16.0 acres) ** • Cancourse Natural Area (135 acres) * 	389.0 acres
Total	630.4 acres

* planned – not yet constructed
** pending – concept under revision

Table 3
Coeur d'Alene's Sports fields

#	Location	Comments
Baseball Fields		
4	Canfield Sports Complex	Little League fields; adjacent to Canfield Middle School
1	Ramsey Park	Varsity field that could accommodate adult play, but cannot accommodate college play; lighted
7 TOTAL (4 Little League and 1 Varsity/JV Fields)		
Softball Fields		
1	Bryan Park	
1	Memorial Field	Lighted; can accommodate 500 people;
1	Person Field	
5	Ramsey Park	Lighted
2	Sunset Rotary Field	Both fields are lighted; fields used predominately for youth and women's softball
1	Winton Park	Used predominately by youth softball
11 TOTAL (Adult/Youth Softball Fields)		
Football Fields		
2	Person Field	
2 TOTAL (Football Fields)		
Soccer Fields		
1	Canfield Sports Complex	Adjacent to Canfield Middle School
2	Cd'A Soccer Complex	Can convert to 5 mini fields
1	Jenny Stokes Field	Can convert to 6 mini fields
4 TOTAL (7Soccer Fields)		
Other Recreation Facilities		
1	Skatepark	Memorial Park
1	BMX Track	Within Cherry Hill Community Park
2 TOTAL (Other Recreation Facilities)		



City of
Coeur d'Alene
PARKS & RECREATION

Map 1:
Existing Park Facilities
North

Community Parks



Neighborhood Parks



Sports Complexes

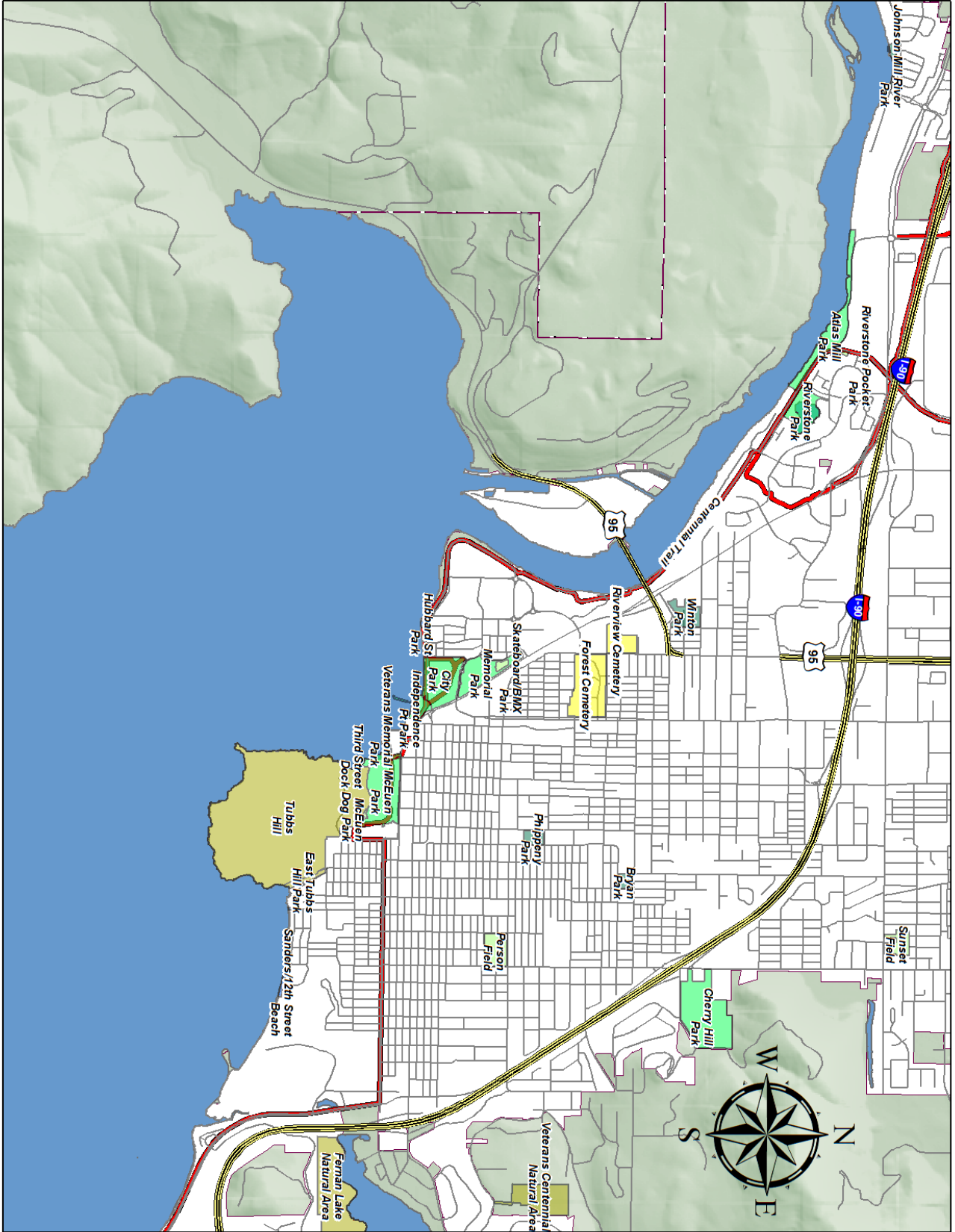


Natural Parks



- Landings Community Park
- Bluegrass Community Park
- Riverstone Community Park
- Cherry Hill Community Park
- Northshore Neighborhood Park
- North Pines Neighborhood Park
- Legacy Place Neighborhood Park
- Shadduck Lane Neighborhood Park

- Johnson Mill River Neighborhood Park
- Sunshine Meadows Neighborhood Park
- Sunset Field
- Ramsey Park
- Jenny Stokes Field
- CDA Soccer Complex
- Canfield Sports Complex
- Canfield Mountain Natural Area



City of
Coeur d'Alene
PARKS & RECREATION

**Map 2:
Existing Park Facilities
South**

- Community Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Sports Complexes
- Natural Parks
- Cemeteries

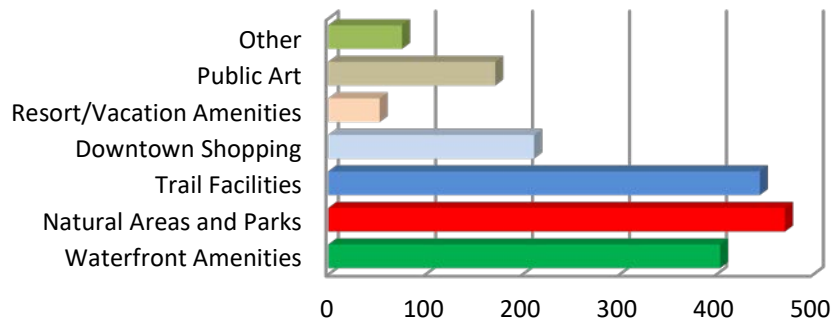
- City Park Destination Community Park
- Memorial Park
- Independence Point
- McEuen Destination Community Park
- Third Street Dock
- Veterans Memorial
- Riverstone Community Park
- Cherry Hill Community Park
- Johnson Mill River Neighborhood Park
- Bryan Neighborhood Park
- East Tubbs Hill Neighborhood Park
- Phippeny Neighborhood Park
- Hubbard Street Neighborhood Park
- Winton Neighborhood Park
- Sunset Field
- Person Field
- Veterans Centennial Natural Area
- Fernan Lake Natural Area
- Tubbs Hill Natural Area
- Forest Cemetery
- Riverview Cemetery
- Sanders Beach/12th Street Beach

CHAPTER 4: PUBLIC INPUT

This chapter summarizes the results of the needs assessment. It includes key findings from the public involvement process and staff recommendation based on working with the public on a daily basis, the needs of various user groups and years of field experience and knowledge.

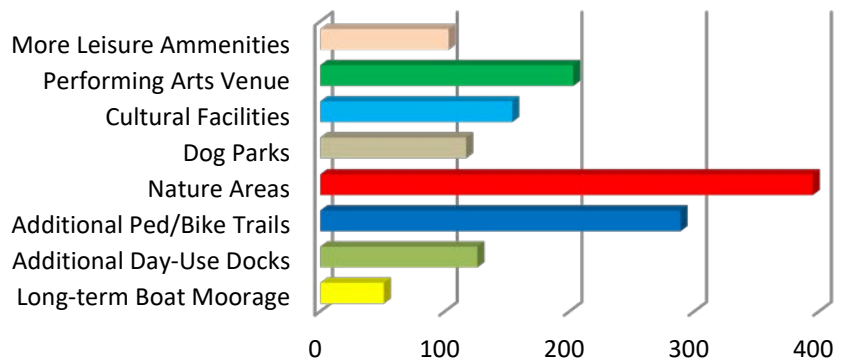
A. Key findings from the 2018-2020 public involvement process

What are your Favorite Attractions in Coeur d'Alene



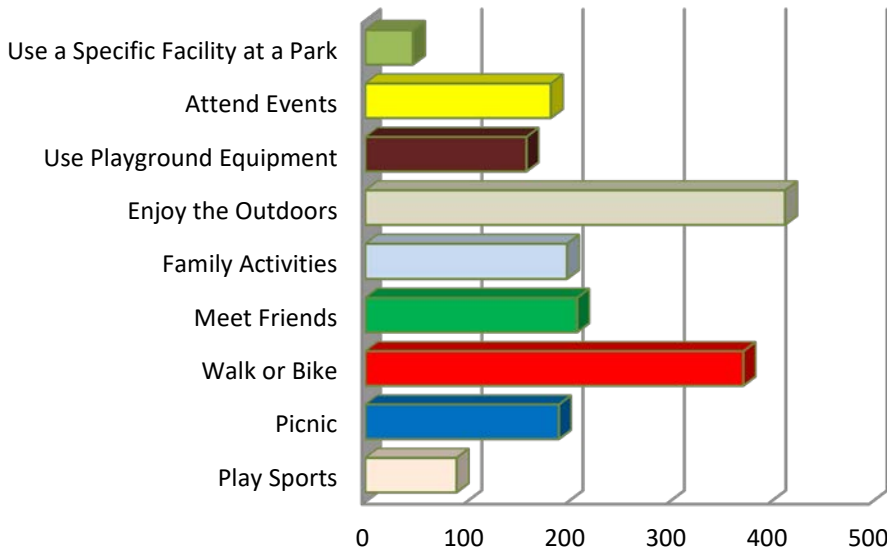
- More than 89% of respondents feel that *natural areas are their favorite attractions* followed by 85% enjoying our trail facilities while 77% are attracted to our waterfront amenities. Other represented 14% with many of the write in responses including Pickleball Courts.

What Facilities would Enhance our Community?



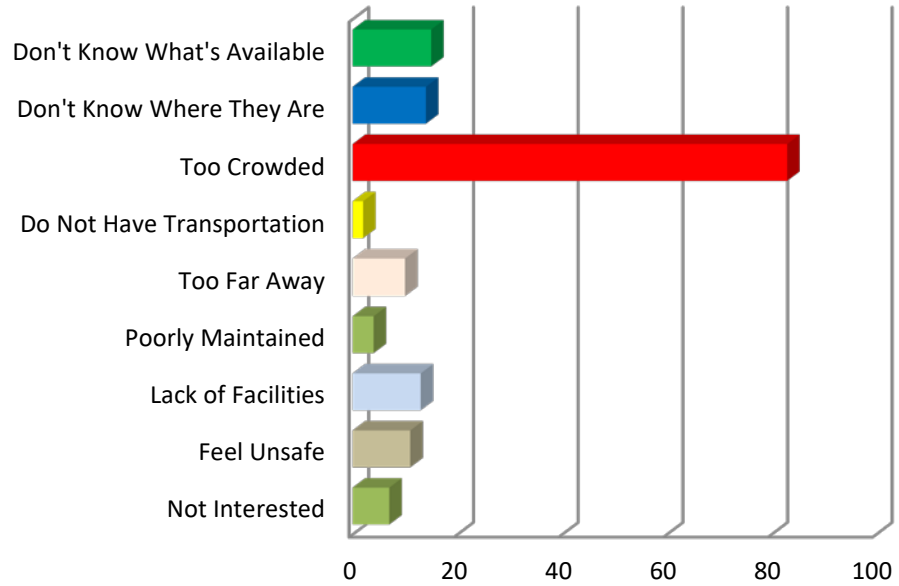
- When asked what new facilities would enhance our community, 79% of respondents stated *natural areas* were the most important facility to add to our community. The next highly desired facility is additional pedestrian and bicycle trails at 58% and a performing arts venue same in third with 40%. It's also important to note the public voted strongly for cultural facilities as well. Many write-in responses stated more parking and pickleball courts would enhance our community as well.

What are the primary reasons you use the parks?



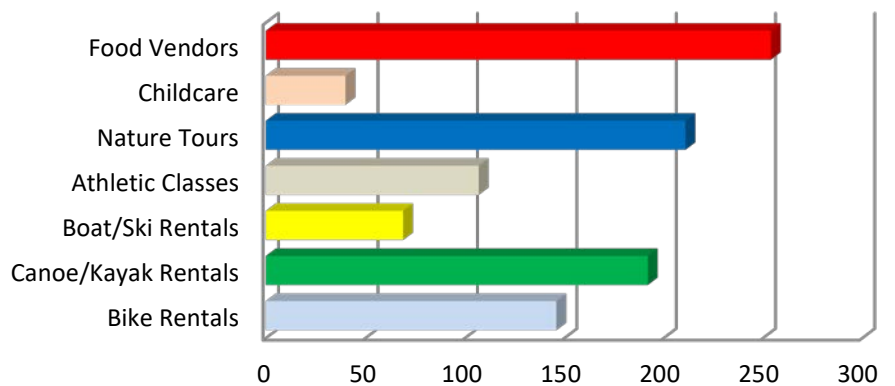
- The number one reason people visit the parks is to enjoy the outdoors at 79%. The number two reason at 70% is to walk or bike for exercise. Picnicking, using playgrounds, meeting friends, family activities and attending events all were close in numbers between 35% and 40% at 3rd place.

If you seldom use the parks, what are your reasons?



- The graph shows the reasons people don't use the parks. It's important to note that 75% of respondents do use the parks. These numbers reflect the 25% that seldom or never use the parks. The top reason was the perception that the parks are too crowded at 18%. The next closest reason was not knowing where they are located or what is available at 3%.

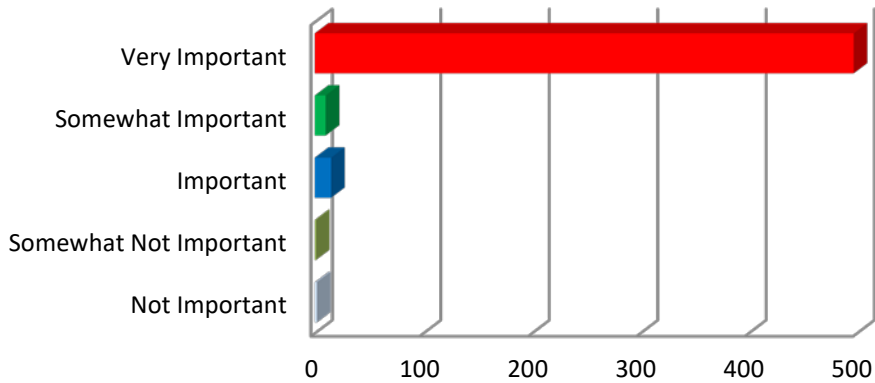
Would you like to see any of these additional services?



- The top two additional services people who like to see or see more of were food vendors and nature tours. These were at 54% and 45%

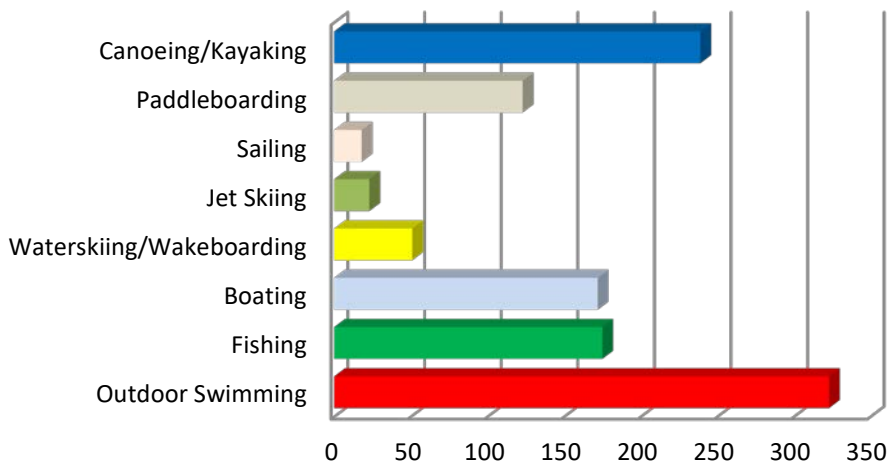
respectively. Canoe/kayak rentals and bike rentals followed that at 41% and 31%.

How Would You Rate the Importance of Natural Parks In Cd'A?



- Natural open space is the park type respondents indicated is important in Coeur d'Alene. 95% ranked them at very important, with another 5% total ranking them somewhat important and important. Two respondents out of the 528 poled ranked them as not important.

What Types of Water Recreation Activities do you Participate in the Most Frequently?



- Outdoor Swimming is the water activity most frequently engaged in by respondents at 62%. Canoeing or Kayaking is also a popular activity coming in at 46%. Boating, fishing and paddle boarding are also popular amongst participants.

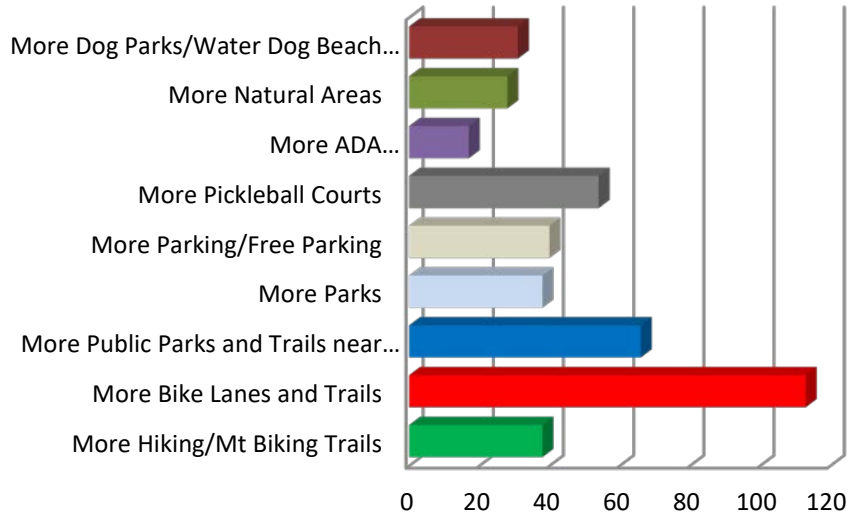
Other important findings from the public involvement process

- The age of respondents was fairly equally distributed. People between the ages of 25-34 were the largest percentile at 21.40%, followed closely by 35 to 44-year olds at 20.64%. 18 to 24-year olds were the smallest at 6%. All other ages were closely represented between 16% and 18%. No respondents were under 18 years of age.
- Women responded more to the survey than men at a 2 to 1 rate.
- 77% of respondents were from the Coeur d'Alene area.
- People use our parks frequently. 45% use them once a week or more and 46% use them several times per month.
- The busiest season is summer in Coeur d'Alene. 98% use the parks in summer, but all seasons see a high amount of use. Spring and Fall both were ranked at 91% and Winter use was at 56%.
- When asked why respondents don't use the City-owned water recreation facilities, 52% stated "Not applicable – I use the facilities". After that people stated that the facilities were either too full or that there was no parking totaling 39%.
- When asked how often they used natural trails, 46% stated several times per month, 22% once per week or more and 24% once or twice per year. 8% never use the nature trails. Paved trails are most often used several times per month. The use of bike lanes was even split between once per week or more, several times per month and once or twice per year, with a higher percentage never using the bike lanes. 22% of people bike to work at varying frequencies, while 76% never do.
- The most frequently attended events are the farmers market, concerts in the park and the 4th of July celebration. Car d' Lane, Taste of the Cd'A's, and Ironman are also highly attended.

Specific improvements to the parks system

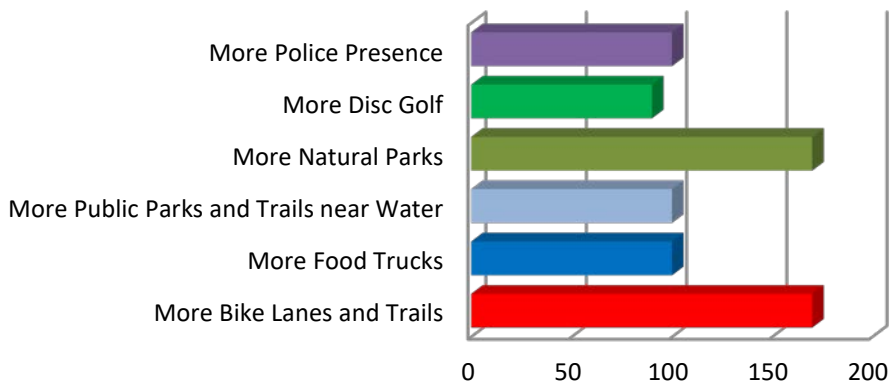
Three questions asked respondents to write in multiple responses to allow us to get a feel for what people wanted to see more of in the Coeur d'Alene Parks and Recreation system.

What 3 Things Should be Added to the Cd'A Park's System?



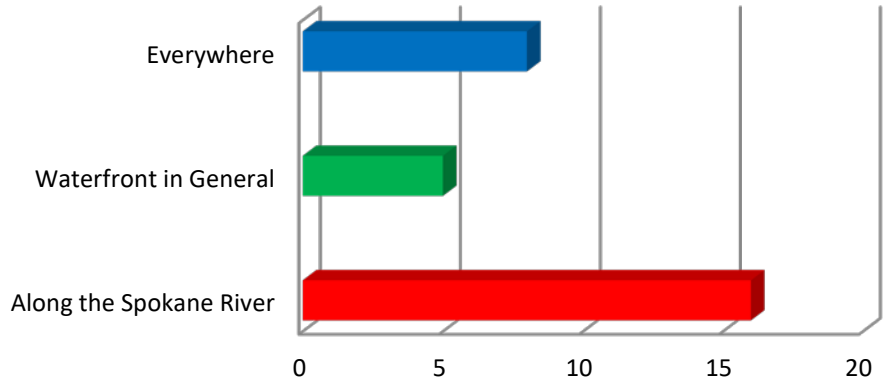
- When asked what 3 things could be added to the parks system the responses covered a wide range of topics. However, the number one response was more bike lanes and trails. Public waterfront access in the form of parks and trails came in second, and more pickleball courts rated the next most important thing.

What 3 Activities Would You Like to See Expanded?



