



**CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND**  
**September 6, 2016 Special Joint Meeting Agenda**  
**City Council and Planning Commission**  
25510 Lawson St., Black Diamond, Washington

**6:10 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

**WORK SESSION -**

1. City's Comprehensive Plan Update
  - a. Continuation – Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Element

**ADJOURNMENT:**

## **PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**

The Black Diamond Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Element Highlights the Following Vision Goals:

- ❖ Natural Environment Goal 1: Retain the City's natural environment and scenic beauty.
- ❖ Land Use Goal 1: Establish a pattern of development that maintains and enhances a safe and healthy quality of life within the community.
- ❖ Capital Facility Goal 1: Ensure that public facilities and services are available to support future development.
- ❖ Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Goal 1: Support the stewardship of natural resources and amenities throughout the community in the form of parks, trails, open space, and recreation.
- ❖ Economic Development Goal 1: Encourage job creation by making the community a better place to live, work, and do business.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The City's parks, recreation, trails and open space areas are a vital component of the health and well-being of the community. Access to these places contribute to Black Diamond's physical, mental and environmental health as they support the City's economic vitality and provide valuable fish, wildlife and vegetation habitat. Conservation and enhancement of ecological resources within the City is a key concept in this Comprehensive Plan.

City residents and visitors enjoy access to a system of citywide and regional parks, trails, and open space areas. The City parks, recreation, trails and open space system comprises about 5% of the total city land area and includes a range of uses from conservancy to active play areas. Lake Sawyer, the fourth largest natural lake in King County, offers public access for boating, water skiing, swimming and fishing.

Other agencies, such as King County and Washington State Parks, also provide significant recreational and open space opportunities for Black Diamond residents. In addition, there are private open spaces such as pocket parks and yards that define residential neighborhoods and support the community's high quality of life.

Black Diamond and other public and private agencies have amassed an impressive amount of open space acreage. Much of it encompasses and preserves valuable streams, wetlands and habitat conservation areas. Almost every type of park, trail and open space experience is within or very near the City's boundaries.

**Comment [BK1]:** This is Title in existing Comp Plan in Chapter 8 Cap Facilities, 8.5

**Formatted:** Font: 14 pt, Bold

**Formatted:** Font: 14 pt, Bold

**Formatted:** Justified

**Formatted:** Font: 14 pt, Bold

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), 13 pt

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), Bold

**Formatted:** Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri)

**Formatted:** Justified, Indent: Left: 0.5", Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, No bullets or numbering

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), Bold

**Formatted:** Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri)

**Formatted:** Font:

**Formatted:** Normal, Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, No bullets or numbering

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), Bold

**Formatted:** Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri)

**Formatted:** Font:

**Formatted:** Normal, Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, No bullets or numbering

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), Bold

**Formatted** ...

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri)

**Formatted:** Font:

**Formatted** ...

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), Bold

**Formatted** ...

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri)

**Formatted:** Justified

**Formatted:** Font: 13 pt

~~-Different kinds of recreation.~~

~~Bodies of water include.....these resources provide valuable habitat for wildlife and contribute to water quality.~~

~~Developed parks are not the only source of open space. There are also open spaces and recreation opportunities in off road bike trails,~~

~~Other agencies — besides Black Diamond provide open space amenities that residents enjoy. Such as:~~

Formatted: Font: 13 pt

### **Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Opens Space Concept**

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 13 pt

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 13 pt

Black Diamond is committed to the continued provision of accessible and well-maintained facilities and services for current and future residents and to promote environmental conservation and education for publicly owned natural open space areas. The City endeavors to provide a system of parks, trails and recreational facilities that are located within easy reach of every resident and which meets the community's diverse recreational needs. The City will mostly likely always face the challenges of meeting the needs of a diverse range of age groups and interests, but it will work to strategically and creatively deal with these demands.

Formatted: Justified

To meet the community's park and recreational needs, the City will have to focus on existing gaps in its parks and recreational system and resolve to meet future needs as it grows over the next 20 years. Meeting current and future needs includes having a full variety of park types, such as neighborhood and community parks as well as enough recreational facilities to support the City's population. Trails are an important feature of the open space system. Trails provide people with valuable links and non-motorized transportation between neighborhoods, parks, schools and other public facilities, and commercial areas. By developing its trail system, the City will improve social interactions, health and mobility for its residents.

These needs can be met through the strategic location of new parks, trails and recreational facilities and by maintaining and upgrading existing facilities. Adherence to adopted Levels of Service (LOS) standards assures that the City is serious about meeting its citywide parks and recreational needs. As will an ongoing dialog with city staff and legislators regarding system wide capital improvements and funding levels. LOS standards will guide the type and location of the new parks and facilities needed and enable the City to require new development to pay its "fair-share" of such facilities.

