CITY OF SEQUIM DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SEQUIM PLANNING COMMISSION
Public Meeting
Civic Center
152 West Cedar Street
Sequim, WA 98382
6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, August 18, 2015

Agenda

1. **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL:**
   PC: Connelly, Mahalick, Protze, Sanford, Sterhan, Thompson and Wendt.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** July 21, 2015

3. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
   a. **Final Draft 2015 Comprehensive Plan (Public Meeting).**
      i. **Continue deliberations on goal and policy directions of the Draft Plan including added "Parks and Recreation" and "Historic and Cultural Resources" chapters.**

6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

7. **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting: September 1, 2015

SEQUIM PLANNING COMMISSION

Civic Center
152 West Cedar Street
Sequim, WA 98382
6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, July 21, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL:

Connelly, Mahalick, Protze, Sanford, Sterhan and Wendt were present; Thompson was excused.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 7, 2015

MOTION to approve July 7, 2015 minutes by Connelly; second by Sanford. Unanimously approved.

3. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Proposed 2016-2021 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) (Public Meeting)

Irvin stated the CIP is both a scheduling and anticipated funding document that programs realistic improvements the City intends to make during a 6-year time period. The CIP does not appropriate funds; instead, it functions as a financial planning tool, guiding the actual appropriations that are made by the City Council through adoption of the annual budget.

The CIP is one of the vital implementation tools that works in concert with the Comprehensive Plan's Capital Facilities/Utilities and Transportation Elements, and the City's Long Range Financial Plan to fulfill the goals and visions of the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The document is also used to validate the need for grant funds, state subsidized loans and other financial borrowing instruments needed to reduce the costs of capital improvements. The CIP is also a key document for the full implementation of impact fee programs so that growth related projects are credited with eligible developments. All of these policy actions must be coordinated and consistent with each other. While the Comprehensive Plan articulates the vision and goals for how Sequim will develop over the next 20 years, it is the CIP that makes the critical link between the City's physical planning policy and the financial resources needed to maintain or improve public services.

Sequim has four Capital Facilities Plans (CFP) which provide long-range policy guidance for the development of capital improvements. They are: The Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2015), Transportation Master Plan (2013), General Sewer Master Plan (2013), and the Water System Comprehensive Plan (2013). Each CFP contains an inventory of existing publicly-owned capital

facilities describing their locations and capacities; a forecast of schedule and costs for new or refurbished capital facilities; and the proposed locations and capacities of new or expanded capital facilities. Each CFP also recommends a strategy to finance those facilities with either public funds or through developer exactions.

The aforementioned CFP's were developed and designed with a 20-year planning period in mind. Staff prioritized the projects based on specific criteria to create the proposed 6-year CIP.

Sustaining the needs includes replacement cost of existing infrastructure. Currently our infrastructure totals $400m-$490m. It is hard to make the annualized capital investment to sustain it. Last year we estimated $10m that included the new Civic Center.

He generally reviewed the restricted funds, namely water, sewer, streets, parks and the capital facilities fund.

Open public hearing at 6:12 pm.

Public Comment:

Joanne Yerkes, 111 Ridgetop Place, representing Sequim Picklers, gave an overview of how their group is working toward fundraising for pickleball courts in our City parks. She feels it will be the best on the NOP and want to set up Sequim as a destination pickleball location. They have raised over $45,000 to date. They have been out in the community reaching out to all. They have a volunteer pickler who is an architect and is drawing up plans.

Closed public meeting at 6:17 pm.

The Commission commended staff efforts in preparing the CIP. There was general discussion concerning maintenance funding.

Sterhan feels there is a disconnect in determining which project goes in which year? Irvin said sometimes projects are tied in with developments and other projects in street maintenance, such as making new bike lanes when streets are paved.

Hugo said the purpose of capital programming and budgeting is to maintain community and to help grow the community. They are important functions of how we maintain our assets and revenues.

> **MOTION that the City Council hold a public hearing, take testimony and approve a motion adopting Resolution No. R2015-13 and the attached 2016-2021 year Capital Improvement Program by Mahalick; second by Sanford.**

Connelly said the recommendations we provide to the Council don't go unnoticed without public input. He thanks the public who comes out to the meetings to support their causes and to see how government works. Mahalick also thanks staff to taking the input and including it in their drafts

Vote: Unanimously approved.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Final Draft 2015 Comprehensive Plan (Public Meeting).

i. Continue deliberations on goal and policy directions of the Draft Plan

Hugo distributed his draft commentary to the letter from the Realtors Association. He has not yet sent a response letter to the association.

Concerning the Comp Plan, he is waiting for a final draft of the Park and Rec chapter and for a section from the Tribe. He will then have other revisions to other elements in land use and transportation discussed in the subcommittee meeting last week.

Mahalick stated she, Connelly and Thompson met with Hugo last week to discuss the goals and inputs to date. Hugo expressed concerns on how to get more input, such as telephone surveys. People tend to wait to the last minute. The process was discussed to date. We talked about how to address some of the inputs moving forward. She had expressed some concerns about traditional neighborhood forums that mean different things to different people. Hugo would look at editing some portions out. Mahalick had a problem with maximum lot sizes being prohibited. Hugo expressed concerns with cost of infrastructure and the public paying for that over time. He felt what he presented to so far is what he received as input.

Hugo said it is a big message and there may still be some things not stated as completely as they might be.