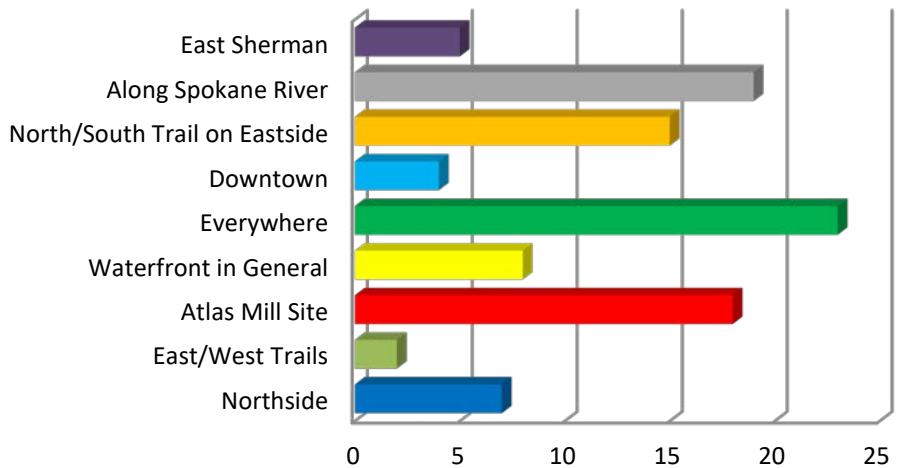
- When asked what three activities or recreational opportunities they would like to see added or expanded in Cd'A respondents asked for more natural parks, bike lanes and trails, and a greater police presence. People also want more food trucks, disc golf and public access near water.

In What Specific Area Would You Like to see Addition Natural Areas?



- People want waterfront public access in Coeur d’Alene, specifically along the Spokane River.

In What Specific Area Do You Want Trails and Bikeways?



- “Everywhere” was the largest response when asked where, specifically, respondents wanted to see Trails and Bikeways. Specifying a more targeted trail system, Along the Spokane River rated the highest. The Atlas Mill site and a North/South running trail on the east side of town were also rated as highly desirable.

B. More Findings

- *Trails and Bikeways.* Coeur d’Alene has a high percentage of bicyclists

(commuters, casual cyclists and frequent road cyclists), but improvements related to connectivity need to be made. More non-motorized transportation options are desired, as are improved connections between neighborhoods and community destination points, along with more trailheads and better signage.

- *Improved pedestrian connections.* Safer walking routes to schools, safer walking routes from new subdivisions to downtown, building sidewalks in areas where they currently don't exist, ADA improvements to existing sidewalks in downtown and improvements to maps and directional/informational signage are desired.
- *Specific facility/amenity needs.* Desired facilities that fulfill a specific purpose include a water dog park, pickleball, bocce ball, more areas that allow dogs, public gardens, an arboretum, additional disc golf courses, a second hardball field, additional locations for skating, more bathrooms instead of portable bathrooms, more benches, more drinking fountains (in parks and along trails), an ice-skating rink, and more bicycle repair stations.
- *Equal facilities for all.* There were many people who took the survey that asked for better wheelchair accessible amenities, parking, and improved access to trails, natural areas, and water-based activities.
- *Natural area and water access.* Visions for natural open space include native plant preserves, hillside and shoreline preservation and improved access to outdoor recreation. More public docks and unrestricted access to the beaches in the city are desired. Steps to encourage water conservation methods are desired for the maintenance of the City's developed parks.
- *Trail connections.* Better access to the USFS land near Canfield Mountain is envisioned, as are improvements to trail connections in general. Alternatives to travel on Highway 95, a future non-motorized connection to Blackwell Island, and off-street trails on the east side of the city are desired.
- *More opportunities for youth.* Park facilities that will serve a variety of youth age groups are sought, as are more open gyms and ballfields for use by youths and others.
- *Parking.* A high number of respondents wrote in comments reflecting the need for either more parking or free parking. Many were referring to downtown, but a decent percentage also asked for trail head parking along trails and Natural Areas.
- *Budget should reflect values.* Fundamentally, participants envisioned a park system in which the parks budget reflects the values articulated above.
- *Pickleball Courts.* Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the nation and has a large following in the greater Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Metropolitan area. Dedicated Pickleball courts have been recently designated or constructed at Memorial Park and Northshire Park. Shared

Pickleball/Tennis courts are located at Northshire, McEuen, Cherry Hill and Memorial Parks. The Pickleball Association in Coeur d'Alene are highly motivated and are requesting more dedicated courts across the park system. The Tennis Association would also like Pickleball to have more dedicated courts as the lines and nets are different for pickleball and tennis, creating some difficulty in sharing the same space.

C. Park Staff Suggestions

Parks staff were asked to participate in the public involvement process since they interact with the public on a daily basis and see and speak with thousands of people throughout the year. They also have specific insight into the parks system and were asked to come up with suggestions for improvements within the parks. All these are suggestions only and **are not** items that have been approved by administration or council.

- Consider extending the life of the city's cemeteries by adding property if and when it becomes available and by creating additional niche walls. Also consider building an indoor cremation mausoleum.
- Expand public services in our parks while enhancing the revenue stream by creating permanent food truck pads and by partnering with private businesses to provide recreational opportunities such as ice skating, climbing walls and zip lines on sites where these activities are appropriate.
- Provide more off-leash dog park locations and consider allowing dogs in all of our parks while enforcing leash laws.
- Add public restrooms and off-street parking to sports complexes that lack them including restrooms at CDA Soccer, Canfield Sports and replacing the obsolete restrooms at Person Field. CDA Soccer and Person Field currently have no off-street parking.
- Add site amenities such as benches, picnic shelters and playgrounds to our sports complexes to support neighborhood use.
- Add full restrooms to parks that lack them and replace obsolete restrooms when funding can be secured to better serve the public.
- Expand Johnson Mill River Park by incorporating the abandoned railroad easement into it.

- Create a trailhead with parking and a restroom facility at the northwest end of the Prairie Trail.
- Work to bring bikeshare to Cd'A.
- Add a splash pad to a park in the northeast part of Coeur d'Alene.
- Expand Legacy Park and add site amenities.
- Add site amenities to East Tubbs Hill Park to allow it to serve as a neighborhood park.
- Add small pocket skateparks or skateable features along the Prairie Trail between Riverstone and Ramsey Park and at other locations along our trails.
- Improve access to the waterfront for our mobility impaired citizens by adding wheel chair ramps to the beaches at 12th Street, Sanders Beach and Independence Point.
- Improve ADA access to all of our parks and facilities as they are upgrade.
- Work towards becoming more environmentally friendly in our park maintenance by utilizing battery operated equipment, using alternative fuels and energy efficient LED light fixtures.

CHAPTER 5: PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS



Fort Sherman Playground at City Park

This chapter provides detailed recommendations for enhancing Coeur d'Alene's park system, and is a companion to the recommendations on administration and operations in Chapter 6. The park system recommendations implement the vision and goals presented in Chapter 1. This chapter is organized as follows.

A. General Recommendations for facilities by type:

- *Community and Neighborhood Parks.* This category describes the methodology used to determine park needs.
- *Natural Parks.* These recommendations address natural park preserve target areas.
- *Trails and Greenways.* Recommendations for trail improvements area are noted in this section.
- *Sports Complexes.* This category includes recommendations for recreation facilities, including sports fields, indoor space and other types.
- *Waterfront Facilities.* This section addresses existing waterfront access points and a strategy for increasing waterfront facilities in Coeur d'Alene.
- *Cemeteries.* Recommendations for improvements to the two City-owned facilities
- *Non-Park Areas.* These recommendations are for all buildings and beautification areas the department maintains that are not managed for recreation.

B. Specific Recommendations for Park Facilities:

- *Park Improvements.* This section identifies the specific needs in each park in the parks system.

A. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FACILITIES BY TYPE

COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

As part of the park and recreation master planning process, the need for developed park resources, particularly the neighborhood and community parks, that fulfill a community's basic health and recreation needs is assessed in several ways.

Public outreach offers insight into a community's priorities for park development, as well as willingness to travel and other factors influencing park use. Geographic analysis reveals what areas of a city are underserved

with these resources. A straight-line analysis assumes that park users can travel directly from point A to point B with no diversions. A network analysis assesses the road and/or trail network, as well as barriers within that network, to derive the actual distance from point A to point B. Using this information, a standard is derived, expressed in acres per 1,000 residents.

Community Parks

The desired level of service for Coeur d'Alene is to provide a community park within 1.5-miles of each resident. Highway 95 serves as a barrier, and was factored into the geographic analysis. In addition to distance, level of service is also based on how many acres of parkland are available per 1,000 residents.

To achieve the public's vision for community parks, in which these facilities are distributed equally throughout the city and accessible to all, five additional community parks are needed. One is planned and under construction and four are proposed, one of which would contain a large sports complex and be considerably larger than average.

With four new community parks recommended at an average size of 18 acres and one of 40 to 80 acres, 112 to 152 acres of community park land should be acquired to serve the planning area. Coeur d'Alene currently has 138 acres of Community Parks. The addition of these sites would result in a total community park land inventory of 250 to 290 acres.

Neighborhood Parks

The desired level of service for Coeur d'Alene is to provide a neighborhood park within 0.5 mile of each resident. Because neighborhood parks are accessed by local residents primarily on foot or bike, there are more barriers. Barriers to neighborhood park access that were factored into the analysis include major roadways such as Highway 95, Atlas, Kathleen and 15th Avenue; intersections identified as dangerous by City staff and the MPAC; and gaps in the existing road and pathway network

To adequately serve the planning area, nine new neighborhood park sites are needed. Currently, 2 have been planned and 7 others are proposed. Coeur d'Alene currently has 34 acres of Neighborhood Parks. Eight new neighborhood park sites averaging 5 acres each would add 40 acres to the park system, totally 79 acres.

Level of Service

Coeur d'Alene's current level of service is calculated for community parks, neighborhood parks, and sports fields. Our total current parkland is 240 acres, making the current level of service 4.7 acres of parkland for 1,000 residents. This plan recommends that the City of

Coeur d'Alene achieve a level of service of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 people. In 2040 Coeur d'Alene's population is projected to be 84,943. With five additional community parks and nine additional neighborhood parks, the projected acreage of parkland will be 329-369 acres. This will bring our level of service to 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents by the year 2040.



Tubbs Hill Suspension Bridge

NATURAL PARKS

The public is highly interested in more parks of this type. In addition, Tubbs Hill, the City's largest and oldest natural park reserve, is one of the most used parks in the City. The overuse of Tubbs Hill was cited during public involvement activities, and crowding was repeatedly cited as a problem at this site. Overall, public input indicated support for more natural park areas, with interest in focusing on certain key areas. These areas are Canfield Mountain, Best Hill and Fernan Lake to protect the scenic character of this significant feature; Blackwell Island to protect views from downtown; and the Rathdrum Prairie, northwest of town, to retain open space and allow for environmental conservation.

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS

Coeur d'Alene's planned trail network, as depicted in the *2017 Trails & Bikeways Plan*, is extensive. When fully developed, the network proposed in this Plan will serve the City well, in terms of service range and resource distribution. The needs assessment supports the implementation of the *Trails & Bikeways Plan* to meet community demand for trails and bikeway-related recreation activities, as well as for transportation. The introduction of a water trail was proposed in the trails plan and will be described later in this chapter.

SPORTS COMPLEXES

As the city's population grows, a significant demand for all sport fields will develop. Estimates project that nine baseball fields, thirteen softball fields and seventeen soccer/multi-use fields will be needed, in addition to existing resources, to serve population of 84,943. To provide space for sports complexes, an estimated 80 to 100 additional acres of special use area land will be needed. These are estimates for the entire community and some of these needs may be met by private enterprise and not solely by the City.

Recreation facilities range in scale, depending on the number of people and the area served, from regional scale to community and local facilities.

Community needs for sports facilities are summarized below.



North Idaho Centennial Trail

SPORTS FACILITIES

Table 4 summarizes the level of service guideline for sports fields of different types, as well as the number proposed for development by 2040, based on the proposed field guideline. Comments are also provided regarding field development standards.

- Gymnasiums are needed in Coeur d'Alene. The City's partnership with the School District to contribute to the construction of enhanced school gym space has been a cost-effective way to provide these valued facilities. The construction of the Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center and the Boys and Girls Club on 15th Street has provided additional facilities for the community as a whole but has failed to deliver on any partnership use for city sponsored recreation opportunities. As the community grows, we will see a large increase in hours needed in gymnasium facilities for various recreation activities. The Recreation Department currently receives multiple requests each week for facility rentals, which due to the lack of space, we are unable to accommodate. In addition to the increased need for space to accommodate current and projected recreation activities, it is believed that there is a revenue stream that can be tapped into through facility rental to the many user groups requesting time. The city currently holds a joint use agreement with school district 271 at a cost of \$33,000 annually which allows for partial use of additional gymnasiums not paid for by the city. In calculating this cost versus the hours used, it is shown that the city pays roughly \$200 per hour for use of those facilities. Given these factors, it is recommended that the gymnasium and indoor facility needs be met through construction of a city owned and operated gymnasium facility.
- Outdoor basketball courts are plentiful in Coeur d'Alene. No need has been determined for this amenity, but the policy of providing them in each neighborhood and community park should be continued.
- Tennis/Pickleball courts should also be considered for inclusion in neighborhood and community parks, to maintain the current level of service and projected needs as the population increases. It is also recommended that pickleball/tennis courts be an item planned for when planning for a city owned indoor recreation facility.

Table 4
Field Guidelines and 2040 Projections

Field Type	LOS Guideline	Current Fields	Fields at Build-out	Comments
Baseball Fields	1 field per 6,000 people	5	14	Baseball fields are generally not lighted in Coeur d'Alene. The proposed field figure assumes this will continue.
Softball Fields	1 field per 3,500 people	11	24	Softball fields dedicated to adult use are generally lighted in Coeur d'Alene. The proposed field figure assumes this development practice will continue.
Soccer/Multi-Use Fields	1 field per 4,000 people	4	21	
Football Fields	1 field per 20,000 people	2	4	

WATERFRONT FACILITIES

In addition to sport fields, the need for a variety of other outdoor and recreation facilities was evaluated.

- Waterfront access is a top priority for Coeur d'Alene residents. Opportunities to provide waterfront features, swimming beaches, docks and other water access should be actively pursued.
- Accommodations for dogs and dog owners in Coeur d'Alene's waterfront are highly desired, according to all public outreach forums. Coeur d'Alene should explore the demand for water dog parks throughout the waterfront corridor.
- The city should work towards making the waterfront more accessible for

those with mobility restrictions such as adding ADA ramps to beaches and creating an accessible kayak launch.

- A water trail was proposed in the 2017 Trails and Bikeways Master Plan that lays out a trail along the shoreline from Sanders Beach, up the Spokane River, to Mill River park. A water trail is a route kayakers, paddleboards, rowboats, canoes or any other non-motorized watercraft can take that provides maps and signs so users can not only access the water, but can begin their trip with a destination in mind that has amenities at any stop. Since the plan was adopted, the City of Post Falls created a water trail system that will connect to our trail near Mill River Park at the Western border of Coeur d'Alene.

CEMETERIES

Forest and Riverview Cemeteries are the two City owned and managed cemeteries. Forest Cemetery is already near capacity while Riverview has space left to last another 20 years. Well maintained and affordable cemeteries are a valuable asset to the community and actions need to be taken to ensure that this service is available to the public for the foreseeable future.

NON-PARK AREAS

The Parks and Recreation Department maintains areas throughout the city that are not typical park areas. These include City buildings, beautification areas and the senior center. These areas consume a large amount of staff labor that could be used in our park system. The City should consider contracting these areas out to a private company for maintenance.

The City of Coeur d'Alene has a large number of municipal buildings, including; City Hall, the Library, the various Police and Fire Department Buildings and the Parks Department shops. The grounds of these buildings should be maintained as public spaces and to a high standard.

B. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARK FACILITIES

PARK LAND NEEDS AND IMPROVEMENTS

To achieve the vision articulated by the community, as noted in Chapter 1 and discussed in Chapter 4, Coeur d'Alene will need to improve existing parks to incorporate new facilities and to make operations more efficient. Recommendations for developed parks are included in this section.

IMPROVEMENTS IN EXISTING PARKS, TRAILS AND FACILITIES

COMMUNITY PARKS

Atlas Community Park

Atlas Waterfront Park is a newly build park that needs very little improvement. However, not all the planned elements were constructed with the initial development. Additional elements that were in the original plan include:

- Mooring Docks.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Bluegrass Park

Bluegrass Park is a very popular facility, and there is space for additional amenities if it is determined they are needed or desired. Possible improvements to this community park include:

- Budget to replace the playground. This amenity is nearing the end of its life span and requires extensive maintenance to keep in operation.
- Investigate the possibility of expanding the three-hole disc golf course onto common areas owned by the home owners association that are adjacent to the park.

Cherry Hill Community Park

This park should be expanded and improved to provide more recreational opportunities and to serve a larger segment of the community. Capital improvements and maintenance recommendations include:

- Install a larger water meter to improve irrigation coverage and support the expansion of the irrigation system and the addition of amenities.
- Consider adding a splash pad to the park.
- Construct a picnic shelter between the BMX facility and the sled hill.
- Build a multi-use sports complex on the old Field of Dreams site that can support softball, soccer and football.
- Expand paved parking.
- Renovate the playground and add play elements.
- Acquire adjacent property on the south and east facing slopes of Best Hill for natural open space and multi-use trails.
- Negotiate landscape and maintenance easements with Avista and ITD to beautify the dirt area near the corner of Hazel and 15th Streets.
- Connect the park to the community by routing the proposed Foothills Trail through the park.
- Build a restroom facility to replace the port-a-pottie shelter.
- Build a small maintenance building in the park.
- Set aside land to expand the BMX facility.

- Consider acquiring the Eagles property and utilize the existing restroom, maintenance building and gazebo for park use.
- Expand the current pickleball facilities

City Park, Independence Point and Memorial Park

Improvements and modifications to City Park should consider the site’s recreational context, including other city parks and facilities as well as NIC’s facilities. These resources should be viewed as a recreational “whole,” and work should be planned in a harmonious manner to best meet the needs of residents and visitors. Much of this complex was master planned as part of the Four Corners Project and elements of this plan have been implemented. Further improvements to these parks should be consistent with that master plan.

City Park

Capital improvements and maintenance recommendations include:

- Build a second gazebo or picnic shelter to enable additional use, support events and to provide an additional source of revenue.
- Ongoing maintenance of the Fort Sherman playground including selective replacement of play elements as they fail while also planning for the eventual replacement of the structure.
- Replace trees along the flood control wall with more suitable varieties as the plum trees fail and provide the tree wells with irrigation.
- Selectively replace sections of the sidewalks as they fail.
- Consider renaming (Blackwell Park was the historic name) the park and/or combining the park with Independence Point as we near the quarter millennial of the country’s independence.
- Replace the Brick’s restroom with one that includes a changing area for users of nearby Memorial Field.
- Add insulation and a heater to the park shop to enable it to be used for projects in the winter and investigate the feasibility of providing year-round domestic water to this building.
- Replace the North Idaho Museum building with expanded parking as specified in the Four Corners plan per the Four Corners Plan.
- Upgrade the electrical service to the gazebo and the power supply located northwest of the bandshell to support standard power distribution boxes.
- Resurface the bandshell stage and add regular applications of protective coating on this surface to the maintenance schedule.
- Resurface the basketball courts.



City Park Beach

Independence Point

As part of the City Park complex, Independence Point is highly utilized and in good condition. A conceptual plan was created for this site as part of the Four Corners Master plan. Capital improvements and maintenance

recommendations include:

- Remove the existing parking lot and replace with parking in City Park to create additional greenspace along the waterfront.
- Consider adding a small restroom building to, or adjacent to the site.
- Ongoing maintenance of the Commercial Dock to include replacing pilings as needed and re-decking the surface.
- Improve landscape along the water feature.
- Create a site that supports a seasonal food concession with upgraded electrical and water service near any new restroom building.
- Install signage identifying the Commercial Dock as a city owned public facility.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Memorial Park

As it is a recently developed site, suggestions for capital improvements are limited and maintenance issues that need to be addressed will be determined in the future as the facility receives public use. Completion of the park will require:

- Two signature art works will be installed at the site. One next to the playground and the other at the corner of Northwest Boulevard and Ft. Ground Drive.
- Create a pad to a food truck near the renovated grandstands.
- Plant trees along the commuter trail north of the skate park.
- Work toward funding a new scoreboard.

Landings Park

Landings Park is a relatively new community park and needs no improvements at this time.

McEuen Park

Although it is a recently developed site, McEuen Park needs some improvements/upgrades to address deficiencies of the design and to enable the site to better function as an event park. Capital improvements and maintenance recommendations include:

- Construct a driveway from the maintenance gate north of the pavilion to the new stage pad for access for stage equipment.
- Plant additional trees on the perimeter of the large field along the paved walkway to provide additional shade and sound buffering.
- Plant shade trees in the plaza brick inlays with underground irrigation to make this area more user friendly.
- Rebuild and expand the mooring docks.
- Replace existing light fixtures on the mooring docks with LED units.
- Expand the concrete apron on the Avista Pavilion past the drip line while eliminating awkward angles that create difficult to maintain turf areas.

- Add dry wells to the base of the slope on the hill between the east swing bench and the playground to resolve standing water issues.
- Consider adding a second smaller picnic pavilion to serve small groups and to create another revenue source.
- Pursue providing an ice-skating rink in the park seasonally operated by a concessionaire, possibly near the Harbor House to provide an activity in the winter months.
- Seek grants and funding to renovate and improve the Third Street boat ramp to address issues including concrete replacement.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Riverstone Park

Capital improvements and maintenance needs at this site include:

- Develop additional parking on the old trail along the entrance road to the park. This old paved trail was replaced by the Centennial Trail and no longer connects to any other walkway.
- Connect the park to the Spokane River via the two railroad easements and shoreline that is part of the Atlas Mill site just southwest of the park.
- Address erosion problems along the shoreline of the pond.
- Identify and address standing water on the site due to poor drainage and runoff from adjacent properties.
- Work with the owners of the pond to ensure water quality meets agreed standards.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Bryan Park

Bryan Park was formerly owned by the school district with a small, outdated playground and a softball field. The City would like to improve the play area and make the park function better as a neighborhood park. To better function as a neighborhood park, amenities should be added that would serve the residents of the surrounding neighborhood. The following capital improvements and maintenance needs are:

- Replace the old slide and climber and replace them with a small playground incorporating the new swing set.
- Build a restroom shelter.
- Construct a perimeter paved trail or sidewalk.
- Plant additional trees throughout the site.
- Consider adding angled parking on Maple Street.
- Maintain an open play area as part of the landscape design of the site.
- Consider adding a small picnic shelters to the park.
- Add park benches at the playground and along walkways.