Planning for and maintaining a network of open space areas and green corridors in and around Black Diamond as it develops is critical for the City to achieve desirable land use and development patterns over time. The intent of this is to enhance and protect the overall appearance and character of the city; to retain its sense of place, design and character. Connected open space areas and green corridors serve many important functions including recreation, fish and wildlife habitat and the connection of individual features that comprise a natural system (e.g. wetlands linked by a stream in a watershed). They help connect people with nature and provide numerous economic, health, and educational benefits as well as allowing spaces where the City's residents can play and rest. Black Diamond open space and green corridors are composed of parks and other publicly owned land, along with sensitive areas and their buffers.

Black Diamond continues to look for ways to improve its parks, recreation, trails, and opens space system. Coordination with other agencies and service providers is necessary for ensuring efficiencies in the utilization of park and recreational facilities and services. The City's network of open space, green corridors and trails needs to have connectivity with the broader, regional network in order to optimize system wide recreational, social and environmental functionality.

**To meet the community's park and recreational needs, however, the City will have to focus on existing gaps in its park and recreational system, and the future needs of the City as it grows over the next 20 years. Current and future needs include having a full variety of park types, such as open space and neighborhood parks, as well as enough recreational facilities, such as baseball diamonds, to support the City's population.**

**These needs can be met through the strategic location of new parks and facilities as well as the maintenance and upgrading of existing facilities. New park and recreational facility standards for the City will guide the type and location of the new parks and facilities needed, and enable the City to require new development to pay its "fair share" of such facilities.**

**These are citywide recreational needs that are usually met through the development of new or existing community parks. The combination of the recreational facilities standards and the park LOS standards will serve as a comprehensive guide for park and recreational development for the City. Table 8-5 shows the proposed recreational facility standards.**

Formatted: Font: 14 pt, Bold

Formatted: Centered, Line spacing: single

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold, Not Highlight

Formatted: Centered

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold

~~Open space corridors serve many important functions including recreation, fish and wildlife habitat and the connection of individual features that comprise a natural system (e.g. wetlands linked by a stream in a watershed). BD open space corridors are composed of parks and other publicly owned land, along with sensitive areas and their buffers.~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt

Formatted: Font: 14 pt, Bold

~~The Parks, ... supports the continued provision of accessible and well-maintained facilities and services for current and future residents. Levels of service are established for ... Policies are established for coordination with other service providers to ensure efficiencies in utilization of park and recreation facilities and services. The City will promote environmental conservation and education for publicly owned natural open space areas.~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold

~~A major component is the need to support future growth, to fix existing and projecting deficiencies, based on Land Use Element, where opportunities arise to make key linkages in the park system.~~

~~Another component to provide neighborhood parks within walking distance of every BD resident. This is best accomplished by providing a system of neighborhood parks which are located within easy reach of residents and which meet diverse recreational needs.~~

~~Trails provide people with valuable links between neighborhoods, parks, schools and other public facilities, commercial areas and other regional non-motorized facilities. In some cases, public trails can provide alternative transportation connections between neighborhoods.~~

~~The City continues to look for ways to improve this system.~~

Formatted: Font: 14 pt, Bold

~~The City continues to be faced with the challenge of meeting the needs of a diverse range of age groups and interests. The City must strategically and creatively deal with the demands.~~

~~-providing additional trails and linkages between parks, open spaces and neighborhoods.~~

~~-developing and maintaining facilities.~~

~~-meeting indoor recreation needs for fitness, athletics, recreation classes and meeting space.~~

~~-enhancing, expanding~~

~~-encouraging healthy lifestyles by providing a variety of opportunities for physical exercise.~~

~~-promoting habitat conservation through acquisition and preservation of important natural areas.~~

~~The City is rich in recreational potential but poor in existing facilities. Given demand for trail and park use in town, and given the potential corridors and open space opportunities, the City has the opportunity to provide for a first-rate park, recreation, and trail system.~~

~~To meet the community's park and recreational needs, however, the City will have to focus on existing gaps in its park and recreational system, and the future needs of the City as it grows over the next 20 years. Current and future needs include having a full variety of park types, such as open space and neighborhood parks, as well as enough recreational facilities, such as baseball diamonds, to support the City's population.~~

~~These needs can be met through the strategic location of new parks and facilities as well as the maintenance and upgrading of existing facilities. New park and recreational facility standards for the City will guide the type and location of the new parks and facilities needed, and enable the City to require new development to pay its "fair share" of such facilities.~~

~~These are citywide recreational needs that are usually met through the development of new or existing community parks. The combination of the recreational facilities standards and the park LOS standards will serve as a comprehensive guide for park and recreational development for the City. Table 8-5 shows the proposed recreational facility standards.~~

### **Park, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Goal, Objectives, and Policies**

**Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Goal:** Support the stewardship of natural resources and amenities throughout the community in the form of parks, trails, open space, and recreation.

