NORTH CLACKAMAS PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT

APPROVED

MEETING MINUTES

North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District District Advisory Committee Wednesday, March 12, 2025 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: North Clackamas Aquatic Park and Virtually (via Zoom)

DAC Members Present: Grover Bornefeld (Subarea 1), Anatta Blackmarr (Subarea 2), Jeanette DeCastro, Sheila Shaw (Subarea 3), Daniel Diehl (Subarea 4), Lisa Batey, Ali Feuerstein (subarea 5), Joel Bergman (Milwaukie Community Center Advisory Board)

Members Absent: Mark Elliott (Subarea 2), Joshua Fisher (Subarea 4),

Staff, Officials, and Guest Speakers Present: Paul Savas (Clackamas County Commissioner), Kia Selley (NCPRD Director), Erin Reome (NCPRD Planning & Development Director), Camille Trummer (Interplay), Anna Laybourn (Design Workshop)

A recording of this meeting is available on the NCPRD website at https://ncprd.com/public-meetings/meeting-minutes

I. Call to Order - DAC meeting was called to order by DAC Chair, Jeanette DeCastro. A quorum was present.

II. Action Items

- a. Approval of DAC Meeting Summary
 - i. The summary from the DAC meeting held on February 12, 2025, was approved as presented.

III. Discussion Agenda

- a. DAC Facilitator Recap (Camille Trummer, Interplay)
 - i. Camille presented a summary of the key findings derived from interviews she conducted with DAC members. These findings included:
 - 1. DAC members do not have a strong understanding of their purpose and role.
 - 2. SWOT Strengths: Diversity in age, experience, opinion, and shared compassion is the DAC's biggest strength.
 - 3. SWOT Weaknesses: There is a disconnect about the vision, near-term goals, and objectives that is impeding the work and progress of the DAC.
 - 4. SWOT Opportunities: DAC members would benefit from structured visioning and planning time to build on previous efforts.
 - 5. SWOT Threat: Without a clear vision and new framework for operationalizing the DAC, retention may suffer.
- b. System Plan Phase 3 and 4 Update (Anna Laybourn, Design Workshop)
 - i. Anna provided an update on Phases 3 (Develop Plan) and 4 (Final Plan and Implementation Strategy). The update included:
 - 1. What We Heard and What We Learned in 2024
 - 2. Vision and Goals
 - a. Proposed District Mission: To enrich community vitality and promote healthy living through connections to nature and play.

- b. Proposed Plan Vision: Enhancing community with exceptional parks, natural areas, and recreation opportunities that welcome all.
- c. Proposed Themes:
 - i. Care for and invest in parks and recreation.
 - ii. Connect to nature.
 - iii. Play for all.
 - iv. Enrich our community.
- 3. Vision Plan Diagram
- 4. Prioritization Criteria
- 5. Next Steps
 - a. Late spring: Staff to evaluate and prioritize action items, timeline, and funding.
 - b. Early summer: Public review and DAC review of the draft plan.
 - c. Late summer: Final plan and adoption.

IV. Public Comment

a. None

V. DAC Member Reports

- a. Lisa Batey (Subarea 5) The three park openings took place last weekend. Milwaukie has a Parks Foundation, and is willing to share its founding documents as well as offer guidance to individuals interested in starting a Foundation for NCPRD.
- b. Sheila Shaw (Subarea 3) Attended the NCPRD Budget Committee meeting on February 22, where a presentation was made on projected revenue, expenses, and strategies. This presentation closely mirrored the one previously delivered to the DAC. The next update on the budget will take place on May 14, during a joint meeting of the Budget Committee and the DAC.
- c. Anatta Blackmarr (Subarea 2) NCPRD's Natural Areas staff, Lauren Cary, coordinated a cleanup event for volunteers at RiverVilla Park. Encouraged more emphasis on what Lauren does, and those volunteer events. Retiring at the end of June, subarea 2 will have a vacancy to fill.
- d. Joel Bergman (Milwaukie Community Center Advisory Board) The Milwaukie Community Center (MCC) will host Garden Discover Days this Saturday, March 15. Additionally, the Oregon Ballet Theatre will be performing at MCC on March 22 at 5:00p.m. To celebrate its 45th anniversary, MCC is planning an open house on May 16, from 2:00 to 5:00p.m., further details will be provided.
- e. Grover Bornefeld (Subarea 1) In anticipation of the upcoming recruitment for a subarea 1 representative and with the goal of enhancing community outreach, a group of community members from subarea 1 is organizing a listening session to be held in subareas 1 and 2 later in April.
- f. Ali Feuerstein (Subarea 5): Ali announced that she will no longer be the chair of PARB starting in June, and as a result, she likely will no longer be a member of the DAC after this transition.
- g. Report from DAC Chair DeCastro
 - i. Chair DeCastro announced that the DAC will transition to holding meetings every other month, with the next meeting scheduled for May. She requested that DAC members come prepared to the next meeting with ideas on how they can utilize the off-months to continue advancing DAC-related work.
- h. Implementation Team
 - i. Chair DeCastro invited volunteers to join the implementation team.