East Tubbs Hill

The park formerly served as just a trail head to Tubbs Hill. The department should consider adding amenities to the site to transform this park into a more useable neighborhood park. Improvements that should be made to the park include:

- Repave the parking lot and the park trail.
- Consider adding a small picnic shelter to the site.
- Add a small nature themed play area.
- Remove the old bollards and replace with something less intrusive.
- Utilize water from the lake to irrigate the park.
- Add “Welcome to East Tubbs Hill Park” sign.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Johnson Mill River Park

With the acquisition of the railroad easement, capital improvements and maintenance recommendations include:

- Move the one-way road to the north side of the railroad easement creating a two-lane local road and then incorporate the remainder of the easement into the park.
- Add additional parking to support current and expected use.
- Install a small playground on the site.
- Construct a paved multi-use trail from Huetter Road to Grand Mill Drive and on to Riverstone Park that will become part of a Spokane River Greenway.
- Address shoreline erosion issues.
- Add landscaping and irrigation to the old railroad easement and consider using river water for irrigating the entire site.
- Pursue negotiations with the Mill River Home Owners Association to transfer the private park to the city and incorporate this facility into the park.

In the event negotiations with the home owners association are successful, add the following existing amenities to Johnson Mill River Park:

- A second picnic shelter.
- An indoor restroom facility with men’s and women’s restrooms.
- Double the size of the beach area
- Add the existing sand volleyball court.
- A picnic area with tables and grills overlooking the river.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Legacy Place Park

This site was originally acquired with the goal of expanding the park someday if and when the large undeveloped parcel immediately north of Legacy Place is annexed into the city and developed. When this parcel is developed, the city should work to meet the open space requirements for the project by

expanding Legacy Place Park into a true neighborhood park. In order to create a functional neighborhood park, the following should be completed.

- Expand Legacy Place Park by acquiring a large enough parcel of adjacent land to allow for the creation of a neighborhood park.
- Create a master plan to guide the development of this site based on the needs of the community and input from the public.
- Implement the master plan as funding allows.

North Pines Park

Maintenance and capital improvement needs include:

- Replace trees as they fail and add shade trees around the playground.
- Install a swing set, preferably a combo swing.

Northshire Park

Northshire Park is a well-used facility and hosts a variety of amenities. Due to size constraints, options for additional amenities or facilities are limited.

Capital improvements and maintenance recommendations include:

- Complete the relocation of the horseshoe pits to the west side of the pickleball courts.
- Consider adding a small picnic shelter.
- Repave the parking lot.

Phippeny Park

Phippeny Park is a neighborhood park serving one of the older Coeur d'Alene neighborhoods. Capital improvement and maintenance recommendations include:

- Adding electrical service to the gazebo.
- Adding park lighting, particularly on the public art.
- Adding a sidewalk along the south side of the park to address cut through foot traffic and to complete a small loop trail.
- Replacing the sidewalk on the Seventh Street side of the park.

Shaddock Lane Park

Capital improvement and maintenance recommendations include:

- Repair and Sealcoat the perimeter path.

Sunshine Meadows

Sunshine Meadows Park is a relatively new neighborhood park and needs no improvements at this time.

Winton Park

This is the only neighborhood park in this section of the city and the city should work with the school district to ensure that this remains a public park. The following actions should be taken to preserve and improve this site:

- Work with the school district to clarify ownership of the park, possibly by exchanging the city's section of the ballfield for the natural open space.
- Turn over maintenance of the ballfield/P.E. field to the school district.
- Improve the restroom by adding lighting, ventilation and new partitions and fixtures in them.
- Consider adding a small playground as the school's playground is inaccessible to the public.
- Repaint and reroof the picnic shelter.

NATURAL PARKS

Canfield Natural Area

Natural resources on this site should be maintained and improved by following the guidelines and recommendations in the Natural Open Space Management Plan. To provide improved access and to enhance compatible passive recreational opportunities, the following actions should be taken:

- Connect the Canfield Natural Area to the National Forest lands by working with the intervening land owner to allow recreational easements and building connecting trails.
- Seek a site for a trailhead that could support off street parking and amenities.
- Work to connect this site to the proposed Foothills Trail.
- Work with the Cancourse property owner to plan and build trails in the Cancourse area.
- Continue to pursue an agreement to manage the Cancourse as a City Natural Park.
- Work to secure funding to eventually purchase the Cancourse Property.

Fernan Lake Natural Area

Natural resources on this site should be maintained and improved by following the guidelines and recommendations in the Natural Open Space Management Plan. To provide improved access and to enhance compatible passive recreational opportunities, the following actions should be taken:

- Connect the Fernan Lake Natural Area to the community by working with the Idaho Transportation Department and Kootenai County to build a multi-use trail from the Rutledge Trailhead of the Lake Coeur d'Alene Parkway and the Fernan Village Boat Ramp.
- Expand the existing single-track trail system and make improvements where needed.
- Improve the existing parking lot and add security lighting to discourage incompatible uses.
- Install a system of directions signs identifying each trail loop.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Seagraves Veterans' Park

As funding becomes available the city should implement this plan by:

- Creating an entrance road and small parking lot.
- Providing some sort of restroom facility such as a vault toilet or portable restroom shelter.
- Constructing a small gazebo.
- Installing a natural themed play area.
- Creating a gravel trail system to provide access to the site.
- Setting aside an area for a gathering place.
- Planting native trees and shrubs.
- Designing a veteran's memorial.
- Design and develop a native tree arboretum.

Tubbs Hill Natural Area

The resource management of the site is detailed in the Natural Areas Management Plan. Recent improvements to the site include the conversion of over 1000 linear feet of trail into an accessible trail and the completion of the fire road loop. In order to preserve and protect the natural resources of Tubbs Hill for future generations the city needs to:

- Continue implementing the management plan to ensure the maintenance of a healthy forest.
- Mitigate maintenance issues related to the trail system as they occur.
- Replace directional signs.
- Work to close unauthorized trails.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS

Kathleen-Atlas Trail

In order to enhance, improve and to better integrate this trail in to the city's system of greenways the following recommendations should be pursued:

- Extend the Atlas leg of the trail south to the Spokane River Trail when that greenway is built and the Atlas Mill site developed.
- Rebuild the Kathleen Trail from the Prairie Trail to Holy Family Middle School.
- Sealcoat the rest of the trail to prevent asphalt deterioration.

North Idaho Centennial Trail (Mile 10.5 to 18.5)

Capital Improvements and maintenance recommendations include:

- Create a greenway section of paved trail by moving the Centennial Trail off Mullan Avenue from the intersection of 19th Street and Young Street and onto the grassy area along to Hagadone Corporation to 23rd Street.
- Enhance the trail between the US-95 bridge and I-90 by planting native trees on both sides of the trail.
- Build a paved trail from Hubbard Avenue to the existing trail at the US-95 Bridge on the old BNSF easement.

- Add amenities along the trail in the BLM corridor including a pump track, picnic shelter, river access and parking.
- Designate the bicycle boulevard on Young Street from 8th Street to 19th Street as the primary route of the trail and repurpose the bike lane on the south side of Mullan Drive to a bike lane on both the north and south side of the street from 8th to 11th street and a shared-road from 11th to 19th street.
- Work with the Idaho Transportation Department to plant native trees along the trail from The Prairie Trail/Centennial Trail intersection to the Huetter Road bridge, especially where mature trees have been removed over the years.
- Work to avoid land exchanges that result in the reduction of existing greenway sections of the trail into sidewalk trails without vegetation or other amenities.

North Idaho Centennial Trail Loop-Seltice Trailhead

Possible improvements to the Centennial Loop Trail and the Seltice Trailhead include:

- Rebuild the portable restroom shelter using dimensional lumber as was done at several locations in the past three years.

Prairie Trail

Additional capital improvements and maintenance needs are;

- Extend the trail to Meyer Road utilizing the existing section of Union Pacific Railroad easement already in public ownership.
- Create a trailhead near the northern terminus of the greenway accessible from Huetter Road.
- Develop the planned park at Hanley and Carrington Avenues with amenities that support trail use.
- Connect the trail to the US-95 Trail by developing a paved multi-use trail on the north side of I-90 on easements owned by the Idaho Transportation Department.
- Support the development of an extension of the trail towards Rathdrum by other agencies.
- Consider adding skate spots along the trail.

Seltice Corridor

To integrate this facility into the city's network of greenways and the following goals should be pursued:

- Support efforts to extend the trail into Post Falls as additional sections of the roadway are rebuilt or improved.
- Connect the trail to the Spokane River Trail by extending the Kathleen-Atlas Trail across Seltice to the river.

US 95 Trail mile 0 to mile 3.0

The U.S. 95 Trail was recently rebuilt by the State of Idaho and the maintenance of the trail turned over to the City through a memorandum of understanding. Improvements should be made to this greenway.

- Change the name of the trail to something more marketable,
- Work with the Idaho Department of Transportation to determine what if any amenities can be added to the facility in their right-of-way such as tree, benches and signage,
- Encourage the extension of this trail to Silverwood and beyond.

SPORTS FIELDS

Canfield Sports Complex

Canfield Sports Complex is a key special use site serving Coeur d'Alene's sports field needs. Capital improvement and maintenance recommendations include:

- Consider adding a playground at a location that does not interfere with any sports uses.
- Investigate ways of preventing or minimizing cut through traffic from 15th Street to Mountain Vista Drive.

Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex

Although it primarily functions as a sports facility, the Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex is located in a densely populated residential development that has limited recreational facilities. Additional amenities could be added to the site to allow for a greater use by the community without adversely impacting its core use as a soccer complex. Capital improvement and maintenance recommendations for this special use site include:

- Consider adding a playground at a location that does not interfere with any sports uses.
- Build a paved parking lot on the north end of the site on the dirt area currently used for this to provide additional parking.
- Construct a restroom shelter.
- Consider adding a picnic shelter in the wooded strip

Jenny Stokes Field

The Fire Department and Street Department have expressed interest in expanding their facilities on to this field. In the past it has been suggested that the part of the facility adjacent to the parking lot would be suitable as an off-leash dog park. It is recommended that when this site is turned over to another department or agency that suitable replacement facilities should be provided to support the existing use at another more suitable location. This may be done in conjunction with the acquisition and development of the BLM site on the Spokane River, a northwest sports complex or a west side community park. In the event that the city decides to maintain Jenny Stokes Field as a sports field for an extended period, improvements should be made to support a more diverse range of use. If additional facilities were available

at this site, user groups from Ramsey Park and other busy sports fields could use this facility instead. Improvements that should be considered include:

- Install a restroom shelter near the parking lot.
- Construct a covered picnic shelter near the parking lot.
- Adding playground equipment to the site.
- Installing bleachers near the sports fields.

Person Field, Ron Edinger Park

Additional improvements and maintenance needs include;

- Construct off street parking in the southwest corner of the property per the masterplan.
- Replace the restroom building with a more modern facility to support heavy use generated by Junior Tackle games and practices.
- Plant trees where they don't conflict with field use.
- Work with Junior Tackle to upgrade amenities associated with the football fields including bleachers, trash can holders, goal posts and possibly score boards.

Ramsey Park

This is the City's largest sports complex, situated in close proximity to the Kroc Center and the Prairie Trail. Recommended improvements and additions to the park include;

- Installation of booster pumps to mitigate coverage and water window problems in the park.
- Replacement of the smaller playground at the north end of the park.
- Working with Streets and Engineering, create longer left turn lanes on Ramsey Road to alleviate problems with traffic flow.
- Repave asphalt trail in the northern part of the park and extend it to the sidewalk fronting Ramsey Road.
- Plant shade trees around the larger playground.
- Work with engineering to create a plan to increase the parking facilities. A possible location is in the center parking lot: increase the parking lot into the grass area to the west between the outfield fences of field 1 and field 2.
- Install drain system between fields 2 and 3 to address the standing water issue that exists on the sidewalk and near the bleacher areas of field 2 and 3.

Sunset Rotary

Improvements that should be considered include:

- Consider replacing the portable restroom shelter with a conventional restroom facility.
- Add elements to the Satellite Skate Park to enhance this amenity.
- Renovate or replace the old scoreboard at the west field.

COMMUNITY CENTERS

Jewett House

To improve the site, the city should:

- Continue improving the landscape. Clean up and thinning out of east side of the driveway to exposed old stepping stone paths. Install benches in this area.
- Install benches near the beachfront fence.
- Create a designated location for portable toilets to be set during weddings. This should include some kind of fence/barrier to obstruct the view of the toilets.
- Renovate the greenhouse and possibly use it to support community gardening programs. Use the greenhouse as a host site for children's gardening program. Add fencing near the greenhouse to create a fenced garden area with raised beds. Installing new, upgraded irrigation is recommended.
- Consider adding a small gazebo suitable for hosting weddings.

WATERFRONT AREAS

Hubbard Beach Park

Because of its small size and location away from the busy public beaches in City Park and Independence Point, it has been suggested that this site could be utilized as a waterfront dog park. Improvements and management actions at this site should include:

- Installing signage on the site to identify it as a public beach.
- Monitor shoreline erosion and mitigate erosion when it becomes a problem.
- Consider using this site as a second off-leash waterfront dog park if there is a demand for it.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Sanders Beach

Sanders Beach is larger than City Beach but lacks parking facilities and wheelchair accessibility. Improvements and management actions at this site should include:

- Investigate the feasibility of making this beach accessible for people with disabilities.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Third Street Boat Ramp

The 3rd Street Boat Ramp is located in McEuen Park. This boat ramp has four lanes and three docks. Fees collected are dedicated to the waterfront improvement fund. Trailer parking for the boat ramp is available at McEuen Park and at City Hall. The ramp was originally built with grant money from State of Idaho. This facility is heavily used, very old and needs major renovations. The city should:

- Seek grant money to rebuild the ramps and remove sediment from the launch lanes.
- Replace the launch docks and pilings.
- Install a camera near the boat ramp to recover lost revenue.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

CEMETERIES

Forest and Riverview Cemeteries are two City owned and managed cemeteries. Forest Cemetery is already near capacity while Riverview has space left to last another 20 years. Well maintained and affordable cemeteries are a valuable asset to the community and provide a necessary service for our citizens. Actions that need to be taken to ensure that this service continues to be available to the public for the foreseeable future include.

- Diversifying the tree canopy at Forest Cemetery by replacing ponderosa pines as they fail with a mix of 25% ponderosa pines, 25% other evergreen species and 50% deciduous trees.
- Continue adding niche walls at Forest Cemetery as they are needed.
- Pursue irrigating both Forest and Riverview Cemeteries with reclaimed water.
- Beautify the area along Northwest Boulevard next to Riverview Cemetery to make the west end of the facility more appealing.
- Continue to replace the perimeter fencing at both sites as budget allows.

NON-PARK AREAS

Maintenance Areas

The Departments various maintenance facilities are used as the base of operations for the staff and equipment used to maintain our parks, cemeteries and beautification areas. To improve the efficacy of our operations and to make allowances for future growth, improvements to the maintenance facilities should include:

- Fence and gate the yard south of the Old Armory building to better secure the site and to create more space to store materials.
- Explore opportunities to acquire a larger centrally located facility to use as the main park shop.
- Construct a park shop at Cherry Hill Park as it is the only community park without one. This will save money and time transporting equipment, supplies and materials to the site.

Beautification Areas

The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the maintenance of landscaping on swales, median strips, roundabouts, interchanges, utility easements and the grounds of public buildings. In order to

efficiently accomplish this task and to improve the appearance of the community, the department should:

- Upgrade equipment and training related to working in public roadways.
- Install and utilize low maintenance landscaping on any additional areas.
- Work with the Storm Water Department to convert the ground cover on the Ramsey swales to low maintenance fescue grass.
- Utilize contractors for as much work as possible on these sites.

CHAPTER 6: PROPOSED PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

PARK LAND NEEDS

Community needs for park land were determined in the Needs Assessment by evaluating the level of service provided in parks within the City, identifying gaps in service and recommending a level of service that meets the public's expectations. The City will need new parks to keep up with growth and to serve areas that are not currently served by parks.

Map 2 at the end of the chapter illustrates the proposed park system, based on the recommendations found in this Plan. Each proposed park site is indicated on the map by color according to park type. For site identification purposes. These reference numbers are included on the system map and with recommendations for each existing and proposed site. Parks are numbered roughly clockwise, beginning with Landings Park in northwest Coeur d'Alene. Colored asterisks show the general location for each proposed park. The locations of proposed park sites are conceptual in nature, showing where parks will be needed. The final location of park sites will be determined based on land availability, acquisition costs, property ownership and willingness to sell.

Proposed parks with a general location are depicted on Map 2.

A. Community Parks

The city currently has six community parks. A community park is currently under construction on the Spokane River in the Atlas Mill development. A site has been secured and a master plan developed for a second community park on the river near the U.S. 95 bridge. Three other general locations have been identified as needing a community park.

Planned US-95 Spokane River Community Park

The city has secured a recreational lease for twenty-two acres owned by the Bureau of Land Management that was a former railroad easement. The ownership of this parcel had reverted to the US government in the past. Part of this parcel will be used to create a greenway segment of the North Idaho Centennial Trail. Although linear in shape, much of this site is three hundred feet wide and includes waterfront along the Spokane River. When completed this park will extend from Hubbard Street to Lacrosse Street and be nearly half a mile long. The property is bisected by the US-95 Bridge. Additionally, the city owns adjacent property along the river south of the highway bridge at the Harbor Center. A suitable name for this planned park needs to be selected. This park will become a key component in a greenway stretching from downtown Coeur d'Alene to Mill River and beyond. A masterplan was

created for the site as part of the four corners project. As part of the master plan a bicycle pump track and an outdoor classroom have been already been added to the site. Further improvements recommended in the master plan include:

- Build a parking lot at the future extension of Lacrosse Street to provide access to the park.
- Build a restroom facility to support park use.
- Consider adding youth sports fields near the Lacrosse parking lot.
- Provide shoreline access by building docks off the bulkhead section of riverfront and consider using these docks to create a revenue stream by renting them to commercial recreational providers.
- Build one or more picnic shelters overlooking the river.
- Maintain the wooded sections of the site as natural open space.
- Consider naming this park Blackwell Park.
- Signage identifying the water trail.

Proposed Northeast Community Park

Near the eastern edge of the city between Best Avenue and Thomas Lane there is no access to neighborhood parks. This area of the city is steadily urbanizing and consequently the residents of these neighborhoods are slowly losing access to the open spaces they had traditionally used. Many larger undeveloped parcels are still located throughout this area that would be suitable for the creation of a public park. A multi-use trail and greenway has been proposed to connect this area to the rest of the city and a park could support and compliment that trail. If a site of sufficient size were to be acquired, it may serve as a community park as one is recommended to be added in the northeast section of the city. There are also significant intact natural areas in this area which could compliment any park developed near or on Nettleton Gulch Road. Considerations for a neighborhood park in this area include:

- Open play areas
- A playground
- Off street parking
- A restroom facility.
- Sidewalks and trails
- A small picnic gazebo
- A connection to the proposed Foothills Trail and support facilities for this trail.
- A multi-use sports field if the site is large enough.
- Access to natural open space.

Proposed Northside Community Park and Sports Complex

In addition to aforementioned proposed community parks, there is a need for an additional large community park somewhere north of I-90 that could

support a community center and sports fields. This park will need to be 40 plus acres in size in order to facilitate the creation of a multi-sports complex. In order to compliment the extensive park amenities found near the lake and river front, this community park should contain public facilities that will support a wide range of uses from a wide segment of the community. As the city approaches build out, options for undeveloped parcels large enough for this type of facility are becoming increasingly limited. Any site large enough to accommodate a large park and sports complex within the city limits and north of I-90 should be considered including sites currently owned by other government agencies. If a site for a large community park and sports complex can be secured a master plan for the park should include:

- A community center with a gymnasium, meeting rooms and fitness center.
- A large skate park.
- Lighted adult softball fields.
- Multi-use soccer and football fields.
- A large splash pad and playground area.
- Trail connections to the community.
- Full-size baseball fields, one of which that could be used as a concert venue.
- Adequate parking facilities to support the planned uses.
- Tennis and pickle ball courts.
- Public restrooms.
- Maintenance facilities to support the operation of the park.

Proposed Westside Community Park

To provide geographic balance and equality of access it is recommended that the city acquire a site and develop a community park near the western edge of Coeur d'Alene south of Hanley Avenue and north of I-90. This area within the city's area of impact still contains some large undeveloped parcels. In addition to undeveloped farm land along Huetter Road, an obvious parcel suitable for park land is the U.S. Forest Service Tree Nursery on Kathleen Avenue. At this time the Forest Service intends to maintain this facility in its current role and has been making capital improvements to the site. However, if at any time in the future the federal government decides to surplus this facility, the city should work to secure a large part of this property for a community park. Another suitable site for a small community park would be to expand Northshire neighborhood park if the ten-acre parcel adjacent to it remains undeveloped and becomes available. If a large enough site could be secured a community park should be created in conjunction with a sports complex. Amenities and improvements for a community park may include;

- Open sports fields that can support multiple uses including football, soccer and softball.
- A park maintenance building.
- Public restrooms.

- Paved off street parking.
- A nine-hole disc golf course.
- A picnic gazebo and picnic areas.
- A large open play area to maintain view-sheds.
- An off-leash dog park
- An arboretum.

B. Neighborhood Parks

The City currently has eleven neighborhood parks. A site has been reserved for a large neighborhood park in the Trails subdivision near Hanley and the Prairie Trail. City staff is currently working with a landowner to create a neighborhood park near 12th Street and Spruce Avenue. Seven other general locations in underserved areas have been identified as possible sites for neighborhood parks.

Planned Trails Neighborhood Park

As part of a PUD between the city and the developer of The Trails subdivision in the northwest section of the city, the developers agreed to deed the city approximately seven acres at the intersection of Hanley Avenue and the Prairie Trail for the creation of a neighborhood park. Once funding becomes available, the city should develop and implement a master plan for this site. Potential considerations for this site include:

- Partnering with the Coeur d'Alene Water Department to install a well and pump at this site to provide irrigation water for the park landscape.
- Connect this park to the Prairie Trail.

Amenities that should be considered for this site include:

- Installing a playground.
- Providing a restroom facility for both park and trail users.
- Adding sports courts
- Adding a small shelter.
- Maintaining an open play area.
- Possibly providing off street parking for park and trail users.

Planned Forest Neighborhood Park

The older residential neighborhoods between Fourth Street, Interstate 90 and Harrison Avenue lack public open space and are currently underserved. Most of this part of the city was subdivided and developed many decades ago.

There are few undeveloped parcels suitable for the creation of a neighborhood park left in this area. The notable exception is the old Forest Steel property near Ninth Street and Hazel Street, a twenty-two-acre site that is slated for residential development in the near future. As part of the approval process for this development the owner has offered a three-acre site

on which to create a neighborhood park for the residents. The site is adjacent to Interstate 90 and will have vehicle access from the extension of 12th Street. Additional non-motorized access will be available from Woolsey Drive.

Amenities proposed for this site include:

- Open play areas.
- A playground.
- Parking, either on street or off street or a combination of the two.
- A restroom facility.
- Sidewalks and trails.
- A small picnic gazebo.
- An off-leash dog park.
- Natural landscaping.