Connelly said what we are trying to achieve is clarity. We also spoke about what type of information as a subcommittee we were passing along, it was advice or opinion. We weren't acting as a whole of the Commission. We appreciated the openness.

Public meeting opened and closed at 6:40 pm.

Wendt said the Comp Plan is a policy document, not a regulatory document. At this point we are still at the policy direction stage and won't be hammered down until the zoning ordinance is written.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Hugo said we have been waiting for a response from the County to get some kind of number of the capacity of Sequim-Dungeness Valley of rural growth to build out, how much is left to be rural at the end of the plan. Today he got a call from the director apologizing and saying they still didn't have it. In the process they have some fairly traumatic discoveries of their record. It is important for both the City and County to know their growth capacity. We still need that number as it is important to include in the Comp Plan in the Urban Growth section. He feels we will have that information before Council makes a decision.

7. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Wendt thanks the subcommittee for their work.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Connelly; second Mahalick. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta J. Usselman, MMC Deputy City Clerk	Jon Wendt Chair

CHAPTER 7 PARKS & RECREATION

INTRODUCTION

Figure 1: Pioneer Memorial Park

Creating a healthy social fabric is a vital component in any town. Park systems and recreation programs are a palpable way for citizens to experience leisure time in the community. In Sequim, residents gather for many festivals and events in Carrie Blake Park, the City's Community Park. Neighborhood Parks are well attended by many people playing and socializing. These parks are within walking distance of home and allow "small-town" and "friendly" interaction amongst residents. These are the places where children gather to run freely or throw a ball around with friends. Pocket parks and plazas are also areas where residents and visitors may experience leisure opportunities in Sequim. Pocket parks are located throughout the community and offer an array of activities from child-play on fixed equipment to organic gardening. Plazas give relief to the urban center. These are places to rest or serve as temporary gathering spaces for events. In Sequim, the Farmer's Market occurs in a plaza. All of these park types allow residents freely mingle and have friendly, chance interactions. These encounters are important to the Community because they contribute to a sense of connection and belonging.

The City of Sequim is dedicated to making sure there is availability and access to parks, recreation opportunities and leisure opportunities that exist for its residents and visitors. These opportunities are provided, in most cases, through the active and passive recreation sites, facilities and programs within Sequim's park system, and its recreation programs. The City is also dedicated to partnerships with other public and service organizations to pool resources and provide a variety of opportunities to the community. Leisure services and parks are important for providing healthy alternatives for citizens to recreate in the community.

Local recreation opportunities tend to be service- and facility-driven (e.g., recreation programming, ball fields, courts, trails and paths). Efforts important to the priorities of local government include providing close-to-home recreation opportunities, supporting public health through facilities that encourage physical activities, and providing facilities that encourage personal mobility. Local sidewalks, streets, and roads are important for walking, jogging, and bicycling.

Park and trail acquisition and park design and use is a way for the City to demonstrate conservation of natural resources and to educate the public about the environment. Shared easements for trail development and demonstration projects such as the Water Reuse Demonstration Park provide environmental connection links to the ecosystem and the delivery of services.

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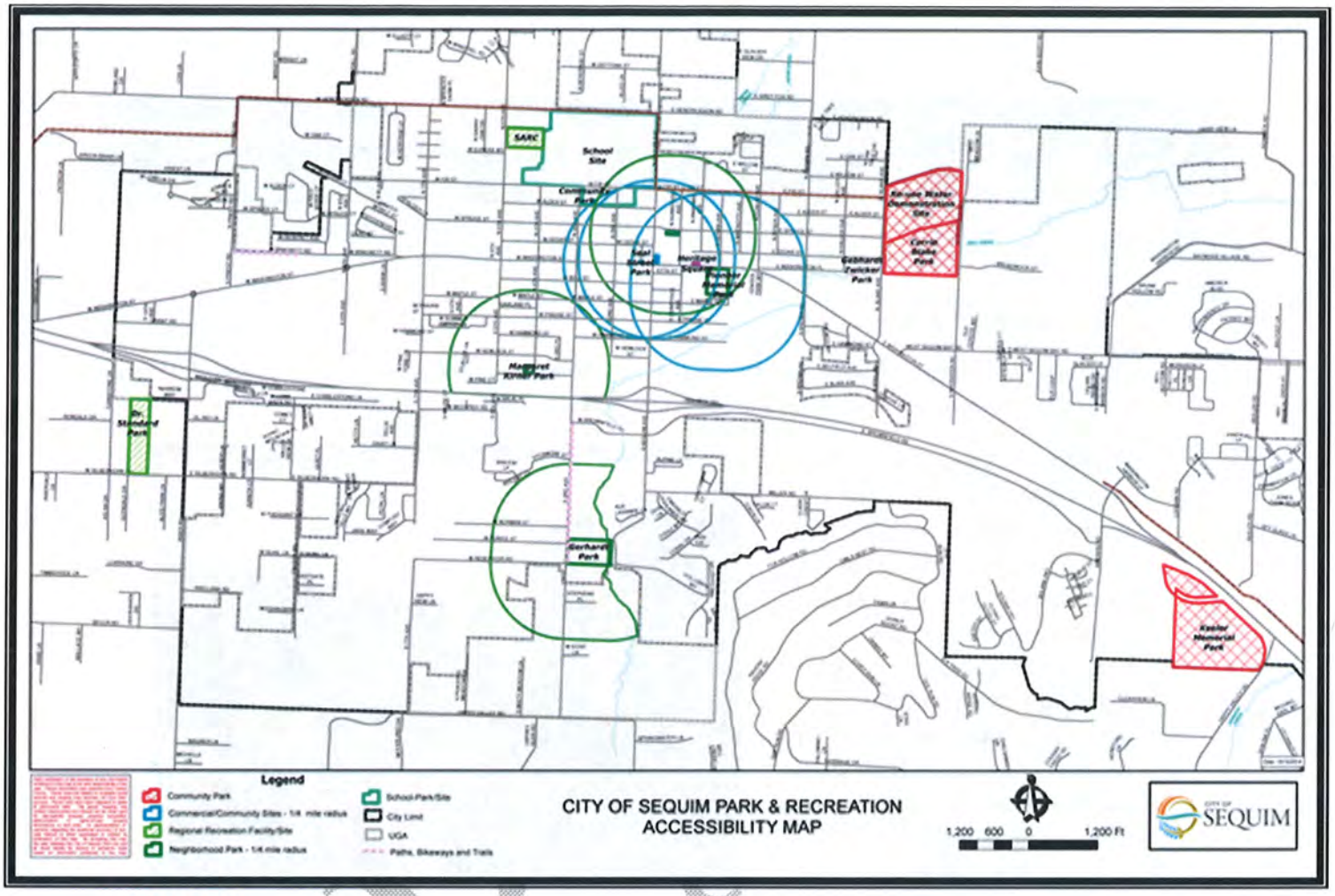

