

PARKS COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 2024

Parks Division Updates

Projects

Gig Harbor Sports Complex

Phase 1B – Phase 1B is continuing as scheduled, with lightpoles for the pickleball courts and the canoe portion of the playground being installed. Some of the landscape plantings will need to be put off until spring.

Phase 1A (YMCA project) – The city has been meeting with YMCA leadership and legal counsel to revise the lease, to account for changes in circumstances since the lease was first executed in 2021. The Y has also made progress in their fundraising. Their board instructed them to get ready to go out to bid for construction. They hope to break ground in April. This project will construct two rectangular, turfed, lit fields just north of phase 1B. The Y held a kickoff of their public fundraising campaign on October 25.

Skansie Netshed Rehabilitation

The exterior work is done. The interior moment frames that will shore up the Netshed have been constructed and delivered on-site, with installation expected to be completed by the end of November.

Other Park Updates

txʷaalqəl Conservation Area – The bridge on Phase 2, which leads to a loop trail, was inspected on October 18 by Pierce County. The inspection failed, and is recommended



to be closed to the public. The city will need to pivot and either allocate funds to design/install a new bridge or open up access to the loop trail from the Cushman Trail.

2025-2026 Budget – Staff presented the proposed budget, as recommended by the mayor, to city council on October 30. Projects recommended for funding include:

• Sports Complex Phase 1B	\$2 million
• Crescent Creek Restroom Remodel	\$190,000
• Crescent Creek Play Area resurfacing & sand pit	\$ 40,000
• Soundview Forest Tree maintenance	\$125,000
• Crescent Creek Master Plan	\$110,000
• Jerisich Dock redecking	\$ 66,000
• Finholm View Climb Structural repairs	\$ 30,000
• Adam Tallman Park -wetland review & trail imp.	\$ 50,000
• txʷaalqəl Conservation Area loop trail & signs	\$ 40,000
• Splash pad replumbing & rewiring	\$250,000
• Basketball court at Civic Center Skate Park	\$ 45,000
• Commercial Fishing Homeport	\$3.48 million
• Sports Complex Phase 1A	<u>\$2 million</u>
	\$8,426,000

Deferred projects include: Grandview Forest restroom relocation, Cushman Trail Connection to Harborview Drive, Crescent Creek Park Phase 1A, Gig Harbor Sports Complex Phase 2 & 3, Masonic Lodge remodel, Veteran's Memorial Park Phase 2 improvements, Wilkinson Farm Park Master Plan & Barn restoration, Shaw Park Analysis and Remediation, Cushman Trail Phase 5A pedestrian crossing engineering study, Love Lock art installation, 7601 Soundview House & Property planning.

Upcoming Special Events

November-

- 11/2 - Harbor WildWatch's "Pier into the Night" at Maritime Pier
- 11/14 – Waterfront Alliance's "Shop Social" (reimagined "Girl's Night Out")
- 11/23 – Harbor Wildwatch's "Chum Walk" and the "Un-Groundbreaking Ceremony" for the latest phase of the Conservation land purchase
- 11/28 - "Turkey Trot" through downtown

December-

- 12/7 - Holiday Tree lighting ceremony at Skansie Park
- Weekends in December- Santa Village at Donkey Creek Park
- Holiday themed photo booths at Skansie Park and Bogue View Platform



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks Commission

FROM: Jennifer Haro, Parks Manager

DATE: October 31, 2024

SUBJECT: Parks Commission Discussion Items

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Zoning

City staff has been in discussions with the Community Development Department and City Administrator about whether there should be a zoning designation just for parks. The consensus is that there should be. Currently, city parks have 11 different zoning designations, including one park that has four zones! The Parks Manager has been working on some regulations for the zone. The goal is to be as flexible as possible. We have parks that will remain natural, with some trail development, as well as parks that will be fully developed (such as the sports complex).

At the November 6, 2024 meeting, staff is looking for a recommendation from Parks Commission on whether there should be changes to the recommended language and allowed uses for the Parks zone. The draft use table and zone description will be provided at the meeting.

Peninsula Light Fields Rental Discussion

At the October meeting, the Parks Commission recommended a rate of \$20/hour per field for the use of Pen Light Fields. That rate would be approximately \$34,000 for the season for Gig Harbor Little League. They do a lot of maintenance work on the facility themselves, and have fundraised and taken donations for building projects on the site. The Parks Commission recommended a "bulk discount" for frequent users. Staff is hoping for a more specific cost to charge for GHLL and the soccer club.

Pickleball Discussion

This item will be a continuation of the discussion about pickleball scheduling from last month.