Pinegrove Neighborhood Park

The established residential neighborhoods east of US-95 and between Dalton and Hanley Avenues lack access to public parks. There are no parks or recreational facilities within an easy walk of these areas without having to cross major roadways. Options for acquiring a site suitable for a neighborhood park are limited in this area. One possibility would be to work with the non-profit Children's Village and the churches near the northwest corner of the target area to determine if some of their property could be acquired for park development. Other options are to secure part of the old Inland Asphalt site south of Dalton Avenue for a neighborhood park or acquire one or more larger residential lots or a lightly developed commercial site next to the city owned easement that may in the future serve as a greenway between Dalton and Hanley Avenues. Amenities for a neighborhood park in this area should include:

- Open play areas.
- A playground.
- Parking, either on street or off street or a combination of the two
- A restroom facility, likely a port-a-pottie shelter.
- Sidewalks and trails.
- A small picnic shelter.
- A connection to the proposed greenway on the east side of the Pinegrove subdivision.

Honeysuckle Neighborhood Park

The established residential areas along Margaret Street and near Coeur d'Alene High School have a lack of neighborhood park amenities. It would be desirable to create a small park to serve these neighborhoods. The city should seek to acquire a small site of two to five acres and develop it into a neighborhood park. Several larger parcels that would be suitable for the creation of a small park are located near the intersection of Honeysuckle and Margaret Streets. The Kootenai County Fairgrounds is also located near this intersection. The city could work with Kootenai County to create a small

park if it was determined that any of the Fairgrounds were not needed to support its primary function. Additionally, the Coeur d'Alene Water Department owns a four to five-acre site on this intersection that is partially wooded, surrounded by a paved trail and is the site of one of the city's water wells. Active recreational uses are incompatible with this site's function of providing a clean source for the city's drinking water. However, this wooded parcel would complement any nearby neighborhood park if the current allowable public uses are maintained. A neighborhood park in this area should include:

- Open play areas.
- A playground.
- Parking, either on street or off street or a combination of the two.
- A restroom facility, likely a port-a-pottie shelter.
- Sidewalks and trails.
- A small picnic shelter.

Neider/Howard Neighborhood Park

The older residential neighborhoods west of US-95 and between Appleway and Neider Avenue are one of the most underserved and economically disadvantaged areas of the city. There are no parks or recreational facilities within an easy walk of these areas without having to cross major roadways. Several large parcels of land are owned by various government agencies immediately north and west of the residential areas. The city should approach the agencies to determine if part of one or more of these parcels could be dedicated for use as a public park without adversely impacting the primary functions of the facilities. In the advent that none of these sites could be deemed surplus or suitable for public park use then the city should entertain purchasing one or more of the larger under developed residential parcels in the area to create a park ideally between one and three acres in size. A neighborhood park in this area should include:

- Open play areas.
- A playground.
- Parking, either on street or off street or a combination of the two.
- A restroom facility, likely a port-a-pottie shelter.
- Sidewalks and trails.
- A small picnic shelter.
- One or more access points as many area streets are long dead ends.

Ironwood Neighborhood Park

The Midtown area south of I90 between Northwest Boulevard and 9th street has a noticeable lack of parks. An ideal location for a neighborhood park would be in the lot owned by the Seventh Day Adventist Church at the east end of Ironwood Drive. If the property is ever sold for development, the City should require land for a park. Alternatively, the City could work with Ignite to develop a neighborhood park in the Health Corridor district as part of that urban renewal project. Plans for this district include significant

greenspace that would support a public park. A neighborhood park in this area should include:

- Open play areas.
- A playground.
- Parking, either on street or off street or a combination of the two.
- A restroom facility, likely a port-a-pottie shelter.
- Sidewalks and trails.
- A small picnic shelter.
- One or more access points as many area streets are long dead ends.

East Sherman Neighborhood Park

Over the past several years, the city has made a major investment in revitalizing the business district along East Sherman Avenue from Eight Street to the I-90 interchange. To enhance this community effort, it would be beneficial to incorporate a public open space along this corridor that would also serve the needs of the residential areas immediately north and south of the commercial district. This could be funded through the creation of an urban renewal district. Several highly distressed properties along Sherman Avenue east of 11th Street would serve as suitable sites for a small park of about two acres. Two of these sites were recently acquired by the City. If a site is secured and developed as a neighborhood park, it should include the following amenities:

- An open grass area that could support small events.
- Street trees.
- Benches, bike racks and a water fountain.
- On street parking on the secondary roads.
- Public art.
- A small playground.
- Food vendor pads.

Other amenities that may be considered depending on the size of the site include:

- A site set aside for a transit stop.
- A perimeter trail.
- Small picnic shelter.

Proposed French Gulch Neighborhood Park

Near the eastern edge of the city between Pennsylvania Avenue and Harrison Avenue and east of I-90 there is no access to neighborhood parks. This area of the city is gradually urbanizing and consequently the residents of these neighborhoods are slowly losing access to the open spaces they had traditionally used. Many larger undeveloped parcels are still located throughout this area that would be suitable for the creation of a five to ten-acre park. A multi-use trail and greenway has been proposed to connect this

area to the rest of the city and a park could support and compliment that trail.

- Open play areas
- A playground
- Off street parking
- A restroom facility.
- Sidewalks and trails
- A small picnic gazebo
- A connection to the proposed Foothills Trail and support facilities for this trail.
- Access to natural open space.

Proposed Prairie Avenue Neighborhood Park

Several undeveloped parcels are located on the south side of Prairie Avenue between Mineral Drive and Atlas Road. The city should work to acquire a site in this area large enough to support a neighborhood park. If a larger site could be obtained, the city should consider providing a multi-use sports field to compliment facilities such as the Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex or the Canfield Sports Complex, both of which are located near the north edge of the city. In addition to a multi-use sports field, a park at this location should include the following amenities:

- A playground.
- An open play area.
- Off street parking.
- A restroom facility.
- Sidewalks and trails.
- A small picnic shelter.
- Connections to the local trail network.

Expand Existing Neighborhood Parks

When opportunities to expand existing parks occur, the city should aggressively pursue them. Many of our existing parks experience extremely heavy use and operate at capacity, especially during the summer months. Utilizing the existing facilities at our parks to support additional recreational opportunities is an efficient use of the city's resources. In some cases, an expanded neighborhood park could function as a community park or sports complex or create access to natural open space and waterfront amenities. Some specific examples of parks that should be expanded are:

- Johnson Mill River Park, by incorporating the city-owned abandoned railroad easement and possibly the adjacent neighborhood association park.
- Legacy Place Park, by acquiring adjacent land when the parcel to the north is developed either by purchase or as part of the PUD process.
- Northshire Park, by acquiring the adjacent ten-acre parcel if it ever become available. This would secure a site large enough for a

westside community park or a small sports complex.

C. Target Areas for New Natural Park Areas

The City should actively pursue preservation of natural open space resources, including acquisition of additional land. Key areas of acquisition include:

- *Canfield Mountain.* Canfield Mountain is recognized as a unique landmark for the City of Coeur d'Alene and its neighbors. As the tallest mountain in the area, it is highly visible and is the first thing most residents and visitors see as they approach the City. Canfield Mountain covers many miles, with over 2,000 feet of elevation. Partly within the city limits of Coeur d'Alene, it is also under the jurisdiction of the City of Dalton Gardens, Kootenai County, and the U.S. Forest Service. The City owns a 24-acre natural park preserve on Canfield Mountain, and should pursue additional land acquisition in the Canfield Mountain area or support conservation and protection by other agencies or private parties. In addition, the City should coordinate with other agencies to provide and maintain a comprehensive trail system linking into U.S. Forest Service Canfield Mountain Recreational Trail system.
- *Prairie Preservation.* Preservation of existing prairie lands, particularly to the west or northwestern edges of the City, was a stated interest of many participants in public outreach efforts associated with this plan. Prairie land should be targeted for acquisition and protection, particularly parcels that are accessible from the Prairie Trail. Very little of this property remains undeveloped.
- *Hillside Preservation.* The City should consider the potential of additional natural open space parcels on hillsides surrounding Coeur d'Alene. These can be acquired either through annexation agreements or through purchase. These areas could potentially provide hiking and mountain biking trails for area residents. Areas, such as Blackwell Hill, Canfield Mountain, and Best Hill are among those identified as possible public natural areas.
- *Silver Beach Area.* The Idaho Transportation Department owns approximately 50 acres of easement associated with Interstate 90 and Lake Coeur d'Alene Drive between The Beach House Marina parking lot and Sherman Avenue. Half of this site is suitable for passive outdoor recreational use and could potentially be used as part of a greenway from Silver Beach to Fernan Village. The proposed natural open space is bordered by private property owned by Hagadone Hospitality to the east, Lake Coeur d'Alene Drive to the south and west and Fernan Creek and I-90 to the northwest. The US Forest Service headquarters and the Fernan Village Boat Ramp which is owned and managed by Kootenai

County are adjacent to the north end of the parcel. Lake Fernan, the City's Lake Fernan Natural Area are directly connected to the proposed natural area. Interstate 90 and Potlatch Hill Road both bisect the property. All of this property is currently owned by the Idaho Transportation Department. Approximately half of, or 25 acres of the site are critical to the creation, development, and maintenance of the proposed multi-use trail and other possible amenities. The remaining half of the property located primarily west of and below Potlatch Hill Road and east of and above I-90 are valuable to the city as open space primarily to protect the view-sheds. The existing management of this property by ITD is completely compatible with the city's desired use of the rest of the site.

- *South Side of the Spokane River.* The south shore of the Spokane River should be targeted for acquisition or protection. This area is highly visible, close to population centers and offers unique resources to which the public would enjoy access.

D. Trail Recommendations

Coeur d'Alene's planned trail network, as depicted in the *2017 Trails & Bikeways Master Plan*, is extensive. When fully developed, the network proposed in this Plan will serve the City well, in terms of service range and resource distribution.

This Plan supports the implementation of the *Trails & Bikeways Plan* to meet community demand for trail-related recreation activities, as well as for transportation. As the City develops, new neighborhoods not addressed in the *Trails & Bikeways Plan* should be provided with a similar network of trail and pathway resources to ensure a complete network.

This Plan also supports the concept of "complete streets", which means streets designed for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers, and transit users can safely use a complete street.

The *Park & Recreation Master Plan* process brought to light community concerns about personal safety using trails – something that discourages use of these facilities for more cautious pedestrians and cyclists. The 2018 recreation survey results indicated concerns about conflicts with vehicles for recreation users. To supplement the on-street routes proposed in the *Trails & Bikeways Plan*, it is recommended that alternatives to on-street major roadway bicycle routes be provided in the future. Establishing "bicycle boulevards" paralleling on-street arterial bike lanes may be one alternative method. An increase in signage for existing facilities is also recommended.

Finally, private developments should be required to provide linkages to the

citywide system of trails and bikeways. This will ensure connectivity of neighborhoods, and provide multiple means of access to community park and recreation resources.

Recommendations for off-street trails include:

Foothills Trail

As part of the Coeur d'Alene Bikeways and Pedestrian Master Plan, a shared-use, paved bike trail is proposed to provide connectivity on the east side of the city utilizing Idaho Transportation Department right of ways along Interstate 90 from Silver Beach, through Fernan Village, all the way to 15th Street. From I-90 and 15th Street, this trail would continue north with the goal of connecting to Canfield Trails. As a part of the Natural Open Space Management Plan, a bicycling and hiking trail has been proposed to connect the Fernan Lake Natural Area to Silver Beach and Fernan Village. The Foothills Trail fills this need. This trail could ultimately be a four to five-mile-long scenic, shared-use trail connecting the Centennial Trail along Lake Coeur d'Alene to the residential areas at the base of Canfield Mountain. This trail would:

- Connect the city's natural areas.
- Serve as a greenway for the east side of the city as the Prairie Trail does for the westside of town.
- Make the best use of already publicly owned property.

Planned Spokane River Trail

A greenway is currently being planned and developed that will connect Riverstone Park and the Centennial Trail to Mill River Park and on to Huetter Road at the eastern edge of the city. As part of the Atlas Mill redevelopment, 3700 feet of shoreline will remain in public ownership and a multi-use trail will be developed. The city is currently in negotiations to acquire an easement on 1500 feet of additional shoreline to extend this trail to the Mill River development. From there the trail will eventually continue over a mile further to Huetter Road on the old railroad easement acquired by the city in 2014. This planned trail will connect and run through a new waterfront park at Atlas Mill and an expanded Mill River Park. This trail will serve as a greenway in the fullest sense, preserving natural landscapes, providing access to extensive shoreline on the river and connecting the community to its parks. As this trail is created the city should work to:

- Provide the maximum amount of shoreline access to serve the largest range of compatible recreation use as possible.
- Support efforts to extend this trail west into Post Falls on the existing railroad grade.
- Encourage the Post Falls Highway District to add bicycle lanes to Maplewood Avenue to connect this trail to the existing Centennial Trail at Ross Point Road.
- Preserve as much natural habitat as possible along the trail.

- Consider designating this trail as the Centennial Trail if and when it is completed.

Other Potential Greenways

The potential exists to create additional greenways to link the community to its parks and open spaces utilizing existing rights-of-way and by working through the PUD process. When these opportunities are identified, the city should consider acting on them to expand the community’s network of greenways. Benefits of an expanded system of greenways include promoting healthy lifestyles, creating a safe alternative transportation system, maximizing access to outdoor open space and preserving the natural environment. Potential greenways currently identified in this plan include:

- The I-90 Connector Trail located on the north side of the interstate from the Prairie Trail to the US-95 Trail and on to Government Way. This trail would largely be located on easements owned by the Idaho Department of Transportation. Areas of easement both east and west of the Northwest Boulevard interchange are large enough to support a trailhead or other public recreational facilities.
- The North-South Trail from Kathleen Avenue to Prairie Avenue. The two-mile-long alignment of this greenway would take advantage of city owned utility easements for much of its length and provide a connection away from heavily traveled US-95.
- The Cougar Bay Trail. If and when US-95 is widened from the Spokane River to Mica grade, the city should work with ITD and Kootenai County to create a greenway across Blackwell Island and along the shore of Lake Coeur d’Alene to the Cougar Bay Preserve. Much of the lake shore along this route is already in public ownership. This greenway would be nearly three miles long and connect to the North Idaho Centennial Trail via a bridge either in conjunction with a rebuilt US-95 or one utilizing the old River Drive easement.
- The Fairgrounds Trail would be a greenway along the east side of the Kootenai County Fairgrounds that connect the paved multi-use trail along Kathleen with the bike lanes along Dalton Avenue.

Water Trail

A water trail was proposed in the 2017 Trails and Bikeways Master Plan that lays out a trail along the shoreline from Sanders Beach, up the Spokane River, to Mill River park. The purpose of a water trail is to give kayakers, paddleboards, rowboats, canoes or any other non-motorized watercraft users a route they can take. The route provides maps and signs so users can not only access the water, but can begin their trip with a destination in mind that has amenities at any stop.

Areas with amenities for the water trail:

- Sanders Beach, 3rd Street Boat Launch, Independence Point,

Hubbard Beach, NIC Beach Launch, the Proposed BLM Property Park, Bellerive Dock Access, Atlas Mill Park, Mill River Park.

E. Sports Complex Facility Improvements



Baseball Fields

Coeur d’Alene has a range of recreation facilities, and this plan recommends new facilities as well as improvements to existing facilities. Most of the departments current inventory of ballfields are located in the six existing sports complexes located throughout the city.

Outdoor Sports Facilities

Coeur d’Alene has a range of sports fields and other outdoor sports facilities. Coeur d’Alene should continue to provide a mix of local, community, and potentially even regional scale sports facilities, and should continue to track sports trends to guide capital projects and park improvements. Recommendations for existing and new outdoor sports facilities are provided in this section, organized by facility type.

Baseball Fields

Coeur d’Alene currently has an adequate supply of baseball fields to meet demand, but will need additional fields in the future. The City should pursue creating a full-size baseball field to the size needed for collegiate or minor league baseball teams. In addition, all existing fields little league fields are needed and if any are removed or eliminated, a replacement field will need to be provided.

Baseball fields should be provided as follows:

- *New Sports Complex.* Although it is recommended that the new sports complex focus on soccer, baseball fields should be considered equally valuable for inclusion if there is adequate space. A minimum of 1 additional field is recommended with a projection of as many as 3 additional to meet use and demand.
- *School Fields.* Canfield Middle School already is an important supplier of baseball fields. As new schools are built, the City and School District should continue to collaborate on public access so that any additional baseball fields can help meet future community needs.
- *New Ramsey Park Baseball Field.* Consider converting field #4 and replace the softball field elsewhere. A facility at this location would complement Thorco Field, utilize existing support facilities and create the possibility of tournament play. If the softball field is displaced, it must be replaced concurrently at another location. Failure to replace the field would drastically hinder the large summer and fall softball leagues.
- *New Community Parks.* Community parks have been proposed for the north side, west side and the northeast areas of the city. If a site large enough were to be acquired, the city should consider incorporating a full-

size baseball field and/or a couple of little league fields into the master plan of one of these sites.

- *Atlas Mill site.* At the Atlas Mill site, a five acre plus parcel of land with unsuitable soils for development has been proposed as a natural park. A better use for the site may be to build a ballfield on it.

Softball Fields

Additional fields are needed to support both adult and youth softball programs and tournaments. In 2012, two adult softball fields were eliminated as part of the rebuilding of McEuen Park. These fields should be replaced as there is demand for additional fields and the remaining inventory of adult softball fields are heavily used.

Softball fields should be provided as follows:

- *Cherry Hill Softball Field.* At Cherry Hill Park a site was purchased for the purpose of building a baseball field. This site is small and options for fitting a baseball field on the site are limited. However, with Cherry Hill Parks existing support facilities including parking lots, the old Field of Dreams site would make an excellent location for a replacement adult softball field. This site would be a great location to investigate as a possible location for an indoor gymnasium facility.
- *Atlas Mill Site.* At the Atlas Mill site, a five acre plus parcel of land with unsuitable soils for development has been proposed as a natural park. A better use for the site may be multiuse sports fields on it. The site could easily support two adult softball fields.
- *New Community Parks.* Sports fields will be incorporated into some of the new community parks. If the guideline indicates more softball fields are needed, or replacement softball fields are needed, softball fields should be considered for inclusion in the design of these parks. Adult fields should be lighted and preferably in a complex if they will be used for league play. However, in the community parks, some softball fields should be available for casual, unscheduled play especially on the weekends. Unscheduled fields should ideally be located near group picnic areas.
- *New Sports Complex.* As already noted, the new sports complex should focus on soccer. However, if the site is large enough, softball fields should be considered as part of the field mix. These should be lighted and suitable for tournament use.

Soccer/Multi-Use Fields

Coeur d'Alene is currently in need of one additional soccer/multi-use field, and more will be needed in the future.

Since this type of field can accommodate many sports, demand can be influenced by trends more than single-use fields, such as baseball and softball fields. The City should continue to monitor emerging sports to assess

impacts on multi-use field needs. With the anticipated population increase, Coeur d'Alene will need additional soccer/multi-use fields in the future. However, this guideline should be monitored closely and be adjusted if needed to accommodate emerging sports such as lacrosse.

The incorporation of soccer/multi-use fields into a single-sport or multi-sports complex should also be considered. Soccer fields can be overlaid on the outfields of softball fields.

- *New Community Parks.* Soccer fields are the highest priority for inclusion in the new community parks. If possible, a flexible field layout should be provided, as at Cd'A Soccer Complex where different configurations are possible.
- *New Sports Complex.* The new sports complex should focus on soccer, providing multiple fields and a variety of configurations. This complex should include room for multiple full-sized fields, and be designed to accommodate tournaments.
- *Jenny Stokes Replacement Fields.* When Jenny Stokes Field is eliminated, the city will need to replace this facility. Possible locations for replacement micro-soccer fields include the community park planned on the BLM easement along the Spokane River, multi-use fields at Cherry Hill Park and the Atlas Mill site and any new parks.
- *New Multi-use Fields.* The city should develop multi-use sports fields on city owned parcels at Cherry Hill Park and at the Atlas Mill site. The site at Cherry Hill was acquired to support a full-size baseball field, but may not be large enough for that purpose. The site at the Atlas Mill property along Seltice Avenue is an old dump site and is unbuildable at this time. If a larger site along Prairie Avenue can be acquired, in addition to supporting a neighborhood park a multi-use field should be created.

Outdoor Basketball Courts

There are basketball courts at most neighborhood and community parks in the City, including some very popular courts at City Park. Coeur d'Alene should continue to incorporate basketball courts into the design of community and neighborhood parks, making these facilities available at most sites.

Tennis Courts/Pickleball

Coeur d'Alene has an excellent tennis complex at Cherry Hill Park, as well as other courts in the city. Tennis courts should also be considered at future community and neighborhood parks. If a sports complex is developed as part of a large community park, the city should consider creating a tennis and/or pickleball center with multiple courts, possibly through a partnership.

Table 4.5
Field Needs by 2040

Field Type	LOS Guideline	Fields Needed
Baseball Fields	1 field per 6,000 people	9
Softball Fields	1 field per 3,500 people	13
Soccer/Multi-Use Fields	1 field per 4,000 people	16
Football Fields	1 field per 20,000 people	2

F. Waterfront Access

Coeur d’Alene’s waterfronts are highly valued by residents, as public input during the park and recreation planning process has strongly indicated. Maximizing water access is a high priority for residents, and also is supportive of the City’s Comprehensive Plan goals.

When residents were asked what type of park facility should be added or enhanced in Coeur d’Alene on the recreation survey, “more public parks and trails near water” received the second-highest number of selections, nearly equivalent to the top choice of “more bike lanes and trails.” Beach activities were the top recreation habit for youth respondents to the recreation survey. Beach activities or swimming at the beach or river were among the top recreation activities of adults. Coeur d’Alene’s beaches are also a major regional attraction, bringing visitors to the City and downtown.



Independence Point

Waterfront Access Recommendations

Coeur d’Alene’s waterfront sites should provide diverse recreation opportunities, ranging from motorized boat access to passive viewpoints, with maximized public access along all water frontages, including Lake Coeur d’Alene, the Spokane River and Fernan Lake.

- *Blackwell Island.* Develop the city owned property on Blackwell Island to support public use.
- *Create accessible walkways to public beaches.* Provide ADA accessible walkways at all public beaches where possible, including 12th Street, East Tubbs Hill Park, Sanders Beach, Hubbard Street Beach, City Beach and the Independence Point Beach.
- *Mooring Docks for both non-commercial and commercial use.* Expand the existing mooring docks at McEuen Park. Build new mooring docks at the planned BLM community park and at the Atlas Community Park.

Public Docks

Coeur d’Alene’s public docks are a revenue-generating resource that helps fund our parks capital improvement fund. Addition docks could be located in the proposed Atlas Mill site, the city-owned property on Blackwell Island and near the Harbor House along the Spokane River.