MAP 1

VISION

Elements of the Parks & Recreation Chapter influenced by the Sequim 120 Vision Statement.

The Sequim 120 Vision Statement directed by the community desires are reflected in the comprehensive plan elements throughout. Of the 13 bulleted vision statement points, the following relate the most to the parks and recreation goals and policies:

- Undeveloped residential lands will infill to strengthen neighborhoods by enhancing safety, creating more livable streets, providing opportunities for mutual support, and promoting a social fabric where "small-town friendliness" is experienced every day;
- the community's image and identity will be promoted by active management and responsible stewardship of both the human-built and natural environments;
- Sequim's role as a major steward and purveyor of finite natural resources in the Valley will be reflected in a pattern of growth that promotes efficiency in resource utilization and sustainable resource management.

PARK TYPES

PR GOAL 7.1 TYPES OF PARKS:

Recognize that parks serve different functions depending on location, size and amenities.

POLICIES

PR 7.1.1 COMMUNITY PARKS

Program and improve Sequim's Community Parks to serve the greater Sequim-Dungeness Valley as a regional draw for recreation and park activities.

Discussion: Community parks are large parks, between 20 and 100 acres serving between 10,000 and 50,000 people. Although in some cases community parks can be smaller if proposed for a community wide use such as Dr. Standard Park. Typically, community parks are located on arterials or major collector streets and are venues for large sporting events, community events, concerts. Many different uses are often found in these parks. Examples of community park uses include: soccer and baseball fields, amphitheaters, playgrounds, tennis courts, pickleball courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts, internal trail systems, gardens, picnic areas, ponds, disc golf courses, picnic shelters, community centers and dog parks.

Figure 2: Carrie Blake Park is a Community Park that serves the greater Sequim-Dungeness Valley.

Carrie Blake Park is Sequim's community park. Major events draw people from all over the region. Serving well beyond the capacity, it is a great example of a community park with multiple types of activities both passive and active including trails, shelters, sitting areas, ponds, soccer fields, playgrounds, skate park, BMX track, picnic shelters and Guy Cole Center serve a wide range of park patrons. Large open areas and passive open space opportunities with parking accommodations help to facilitate special events. The low-density neighborhood surrounding Carrie Blake Park uses the park for the local neighborhood.

PR 7.1.2 NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Locate additional neighborhood parks within walking distance of existing and proposed neighborhoods with passive and informal active open space.

Discussion: Neighborhood parks are typically between three and ten acres and serve the surrounding low-density neighborhoods of 3,000 to 10,000 people. These parks are within walking distance of neighborhood homes and provide an informal gathering space for nearby residents. They attract users from inside the neighborhood with a few amenities such as playground equipment, seating areas, picnic areas, open space, court games, community gardens and walking trails. These parks are not meant to act as a regional draw.

Figure 1: The June Robinson Memorial Park.

A few of Sequim's neighborhood parks include Pioneer Park, June Robinson Memorial Park and Gerhardt Park. Others are needed to serve new neighborhoods as Sequim experiences growth. As new schools are proposed, partnerships with the Sequim School District can fill the void with neighborhood parks and play areas for the schools combined. Agreements concerning park use and equipment replacement provide the legal framework to forge these partnerships.

PR 7.1.3 POCKET PARKS/COMMERCIAL-COMMUNITY SITES

Integrate pocket parks that serve 500 to 3,000 people within a quarter mile radius into the City's urban fabric to help personalize the City's built urban environment.

Discussion: Pocket Parks/Commercial-Community Sites are less than five acres in size. Within low-density neighborhoods, these parks are usually passive and they serve a population of 500 to 3,000 people. Also found in commercial or business areas, serve as sitting areas for people watching.

Figure 4: Seal Street Park.