VI. District Monthly Report

a. Milwaukie Community Center Foundation – Thanked the Milwaukie Community Center Foundation for their generous one-time donation of \$180,000 to sustain the NCPRD Older Adult Nutrition Services program for the upcoming fiscal year. This contribution will help maintain current service levels for the Meals on Wheels program. If possible, please consider making a donation to the Milwaukie Community Center Foundation during their March for Meals fundraiser.

- b. Clackamas County's Tax Assessor's Estimates for Assess Value Growth The District's projected tax growth for the 2025-26 tax year is estimated to be between 2.75% to 3.25%. Since the 2022-23 fiscal year, our operational costs—including utilities, materials, supplies, staff, vendors, and other business expenses—have risen by approximately 14%. However, the growth in tax revenue, which constitutes the District's largest funding source, is not keeping pace with the rapidly increasing costs of doing business.
- c. NCPRD's Naming Policy The Board of Directors unanimously approved NCPRD's proposed Naming Policy for parks and facilities. The previous naming policy, approved in 2006, had become outdated. The DAC's input was greatly appreciated and fully incorporated into the updated policy. A naming process for the NCPRD improvements to the Concord Property will be launched soon; however, this process will not include the naming of the library facility.
- d. Milwaukie Bay Park Phase 3 Oregon Parks and Recreation Department notified NCPRD staff that they cancelled two of the three grants for Milwaukie Bay Park phase 3, which included the \$750,000 Local Government Grant, and the Federal Land and Water Conservation Grant, which was a little over \$1 million. The cancellation was primarily due to their perception that completion of construction by September 2026 is unlikely, which is a grant requirement. They support NCPRD reapplying for these grants, but they advised updating the cost estimate so that the funding request is truly reflective of the funding that is needed.
- e. Playground Inspections NCPRD's certified playground inspectors have completed their annual safety inspection of all playground equipment within the District. Playground equipment that was deemed unsafe has been repaired and/or replaced. Safety is our top priority. If you notice a safety issue in a park, please submit a Report a Concern form, which can be found on our website.
- f. **Discovery Guide** NCPRD is excited to announce the upcoming launch of its first comprehensive catalog of programs and events since the onset of Covid. The Discovery Guide will be printed in limited quantities to minimize costs and support sustainability efforts. We encourage you to utilize the digital version for easy access.
- g. **Board of Directors** The Board of Directors meeting originally scheduled for February 26 was canceled due to a lack of quorum. We anticipate holding a Board of Directors meeting at the Aquatic Park in the upcoming quarter. A date will be announced once confirmed.
 - i. Director Fireside has resigned and the Board is currently developing a process for selecting a replacement. Details regarding this process are expected to be available on the County website within the next week or two.
- h. Staff Retirement Joe Loomis, NCPRD's Sports Manager, will retire at the end of April.

From: <u>Jacob Sherman</u>
To: <u>NCP - System Plan</u>

Cc: NCPRD - District Advisory Committee; Executive Board

Subject: North Clackamas Soccer Club feedback on NCPRD 20-year System Plan

Date: Thursday, February 27, 2025 3:50:19 PM

Attachments: NCSC Feedback on NCPRD 20-year Plan - FINAL.pdf

Warning: External email. Be cautious opening attachments and links.

Greetings,

On behalf of the North Clackamas Soccer Club Board of Directors, I'm pleased to submit our public testimony on the 20-year System Plan for the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District. Please let me know if you have any questions about our testimony. Thank you for your time.