Commercial Docks

The City should look for opportunities to add commercial docks where appropriate. Currently there are only a handful of spaces available for commercial leases at the Independence Point dock. When the Third Street boat ramp is rebuilt, the City could consider adding a loading and unloading only dock for commercial businesses to use for a fee. The city should also work to expand the mooring docks and create slips for commercial leases that will pay for this project. This would generate additional revenue to fund improvements to the waterfront facilities and create more opportunities for commercial businesses to provide services to the public.

Swimming Beaches

Coeur d’Alene’s swimming beaches at City Beach, Johnson Mill River Park, Independence Point, and Jewett House should be maintained in good condition. The Jewett House beach should be improved to facilitate public access and use, as well as maintaining and renewing public access from the east side of the Jewett House Beach 500 feet east of the Jewett House (refer to “commercial submerged lands lease agreement #B- 2022”).

Partnerships for Water Access

Coeur d’Alene should continue relationships with NIC, the County and others to maintain public access to existing publicly owned sites. If NIC’s focus should shift and they are no longer interested in maintaining the waterfront property along Rosenberry Drive, the City Parks Department should look into the maintenance responsibility to assure continued public access and public use.

Waterfront Access Target Areas

The waterfront areas in Coeur d’Alene are a precious, highly valued community resource, and the community vision is for maximized access to the water. While some areas of the City have waterfront access opportunities, other areas lack them. Such areas should be targeted for some type of public access, whether it is boating access, a viewpoint, swimming access, or a trail. Map 3, the waterfront target area map, shows areas that are a high priority for increased public access. Public waterfront access can take many forms, whether it is an access easement, a dock or part of another park. The map shows the areas of the city where water resource parcels should be considered for acquisition should an opportunity arise.

G. Special Use Areas

Disc Golf Courses

Coeur d’Alene has an 18-hole disc golf course at Cherry Hill Park and 3-hole practice courses at Bluegrass, Landings and Shaddock Lane Parks. Coeur d’Alene should target building a top-quality disc golf course at one of the new community parks, or at a future natural park. There is an opportunity to partner with a private property owner on Canfield Mountain to build a disc golf course in the property adjacent to the City-owned natural park.

Skateboard and BMX Freestyle Facilities

The City has a new, community-scale skate park at Memorial Park. This site is well-located, highly visible and near food and services. To supplement the community-scale skate park, “skate spots” should be incorporated into selective neighborhood parks and along the city’s greenways to provide close-to-home opportunities for beginning skaters. The satellite skate park at Sunset Park should be expanded and have more permanent features built. The city should consider adding a second skate park at a new Community park north of I-90.

Bike Parks

Coeur d’Alene’s is currently in the beginning stages of building a bike park in the BLM corridor under the 95 bridge. This park will be part of a greater park built in that area and will include a pump track, a skills track and a flow track. The current cyclocross course in that area will use the flow track for cyclocross races once it is constructed. The department should look for other opportunities to build courses for BMX bikes and Mountain Bikes when acquiring open space or new parkland.



Cherry Hill BMX Track

Dog Parks

Since the last master plan in 2008, the City has built 4 dog parks to accommodate the desires the public had and still has for off-leash dog facilities. The feedback from the 2018 surveys indicated a strong desire for a dog park where dogs could be off-leash and swim. A waterfront off leash dog is currently being built at the Atlas Mill site. Other possible locations include the City property on Blackwell Island and Hubbard Beach Park. The city should consider creating a natural off leash dog park, possibly at a new park.

Indoor Recreation Facilities

Rec Centers

Currently, the community has a few privately owned indoor recreation facilities that are available for use by members or by a use fee.

- The Kroc Center was completed in 2008 and has met many of the community’s recreation needs. This full-service center includes classrooms, gymnasiums, swimming pools, fitness rooms and gathering spaces. This facility is one of only seven of the Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Centers in the nation.



Jewett House

- The Boys and Girls Club was built in 2017 and offers many development centered classes for youth. These classes include: leadership skills, character development, financial training, cooking skills, homework development, drop-out intervention, post-secondary preparation, fitness and internet safety training. In addition to classes, they offer a wide range of sports programs, including: basketball, baseball, softball, t-ball, flag football, soccer, street hockey, handball & volleyball and golf.

The City should look for opportunities to build a recreation center for the residents of the community. Possible locations for this type of facility include the Field of Dreams site at Cherry Hill Community Park, a stand-alone site or in one of the proposed community parks.

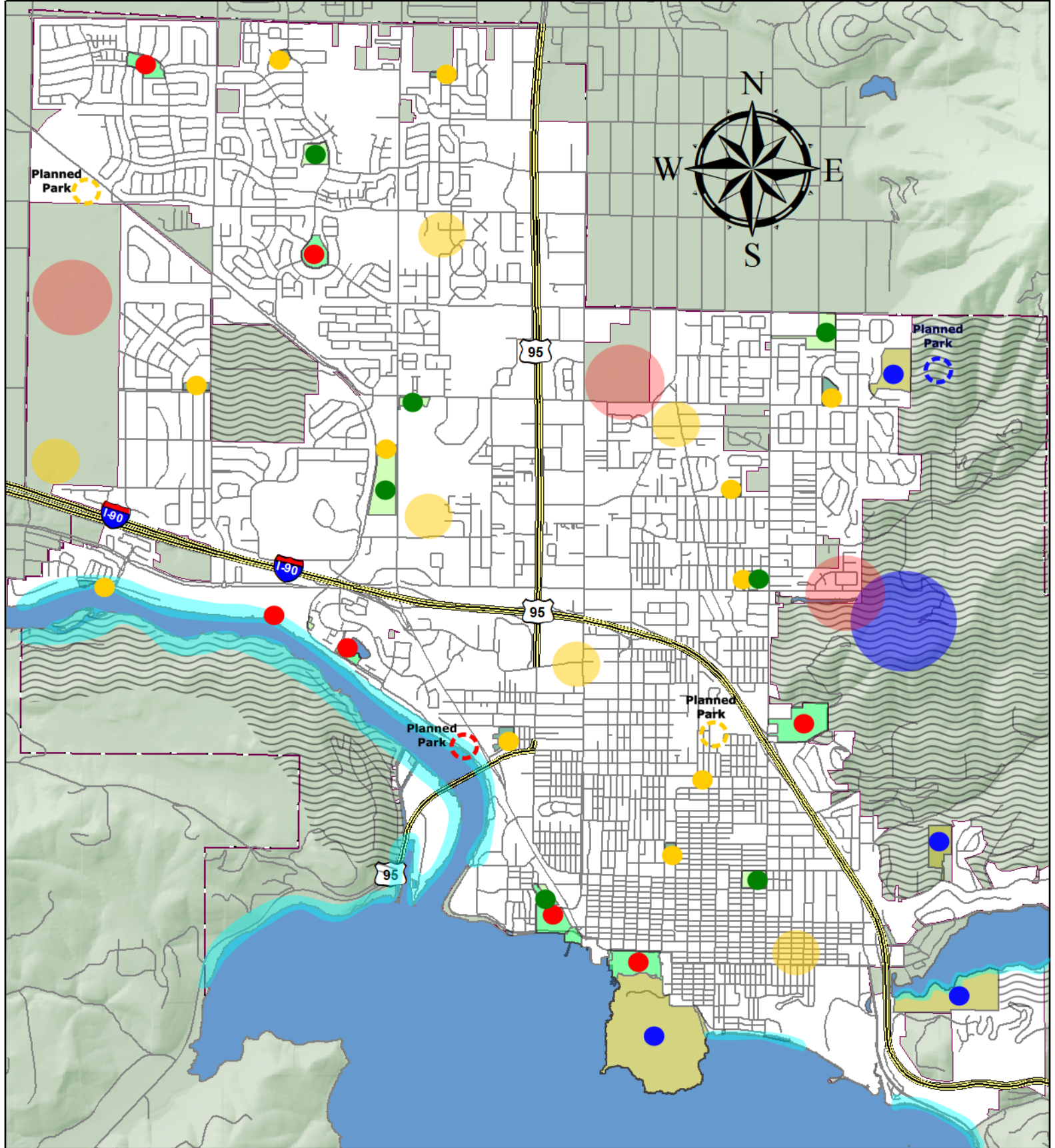
Gymnasiums

Coeur d’Alene does not own any gymnasiums, but the City has provided funding to the school district to build expanded gym facilities at some school sites. In exchange, the City receives use of the gym for recreation programming. This partnership is an effective and efficient use of public resources, and should be pursued at new school sites, especially in northwest Coeur d’Alene. If the city develops a community center, it should include a gymnasium to support recreational programs.

Adult Rec Centers

The Jewett House is an historic house located on the lakefront. The structure is currently used for senior activities during the day, and is available for rental at other times. Because of its waterfront location and historic status, it has the potential to be a “crown jewel” venue within the Coeur d’Alene park system, and could be a premier special event site. The master plan for the site should be designed to capitalize on the waterfront location and this site’s potential for use for special events (weddings etc.). The master plan needs to take into consider the restrictions on use of the building that came with the donation, and require that the majority of use be for senior citizens.

Lake City Center. The city should work with the private non-profit Lake City Center to ensure that the programs they offer to our senior citizens continue to be provided.



**Map 4:
Proposed Park Facilities**

Existing Community Parks		Proposed Community Parks	
Existing Neighborhood Parks		Proposed Neighborhood Parks	
Existing Natural Areas		Proposed Natural Area	
Existing Sports Fields		Planned Parks	
Natural Area Target Zones		Waterfront Target Zones	

CHAPTER 7: POLICY & OPERATIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter contains recommendations on strategic directions for policies and operations. Recommendations are organized into five major categories:

- Policy directions;
- Park regulation changes;
- Urban forestry;
- Administration and operations; and
- Funding.

A. POLICY DIRECTIONS

As Coeur d'Alene continues to grow, the park system will need to expand to keep up with demand. This Plan sets forth the community vision for parks and recreation, and specific policies are needed to ensure that the vision is carried forth. In particular, it is critical that community expectations regarding park provision in newly developed areas be set forth in policies and codes, to provide a level of certainty for residents, developers and city officials. Summary policy directions on park acquisition and development are outlined below. Some of these policy directions recommend changes to other plans, which will require efforts beyond the scope of this Plan.

- **Incorporate the *Parks & Recreation Master Plan* vision into the Comprehensive Plan.** The City is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. The vision, goals, and key directions of the *Parks & Recreation Master Plan* should be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan update.
- **Adopt level of service standards for developed parks.** Coeur d'Alene should adopt a level of service standard of 4 acres of developed park land per 1,000 residents.
- **Update the Zoning Code.** The zoning code should be updated to clarify land use regulations for parks, and also specify how land is provided for parks.
 - *Park and Open Space Zoning Designation.* During the next major Zoning Code update, a park and open space zoning designation or overlay should be added. Currently, parks are subject to the underlying zoning; some development standards, such as sign regulations, are inappropriate for meeting the needs of park sites. This can result in a longer land use process and development timeline. The park and open space designation or overlay should be developed jointly by the Parks Department and the Planning Department, with the goal of clarifying park standards and streamlining the park development process.

- *Land Dedication.* The subdivision and planned unit development codes should be updated to ensure that adequate park land is provided in the areas where this Plan indicates new parks are needed. At minimum, the Zoning Code should require that the City be permitted to purchase needed park land in the areas shown on the park system map (Map 4). Donation of park sites to the City should be encouraged. The code revision could also encourage that developers build parks.
- **Follow the park development guidelines contained in this Plan.** Development guidelines for each type of park are included in Table 5, on the following page. These guidelines should be followed when park land is acquired and new parks are developed.
- **Proactively target acquisition of land and trails identified within this Plan.** Land costs have been increasing rapidly in Coeur d'Alene, and more growth is anticipated. It is important to acquire land while it is still available.
- **Proactively target acquisition of water access and waterfront properties identified in this Plan.** The community highly values water access, and the areas shown in the Waterfront Target Areas on Map 3 should be targeted for acquisition of additional waterfront access.
- **Accept only park land, water access and trail rights-of-way (R.O.W.) consistent with this Plan.** Accept only those sites consistent with this Plan, in terms of location as well as site geography. If, however, a development happens that provides an opportunity near a needed park, then the City should consider acquiring the property.
- **Acquire or protect key natural open space areas consistent with this Plan.** As noted earlier in this document, protecting and preserving natural open space is a high priority for residents. The city should take an active role in protecting key areas, including Canfield Mountain, prairie land, viewsheds and natural areas south of the Spokane River.
- **Where beneficial to the community, partner with other agencies on parks, natural parks and trails.** The Coeur d'Alene Parks Department has successfully partnered with other agencies in the past to provide facilities that benefit the public. When opportunities arise, the City should continue to seek partnerships.
- **When state or federal highway funds are secured for road enhancements, assure that pedestrian and bicycle routes are included.** Coeur d'Alene residents highly value pedestrian and bicycle transportation, and these transportation modes should be represented in enhancement projects.
- **Encourage the planting of native trees wherever possible.** Coeur d'Alene's tree canopy is one of its distinguishing characteristics, and more native trees should be added to the urban forest when possible.

Park Classification	Definition	Size and Configuration	Location and Access	Should Include	May Include	Examples
Community Park	Community parks are planned to provide active and structured recreation opportunities, as well as passive and non-organized opportunities for individual and family activities. Community parks generally include facilities that attract people from a large geographic area and require support facilities, such as parking and restrooms. Community parks often have sport fields or similar facilities as the central focus of the park.	Current Range: 5 to 30 acres Proposed Size for New Parks: 10-40 acres, 15 acres desirable Configuration: At least two-thirds of the site should be available for active recreation use – relatively level, free of environmental constraints, with adequate buffers to separate active recreation areas from nearby homes.	Access should be available from a public street. Should have an off-street parking lot Minimum of 400 feet of street frontage along the entrance. Desirable to have street frontage on all sides of the park, except where the park abuts another public facility.	Park sign Playground Baseball, softball, or soccer fields Basketball court Walking paths Picnic shelter Unprogrammed open lawn space Permanent restrooms Site amenities (benches, picnic tables, water fountain, bike racks, trash receptacles, etc.) Trees	Tennis courts Skateboarding facilities Other sports facilities (disc golf, horseshoes, etc.) Splashpads Public art/fountains Group picnic areas Lighting Natural areas Interpretive facilities Water access Amphitheaters Festival space Community garden Recreation buildings Skate park Off-leash dog park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluegrass Park • Cherry Hill Park • City Park, Independence Point, Memorial Field • McEuen Park • Landings Park • Riverstone Park
Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood parks are a combination playground and park, designed primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. They are generally small in size and intended to serve nearby residents, who mainly arrive by foot or bicycle. Typically, facilities found in a neighborhood park include a children's playground, picnic areas, pathways, open grass areas for passive use, outdoor basketball courts, and multi-use sport fields for soccer, softball, and baseball.	Current Range: 1 to 7 acres Proposed Size for New Parks: 3-10 acres, 5 acres desirable Configuration: At least half the site should be suitable for active and passive recreation use – relatively level and free of environmental constraints.	Site should not be located on arterial or collector streets. Access should be available from a public street. The park perimeter should front on public streets on all sides, with no private development abutting the park. A public facility such as a school can substitute for a public street. Should have at least on-street parking available.	Park sign Playground Walking paths Picnic shelter Unprogrammed open lawn space Site amenities (benches, picnic tables, water fountain, bike racks, trash receptacles, etc.) Trees	Basketball courts Tennis courts Skateboarding facilities Other sports facilities (disc golf, horseshoes, etc.) Natural areas Interpretive facilities Water access Community garden Off-street parking Restroom (portable or permanent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan Park • East Tubbs Park • Johnson Mill River Park • Legacy Place Park • North Pines Park • Northshire Park • Phippeny Park • Shadduck Lane Park • Sunshine Meadows Park • Winton Park
Natural Park Areas	Natural park preserves are sites primarily left in a natural state and intended for nature-oriented leisure activities. Natural park preserves may serve as trail corridors, and generally support only passive recreation. Active recreation that occurs is usually a secondary use.	Current Range: 18 to 160 acres Proposed Size for New Parks: Size varies based on resources and site configuration	Location will depend on presence of resources At minimum, trail access to the site should be provided from a public street.	Park sign Paths or trails On-street parking	Interpretive features Nature center Wildlife blinds Water access Mountain bike trails Equestrian trails Off Restrooms (permanent or portable) Site amenities (benches, picnic tables, etc.) or trails Off-street parking lot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canfield Mountain Natural Park • Feman Lake Natural Park • Tubbs Hill • Seagraves Veterans' Centennial Park
Trails and Greenways	Greenways are linear parks that serve as open space connectors, linking parks to the community. Greenways usually incorporate multi-use trails providing safe alternate transportation routes for non-motorized travel. They are often created from railroad or other transportation easements.	Current range 8 to 1 miles long and 30 to 200 feet wide.	Former railroad easements, surplus highway easements, shorelines	Paved multi-use trail. Park signs	Secondary unpaved walking trails. Trailheads. Benches. Skate spots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlas-Kathleen • Centennial • Centennial Loop • Prairie Trail • Seltice Corridor • U.S. 95 Trail • Centennial Park

Park Classification	Definition	Size and Configuration	Location and Access	Should Include	May Include	Examples
Sports Complexes	Sports complexes are active use recreational sites designed to support organized sports.	Current Range: 5 to 29 acres Proposed Size for New Parks: 5 to 40 acres depending on facilities Configuration: the site should be flat to support sports fields.	Access should be available from a public street. Off-street parking lot	Ballfields Public restrooms Benches, bleachers and drinking fountains.	Playground, picnic shelter Gymnasium Tennis and basketball courts, Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canfield Sports • CDA Soccer • Jenny Stokes Field • Person Field • Ramsey Park • Sunset Rotary
Community Center	Community centers are buildings that support indoor recreational programs. They can serve the entire community or focus on a specific user group.	6000 square feet	Should be located where they can serve the most people efficiently, generally near population centers Should be easy to access either by vehicle or by those on foot or bicycles.	Climate controlled building. Restrooms Parking lot.	Gymnasium and class rooms. Fitness centers. Aquatic facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jewett House
Waterfront Facilities	Waterfront facilities are assets owned by the city that provide access to public waterways. These facilities include beaches, docks, and boat ramps.	NA Depends on facility and site.	Shorelines of lakes and rivers Accessible to the public by land and water	Park sign	Docks, benches, tables, interpretive signage. Portable restrooms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12th St. Beach • Hubbard Beach • Sanders Beach • 1st St. Dock • Commercial Dock • 3rd St Boat Ramp • Mooring Docks
Cemeteries	Cemeteries are areas used for the burial and interment of the deceased.	Current range 21 to 7 acres.	In areas of suitable soil and relatively level. \ Should have vehicle and pedestrian access from a public roadway.	Cemetery signs, perimeter fencing	Paved roadway, niche walls, memorials, masoleum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Cemetery • Riverview Cemetery

Table 5: Parks Standards and Guidelines

A. PARK REGULATION CHANGES

The City should work to change regulations regarding parks that are currently not consistent with community direction.

Regulations on Dogs in Parks

Dogs are currently allowed on-leash on the trails around the parks but not allowed in the parks themselves. There is a high level of non-compliance and in order to reduce the scofflaw attitude that leads to other bad behaviors, like picking up their dog's waste, allowing leashed dogs in parks should be considered. One of the biggest areas of comment during the planning process was about the current regulations, and the desire to change them to accommodate people who would like to recreate with their pets.

The City has allowed dogs in off-leash dog parks since the 2008 plan was adopted. The City should explore allowing dogs **on leashes** in all parks as a pilot project.

Conservation in Parks

- *Biodiesel*

In order to help cut down on fuel costs and to help reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, the Parks Department should consider converting some of their diesel-powered equipment to take biodiesel. Biodiesel is created from various vegetable or animal-based oils and can run more efficiently and cut down on emissions by 83%.

- *Battery Powered Equipment*

The department uses a large amount of fuel throughout the year with power tools. String trimmers, mowers and backpack blowers all require gasoline mixed with oil to operate. Switching to high quality battery powered equipment will save money on gas and help our employees be more efficient with their time, since fueling up at the gas pumps takes time out of the day. Installing a power adapter on work trucks can allow them to charge a spare battery while working and then switching it out with a fresh battery when needed.

- *Water Conservation*

The Parks and Recreation Department uses significant amounts of water to irrigate landscapes and turf grass throughout the city. In fact, the Parks and Recreation Department is the City of Coeur d'Alene Water Department's largest customer and consumer of potable drinking water, the vast majority of which is used for irrigation. Not only does this tax the present capacity of the water system, this water use is not sustainable due to projected growth in the demand for potable water without expensive capital improvements to the city's infrastructure. Additionally, purchasing potable water to irrigate parks

and sites throughout the city is one of the largest expenses in the department's budget and a wasteful practice in general. The Parks and Recreation Department should pursue management actions that conserve water and reduce the demand for irrigation along with seeking alternate sources of water. Currently the parks department uses surface water from Lake Coeur d'Alene and the Spokane River to irrigate Independence Point, McEuen Park, Riverstone Park and most of City Park. The city should expand the use of surface water for irrigation where practical and investigate using reclaimed water. There is the potential to install irrigation only wells at some of our sites and this option should also be investigated. Improvements to existing irrigation systems should be made to shorten the period of time needed for watering the sites and to increase the efficiency of the systems. This includes the installation of booster pumps where necessary and using the correct size of water meters. Proposed actions to conserve drinking water can be very expensive and the department should partner when possible with other departments and agencies whenever there is a mutually beneficial project that will serve this end. The department uses the Landscape Irrigation Best Management Practices publication prepared by the Irrigation Association and American Society of Irrigation Consultants published in May of 2014 as a guide for the management of all of our irrigation systems. The following specific actions should be taken to conserve water and to minimize the department's use of potable water:

- Utilize river water for irrigation at the new Atlas Mill Park from the Spokane River.
- Convert Mill River Park's irrigation system to one that utilizes river water, especially when that site is expanded.
- Work with the Waste Water Department to determine if it would be feasible to convert the irrigation systems at Forest and Riverview Cemeteries' to one that utilizes reclaimed water.
- Investigate utilizing reclaimed water for landscape irrigation at the US-95 Northwest Boulevard interchange, the Northwest Boulevard median strips, and the I-90 Northwest Boulevard interchange.
- Consider installing an irrigation only well at the planned park at Hanley Avenue and the Prairie Trail.
- Consider adding a larger water meter or booster pumps at Cherry Hill Park to improve efficiency and shorten the water window.
- Plan on using drought resistant mix grasses on any new landscape in beautification areas and consider converting existing beautification areas to a drought resistant fescue grass.
- Preserve and utilize natural vegetation on greenways and new park site wherever practical and use little or no irrigation on the sites.
- Use soil surfactants to address limited gaps in irrigation systems instead of over irrigating these areas.

- *Natural Landscaping.* On new parks, the city should use native landscaping as much as possible to reduce the use of water, chemicals and equipment. The department should make greater use of drought tolerant native ground covers and shrubs. Many sites throughout the city could support areas that are managed as natural areas in addition to areas more intensively landscaped.

B. URBAN FORESTRY

The Parks Department is responsible for urban forestry efforts in Coeur d’Alene. The tree canopy in the city is one of its defining characteristics, and it includes trees in parks as well as street trees. The tree inventory in Coeur d’Alene is extensive, but staffing is limited.