Sequim has pocket parks in neighborhoods and in Downtown. Centennial Place, the City's newest Commercial-Community Site and Seal Street Park offer a place to rest and one of Downtown Sequim's picturesque shops.

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ACTIVITIES IN PARKS

PRG 7.2 ACTIVITY IN PARKS

Create parks that provide multiple activities to attract residents to parks.

POLICIES

PR 7.2.1 PARKS AND NEIGHBORHOODS

Maintain new and existing green residential spaces and parks to encourage stronger social ties in Sequim's Senior Living District and Eastern neighborhoods.

Discussion: Residents and visitors gather in parks and neighborhood open spaces to interact with others in the community. Safety is a quality of life factor that allows people to network and experience parks, neighborhoods and each other. As the community grows and new neighborhoods build up, provide neighborhood parks that serve the residents of new developments (e.g., density bonuses, mitigation land banking, creative right-of-way use). Offer incentives that encourage developers in commercial districts to provide pocket parks, plazas, courtyards, arcades, atriums, pedestrian corridors, and through block corridors.

Develop new and additional partnership/volunteer stewardship programs utilizing local service clubs and organizations to watch parks and work with public safety officials to keep the parks safe. As parks are redesigned and new parks are added, utilize public safety officials and crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) standards to influence park design.

PR 7.2.2 PARTICIPATION & PARTNERSHIP

Encourage participation in parks and recreation programs and special events to build social capital and serve as the backbone of a strong, engaged community.

Discussion: Opportunity to participate in recreation programs and special events offer healthy and enriching options to Sequim residents. The quality of life of citizens is increased when they interact and experience "small-town" and "friendly" situations. The social fabric of the community is strengthened providing benefits beyond the initial intent of the program of event.

These parks and recreation opportunities are offered through the City but also through other public and private providers. Of the public providers, the City of Sequim, the Boys and Girls Club, Senior Center, Sequim Aquatics and Recreation Center (SARC) and Olympic Medical Center (OMC) work together to provide health, wellness and enrichment opportunities in Sequim. Partnerships between these organizations reach more people and pool resources to serve the community in a more sustainable manner.

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PR 7.2.3 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Provide affordable programs for disenfranchised youth and offer assistance to those in need so they may experience recreational opportunities in Sequim through scholarship and other assistance programs.

Discussion: Provide affordable and local recreation opportunities for residents of all income levels to enjoy. Financing assistance for some programs may be necessary for some residents living on a limited income. Through partnerships, donations and grants provide help to those in need.

PARK ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY

PR GOAL 7.3 PARK ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY:

Integrate a compact, interconnected urban park system to define the shape and feel of a city and its neighborhoods.

POLICIES

PR 7.3.1 CONNECT CITIZENS THROUGH PARKS & RECREATION

Foster a sense of community and improve the quality of life through a parks and recreation system that connects and engages the citizens.

Discussion: Parks offer neighbors, residents and visitors a place to gather and interact within the community. Recreation programs provide connections and a reason for being in one location together. To experience a "small-town and friendly" community, the opportunity for interaction must occur. Planned events, classes along with the venue are ideal for initiating activities that build community.

PR 7.3.2 CONNECTED SYSTEM OF PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Maintain and extend a balanced, well-connected system of parks and recreation facilities that are linked to all modes of travel.

Discussion: Sequim's urban parks include parkland, plazas, greenways, landscaped boulevards and civic spaces. These define the community layout, traffic flow, public events and the civic culture. It helps connect people and neighborhoods while providing opportunities for exercise that can counter trends in obesity and adult-onset diabetes, and enhances emotional well-being by bringing nature "close to home." A well-designed system of parks and recreation facilities protects the natural environment and significant cultural resources, provides passive recreation

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opportunities, is integrated with the non-motorized component of the Transportation Element, and links neighborhoods with parks, significant open spaces, schools, shoreline access areas, mixed use centers and employment centers. The system services residents through careful location of parks within neighborhoods.

Acquire and develop public open space and trails within the financial capabilities and level of service standards of the Capital Facilities Element. Obtain land for open spaces and trails through municipal or state programs, such as stormwater management and wildlife/wetland protection. Apply for grants from public agencies and private foundations to acquire land for open spaces and trails. Work with nonprofit groups, such as the North Olympic Land Trust, to obtain conservation easements and create incentives for open space and trails system development. Share easements and form agreements with public or private utility providers to afford trail opportunities where land may not be readily available.

PR 7.3.3 CONNECTED PARKS & RECREATION SYSTEM

Shape a connected parks and recreation system to build a sense of community and improve quality of life for all of Sequim's residents.

Discussion: The needs of Sequim's residents are broad in scope from neighborhood parks for children to run and play to small pocket parks for seniors to gather for a game of chess. The parks and recreation system connects and serves all and to address the community's needs for active and passive recreation opportunities. Recreation programs benefit the whole of the community and are comprehensive, enriching, and affordable for all citizens. These programs provide fitness opportunities for a diverse population. The physical structure of the parks system connects people on trails and provides parks within walking distance.

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PR 7.3.4 CONNECTED SYSTEMS

Link parks, greenways, and other natural or restored lands to create an interconnected green-space system providing benefits for people, wildlife, and the economy.