**Policy PRTO-1:** Include a variety of active, passive, developed, and natural parks, trails and open spaces that accessible to all residents.

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 14 pt, Bold, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold, Not Highlight

Formatted: Centered, Space Before: 3 pt, After: 9 pt, Line spacing: Exactly 15 pt

Formatted: Font: 14 pt, Bold, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold

Formatted: Centered

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 14 pt, Bold, Font color: Auto, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font color: Auto, Not Highlight

Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 13 pt, Bold, Font color: Auto, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: 13 pt, Font color: Auto, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 13 pt, Bold, Font color: Auto, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 13 pt, Bold, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Bold, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

Formatted

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

Formatted: Justified

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

Policy PRTO-2: Black Diamond’s natural beauty and ecology shall be represented in the parks, recreation, trails and open space system.

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

Policy PRTO-3: Provide a citywide system of recreational facilities that are attractive, safe, functional, assessable and available to all segments of the pollution.

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Policy PRTO-4: Continue development of a trail system which shall connect the City's historic district, neighborhoods, Jones Lake, and Morganville with an integrated King County regional trail system, the new park site at Lake Sawyer, and a state trail system along the Green River.

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Policy PRTO-5: Budgeting for repair and maintenance of existing park and recreational facilities shall be a top priority.

Policy PRTO-6: Development of new parks, trails and open space areas within the City shall involve:

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

a. Strategic planning to identify need, location, partnerships and funding opportunities

b. Obtaining land by purchase or dedication.

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

c. Emphasizing accessibility, recreational and environmental benefits, connectivity for non-motorized transportation, and highlighting the historical aspects of the town’s character.

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

d. Ensuring adequate maintenance and operational funding prior to development of new parks or recreational facilities.

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Highlight

Policy PRTO-7: Maintain an up-to-date Parks Plan.

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Justified

Policy PRTO-8: Coordinate with neighboring cities, school districts, King County and Washington State Parks in the planning and provision of recreational activities and facilities.

Policy PRTO-9: Promote habitat conservation through acquisition and preservation of important natural areas.

Policy PRTO-10: Encourage healthy lifestyles by providing a variety of opportunities for physical exercise.

Policy PRTO-11: Enforce the following adopted Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Level of Service (LOS) standards:

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

<u>Park Types</u>	<u>LOS Standard</u>
<u>Pocket Park</u>	<u>None</u>
<u>Open-Space</u>	<u>10% of City’s Land Area</u>
<u>Neighborhood Park</u>	<u>75% of population within 0.5 mile of a neighborhood park</u>
<u>Community Park</u>	<u>90% of population within 1.5 miles of community park</u>
<u>Trails (Non-motorized)</u>	<u>75% of population within 0.5 mile of a trail</u>

Formatted Table

~~Foster and support the stewardship of natural resources throughout the community in the form of parks, open space, and recreation to serve the needs of the City's residents.~~

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), 10 pt

**Formatted:** Justified

~~Objective CF 6 — Parks should include a variety of active, passive, developed, and natural parks and open space.~~

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), 10 pt, Not Highlight

~~Objective CF 7: — Retention of the area's natural beauty and ecology should be represented in the park and open space system.~~

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), 10 pt

**Formatted:** Justified, Indent: Left: 0", First line: 0"

~~Policy CF 5: — Provide the City with a system of recreation facilities that are attractive, safe, functional, and available to all segments of the population.~~

**Formatted:** Indent: Left: 0", First line: 0"

~~Policy CF 6: — Encourage development of a trail system which will connect the City's historic district, neighborhoods, Jones Lake, and Morganville with an integrated King County regional trail system, the new park site at Lake Sawyer, and a state trail system along the Green River.~~

~~Policy CF 7: — Repairing deficiencies and maintaining the existing park and recreation facilities should be a top priority.~~

~~Policy CF 8: — Development of new parks within the City shall involve:~~

**Formatted:** Indent: Left: 0", First line: 0"

~~a. — Obtaining land by purchase or dedication.~~

~~b. — Developing parks with emphasis on active play areas, park benches, a creek trail or trail connections, and highlighting the historical aspects of the town's development.~~