Recommendations for urban forestry include:

- **Continue to seek Tree City USA designation.** Coeur d’Alene has been a Tree City USA for more than twenty years, showing the City’s commitment to forestry.
- **Continue to enforce City Urban Forestry Ordinance, Chapter 12.36.** The City’s urban forestry ordinance provides guidelines for the care and maintenance of all public trees and shrubs.
- **Continue to encourage tree planting within public rights-of-way.** The urban forest is a defining characteristic of Coeur d’Alene. The Parks Department should continue to encourage tree planting with public rights-of-way to ensure that the canopy is maintained.
- **Continue public outreach efforts.** The Urban Forester and Urban Forestry Commission have developed excellent materials for the public, including the web page and the approved species list. These efforts should be continued, and resources should continue to be allocated to these important public education campaigns.
- **Periodically evaluate staffing to meet tree care needs.** Coeur d’Alene’s urban canopy is more extensive than that of many cities. The City should periodically evaluate tree inventory and tree care workloads compared with staffing levels. In addition to City employees, the City should consider contracting with forestry professionals to assist with tree care.
- **Evaluate tree care policy in rights-of-way.** Current policy on tree care in rights-of-way may not be meeting the needs of the urban forest’s continued health. This policy and its staffing implications should be evaluated.



Street Trees

The Urban Forestry Master Plan is included at the next chapter.

C. ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

The Parks Department operates at a very high level of efficiency in terms of services provided, the costs of service and maintenance staff per developed park acre. Due to the diligent efforts of staff, Coeur d'Alene has built a park system that is admired throughout the region. The Parks Department has been creative and dedicated in using varied resources to develop the City's park system to suit the needs of residents.

The main recommendation in terms of operations is to continue on the same successful path. Other recommendations include:

- **Periodically evaluate organizational structure.** The Parks Department is responsible for the development, operations and maintenance of the park system, as well as for urban forestry and the public cemeteries. In the future, the City may need to bring on additional staff with specialized skills such as natural resource management, pool or a spray technician and a department mechanic, similar to the Trails Coordinator and Irrigation Specialist positions that the City has added in the past.
- **Develop a “retention plan” to facilitate replacement of longtime employees and retain institutional knowledge.** The City has many longtime employees whose knowledge of the park system, the City and community issues will be very difficult to replace once they retire. The City has an equitable pay scale and benefits package which helps to retain employees. Some positions may not be easy to replace, and grooming employees from within the system is a great way to retain this knowledge.
- **Continue the Parks Department Preventive Maintenance Program.** The Department’s program, which includes annual evaluations of all assets (vehicles, grounds, amenities, buildings) and planning for replacements and repairs with each budget cycle. This program has resulted in efficient operating costs through avoidance of crisis response and lost work time due to equipment failure. It is highly effective, and should be continued into the future.
- **Increase staffing to keep up with system growth.** The Parks Department maintenance crews are staffed by both full-time permanent employees and seasonal employees. Additional staffing, whether full-time, seasonal or by contract, should be provided as the park system grows. In addition to normal growth, specialized areas in the department are in need of additional full-time employees. As the trails and natural park system continues to grow, a full-time Parks Maintenance Worker should be added to the staff to help keep these areas maintained to the standard for which Coeur d’Alene is known. The Urban Forestry division could also benefit greatly from a full-time field person and tree crew.

- **Evaluate maintenance shop and yard needs as the park system grows.** As the park system grows, there will be a need for more space for maintenance staff, equipment, and vehicles. The City should consider all options, including acquiring properties adjacent to the existing shop to provide expansion space, relocating the shop to a larger site, or even adding a satellite shop and yard if that would suit operations better. Regardless of how expansion occurs, it will be necessary in the future.
- **Continue to work with community volunteers to implement park and trail projects.** The Parks Department has successfully recruited many volunteers to implement improvements to the park and trail system. These efforts have resulted in new parks at a lower cost to the community, and have also allowed parks to be completed faster. Nearly all of the natural trails at Canfield and Fernan Natural Parks were developed using volunteer labor.
- **Provide staffing to maintain developed parks to their current level.** In the Pacific Northwest, park agencies with a full range of well-maintained parks average \$5,000-\$6,000 per developed acre of park land. For comparison, the City of Camas, Washington has a high-quality park system with excellent maintenance, and is similar to Coeur d'Alene in many respects. Camas allocated on average more than \$7,000 per acre to maintain its developed park land. From a staffing standpoint, industry standard workloads for park maintenance employees are about 12-14 acres of developed land per employee.
- **Provide staffing to manage and maintain natural parks.** Many communities are moving toward specialized crews to manage natural areas, because these areas require different maintenance skills than traditional park land. Budgeting for these areas is relatively new for park and recreation agencies. The City of Portland, Oregon spends about \$500 per acre for an extensive natural area management program which includes controlled burns. To begin with, Coeur d'Alene should allocate about \$200 per acre to its natural park preserves to begin its management program and ensure that these areas are maintained for the future. After two to three years of evaluating how well this funding level supports implementation of the Tubbs Hill Management Plan and other natural park preserve management goals, Coeur d'Alene should evaluate whether this funding level is adequate.

D. FUNDING

The Parks Department has diversified funding. The following recommendations will help the City fund park, trail and other improvements noted in this Plan.

- **Continue the policies in effect for the Parks Capital Improvement Fund.** The City of Coeur d’Alene has established a Parks Capital Improvement Fund within the City budget. This special revenue fund is intended to administer expenditures for acquisition, development and park improvements. The City of Coeur d’Alene has adopted a policy that revenue generated from parks will be allocated to parks capital improvements. These revenues are placed in the Parks Capital Improvement Fund.
- **Continue to pursue grants aggressively.** The Parks Department has been very effective at obtaining grants, mostly through the State of Idaho and federal government. The Department should continue to devote staff time and resources to grants to maintain this excellent track record.
- **Pursue state and federal highway funds for the enhancement of the Coeur d’Alene pedestrian and bicycle system.** Enhancement of the pedestrian and bicycle system is a high priority for City residents, and additional highway funds should be pursued for enhancement of the system to serve these modes.
- **Explore the possibility of using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.** In many cities, CDBG funds are used to make park improvements in qualified areas.
- **Establish sports field user fees.** Local sports leagues have made contributions to build sports fields. However, there are no user fees for sports fields to help fund the ongoing maintenance of these facilities. Sports field user fees should be equitable, and applied to all field users. It is recommended that this fee be based on a per team or per player basis.
- **Expand efforts to obtain donations.** The Parks Department has been effective at obtaining donations for specific projects. These past successful efforts should be built upon and expanded. A gift catalogue of park furnishings and amenities (benches, trees etc.) would provide ongoing opportunities for donations, to supplement the project-based fundraising that has previously occurred. In addition, corporate sponsorships could be sought, especially from local companies and businesses.
- **Explore a “Proximate Principle” allocation fund.** Research has demonstrated that well-maintained parks and trails increase property values of nearby properties, thus increasing the property taxes generated from these properties. The City should explore allocating a percentage of property tax dollars to the Parks Department, to account for the increased tax value.
- **Consider the development of a Hotel/Motel tax to the City of Coeur d’Alene.**
Coeur d’Alene’s parks, especially City Park and Beach and the dock facilities, are a key part of the City’s attractiveness to visitors. Creating a

fund generated by the visitors through hotel/motel taxes to maintain these parks will ensure that visitors are contributing to the community facilities they use.

- **Consider other funding sources to broaden the parks and recreation funding pool.** Potential funding sources to explore include general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, exchanges of property, public/private partnerships, lifetime estates, voluntary street tree fee, utility easement fees, levies for acquisition and development, levies for maintenance and operations, certificates of participation, land trusts, private grants/foundations and shared facilities.

CHAPTER 8: THE URBAN FOREST

Urban Forest Vision Statement

Our vision for Coeur d'Alene's urban forest is a community of healthy, safe, beautiful trees that are valued and maintained to provide benefits today and for future generations.

Introduction

Coeur d'Alene's Urban Forest

The urban forest of Coeur d'Alene is a critical part of infrastructure like our streets, sidewalks, sewer systems, and utilities. However, unlike other public infrastructure, trees actually increase in value over time. As trees continue to grow, they need ongoing care to ensure residents receive maximum benefits from the resource. The purpose of Coeur d'Alene's urban forestry program is to maintain and grow the urban forest of Coeur d'Alene and thereby enhance the natural beauty and quality of life in the City.

The urban forest includes all private and public trees. Private trees are located on private property and are cared for by the owners of those properties. Public trees include trees growing in parks, cemeteries, and on other public property as well as street trees growing within the public rights-of-way. The right-of-way is a strip of land set aside for public uses such as streets, alleys, sidewalks and utilities. The right-of-way width can vary from street to street and block by block. Trees within natural open space areas such as Tubbs Hill are addressed in the City's Natural Open Space Master Plan.

Vision

The Vision 2030 Plan Coeur d'Alene sets specific goals as identified by the community for the future of the urban forestry program. The plan calls for an urban forest master plan and the adoption of a policy that recognizes the value of the urban forest as a public infrastructure asset.

The Vision 2030 Plan listed the following objectives for the Urban Forestry Master Plan:

- Update and adopt an Urban Forest Master Plan that establishes goals and methods to enhance and preserve the urban forest
- Adopt a City urban forest management policy that recognizes the value of the urban forest as a public infrastructure asset. Modify city ordinances to give the city (not abutting property owners) authority and funding to provide proper tree maintenance, removal, and planting for trees within city right of way.

Goal

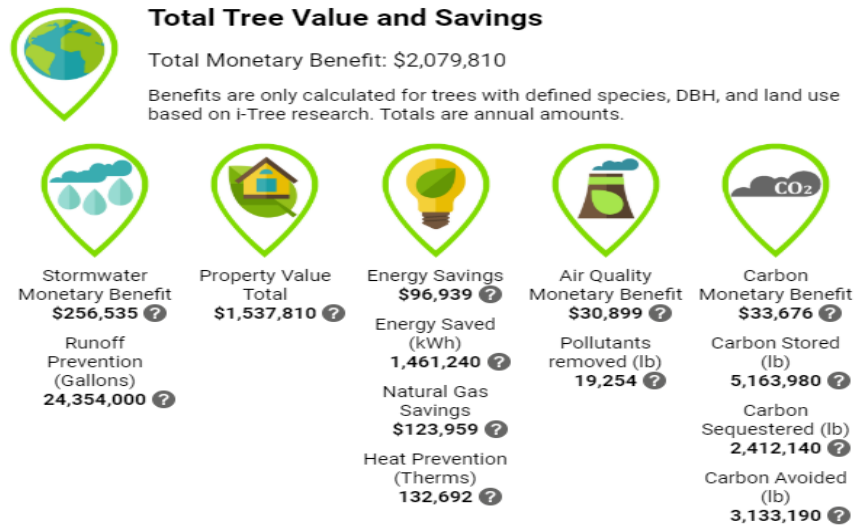
The goal of the Urban Forest Master Plan is to implement recommendations regarding Planning and Policy, Maintenance, Planting, Education and Volunteerism with a City-funded urban forestry program that would include a dedicated tree crew supplemented by private contractors. This would require modifying city ordinances to give the city (not abutting property owners) authority and funding to provide proper maintenance, removal, and planting of trees within the city right-of-way.

Value

The urban forest provides a wide variety of tangible and intangible benefits (For a full list of tree benefits, see the ‘Community Forest Green Facts’ page at the end of the chapter). Coeur d’Alene’s 28,633 (as of 2020) trees alone provide more than \$2,079,810 in monetary benefits per year based on I-Tree research. Trees mitigate significant amounts of stormwater runoff, save energy, modify local climate, reduce air pollution, reduce soil erosion and much more. The urban forest also contributes many aesthetic and intangible benefits to our community. For example, trees absorb and block noise from the urban environment, screen harsh scenery, and soften the outline of masonry, metal and glass. Trees provide us with beautiful colors, flowers and a diversity of shapes, forms, and textures which add natural character to our cities and towns.

Street trees are especially beneficial because they trap and convert pollutants produced by vehicles and muffle noise proximate to roadways. Trees also mitigate the “heat island” effect of pavement by shading pavement and actually reducing air temperature by transpiring (evaporating water through the leaves)

These benefits create an environment that make our community a healthier, more enjoyable place. A well-managed urban forest promotes a sense of community pride and ownership.



MASTER PLAN

Purpose of the Master Plan

The Urban Forest Master Plan proposes recommendations for the management of Coeur d'Alene's public trees. Because trees can live many decades, the vision was considered with a time frame in the range of 40 to 50 years. To remain relevant to the natural and changing environment, this plan will be reviewed and updated at least every ten years.

Current Activities for Tree Planting and Care

Currently, public trees in parks and cemeteries are cared for by city staff, but the stewardship of the city's more than 28,000 street trees falls primarily on the abutting property owner. Since the urban forest is a community asset enjoyed by all, it is appropriate that the entire community support its care and maintenance to enhance its health, beauty and longevity.

The city currently provides limited assistance for the care of street trees with abutting property owners through:

- A street tree permit system to allow planting, pruning and removal of street trees
- A limited Cost Share Program (<https://cdaid.org/2747/departments/parks/urban-forestry/cost-share-program>) to offset some costs associated with pruning or tree removals
- Providing limited planting upon request as funding allows

- Educational information on how to correctly care for and maintain healthy trees
- Licensing of tree services to ensure quality control by professional services
- Ongoing inventory of street tree health and condition
<https://pg-cloud.com/Idaho/>
- Fielding and reviewing concerns regarding tree health, street clearance, and traffic sign visibility

Street Tree Inventory and Data

Public trees are inventoried by city urban forestry staff. The goal is to inventory trees on a 3-year cycle, but with current resources, inventory is completed on a 5-year cycle. Inventory information includes: tree species, size, condition, management needs, as well as potential planting spots. This information is used to determine resources needed to implement the goals and objectives of this plan. In addition, some grant funding and disaster relief funds rely on the city having a street tree inventory. As of 2018, the inventory included more than 28,500 public trees representing over 100 different species.

Tree Species

Coeur d'Alene has many unique tree species, some of which are featured in the Historic, Unusual and Big Tree publication ([link](#)), but maples comprise 24% of the current public tree inventory (see table and graph below). The urban forestry ordinance specifies, "A variety of species shall be recommended so that no single species shall exceed ten percent (10%), no more than twenty percent (20%) of any one genus, and no more than thirty percent (30%) from any one taxonomical family of the total tree population in the city". Although maples make good public trees, several maple species were removed from the approved street tree list in 2014 to minimize potential problems and encourage diversity. Having a broad diversity of species greatly reduces the risk of large-scale losses from insects or diseases, which usually attack only a few species.



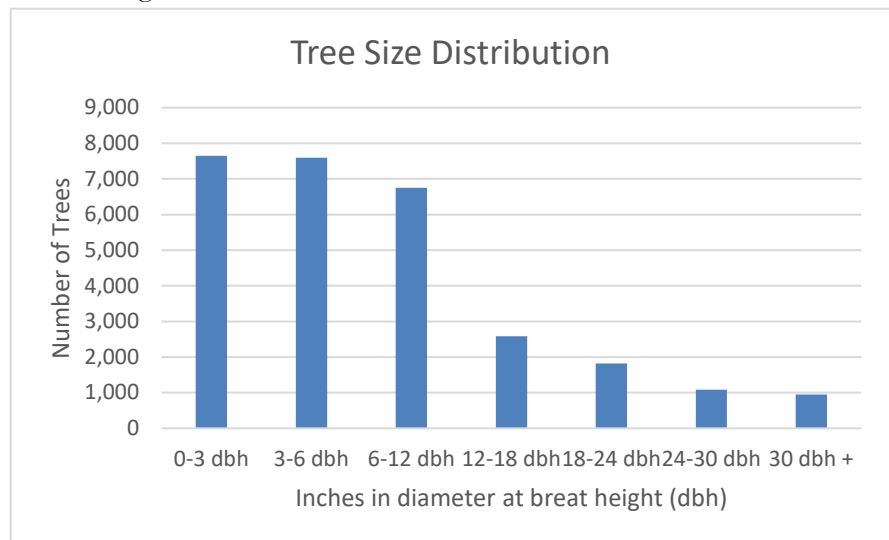
Most Common Genera



Common Name	Genus	# Trees	%
Maple	Acer	6,900	24%
Pine	Pinus	4,137	15%
Cherry	Prunus	2,581	9%
Ash	Fraxinus	1,871	7%
Pear	Pyrus	1,702	6%
Locust	Gleditsia	1,197	4%
Linden	Tillia	1,099	4%
Spruce	Picea	945	3%
Oak	Quercus	762	3%
Crabapple	Malus	801	3%
Cedar	Thuja	734	3%

Size

Having a diversity of tree sizes and ages within the urban forest provides a continuity of healthy trees even as there is some loss due to aging and decline. Coeur d'Alene has been aggressively adding public trees as the city grows, thus 54% of trees are less than 6 inches in diameter. While we take pride in the large tree canopies that cover streets, less than 13% of public trees are larger than 18 inches in diameter.



Condition

The current inventory found 65% of trees to be in good or excellent condition. Most of the good condition trees are small in diameter and will need periodic pruning while the bulk of the 32% in fair or poor condition are larger trees which require more expensive maintenance. Maintaining or improving the condition of public trees is critical to the vision of creating a healthy and safe urban forest. Proper maintenance not only reduces potential high cost problems, it improves public safety and extends the life of trees.

Condition	# trees	%
EXCELLENT <i>Vigorous tree, healthy foliage, no visible trunk rot.</i>	338	1%
GOOD <i>Healthy foliage, occasional dead limbs, minor limb/trunk rot. Note: Many of these trees still need periodic structural pruning.</i>	18,668	65%
FAIR <i>Apparently in a state of decline but death not imminent; some areas of sparse foliage and dead limbs decay present but not severe, or has compromised</i>	8,649	30%
POOR <i>Foliage sparse, poor color, numerous dead limbs and/or foliage, severely rotted or decayed; tree death appears imminent (less than 5 years) or has</i>	690	2%
DEAD <i>Foliage dead or missing; no evidence of growth.</i>	95	1%

*When trees are inventoried as dead mitigation process begins.

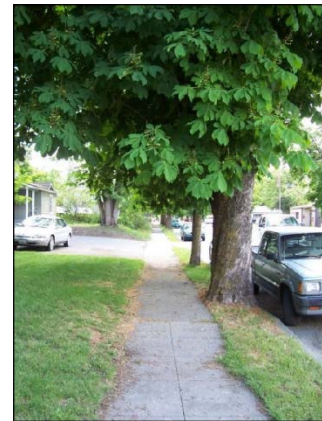
Management Needs

The latest inventory shows 20,555 street trees in need of some kind of maintenance and only 678 trees not needing any at this time. Although 80% of trees are currently in good or excellent condition, they still need periodic attention to maintain their condition. Trees need structural pruning to develop a central trunk and establish well-spaced branches. It is most effective to start pruning within a few years after planting to establish strong branch structure and desirable form. Removing lower branches of trees as they grow provides adequate clearance over sidewalks and streets, plus increases visibility of traffic signs and intersections. Structural pruning minimizes future health issues that can be caused by poor branching patterns, narrow attachments, damaged limbs and reduce decay. If unaddressed, these issues can lead to shortened tree life or hazardous situations becoming more difficult and costly to correct.

Maintenance Need	# of Trees	%
Crown Cleaning The selective removal of dead, dying, diseased, weak branches or waterspouts from a tree's crown.	1,658	8.1%
Crown Raise The removal of the lower branches of a tree in order to provide clearance over the street (14ft) or sidewalk (7ft).	507	2.5%
Structural Pruning Develop a central trunk and establish well-spaced branches. This type of pruning is generally done when a tree is fairly young. This also includes Crown Thinning (increase light penetration and reduce weight) and Crown Restoration (damaged trees).	18,322	89.1%
Tree Removal	68	0.3%
No Action	678	3.2%
Total	21,233	100%

*Definitions from **American National Standards for Types of Pruning** (ANSI A300)

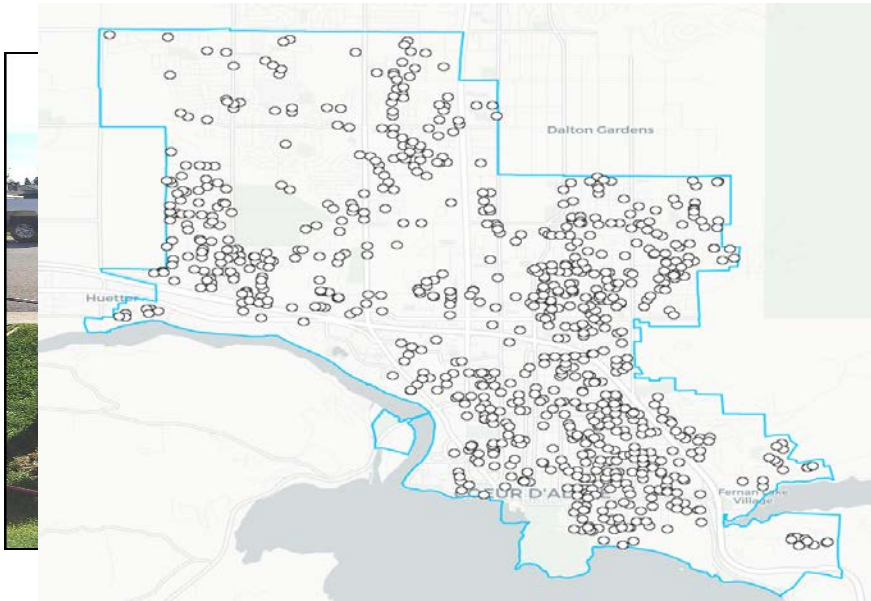
There are many older trees in Coeur d'Alene that have been poorly pruned in the past, or have not been pruned at all over their lifetime. Pruning large trees to remove hazardous limbs and improve structure through crown thinning or restoration can be expensive, but costs will continue to increase the longer the pruning is delayed.



Planting

Tree planting is required to maintain and increase canopy cover across the city. There are 24,660 (shown below) spots where trees could be planted, which would nearly double the number of city trees. Newly planted street

trees should be strategically placed to provide optimum benefits.



Planting of street trees must meet certain requirements including:

- Species selected from the approved tree list
- Appropriate planting space is matched to appropriate mature tree size.
- Identifying possible utility conflicts and plant according to industry standards.

Street tree planting is required under city ordinance in both residential new construction and commercial building permits. In addition, there are planting requirements for commercial locations during a change of use or increase in use.

Single-family and duplex locations require one tree to be planted per frontage in the public right of way, this is required by city ordinance. Contractors or homeowners can plant trees and receive refunds for meeting these planting requirements, or funds are forfeited and the planting is coordinated by the city contracting with a licensed tree service. This is a positive and effective way to increase the numbers of street trees. As of 2018, nearly 2,300 trees at new residential locations have been planted to fulfill the requirement; (in addition the city has planted nearly 1,600 trees with forfeited funds since 2004). The city also uses forfeited funds to fill designated planting locations by request of the abutting property owner. This program will continue as long as there are forfeited funds.