Discussion: Integrate the open space and trails network with the proposed Olympic Discovery Trail. These connected systems of greenways, paved and unpaved trails provide options for commuting, access to neighborhoods, wildlife path connections, maintained habitat through town to the hinterlands and bring people to nature. New connections are established as development occurs. Land donations, purchases, recreation easements and shared easements with other utilities both public and private are approaches to acquire property for the open space and trail networks. Well linked trail systems provide a higher quality of life amenity for the citizens adding social and economic value to the community.

FUNDING PARKS

PR GOAL 7.4 FUNDING PARKS:

Provide park facilities to meet the needs and enhance the quality of life experience for residents today and into the future.

POLICIES

PR 7.4.1 METROPOLITAN PARKS DISTRICT

Evaluate the pros and cons of creating a Metropolitan Parks District within the Sequim School District boundaries.

Discussion: A Metropolitan Parks District (MPD) may have a broad purpose and can be land and open-space oriented. A MPD may span jurisdictional boundaries, meaning more than one city and/or county can encompass a large land base or it may be within the City of Sequim's boundary. It has the authority to acquire, manage, conserve and develop (for certain purposes) lands within the defined park area. To accomplish these goals, the district may levy property taxes, acquire matching grants, participate in development impact fees and real estate excise taxes, issue bonds and accept monetary and land donations. A MPD can also implement a fee structure for services provided.

PR 7.4.2 PARK IMPACT FEES

Acquire park impact fees to pay for the parks space to accommodate the needs of citizens.

Discussion: Parks impact fees pay to develop parks and park facilities for today's citizens into the future. The impact fees are collected when properties develop or when the land use changes and impact fees have not previously been collected. These fees assist in the acquisition and payment of parks that are built in the community to accommodate the needs as the community expands and the population increases.

PR 7.4.3 TRAIL EASEMENTS

Acquire access easements for trails.

Discussion: Utilize access easements for establishing trails and access to parks. These easements are agreed to by the property owner or dedicated on plats for new development. The City is responsible for maintaining the trail and the area on either side of the trail.

PR 7.4.4 DEDICATION OF PARK LAND

Dedicate active and passive park land as residential development projects are approved.

Discussion: As new properties develop, the dedication of park open space within subdivisions adds open space and recreational amenities for residents in the neighborhood. These projects support activity needs of residents young and old.

PR 7.4.5 GIFTS

Encourage the gifting of park land and accessories to subsidize the cost of park maintenance and development.

Discussion: Work within the community to acquire desired park land and park accessories. A gift of other land may be accepted by the City and used in a land swap option to develop parks in a better location.

PR 7.4.6 SUBDIVISION LAND SET ASIDE

Encourage the development community to avoid small unusable tracts or pieces of land for individual neighborhood parks and implement a strategy to coordinate larger neighborhood parks.

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Discussion: Requiring developers to set aside a percentage of land as part of a subdivision seldom produces enough land to provide meaningful recreation. Instead, we get a tract of land that isn't used and no one wants to care for. We should use impact fee accumulations to acquire and improve parks.

SUSTAINABLE PARKS

PR GOAL 7.5 SUSTAINABLE PARKS:

Implement "green infrastructure" into park sites, buildings and facilities to conserve money, natural ecosystem values and functions.

POLICIES

PR 7.5.1 ENERGY USE IN PARKS

Practice energy conservation, utilize high-efficiency lighting and heating/cooling systems in City facilities to contribute to the financial and environmental health of Sequim.

Discussion: Design and manage park and recreation facilities to maximize environmental protection and provide interpretive opportunities for ecological systems and features, and cultural resources. Energy conservation practices in Sequim including the use of solar power, energy-efficient equipment and appliances, reclaimed and/or recycled building materials and process efficiency contribute to a more sustainable future for Sequim. Commitment of the City to evaluate existing systems and processes provides guidance to best utilize resources in the future. Some energy efficient products are more expensive than the less efficient option. It is important to review the life of the products and equipment over time to evaluate the true efficiency and cost savings to the City compared to the less efficient version. Reviewing the triple bottom line, the environmental, social and economic effects, instead of the bottom line, economic, may also lead the City to make decisions that better serves the public over time. Grants and other aid may be available to assist with the funding for these upgrades.

PR 7.5.2 DESIGN PARKS & FACILITIES WITH NATURE IN MIND

Locate trails and open spaces in places that are mutually beneficial to the community, for conserving nature and protecting environmentally sensitive areas.

Discussion: Locate trails in areas that are important to preserve as open spaces, such as wooded areas, drainage corridors, shorelines, scenic vistas, and others. Trails located along drainage corridors do not degrade the environmental functions and values of the area. Wetlands, drainage corridors and other areas that provide essential habitat for priority plant or wildlife species as passive open space are areas to designate and preserve. The Johnson Creek corridor and the Bell Creek corridor are two examples of environmentally sensitive areas to save.

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Multiple functions within the open space and trails system, including: stormwater management; viewpoints; protection of cultural resources; wildlife habitat; and passive recreation. Locate, design, construct and manage park and recreation facilities to be compatible with natural features (e.g., soils, geology, topography, and shoreline resources) and cultural resources.

PARKS AND ECONOMIC VITALITY

PR GOAL 7.6 PARKS AND ECONOMIC VITALITY:

Continue to utilize parks as an indicator for creating positive economic benefits.

POLICIES

PR 7.6.1 PARKS & TOURISM

Recognize the significance of parks and recreation programs in Sequim as an "engine" that drives tourism through access to unique features, programs and experiences such as special events and festivals.

