MEMORANDUM

TO: Thurston County Planning Commission
FROM: Jeremy Davis, Associate Planner
DATE: March 17, 2010
SUBJECT: 3-A City of Olympia Parks and Open Space Chapter Update.

This amendment was originally presented to the Planning Commission on June 17, 2009 by City of Olympia staff. During its 2007 update, the City of Olympia adopted an amendment that clarifies the definition of community parks in the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Olympia and the Olympia Urban Growth Area. The service area for community parks is essentially city-wide. City of Olympia Parks experience, surveys and research indicates that residents are willing to travel across the city to enjoy the amenities that are provided by these types of parks. With the proposed amendment, Thurston County would adopt policy PAR 8.9 of Chapter 7 Parks, Art and Recreation.

For more information, including the staff report and supporting documents, please go to:

http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/planning/jointplanamendment/jointplan_home.htm#cityofoly

Parks Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for Olympia and the Olympia UGA
Draft Motion and Findings
Move to recommend approval of an amendment to adopt policy PAR 8.9 of Chapter 7 Parks, Art and Recreation into the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Olympia and the Olympia Urban Growth Area.
Findings:
1. The proposed amendment is consistent with the Growth Management Act 36.70A RCW.
2. The proposed amendment is consistent with the Thurston County County-Wide Planning Policies.
3. The proposed amendment is consistent with other sections of the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan and the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Olympia and the Olympia Urban Growth Area.

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TDD (360) 754-2933 Website: www.co.thurston.wa.us/permitting
5. The policy must be adopted by Thurston County in order to apply to the unincorporated portion of the Urban Growth Area.
6. The Thurston County Planning Commission held a duly noticed joint public hearing on March 3, 2010 as required by Thurston County Code Chapter 2.05 Growth Management Public Participation.
in the general stewardship of public spaces.

PAR 7.5 Solicit financial support from recreation sports leagues for field development, renovation and maintenance. (Ordinance #5661, 12/26/96)

PAR 7.6 Minimize or eliminate the use of pesticides or herbicides in the maintenance of City parks.

PAR 7.7 Develop and implement a maintenance management system and create a fund to finance recurring major maintenance needs in parks.

Park Planning, Funding and Administration

GOAL PAR 8*. When feasible, encourage provision of parks and recreation facilities consistent with target outcomes and community recreation needs.

Park Planning, Funding and Administration

POLICIES

PAR 8.1* Through the Capital Facilities Plan, support neighborhood parks and urban trails which are basic to preserving and enhancing the quality of neighborhoods in Olympia and its growth area.

PAR 8.2 Encourage private individuals, non-profit organizations and businesses to develop recreation facilities for neighborhood and community use, which are available for public use.

PAR 8.3* Consider, where appropriate, a regional approach to funding major recreation facilities, for instance swimming pools and tournament-level ball fields.

PAR 8.4* Work with Thurston County to identify future park and open space sites within the urban growth area.

PAR 8.5* Create an inter-jurisdictional committee to coordinate Capital Facility Plan projects with adjoining municipalities, as required by the Growth Management Act.

PAR 8.6 With the Port of Olympia, jointly improve public recreation facilities on the East Bay, West Bay, and the Port peninsula. (Ord. #5971, 12/14/99)

PAR 8.7 When feasible, plan, fund and construct a park system based on park definitions and target outcomes.

PAR 8.8 Update the capital facilities plan every year to reflect changing or unforeseen needs.

PAR 8.9* Define the service areas of community parks, open space and special use parks as being city-wide and also including all of the City’s urban growth areas.

GOAL PAR 9. Develop an outreach program for parks, arts, and recreation with neighborhood associations, the business community, and other groups in planning design, construction, operation, and maintenance of Olympia’s park system. Maintain an open process using objective criteria for making decisions regarding land acquisition, park development and park renovation.

POLICIES:

PAR 9.1 Regularly inform citizens, especially neighborhood and park and recreation groups, of the city budget process and requirements of the process.

PAR 9.2 Develop standard financial and programmatic criteria to make

Attachment A

Excerpt of Chapter 7 Parks, Arts and Recreation
City of Olympia Comprehensive Plan and Joint Plan with Thurston County