Recommendations

This Urban Forestry Master Plan provides guidance for the maintenance and enhancement of the public trees in Coeur d'Alene. Recommendations fall into five broad categories: (1) Planning and Policy, (2) Maintenance, (3) Planting, (4) Education and (5) Volunteers. While many of these topics focus on street trees, many recommendations apply to all trees regardless of location or ownership. Some recommendations are already in effect and need to be continued or improved, while others are new.

Enacting these recommendations will greatly improve the quality of the city's urban forest, increase public safety, meet management needs in a timely manner, and result in better tree health and quality control. It will also greatly reduce the financial impact on abutting property owners. In order to achieve these goals, it is imperative to have public support that will provide the necessary resources and staff.

Planning and Policy Recommendations

- Establish a program for care of public trees using a city tree crew (see next section for details)
- Promote programs that assist abutting property owners in caring for street trees, such as the cost-share maintenance program.
- Promote increased canopy cover and shade for parking lots.
- Retain mature trees by providing for their health and structural integrity through appropriate maintenance and or management actions
- Develop and implement strategies to minimize conflict with sidewalks and other hardscapes
- Develop and implement strategies to respond to pest problems
- Establish emergency protocols for weather-related events that result in tree damage
- Continue Urban Forestry Committee inspection and permit process for street tree maintenance and removal requests
- Continue systematic street and park tree inventories and risk assessments
- Periodic review of the approved street tree list to increase species diversity and reduce problematic species
- Continue coordination with city departments for appropriate incorporation of trees in city projects and designing space for trees to be planted in the future
- Periodically upgrade technology for electronic field inventory

Maintenance Recommendations:

- Implement a routine systematic pruning cycle for all established public trees to improve tree health, safety, and beauty (which will minimize future costs for removals and maintenance)

- Develop structural pruning program for all public trees with a 6" DBH and smaller.
- Address customized pruning needs for older/larger trees
- Continue and Expand infrastructure pruning for clearance over streets and sidewalks, a clear view of traffic signs, and to maintain clear vision triangles.
- Conduct mitigation actions of hazard street trees in a timely manner to reduce liability
- Promote turf free areas around trees to prevent turf care equipment damage to trees.
- Mitigate soil compaction, through techniques such as vertical mulching, soil fracturing, or surface mulching

Planting Recommendations

- Continue residential and commercial street tree planting requirements
- Plant trees in available planting spots
- Promote planting medium and large stature trees where space is available
- Create larger planting spaces for larger trees
- Promote planting the right tree in the right place
- Plant a diversity of species including native trees
- Plant trees every year to provide for a diversity of ages
- Plant all trees according to planting adopted city standards
- Ensure replacement trees are planted each time a tree is removed
- Promote development/construction practices to minimize soil compaction.

Education Recommendations

- Promote proper tree care including planting, watering, pruning, and maintaining turf free zones to minimize tree damage from lawn equipment
- Promote increased awareness and enforcement of the Urban Forestry ordinance
- Promote planting, retention and protection of trees on private property during construction
- Enhance public education efforts regarding the negative effects of improper pruning such as topping
- Educate abutting property owners to recognize, report and address needs of public trees
- Promote trees as an integral part of infrastructure to assist in mitigating stormwater runoff, pollution reduction, energy savings (i.e. heating/cooling costs)
- Continue to participate in urban forestry related programs such as Tree City USA, Arbor Day programs, Community Canopy tree care education programs and aggressively

promote tree care at events such as Earth Day, Parks Day, etc.

- Continue promotion of the Tree Campus USA program with local colleges and universities
- Identify potential partners for urban forestry programs in the community

Volunteer Recommendations

- Continue recruitment for a diverse Urban Forestry Committee membership
- Continue the Volunteers In Pruning Program to assist in pruning young park and street trees
- Continue assistance to the Arbor Day Organization of North Idaho (seedling distribution and art contest program)
- Continue partnership with citizens and the Fire Department & support Fire-Wise USA neighborhoods
- Expand other volunteer activities such as planting, fuel reduction work, mulching, etc.



Rationale for Establishing City Care of City Trees

Keeping the urban forest in a healthy condition requires significant work. Management of public trees in parks, natural open space areas, cemeteries, building grounds and other municipal areas is currently the responsibility of city staff. Trees are an investment; as trees grow in size and increase in value, they do require continued maintenance to keep them healthy. Care of street trees is currently the responsibility of abutting property owners under the guidance (permits) of the city. Management activities include planting and removal (when needed) and routine maintenance such as watering, mulching, pruning and pest management.

This urban forest master plan recognizes the value of the urban forest as a public infrastructure asset much like roads and street lights.

All citizens enjoy the benefits of our tree lined streets at no direct cost, but under the current urban forestry ordinance, most of the tree maintenance costs are the responsibility of the abutting property owner.

This results in inconsistent care of urban trees resulting in reduced health, longevity, poor aesthetics, poor sidewalk and street clearance, and increased risk of expensive storm damage, safety issues and liability concerns as well as reduced long-term benefits.

Rather than placing a hardship on abutting property owners who usually do not have the knowledge, desire, or resources needed to maintain healthy trees, this plan will shift the bulk of the tree care to knowledgeable urban forestry professionals in the Parks Department.

The current program also requires substantial administrative involvement. In spite of considerable education efforts, there is still a lack of public awareness of abutting property owner's responsibilities resulting in frustration, confusion and complaints. A shift of responsibilities away from the abutting property owner would greatly reduce administrative efforts as well as confusion and complaints.

With the current program, the city has limited ability to respond to storm damage events and disaster relief. The Coeur d'Alene area experiences significant weather events annually that affect public safety. As an example, in 2015 our area experienced a severe windstorm which caused widespread damage and tree failures throughout the city. The city had to rely primarily on crews with limited experience and training from the street, parks, fire and water departments to respond.

With a properly trained and outfitted full-time city tree crew, plus the ability to add experienced contract crews to respond to disasters regarding trees would greatly improve response time and the efficiency in tree clean up during disaster response. It is often difficult to get abutting property owners to conduct the important work of mitigating future storm damage through proper pruning after weather events occur due to a lack of manpower or funds. An experienced City tree crew would be able to conduct appropriate maintenance to mitigate hazardous trees or tree conditions before disaster strikes again.

Another advantage of this plan is that it allows for an experienced crew to recognize and deal with invasive tree pests that may have serious impacts on some tree species.

This plan will also be better able to deal with fluctuating budgets and workloads by efficient use of contract crews during periods of high workload while park crews conduct routine tree care according to implemented pruning cycles.



Potential Funding Sources

A number of the management action items and recommendations will require additional funding. Below is a list of potential funding sources that could be considered in advancing the program which promotes healthy, safe trees that provide maximum long-term benefits.

- **General Fund**
Regular funding dedicated to the program to promote an urban forest of healthy, safe, beautiful trees that are valued and maintained to provide benefits today and for future generations.
- **Continue to Pursue Grants**
The Parks Department has been very effective at obtaining grants especially for planting projects; however, grants for tree maintenance are rare
- **Expand Efforts to Obtain Donations**
Expand program for donations of interested citizens in preserving the community urban forest.
- **Implement New Fees for the Tree Canopy**
Evaluate possible opportunity to fund care of city trees through fees collected.
- **Stormwater Fees**
Evaluate if stormwater fees could be used for tree maintenance. Trees intercept and mitigate stormwater in great amounts, so longevity of trees is important. Recently Spokane’s stormwater division funded some Urban Forestry related activities in Spokane. Other Washington and Oregon cities assist with funding of tree maintenance with stormwater fees.
- **Tree Maintenance Fee**
Work with the legal department to explore assessing a monthly tree maintenance fee or charge through utility billing

Summary

A safe, healthy, and well-maintained urban forest provides many benefits to a community. Measurable benefits include cost savings in energy use, storm water treatment, street maintenance, increased property values and reductions in air pollution. Benefits less easily measured but equally important include increased beauty and an improved quality of life. A city tree crew can greatly improve public safety by mitigating hazards related to public trees, improving visibility for drivers and pedestrians through pruning and maintaining proper clearances throughout the city. In order to reap the environmental, safety, social and economic benefits of a healthy urban forest an investment of manpower, funding and time is required.

This Urban Forestry Master Plan recommends a comprehensive care program approach to managing Coeur d’Alene’s urban forest resources. The plan is designed to be flexible in order to respond effectively to changing tree conditions and varying budgets. To implement this plan, it will take

community effort and support.

The urban forest of Coeur d'Alene is an impressive community asset, but has potential to be improved considerably by:

- Addressing high risk pruning, removals and forest health needs to improve the safety of our community
- Formative pruning of young trees to minimize future structural hazards and costly mitigation while maximizing benefits
- Planting to expand canopy cover and encourage resilience through species and age diversity
- Promoting program policies, education and volunteer opportunities that will encourage public appreciation, respect and participation

The best way to implement the many recommendations of this plan is the establishment of a city tree crew supplemented by contracted crews to assist abutting property owners in caring for public trees. A city tree maintenance crew will more effectively manage our urban forest by providing better, more timely and consistent care for city trees.

Adopting this Urban Forest Master Plan will promote a comprehensive care program for all public trees. This will enhance the safety, vitality and longevity of Coeur d'Alene's urban forest, providing benefits for today and for future generations.

Supporting Documents

Vision 2030 Plan

- City Urban Forest Master Plan - Update and adopt an Urban Forest Master Plan that establishes goals and methods to enhance and preserve the urban forest. Timeline: 2014
- City Urban Forest Management Policy - Adopt a city urban forest management policy that recognizes the value of the urban forest as a public infrastructure asset. Modify city ordinances to give the city (not abutting property owners) authority and funding to provide proper tree maintenance, removal, and planting of trees within city right-of-way. Timeline: 2015-2016

Cd 'A 20/20 – Our Community's Vision, Values, and Goals

- Vision Statement – “Coeur d'Alene is a thriving community where a beautiful, natural environment, strong infrastructure, and healthy economy combine to provide citizens a safe and desirable quality of life.”

- Environment – “We will advocate policies that preserve and improve the present quality of our environment”
- Infrastructure – “Infrastructure will be expanded, improved, and maintained to meet the needs of residents and to support the achievement of other objectives.”
- Parks and Green Space – “We will preserve and expand our open spaces, green spaces, and parklands.”
- Planning (urban interface) – “wise growth enhances the protection of the environment” (design with nature)

Comprehensive Plan (2007 – 2027)

- Vision Statement compatibility (page 4): “. beautiful, safe city that promotes a high quality of life.”
- Goals & Objectives, Goal #1 (page 10 & 11) – “. support policies that preserve the beauty of our natural environment and enhance the beauty of Coeur d’Alene”
- Objective 1.06 (page 12) – “Enforce minimal tree removal, substantial tree replacement, and suppress topping trees for new and existing development.”
- Objective 1.07 (page 13) – “Restrict tree removal in city rights-of-way and increase tree planting in additional rights-of-way.
- Objective 1.08 (page 13) – “Preserve native tree cover and natural vegetative cover as the city’s dominant characteristic”
Note that a defining characteristic of native trees is that they provide a “sense of place”
- Objective 1.15 (page 14) – “Wherever possible, the natural terrain, drainage, and vegetation should be preserved with superior examples featured within parks and open spaces”.
- Special Areas – the Urban Forest (page 25) both policy “protect and enhance the urban forest” and list of five methods are supportive of the top 3 subjects considered in agenda items 4 & 5 (above).
- Special Areas (pages 33) – new neighborhoods methods include “street and site trees, including native species”

- Land Use: Historical Heart (page 43) – characteristics includes “increasing numbers of, and retaining existing street trees”.
- Land Use: US 95 Corridor –characteristics includes “Encouraging retention and planting of native variety, evergreen trees”, as well as “retaining and expanding landscaping along both I-90 and US95.
- Land Use: Spokane River District (page.69) – “That neighborhoods will retain and include planting of future, large-scale, native variety trees.”

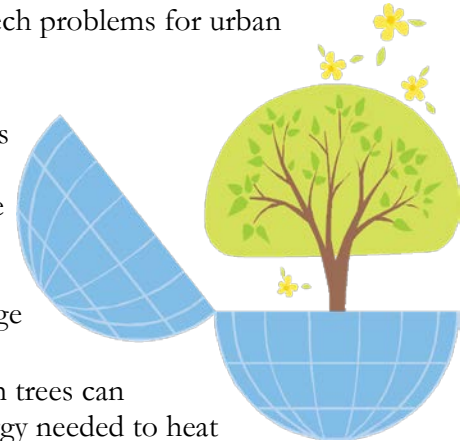
Parks & Recreation Master Plan (2008)

- Trees appear in the Core Values identified by the public (page 3) – Conservation of local resources, Stewardship.
- Trees and the environment they provide appear in several of the Goals on page 4, particularly goal #7 – “Provide efficient and high-quality maintenance of parks, facilities, the urban forest and natural open spaces.”
- Urban Forestry Recommendations (p.66-67) include
 - Continue to seek Tree City USA designation
 - Continue to enforce City Urban Forestry Ordinance
 - Continue to encourage tree planting within public rights-of-way
 - Continue public outreach efforts
 - Periodically evaluate staffing to meet tree care needs
 - Evaluate tree care policy in rights-of-way
 - Develop an Urban Forestry Master Plan,
- Trees also intersect with other topics, such as
 - Trails – trees enhance trail environment
 - Veterans Centennial Park – recommendation to establish an Arboretum
 - Natural Park Preserves
 - Future

Community Forest “Green” Facts

Here’s a low-tech solution to some high-tech problems for urban areas: Plant a tree!

- The urban forest sequesters and stores carbon dioxide as well as other greenhouse gasses and air pollutants from the atmosphere, providing for climate change mitigation.
- The shelter and shade from trees can save up to 10% of the energy needed to heat and cool nearby buildings.
- Evergreen trees placed between the prevailing wind and structures will slow and redirect cold winds, providing for savings on heating bills.
- Besides shading, trees actually cool the air by releasing water through transpiration as they produce sugars in their leaves for sustaining tree systems.
- Temperature differentials of 5 to 15 degrees are felt when walking under tree canopied streets.
- Research shows that the shade and cooling effects of street trees have a moderating effect on climatic conditions that affect street pavement performance, reducing the frequency of needed maintenance. This results in reduced use of materials and decreased total street life cycle costs.
- Green spaces provide necessary places and opportunities for physical activity, increasing community fitness and health.
- Urban nature, when provided as parks and walkways and incorporated into building design, provides calming and inspiring environments and encourages learning, inquisitiveness, and alertness.
- The leaves and twigs of trees slow down the rate at which rainwater hits the ground and absorb the first 30% of precipitation allowing evaporation back into the atmosphere. This moisture never hits the ground. Another percentage (up to 30%) of precipitation is absorbed back into the ground and taken in and held onto by the root structure, then absorbed and transpired back to the air. Storm water runoff and flooding potential is therefore reduced.



Idaho Department of Lands had a tree canopy analysis done in 2009 for the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer, which included the City of Coeur d’Alene. This analysis showed that, within Coeur d’Alene’s city limits, 14% of the land surface (1,403 acres) is covered with tree canopy. (And 43% of the land is

covered with impervious surfaces -buildings, parking lots, roads!) The current tree canopy provides the following values:

- \$316,550 per year for pollutants removed from the air (carbon monoxide, ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and particulate matter)
- 470.19 tons of carbon sequestered annually
- 60,395.48 tons of carbon in storage
- \$991,426 in stormwater costs saved annually

More tree canopy cover would provide more benefits. More tree canopy can be achieved by planting more trees. But it is also important that these trees thrive and grow to their maximum size. Therefore, proper tree planting and care are important. Contact Urban Forestry in the Parks Department for tree planting and care information.

CHAPTER 9: FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Plan presents a long-term vision and recommendations for the City of Coeur d’Alene’s park system. This chapter presents estimated costs for the improvements recommended in the plan, a short-term capital improvement plan and a funding strategy. This chapter is intended to be regularly reviewed and updated, including an annual review of the Capital Improvement Projects.

A. CAPITAL PROJECTS

This section reviews the cost projections for capital projects in the Plan. These are planning level estimates, intended to provide “order of magnitude” costs for major projects. As detailed design work for each project proceeds, more detailed cost estimates should be prepared based on actual site and utility conditions and other factors.

Projected Land Acquisition Costs

Land prices in Coeur d’Alene have escalated significantly since the late 1990s, when Canfield, the Soccer Complex, North Pines, and Shadduck Lane Parks were acquired at a cost between \$21,000 and \$26,000 per acre. Costs to acquire parkland in undeveloped areas of the city have increased significantly. The costs within developed neighborhoods will be even higher. These estimates provide the most accurate, current data related to undeveloped and developed land prices in Coeur d’Alene, and should be used as a baseline for projecting acquisition costs for the new parks for the purposes of long-range planning purposes.

Based on estimates completed by the Parks Department in winter 2020, projected land costs were derived for use in this plan:

- *Land within Developed Areas.* Within already developed areas, land values are estimated at \$200,000 per acre in some of the newer neighborhoods on the North and Northwestern edges of the city. Property values closer to the downtown core are estimated closer to \$500,000 per acre.
- *Land in Undeveloped Areas.* Closer to the outskirts of the City, land values are estimated between \$100,000 and \$150,000 per acre.
- *Natural Park Preserve Land.* Land for natural park preserves that is difficult or costly to develop (steep slopes, wetlands etc.) may have a lower cost than developable land. However, developable natural open space (such as prairie land) or land with water access could be quite costly. Because of these variables, no cost per acre assumption is made for natural park preserve land.

Projected Development Costs for New Parks

Coeur d'Alene has developed or redeveloped a number of park sites since the 1995 Parks Master Plan, including Landings Parks, Sunshine Meadows Parks, Legacy Place Park, Bluegrass Park, Canfield Sports Complex, Cherry Hill Park, the Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex, McEuen Park, Memorial Park, North Pines and Shadduck Lane Park.

In general, the City's park development strategy has been cost- efficient. Efficiencies have been achieved by implementing phased development of some parks. Cherry Hill Park is an example of this, where the tennis courts, parking lots, a sledding hill and the BMX track were developed first, while the specialty playground and an off-lease dog park were added to the facility in a second phase. Additional improvements are planned for future phases.

This Plan recommends that the Parks Department continue this strategy, and focus on a more basic level of development at neighborhood parks while seeking a greater level of development with additional amenities, as recently done at Memorial Park, at our community parks and other special destinations. Park development costs for newly developed parks are based on the following suppositions:

- *New Neighborhood Parks.* The cost of developing new neighborhood parks is projected to be approximately \$300,000 per acre, based on actual expenditures associated with the creation of North Pines and other recent neighborhood parks.
- *New Community Parks.* The cost of developing new community parks is projected to be approximately \$475,000 per acre, based on an enhanced level of development which includes additional amenities, as were encountered during the construction of Riverstone Park and the redevelopment of McEuen Park i.e., the development cost of McEuen Park was \$7,500,000 for the park portion.

Plan Implementation Costs

This Plan is a long-range document, which recommends the additional facilities needed to provide parks and recreation for underserved areas of the community and to keep pace with projected growth for the next twenty years, as well as recommending specific overall park system improvements. As the following tables show, the estimated cost of implementing the recommended projects is between \$10,275,579 and \$10,525,579, plus \$1,850,000 in projects for projects in our other non-park areas. Developing all the proposed parks over the twenty years of this plan is estimated between \$55,970,000 and \$85,070,000. Land acquisition is listed between \$14,125,000 and \$26,450,000 if the City had to purchase all the land for these proposed parks. However, the City usually negotiates parkland in new developments or redevelopments and some or all of the parkland may be donated by developers.

Tables 6 and 7 provide costs to implement all the projects in the Plan. As previously noted, these are planning level costs that should be refined as design work is completed.

Table 6 identifies costs associated with improvements at existing park sites. While some existing parks may not require improvements at this time, additional improvement projects will likely be identified over the next ten to twenty years based on public need and replacement schedules for existing facilities. The Parks Department maintains park assets, which includes vehicles, equipment and tools, by focusing on preventative maintenance of public facilities and tracking maintenance needs using P/M charts. These efforts result in reduced capital expenditures. The City Council has allowed the Parks Department to retain 10% of the revenue generated through the parks for infrastructure repair and replacement. This is an excellent practice and should be continued. This table identifies the costs associated with the completion of the parks system based on the City's Comprehensive Plans estimates of the city's build-out. There is no specific timeline for these projects, which are anticipated to occur in conjunction with growth. In contingencies related to providing parks in underserved areas, the City should be positioned to act quickly when opportunities to acquire land when it becomes available, as there are limited sites that can support parks in areas of the city that are already developed.

Table 7 details the current 2020 costs of individual park amenities for the purpose of providing a general cost that the department can use as a guideline for planning a yearly budget. This will create baseline data to assist with determining priorities and to identify 'low hanging fruit' from which the department can then compile a strategic plan in order to complete the items recommended in table 6 at buildout.

Table 8 shows the probable cost of proposed parks, trails and natural open space. Some of these costs include land acquisition. It should be noted that the City has been successful in the past in having parkland donated by developers who see the cost benefit of adding a recreational facility to their development. The department may be able to greatly reduce the costs listed in table 8 by continuing this practice in the future.

As noted, the Parks Department has been very effective at cost-efficient parks development. Practices regarding the level of development, use of volunteers and phasing have been very effective at lowering the cost of development of new parks. While the Department intends to continue these practices, the costs in Table 6, 7 and 8 are based on more conservative cost estimates that assume not all of these practices will be able to continue for the next ten to twenty years. While the development of the park system could cost as much as the projections shown, the intent of the Department is to continue its cost-efficient practices and aim for the greatest public benefit at the lowest cost.

Projects listed in Tables 6, 7 and 8 are organized into three categories.

- *Existing Parks.* These are projects at existing park sites. In some cases, the projects are the implementation of an existing master plan or known project. In other cases, the cost is an allowance for improvements over the life of this plan to ensure that there is continuing investment in the City's park assets.
- *New Parks.* This category includes land acquisition and development for new sites. This includes all new parks, whether they be passive-use, sports fields, specialized parks or natural areas.
- *Trails.* This category includes improvement of greenways, off-street bike paths and walking trails. It does not include on-street routes, which are assumed to be funded through the transportation capital improvement budget.