Discussion: The economic benefits to the community as a whole with an increase in overnight stays, shopping and dining in Sequim for festivals and events such as the Lavender Festival add significantly to the economy. Other visitors are drawn to Sequim through the regional appeal of the Olympic Peninsula. Special events draw those visitors into Sequim as well. The continued marketing of Sequim and events in Sequim to tourists drawn to the Olympic Peninsula enhances the success of these events and attracts more people to spend money in Sequim. Continue to deliver measurable economic benefit to the community by providing or supporting programs, special events and facilities. Establish an ongoing six-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for parks and recreation facilities.

PR 7.6.2 PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE

Develop recreation facilities that provide sites for special events, sports tournaments and athletic events, which can be major sources of tourism and an economic benefit to the City of Sequim.

Discussion: Recognize the significance of tourism and the economic benefit to the community as Sequim expands new park and recreation facilities and provides interpretive opportunities. Incorporate significant cultural resources in the design and development of these new facilities.

PR 7.6.3 PARKS & PROPERTY VALUES

Recognize that parks, recreation and leisure amenities enhance property values and attract homebuyers, workers, and retirees.

Discussion: Properties located near desirable public parks can increase the value of nearby homes by 8% to 20%. Recreation and leisure amenities add to the quality of life of a community and draws new residents. Sequim is a marketable community with many amenities. As it grows, the quality and location of parks as well as the leisure services available continues to be an important factor in defining Sequim as a quality community.

PARKS AND RECREATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

PR GOAL 7.7 PARKS AND RECREATION PARTNERSHIPS:

Share parks and recreational opportunities by coordinating with County, State, Tribes, Port, Sequim School District, Sequim Aquatics and Recreation Center (SARC), private individuals and other local agencies when and where feasible.

POLICIES

PR 8.7.1 PARTNERSHIPS FOR PLAY

Continue partnerships of parks and recreation services to serve Sequim and the commitment to the greater region.

Discussion: Broaden the use of school buildings and grounds as places for public use after school and on evenings. Increase cooperative management with the Sequim School District and other public entities through joint use agreements. Joint use agreements seek to renovate, schedule, and manage facilities for greater public use and enjoyment. Partnerships create a more affordable use of public facilities and services so there is less duplication of operation, maintenance and management of physical locations. The use of City of Sequim Parks and Recreation facilities and services by other public entities may be reciprocated. To ensure that Sequim properly manages public resources, partnerships are needed.

10 HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

When a community preserves its historic and cultural heritage it is making a statement about itself, and about its citizens: who they are; where they have been; what they have done and are doing; and where they are going. Sequim is a friendly small town with a decidedly rural atmosphere. Its citizens desire to maintain that community character by deliberately preserving its rich and diverse historic and cultural resources that are worthy of that effort for preservation and celebration.

The City of Sequim acknowledges the wealth of historic and cultural resources, which are essential to the natural beauty and rich heritage of the Sequim Dungeness Valley. Preservation of that heritage of the community has been identified as a key component in the *City of Sequim's Comprehensive Plan* update process. The importance of Sequim's agricultural past and its contributions to future tourism-related economic development continues to be recognized through the successes of the numerous annual festivals celebrating that history and that culture.

Historic preservation has many facets. It primarily involves the identification, maintenance, renovation, restoration and re-use of buildings and sites important to the community's history and sense of place, culture and traditions. These buildings and sites may represent significant building styles or development patterns representative of a particular era, or specific periods in the community's past. Or these places could be associated with important personages and historic events.

National and State Historic Registries

The *National Register of Historic Places* is the nation's official list of buildings, districts, sites, structures and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology and culture. Under the National Preservation Act (1966), the states work in partnership with the federal government to expand the list according to specific criteria used for evaluation of the historic significance of the nominated property or place.

There is only one site and building, the Sequim Opera House, within the City and its Urban Growth Area that is listed on the *National Register*; there is an additional building (Sequim Town Hall –1914) that is listed on the *Washington State Heritage Register*.

An additional thirteen sites in the Sequim-Dungeness Valley areas are currently registered *Washington State Heritage Register* or in the *National Register of Historic_Places*. The majority of the sites reflect the pioneer and agricultural activities that occurred throughout the Sequim Dungeness Valley. Several sites have antecedents as pre-historic Native American sites dating as far back as 12,000 years. On-going archeological research indicates the presence of important archeological resources throughout the Sequim region. The potential for uncovering additional archeological resources is a standard consideration before site planning and development occur.

Resources of Local Significance

The Sequim community recognizes the need to identify those historical and cultural resources that are unique and important to the Sequim Dungeness region. Examples of these resources include irrigation ditches, unique views and vistas, special landmarks (such as the old barns and farmsteads), and the traditional agricultural land use patterns as well as other historical structures associated with the agricultural heritage and coastal history of our community.

Native American sites as old as 12,000 years show continuous occupation by the Peninsulas tribal communities, which are irreplaceable resources of human history. The community values that historical and cultural tradition and intends that the city create regulations that preserve sites that may be discovered as the city develops.

Incentives for Historic Preservation

The City of Sequim, with other private organizations, county and state agencies, may assist in the preservation of historic and cultural resources by providing special programs and incentives. These may include property tax credits; relief from strict application of building code requirements; and the use of conditional use permits. The City could also establish its own "Sequim Heritage Registry" honoring buildings, sites, places, and peoples with plaques and markers that briefly describe the historic and cultural significance.

RESOURCE PRESERVATION

HCR GOAL 10.1 PRESERVATION OF PLACE: Preserve the history of Sequim and Sequim-Dungeness Valley by protecting the features and artifacts that help to identify 12,000 years of culture and heritage.

POLICIES

HCR 10.1.1 GROWTH / PRESERVATION BALANCE

Identify and support the preservation of sites and structures in the City and its Urban Growth Area that have archeological, cultural or historic significance, while accommodating the requirements for growth that is inevitable in attractive communities.

Discussion: The identity of communities is founded in people and places that combine, over time, to form cultures. The biggest challenge to cultural preservation is community change – growth and development are primary stimulants of change and attract the greatest attention of those who value preservation.

One of the benefits of absorbing most growth within the urban growth area where the pattern of development covers lands that are now substantially modified. While it is still possible that any infill development site could reveal artifacts, the chances are much greater that rural lands outside the UGA are venues of past human activity. Sustaining the city's adopted urban growth strategy, including its goal to preserve rural lands that is a duty of the County, provides an effective

balance between the potential impacts to settlement legacies from growth and development and the need to accommodate the changes to the community's landscape that growth brings.

HCR 10.1.2 DOWNTOWN'S HISTORIC VALUE

Encourage revitalization strategies and preservation efforts for the restoration of buildings, walkways and features of the Downtown core and surroundings, which recognize, emphasize and capitalize on the historic traditions of Sequim and the Sequim-Dungeness Valley region.

Discussion: Maintaining the presence of city government and other civic and cultural functions such as the Library, Olympic Theater Arts, Museum, and Sequim Open Aire Market in the city's Downtown core helps promote community identity, cultural focus, and appreciation of local history. Buildings and locations that have played a significant role in Sequim's history are important to record in a local register, mark with a plaque or sign, and preserve through incentives provided in the city's development codes.

HCR 10.1.3 INCENTIVES FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Assist in the preservation of historic and cultural resources by providing special programs and incentives.

Discussion: The city has limited capacity to assist preservation efforts other than through regulatory mechanisms and partnering with other civic entities. Among the potential assistance to preserve properties are property tax credits (through state designation); relief from strict application of building code requirements, and the use of conditional use permits for re-use of historic structures. A "Sequim Heritage Registry" honoring buildings, sites, places, and peoples with plaques and markers that briefly describe the historic and cultural significance is one way to bring attention to community heritage without minimal public expense.

HCR GOAL 10.2 HERITAGE EVENTS: Celebrate Sequim's community heritage by continuing the local traditions of festivals and community events that contribute to Sequim's identity.

POLICIES

HCR 10.2.1 CITY SUPPORT OF HERITAGE EVENTS

Utilize city government resources including grounds, facilities and staff to sustain the legacy of community events which add to Sequim's identity as a special place to live and visit.

Discussion:

HCR GOAL 10.3 CONTRIBUTIONS TO CULTURE: Celebrate Sequim's community heritage by continuing the local traditions of festivals and community events that contribute to Sequim's identity.

POLICIES

HCR 10.3.1 GROWTH / PRESERVATION BALANCE

Promote and support cultural events and resources such as theater, music, art and sculptures, as well as historical artifacts

Discussion:

JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE CULTURAL LEGACY

"For ten thousand years, a nation of people lived and prospered on these lands of the Olympic Peninsula. These strong people of the S'Klallam tribes had a system of governance, engaged in commerce, managed natural and human resources, and exercised power over their territorial boundaries. The people created a rich culture of art, song, spirituality, traditional knowledge and social structure. They promoted leadership, self-sufficiency, self-reliance, and a code of conduct within their community that served as a basis for strength, pride and survival.

This was a nation, a government and a community, independent and interdependent.

It still is. "

(*Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Comprehensive Plan*)

INTRODUCTION

For thousands of years, the S'Klallam ("strong") people lived in villages along the north coast of the Olympic Peninsula, moving with the seasonal resources and living in harmony with nature. While historians originally thought that man could be traced back 10,000 years on the Olympic Peninsula, the discovery of the Manis Mastadon in 1977 offered definitive evidence that humans, presumably Indian, hunted on the Olympic Peninsula as early as 14,000 years ago The S'Klallam people occupied multiple permanent and temporary village sites in the Sequim-Dungeness Valley. In addition to hunting in the mountains and harvesting and fishing in the salt and fresh waters of the area, the S'Klallams maintained the Sequim prairie by burning it back each year to create habitat for berries and other edible plants, and new grass to feed the deer and elk they hunted. Their culture relied heavily on the red cedar tree, which provided wood for shelter and canoes as well as bark which was used for clothing, baskets and blankets.

In the 19th century, non-Indian settlers began to arrive in the area, desiring the same abundant lands and waters that were so important to the S'Klallam people. In 1855, the S'Klallam leaders signed a treaty with the federal government with the understanding that they would always be able to hunt, fish and gather in their "usual and accustomed" grounds. As the original inhabitants of Sequim, the S'Klallam people looked for ways to preserve their lifestyle, identity and cultural ways.

In the 1970s, the Jamestown S'Klallam people joined with Tribes across the nation in a movement to gain justice for those whose treaty rights had been ignored for more than a century by the federal government. Several key court decisions reconfirmed their treaty rights to hunt, fish and gather at their historical sites and waterways, and it was determined that Tribes and the State must co-manage these resources. Through a long legal process, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe was "re-recognized" by the United States government on February 10, 1981. This finally confirmed the Tribe's rights as a sovereign nation, and they formalized their government (similar to any local, state or federal government) under a Tribal Constitution.

Though much has changed since the settlers first arrived, it is as important as ever to the S'Klallam people to preserve natural and cultural resources. The Tribe balances its 21st century needs with the

importance of preserving natural and cultural resources, making land use decisions that respect its traditions and look forward seven generations. The Tribe works with other governments to do the same.

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal government is a leader and well-respected partner in the areas of economic development, health care, natural resources, cultural preservation and the arts for the ultimate benefit of all who share the Sequim-Dungeness Valley.

There are potentially significant historical/cultural resources throughout the City and its UGA where the Tribe has a vested interest in protecting and preserving data about its heritage, culture, ancestors and lifeways. The National Historic Preservation Act contains specific regulations governing historical and cultural resources, particularly under Section 106, that must be followed by governments and individuals alike. Early identification of these sites and resources provides the opportunity to protect them in advance of development, and reduces the potential for sudden, inadvertent, and haphazard discovery and recovery. It is in the interest of Tribal people, pioneers, city and rural dwellers alike, to recognize, understand, and protect the foundations of history upon which we all stand. It is through the remnants and relics of culture that we learn who we are and who we have become.

But culture is also a living thing; we see it in the art and sculpture of totems we now carve, and in the stories we continue to write and to tell. We revere it in the form of salmon returning to our rivers and streams, around which we have woven modern tales, art, and practices. There is little difference between the historic use of native plants or the cultivation of the Sequim prairie, and the cultivation of lavender, wine, or crops for the benefit of a community. The ancient history of a Native community has become intertwined with the more recent shared and common relationships of the families and co-workers that make up the modern Sequim community.

PRESERVATION OF NATIVE HERITAGE

HCR GOAL 10.4 HISTORY AND CULTURE: Preserve the history of Native culture in and around Sequim by protecting the features and artifacts that help identify 12,000 years of Native presence.

POLICIES

HCR 10.1.1 COMMUNITY HERITAGE

Protect significant Native sites and cultural resources as an integral part of the heritage of the Sequim community.

Discussion: Cultural resources are oral and written histories, genealogies, personal names, songs, dances, cultural artifacts, as well as both marine and terrestrial traditional and contemporary resource harvest areas and sites. Natural resources crucial to tribal identity such as shellfish, shellfish beds, salmon streams, and kelp beds qualify as cultural resources, due to their connections to tribal history and both historic and contemporary hunting and fishing practices. Archaeological resources such as shell middens, village sites, intertidal fish traps, culturally modified trees, homesteads, historic buildings, graveyards, and historic harvest sites provide detailed examples of tribal culture and history. Sites of 12,000 years of continuous Tribal occupation are irreplaceable resources of human history.

The Sequim-Dungeness Valley is rated as moderate to high probability for the presence of cultural resources using the predictive model developed by the Washington Department of Archaeological and Historic Preservation (DAHP). The identification of presence or absence of archaeological resources in the landscape is essential prior to development activities; site assessments and consultation with Tribes and DAHP are important steps in such identification. The objective of identification is data recovery and resource conservation.

HCR 10.1.2 FLORA AND FAUNA IN CULTURAL TRADITIONS

Utilize growth policies and an ethic of environmental stewardship to preserve the presence of native flora and fauna that are inherent to the traditions and lifestyles of the S'Klallam people.

Discussion: Native plants and vegetation, such as cattail, eelgrass, hazelnut, nettles, salmonberry, Western Red Cedar and Garry oak, were traditionally used by Indian people of the Olympic Peninsula for a variety of purposes, including clothing and medicine. The right to gather such vegetation is reserved to the S'Klallam people in the Treaty of Point No Point. Preservation of these resources and habitat in which they grow is essential to ensuring the ability to practice the treaty right. The ability to fish, hunt and gather are guaranteed by the United States government as a fiduciary responsibility, and the City of Sequim has a role to play in ensuring that the United States is able to fulfill that trust responsibility.

The city's Urban Growth policies (see Chapter 2 Urban Growth) express the need to stop the conversion of rural lands and activities in the Valley to non-rural uses. This is a primary means to maintain native flora and fauna in the Valley – the continued growth of non-rural / semi-urban development outside designated urban growth areas decades after the advent of statewide Growth Management laws no only threatens Sequim's vision as the center of a rural valley but puts species and resources inherent to the Tribe's history and future at great risk. The city's development policies (see Chapter 3 Land Use) reinforce rural preservation by insuring that urban land resources are used efficiently to accommodate the bulk of Valley growth. Further, the city recognizes its responsibility as a provider of urban services to apply good management and stewardship to minimize impacts on the surrounding natural environment (see Chapter 9 Energy and Environment).

- Identify areas within the City and the Urban Growth Area with a moderate-to-high probability for cultural resources at risk, and target those areas for assessment and data recovery.

Partnering with Tribe to maintain Tribal presence within the Sequim community (such as the new Totem) to promote Tribal culture and identity within the city and region?

HCRP-12
Emphasize the importance of preserving any Native site, and related cultural artifacts and resources that may be discovered, as an integral part of the heritage of this community.