Best wishes, Jacob

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Jacob Sherman Vice President, North Clackamas Soccer Club



TO: Erin Reome, NCPRD Principal Planner

CC: The North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District Advisory Committee

FROM: Jacob Sherman, North Clackamas Soccer Club

RE: Feedback on NCPRD 20-year System Plan

February 27, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation (NCPRD) 20-year roadmap for the parks and recreation system. On behalf of the North Clackamas Soccer Club Board of Directors, I am writing to strongly request that NCPRD include the creation of a new, dedicated soccer field facility with overhead lights in the updated version of the District's 20-year System Plan.

Why? Interest in U.S. soccer is growing rapidly. National reports show that the number of first-time fans is up 400% year-over-year, and the number of people who have been soccer fans for 5 years or fewer is up 57% compared to just last year. Impressively, 45% of new fans are women, and 25% of new fans are more likely to be Black. Other national reports show that roughly one-third of outdoor players are ages 6-12, another one-third are ages 13-24, and the other one-third is age 25 and older. There's a proud tradition of soccer in the Portland-metro area, where interest in the sport is also exploding. Of note, the Portland Timbers (professional men's team) are about to embark on their 50th season and the Portland Thorns (professional women's team) has grown in popularity and competitiveness too, including setting record attendance of over 25,000 at a match in 2023. Recently, the Portland Bangers Football Club announced the launch of a semi-professional men's team in 2025, creating more accessible viewing opportunities for families. Additionally, the United States is hosting the FIFA World Cup competition in 2026 – including several matches in the PNW – and FIFA expects over 6 billion people will tune in and watch soccer on the world's biggest stage.

All of this filters down to the local level where we've seen rapidly growing interest in soccer from families that live in the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District area. For over 50 years, the North Clackamas Soccer Club (NCSC) has been offering soccer programming to youth who live in the North Clackamas School District area. Today, NCSC has over 700 youth that are ages 6-18 playing in our recreational, development, and competitive soccer programs. NCSC offered \$20,190 in scholarships in 2024, making soccer more accessible to 73 players. Our club serves over 700 youth and is thriving, but we're also worried about some elements of the future. Clubs like ours are adding new players from the North Clackamas area each and every year, but unfortunately we lack sufficient sports facilities to accommodate growth.

Today, our club relies almost exclusively on grass and turf fields managed by the North Clackamas School District. Grass fields are abundant, but turf fields with overhead lights are in high demand given

Portland's rainy weather conditions and the need for year-round practices that must extend well into the evening hours. Unfortunately, many of these facilities are located at school district fields and are actively used by other sports, like high school football or baseball, which are often given priority scheduling over soccer. As a result, it's hard for our players to get enough consistent field time. Reliable access to soccer fields is further hampered by the fact that NCPRD sports facilities, like North Clackamas Park, do not have any turf soccer fields at them.

We believe that if NCPRD offered dedicated turf soccer facilities with overhead lights, the District would better deliver on the 20-year System Plan's vision and its four themes. The District would implement its "Care for and Invest in Parks and Recreation" theme by expanding its offerings for local youth and diversifying access through new soccer facilities that are specifically built and operated for the sport. Since field space could be rented out to clubs both inside and outside the District, this could also result in new revenue streams and a more sustainable financial position for NCPRD. New soccer facilities would also help NCPRD act on its "Enrich our Community" goal since athletics promotes health and interest in soccer is growing rapidly in our community, including with young women and people of color. NCPRD can also deliver on its "Play for All" theme by following the national trend of the growth in soccer, and relying on that trend to justify new turf soccer fields that would allow a much broader range of users to benefit from District facilities. New turf fields would also allow our clubs to extend more "play for all" through the direct scholarship programs that we make available to families living in the area, helping to reduce financial barriers and expand access to a popular sport. Finally, investments in new soccer facilities might also benefit from direct partnerships with our clubs, as well as the "Fields for All" program from the Portland Timbers or others.

The North Clackamas Soccer Club believes that NCPRD has a unique opportunity at hand. We hope you agree and ask you to include the creation of a new, dedicated soccer field facility with overhead lights in the updated version of the District's 20-year System Plan.

Thank you for taking the time to review this letter. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jacob Sherman
Vice President, NCSC
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www.ncsoccerclub.com