Table 6
Projected Costs for Implementation at Existing Parks

Park Name	Project Description	Cost
EXISTING PARKS		
Atlas Park	Day-Use/Commercial Docks	\$400,000
Bluegrass Park	Playground, Disc Golf	\$125,000 / 30,000
Bryan Park	Playground, Restroom, Trail, Trees, Picnic Shelter, Benches	Total \$525,000
Canfield Natural Park	Connections, Trailhead, Cancourse	\$75,000
Canfield Sports Complex	Playground	\$125,000
Cherry Hill Park	Water Meter, Splash Pad, Picnic Shelter, Sports Complex, Parking, Renovate Playground, Restroom, Shop	\$1,250,000
Coeur d'Alene City Park	Picnic Shelter, Playground Renovation, Trees, Sidewalks, Bricks Restroom, Electrical Service, Bandshell Renovation and BB Courts	\$640,000
Coeur d'Alene Soccer Complex	Playground, Parking Lot, Restroom Shelter, Picnic Shelter	\$665,000
East Tubbs Hill Park	Repave Lot (\$3,000 per space) and Trail (\$25 per foot)	\$84,000 Parking Lot \$23,000 Trail
Fernan Lake Natural Park	Complete Trail System (\$5.00/L.F.)	\$32,475
G.O Phippeny Park	Add Electrical, Lighting, Sidewalk	Total all 3: 175,000
Hubbard Street Park	Signs, Dog park	\$75,000
Independence Point Park	Change Parking, Restroom, Food Concessions Upgrades, Landscape Improvements	\$1,195,000 w/o docks
Jenny Stokes Field	Restroom, Picnic Shelter, Playground, Bleachers	\$575,000
Johnson Mill River Park	Expand Park, Additional Parking, Playground, Trail, Incorporate Private Park	\$1,200,000
Landings Park	No Improvements	\$0
Legacy Place Park	Expand & Develop Park 2 to 4 Acres	\$250,000 to \$500,000

McEuen Park	Power Supply, Stage Access, Trees, Repurpose Brick Inlays, Upgrade to LED Lights, Upgrade Pavilion, Lift Station, Picnic Shelter, Ice Rink	\$900,000
Memorial Park	No Improvements	\$0
North Pines Park	Trees, Combo Swing	Trees-\$5,000; Swings-10,000
Northshire Park	Horseshoe Pits, Picnic Shelter, Repave Lot	All - \$150,000
Person Field	Off Street Parking, Restrooms, Trees	Pkg.-3,000/space; RR-75,000; Trees-18,000; Drain.-50,000
Ramsey Park	Booster Pumps, Playground, Repave Trail, Trees, Drainage	All-\$300,000
Riverstone Park	Additional Parking (\$3,000/space)	\$75,000
Shadduck Lane Park	Repair and Sealcoat Trail	\$5,104
Sunset Park	Restrooms, Skatepark Enhancement, Replace Scoreboard	All-\$500,000
Sunshine Meadows Park	No Improvements	
Tubbs Hill Natural Park	Close Trails, Installs Signs	Both-40,000
Veterans Centennial Park	Entrance Road and Gravel Parking Lot, Restrooms, Picnic Shelter, Play Area, Gravel Trails, Arboretum, Plantings, Veterans Memorial	\$575,000
Winton Park	Upgrade Bathrooms, Playground, Upgrade Picnic Shelter	\$525,000
Existing Parks Total		\$10,675,579 - \$10,925,579

Other Areas Name	Project Description	Cost
Forest Cemetery	Niche Walls, Flag Pole	\$315,000/\$5,000
Riverview Cemetery	Reclaimed Water Irrigation System	To Be Determined
Beautification Areas	No Improvements	\$0
Jewett House	Greenhouse, Picnic Shelter	Both-\$175,000
Skate Park	No Improvements	\$0
Satellite Skate Park	Add Elements	\$125,000
Commercial Docks	Replace Commercial Docks	\$500,000
Boat Ramps	Replace Launch Docks and Pilings	\$145,891

Mooring Docks	Replace and Expand Mooring Docks	\$200,000 for either
	Existing Other Areas Total	\$1,840,891

Table 7 Individual Costs for Park Amenities

Amenity	Description	Cost
Small Playground		\$75,000
Medium Playground		\$125,000
Large Playground		\$175,000
Splashpad		\$150,000
Disc Golf Course		\$35,000
Restroom Shelter		\$350,000
CXT Restroom		\$80,000
Small Picnic Shelter		\$20k - \$40k
Large Picnic Shelter		\$40k - \$90k
Trees		500.00/EA.
Benches		1000.00/EA.
Trails	Paved @12'=\$25/L.F. / Soft @5'=\$5	\$132k / \$26.4K MILE
Parking Lot		\$3,000/Stall
Sidewalks	5' Wide @\$25/LF; 8' Wide@\$40/LF	\$2,500- \$4,000/100ft
Sealcoat and Repair	9 cents per square foot	\$5,702/MILE
Booster Pumps		\$75,000
Electrical	Service & upgrades	\$35 to 45,000
Water Meters	2 inch meter or 4 inch meter	\$22,672 - \$56,921
Court Resurface		\$1.00/S.F.
Combo Swings		\$10,000
Signs		\$35-75/EA.
Steel Skate Ramps	Per Ramp	\$5k to \$20k
Docks	8 feet wide / Gangways = \$6,613 ea	\$460/FT
Scoreboard		\$20,000 w/o electricity
Lift Station		\$15,000
Lighting		\$4,000 per light pole base
Dog Park		\$65,000.00

Table 8 Projected Costs for Implementation of New Parks, Facility Improvements and Trails

Park Location/Proposed Name	Project Description	Acre	Cost
PROPOSED PARKS			
Best Hill Park	Community Park –Development (Land acquisition needed)	5-10	2.4 to 4.75 M
West Side Park	Community Park – Development (Land acquisition needed)	30-40	14.5 to 19 M
Huetter Farmland Park – South of Prairie	Community Park – Development (Land acquisition needed)	10-20	4.75 to 9.5 M
Honeysuckle Park – Near Well Site	Community Park – Development (Land acquisition needed)	10-20	4.75 to 9.5 M
BLM Park	Community Park - Development	14	4.2 M
Trails Park – Hanley and Carrington	Neighborhood Park - Development	6.5	3 M
Pinegrove Park – Near Lake City High	Neighborhood Park - Development (Land acquisition needed)	1-7	300K to 2.1 M
Huetter Farmland – South of Prairie Trail	Neighborhood Park - Development (Land acquisition needed)	1-7	300K to 2.1 M
Honeysuckle Park - Near Well Site	Neighborhood Park - Development (Land acquisition needed)	1-7	300K to 2.1 M
Neider/Howard Park	Neighborhood Park - Development (Land acquisition needed)	1-7	300K to 2.1 M
Ironwood Park	Neighborhood Park - Development (Land acquisition needed)	1-7	300K to 2.1 M
Forest Park	Neighborhood Park - Development	3	900K
East Sherman Park	Neighborhood Park - Development	1-7	300K to 2.1 M
BLM Park (option 2)	Neighborhood Park - Development	1-7	125K to 875K
Sports Complex	Development of 40 acres		12 M
Waterfront	Capitalize on opportunities for waterfront land acquisition		Varies
Canfield Natural Park	Natural park land acquisition and development	135	\$2M / 50K
Best Hill Natural Park (Park Interface)	Natural park land acquisition and development	50	350K
BLM Natural Park (option 3)	Natural park land development	24	175K
	Proposed Parks Development Subtotal	286 - 375	\$49,800,000 - \$78,900,000

Park Location/Proposed Name	Project Description (If Land had to be purchased)	Acre	Cost
PROPOSED PARKS			
Best Hill Park	Community Park –Land Acquisition	5-10	1 to 2.1 M
West Side Park	Community Park – Land Acquisition	30-40	7.5M to 10M
Huetter Farmland Park – South of Prairie	Community Park – Land Acquisition	10-20	2.5M to 5M
Honeysuckle Park – Near Well Site	Community Park – Land Acquisition	10-20	1.5M
Pinegrove Park – Near Lake City High	Neighborhood Park - Land Acquisition	1-7	275K – 2M
Huetter Farmland – South of Prairie Trail	Neighborhood Park - Land Acquisition	1-7	250K to 1.75M
Honeysuckle Park - Near Well Site	Neighborhood Park - Land Acquisition	1-7	600K
Neider/Howard Park	Neighborhood Park - Land Acquisition	1-7	250K to 1.75M
Ironwood Park	Neighborhood Park - Land Acquisition	1-7	250K to 1.75M
	Proposed Parks Land Acquisition Subtotal	60 - 125	\$14,125,000 - \$26,450,000

NAME	TRAILS	Miles and Units	Cost
Centennial Trail	Build Trail on Mullan Ave Commuter Trail from Hubbard to NW BLVD, Sealcoat and Repair by 2025	New Trails .5 New Trail 1 S & R 23	\$66,000 \$132,000 \$209,000
Prairie Trail	Extend to Meyer Road Trailheads Sealcoat	New Trail 1.2 Trail Heads 2 Seal Coat 3.3	\$395,000 \$400,000 \$20,000
Kathleen-Atlas Trail	Extend Atlas Trail To The Future Atlas Mill Park Rebuild Portion of Kathleen Trail Sealcoat and Repair	New Trail .15 Rebuild Trail .22 S & R 2.5	\$19,800 \$29,040 \$22,500
Foothills Trail	Development	New Trail 2.5	\$330,000
Prairie To Kathleen Trail	Development	New Trail 2.3	\$303,600K
I90 Trail Connections	Development	New Trail .66	\$87,120
Spokane River Trail/Mill River Trail	Development	New Trail 1.74	\$229,680
Cougar Bay Trail	Development	New Trail 3	\$396,000
Fairgrounds Trail	Development	New Trail .5	\$66,000
	Proposed Trails Subtotal	18 Miles New	\$2,678,740

B. FUNDING RESOURCES

Coeur d'Alene has made investments in our park system regularly since the adoption of the 1995 Parks Master Plan. Park improvements have been funded through a variety of sources, each of which is described briefly below.

Parks Capital Improvement Fund Sources

The following funding sources provide revenue that appears in the Parks Capital Improvement Fund.

- *General Fund.* The General Fund is the City's largest discretionary source of revenue. Revenue comes from a variety of sources, including charges for services (plan check fees, development fees); licenses and permits (building permits, business licenses, franchise fees); property taxes (increasing as development occurs); and other revenues for which a special fund has not been created (intergovernmental revenues, fines, interest, park user fees etc.). General Fund revenues have the greatest flexibility, and are used to fund maintenance and operations as well as parks capital projects. However, given the many financial obligations of the City, the General Fund cannot be depended upon to provide for all capital project funding needs. In the past, this has been a small but regular source of funding.
- *Impact Fees.* Impact Fees are fees imposed on new developments to pay for capital projects required to accommodate the impacts of development on the City's infrastructure. The City of Coeur d'Alene charges impact fees on new construction, and these fees are used to fund capital improvements for Parks, Police, Fire and Streets. The Parks portion of the fee is currently \$755.97 and is collected at the time of permit application. The City has averaged 416 new units of development over the past 10 years making \$314,484 per year the median fees collected. This number has remained unchanged for more than 12 years and should be changes to reflect inflation.
- *Grants.* Many of the grants the City has received are administered by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR), and the City has also received transportation enhancement funds through the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). Coeur d'Alene has consistently won grant funding in past years.
- *Parking Revenues.* The City has established a public parking lot enterprise fund that pays for the operations and maintenance of the public parking lots near the downtown waterfront. Fees are charged for parking, and the parking lot generates a profit. Thirty percent of the revenues generated from the public parking lot fund are allocated to the Parks Capital Improvement Fund because the parking lots are Parks property and the Parks Department performs much of the maintenance on these facilities.

- *Dock Rental, Boat Launch Fees and Mooring Dock Fees.* Coeur d'Alene has user fees in place at its boat launch and docks, and dedicates the revenue collected to park improvements specifically related to waterfront amenities. Fees are generated from leases on commercial docks, from the public boat launches adjacent to McEuen Park and the Coeur d'Alene Resort, and moorage fees at the mooring dock, near the boat launch, which provides overnight moorage (including electricity).
- *Miscellaneous Parks Revenues.* Miscellaneous revenues are those funds generated by shelter reservations, events and fees. For example, the Taste of Coeur d'Alene event pays a fee for use of City Park which covers the additional expenses incurred by the increased maintenance staffing required by the event.
- *Concessions.* Concessions revenue is generated through contracts with two food vendors, including those at Independence Point and McEuen Park. The future Atlas Park will have a built-in food court for food vendors. Other parks may be utilized if the demand for food trucks increase.
- *Donations.* Donations are pursued on a project-by-project basis. The playground at Cherry Hill Park and the K27 Memorial at McEuen Park were projects that had significant fundraising efforts and collection of donations. Donations funding varies depending on which projects are being pursued, and whether local groups have taken interest in a project. The Kiwanis, Rotary Club, BMX Association, Avista, Little League and Soccer Association and many others have generously donated time, money and materials to promote and enhance the Coeur d'Alene parks system.

Other Sources of Park Improvement Funding

Other funding sources have also been used in Coeur d'Alene for funding park improvements, and are described below.

- *Redevelopment Funds.* Ignite Cd'A is the urban redevelopment agency serving the City of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The Ignite board is chartered by the State of Idaho, and its board is appointed by the City of Coeur d'Alene City Council. Ignite administers four urban renewal districts: the Lake District, the River District, the Atlas District and the recently approved Health Corridor District.

Tax increment revenue is generated within the redevelopment areas, and Ignite uses the funds for a variety of purposes, including park improvements. Ignite and the City of Coeur d'Alene have developed a strategy to provide parks in the redevelopment areas through two venues: 1) private developers donate land for parks to the City and Ignite provides funding for park improvements, and 2) Ignite funds park public improvements on land parcels already held in the public realm. Through this partnership, significant capital improvements are being made completely

outside the City's budget, resulting in the addition of major new parks for Coeur d'Alene. Several significant park projects have been completed recently through this partnership. These include Johnson Mill River Park, with a development cost of \$337,000; Riverstone Park, with a development cost of \$3.3 million; McEuen Park with a development cost of \$20.1 million (including the parking garage and improvements to Front Avenue, 3rd, 4th and 5th Streets); the Fort Ground Drive realignment and Memorial Park development at a cost of \$3.53 million, the Memorial Grandstand renovation project with a development cost of \$1.2 Million; and the Memorial Skate Park with a cost of \$400,00. Ignite is also funding the development of the Atlas Waterfront Park, with a development cost of \$6.9 million.

Ignite has also provided other funding for parks and trails projects, including lending \$2.5 million to the North Idaho Centennial Trail Foundation to acquire the railroad right of way for the Prairie Trail. Ignite also assisted by funding some of the project-related public improvements for the Kroc Center. Additional parks improvement projects are located within the redevelopment districts, and could be eligible for Ignite funding.

- *Public Art Fund.* Ordinance No. 2922 requires that 1.33 percent of the cost of municipal construction projects be used to fund the provision of art in public places. Funds generated from the “percent for art” ordinance are placed in the Public Art Fund. Public art funds have been used for projects within city parks. The public art fund has paid for art elements within parks, such as art pieces at Independence Point, Riverview Cemetery, Riverstone Park, McEuen Park, Memorial Park, Phippeny Park, a North Idaho Centennial Trail trailhead, and numerous chainsaw artworks located in City Park and Forest Cemetery.
- *Tubbs Hill Lease.* Coeur d'Alene leases out the littoral rights associated with the Tubbs Hill property. Littoral rights are concerned with the use and enjoyment of the shore of an ocean, sea or lake. The City generates approximately \$7,500 per year from the lease, allocating funds toward improvements, projects and resource management at Tubbs Hill.
- *Parks Foundation.* The Parks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization established to assist in the expansion and improvement of the Coeur d'Alene park system. The Foundation to date has been primarily a conduit for donated land. By donating land to the Foundation, a private party gains a tax advantage. The relationship between the Parks Foundation, the Parks Department and private parties has been effective and resulted in the donation of park land in developing areas. While the Parks Foundation is not currently directly generating revenue for parks projects, its role as a conduit for land donations provides significant value to the City. The Parks Foundation was dissolved in 2019, but a suitable replacement is being investigated.
- *Tubbs Hill Foundation.* Like the Parks Foundation, the Tubbs Hill Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. This group was formed to assist with the stewardship of Tubbs Hill, and focuses only on that single site.

The foundation does directly provide revenue, and has provided about \$30,000 to \$40,000 in funding for larger projects at Tubbs Hill.

- *North Idaho Centennial Trail Foundation.* NICTF can also be a means to secure trail improvement, acquisition, and development funds. This foundation is also a 501(c)(3) organization.
- *Service Clubs.* Service clubs such as Rotary and Kiwanis have helped on projects such as the Fort Sherman playground, the band shell at City Park, the Harbor House and splash pad at McEuen Park, and the Cherry Hill playground. The efforts of these groups on behalf of the park system have led to great improvements for the community. The service clubs of Coeur d'Alene have proven their commitment and ability to provide for both fundraising and labor needs on previous parks and recreation. The City will look forward to continued support from, and collaboration with these organizations.



C. FUNDING PROJECTIONS

The projects slated for development are prioritized in 3 funding plans: Short Term, Mid Term and Long-Term development. These projections and improvements are summarized in Tables 9, 10, 11, and 12. These are based on the following funding assumptions:

- *Parks Capital Improvement Fund.* Based on previous funding levels, an average of \$415,000 per year is projected for the Parks Capital Improvement Fund.
- *Impact Fees.* Impact fees are gathered at a rate of \$755.97 per unit of development. The City has averaged 416 new units of development over the past 10 years making \$314,484 per year the median fees collected.
- *Miscellaneous Revenue-* \$225,000 per year on average is collected from reservation fees, contract fees, parking fund and other sources.
- *Grants.* Based on the goal of maintaining the grant track record and increasing donations, \$75,000 per grant on average is projected.
- *Donations.* Donations will be approached on a project by project basis and will not be included in cost budgeting.
- *Redevelopment Funds.* Urban Renewal funds vary, but can be substantial. \$27.2M has been spent on various projects in the last 10 years. These dollars are only available to projects in an Urban Renewal Zone.

These funds give the department an estimated \$3,750,000 per year.

D. SHORT-TERM 1 TO 2 YEAR FUNDING PLAN

The projects slated for short term development are chosen based on the urgency of need and choosing those projects that are the easiest and cheapest to accomplish in the short term. These projections and improvements are summarized in Table 9.

- Proposed Forest Steel Neighborhood Park
- Proposed Canfield Natural Park Expansion

E. MID-TERM 5 YEAR FUNDING PLAN

The projects slated for mid-term development are chosen based on the urgency of need and choosing those projects that within reach of future budget allocation. These projections and improvements are summarized

in Table 10.

- Proposed BLM Community Park
- Proposed Trails Neighborhood Park
- Proposed East Sherman Neighborhood Park

F. LONG-TERM 10 YEAR FUNDING PLAN

- Proposed Huetter Farmland Park
- Canfield Natural Park Purchase

G. FUNDING PLAN WHEN OPPORTUNITIES ARISE

- Best Hill Natural Park
- West Side Community and Neighborhood Parks
- Sports Complex
- Waterfront Land Acquisition
- Ironwood Neighborhood Park
- Neider/Howard Neighborhood Park
- Honeysuckle Community or Neighborhood park
- Pinegrove Neighborhood Park

H. PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS

Table 12 presents the Capital Improvement Plan. The CIP is based on the funding projection of \$37,500,000 over the 10-year course of the masterplan. The priorities include:

- Address needed maintenance upgrades within 10 years to maintain integrity of the park assets;
- Implement existing master plans; and
- Acquire land when it becomes available.

Table 9
Proposed Parks Projected 1-2 Year Funding

Park	Land	Construction
Proposed Forest Neighborhood Park	\$0	\$400K
Proposed Canfield Natural Park Expansion	\$1	\$50K
Create Trails Park Masterplan		
Total	\$1	\$450K

Table 10
Proposed Parks Projected 5 Year Funding

Park	Land	Construction
Proposed BLM Community Park	\$1	\$4.2M
Proposed Trails Neighborhood Park	\$0	\$3M
Proposed East Sherman Neighborhood Park	\$0	\$300K to \$2.1M
Total	\$1	\$7.5M to \$9.3M

Table 11
Proposed Parks Projected 10 Year Funding

Park	Land	Construction
Proposed Huetter Farmland Park	\$0	4.75 to 9.5 M
Canfield Natural Park Purchase	\$2,000,000	\$0
Total	\$2,000,000	4.75 to 9.5 M

Table 12
Park Improvement Priorities Plan

Park Name	Project Description
Priority Improvements 1 – 2 Years	
Bryan Park	Playground, Trail, Trees
Canfield Natural Park	Connections, Complete Cancourse Trails
City Park	Bricks Restroom, Bandshell Renovation
Fernan Lake Natural Park	Complete Trail System
G.O Phippeny	Replace Sidewalks
Independence Point Park	Food Concession Upgrade
Johnson Mill River Park	Park Master Plan
McEuen Park	Upgrade LED Lights at Mooring Docks, Ice Rink

North Pines	Combo Swing
Northshire	Horseshoe Pits
Person Field	Replace Restroom
Ramsey Park	Booster Pumps
Shadduck Park	Repair and Sealcoat Trail
Boat Ramps	Replace Launch Docks
Mooring Docks	Replace and Expand Mooring Docks

I. CONCLUSION

Coeur d'Alene is a dynamic community which places a high value on maintaining and improving its already high quality of life. Our parks provide beauty and serenity, and they offer challenges and recreation. The goals as set forth in this document seek to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Coeur d'Alene, by ensuring that its parks are managed and utilized to the best and most complete capacity. As the population increases and land becomes more valuable, natural spaces will tend to become increasingly marginalized in the face of development. This document demonstrates the belief that we must stand steadfast in the defense of the countless virtues of our many parks, which promote an active, healthy lifestyle and provide recreation for residents of our city. Coeur d'Alene's parks are a precious asset that must be properly managed and developed for many visitors from both near and far.

The city continues to experience robust growth and in addition to supporting a steady increase in population, also supports a healthy tourist industry. A large part of the reason for this growth and the desirability of living and visiting our community derives from the city's commitment to maintaining and expanding a quality parks system that promotes healthy lifestyles, preserve access to natural resources, beautifies the community, supports economic growth and connects citizens to each other and the community while offering a diverse inventory of recreational opportunities and services.

This Master Plan takes in to account the unique circumstances of our community including demographics, location, size and natural setting. Coeur d'Alene is the largest city in the northern half of Idaho and serves as the economic, political and cultural center for that region. Additionally, the city serves as the eastern anchor of an urban area containing over half a million people and is a destination for a large part of the population to work and play. Coeur d'Alene is located on the shores of natural bodies of water that have high recreational value and that serve to reinforce our sense of place. The city is almost encircled by forested mountains some of which are inside the city limits. This unique setting is responsible for Coeur d'Alene becoming a destination for outdoor based recreation both locally and nationally.

Since the adoption of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan in 2008, the City of Coeur d'Alene has completed significant actions to achieve the goals laid out in that document and has taken advantage of opportunities to provided additional services and amenities to the public. The city maintains a strong commitment to providing quality parks and recreation for its citizens and visitors through the expansion of those facilities and programs by keeping pace with growth and by making improvements to its existing parks system whenever possible. This Master Plan update takes in to account the improvements and additions made to the parks system over the past decade and makes recommendations based on current conditions and expected future changes to the community to satisfy the existing needs of its citizens

while planning for anticipated future growth and development. This updated Master Plan identifies existing conditions, goals, opportunities, resources, and recommended changes to the Parks and Recreation Department in order to meet the needs of the community now as well as in to the future.