~~Policy CF 9: — Current Parks, Recreation, and Open Space LOS guidelines include:~~

~~a. — Active Parks: 5 acres per 1,000 population — neighborhood and community parks.~~

~~b. — Passive Parks: 2 acres per 1,000 population.~~

~~c. — Open Space: As identified in the Open Space Plan and Policies.~~

~~Policy CF 10: — Maintain an up-to-date Parks Plan.~~

~~Goal — Protect, preserve and restore natural resource areas.~~

~~Goal — A system of parks, trails, recreational facilities and open spaces that are attractive, safe, functional and assessable to all segments of the population.~~

~~Policy. Develop non-motorized (pedestrian and bicycle) trails within parks and linkages between parks and open spaces and nearby neighborhoods, commercial centers, public facilities (school).~~

~~Policy: Ensure adequate maintenance and operation funding prior to development of parks and recreational facilities.~~



Policy: Ensure that parks are provided using the following standards to determine the needs for parks:

**Table 8-5. Recreational Facility Standards**

Facility Type	Minimum Units Per Population
Basketball Court	1:2,000
Soccer Field	1:2,000
Tennis Court	1:2,000
Play Area	1:2,000
Youth Baseball/Adult Softball Field	1:2,000
Adult Baseball Diamond	1:5,000
Community Center	1:10,000
Skate Park	1:10,000
Youth Football Field	1:10,000
BMX Track	1:20,000
Swimming Pool/Beach	1:20,000

**Regulatory Setting and Relationship to Other Plans**

**Growth Management Act (GMA)**

Cities planning under Washington State’s Growth Management Act (GMA) are required to include a parks and recreation element in their comprehensive plan. RCW 36.70A.070(8) of the GMA states that the parks and recreation element must implement and be consistent with the parks and recreation facilities identified in the Capital Facilities Element. The element must also include three components:

- Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a 10-year period;
- An evaluation of facilities and service needs;
- An evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand.

This Element meets these directives. The Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Appendix provides an inventory and evaluation of demand and facility and service needs.

**Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)**

The RCO is a significant source of grant funding for parks and recreation in the State of Washington. The RCO oversees parks and recreation planning throughout the state and through its grant program and

Formatted: Font: 13 pt

Formatted: List Paragraph, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

Formatted: Font: 13 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 13 pt, Bold

ongoing planning activities, the RCO seeks to enhance and maintain statewide opportunities for recreation and protect the best of the state's wild lands and threatened and endangered species.

The RCO program provides leadership, funding and technical assistance to help communities plan for and implement parks and recreation projects. These projects may include trails, playfields, and other park facilities. In addition, the program helps to protect and restore the state's important habitat and biological heritage through open space protection and conservation.

### Countywide Planning Policies

Formatted: Font: 13 pt, Bold

The King County Countywide Planning Policies (CWPPS) require the identification and protection of local open space in comprehensive plans. The Community Character and Open Space chapter of the King County Comprehensive Plan includes a requirement that all jurisdictions shall identify, establish and protect recreational open space and environmentally sensitive areas (King County, 2012). This requirement encourages policies that establish and contribute to the protection and stewardship of open space lands and green corridors.

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

~~**\*new development will not be denied based on these identified standards. However, mitigation, developer fees or contributions will be required to meet the desired standards.**~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Bold

~~**Policy – Coordinate with neighboring cities, the Community Center King County and Enumclaw School District in the planning and provision of recreational activities and facilities.**~~

Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 8 pt, Line spacing: Multiple 1.08 li

### FINANCING

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Bold

The City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and Capital Facilities Plan contain capital project needs and funding sources for park projects. The parks, recreation, trails and open space projects included in the City's CIP are the result of the overall strategic park planning efforts that include adopted LOS standards.

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Capital project financing comes from a variety of sources including current operating funds, reserve funds, grants, private sector support, and voter-approved general obligation bonds. Additional funding sources such as park impact fees, user/concession fees, special use agreements, public private partnerships, service contracts, and joint development ventures should be explored to ensure the City's financial capacity to meet its parks and recreational needs.

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

In considering various park and recreation revenue sources as described above, funding sources should generally be matched to specific needs in order to take advantage of each fund's specific possibilities. Specific funding strategies may include park and recreation program services user fees and general fund resources for facility maintenance, operation, minor construction, and facility development. Capital

improvements can be funded through the general fund, real estate excise taxes, park impact fees, or other funding sources as described above.

should be explored to finance

**Formatted:** Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt