

# Harrisburg



## Parks Master Plan

### **Final Report for:**

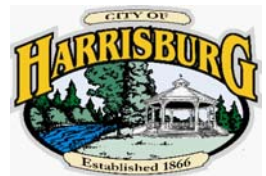
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# Executive Summary

Planning for parks has not received much attention by the City of Harrisburg for quite a few years. The 1980 City of Harrisburg comprehensive plan set a level of service (LOS) goal of 5 acres per thousand residents. As of 2004, to meet the 1980 goal set for park acreage in Harrisburg, the City would need to acquire 12.45 acres of parkland. As a result of the city's deficiency in parkland, and the realization by many city leaders that this problem will only become larger as the city continues to grow, city leadership was organized to address the problem. Mayor Jerry Buckle and the City Council decided in January of 2003, to form a parks committee as a means of addressing the need for parks in Harrisburg. The parks committee then made two important choices to further parks in the City. The first decision was to apply for the University of Oregon RARE (Resource Assistance for Rural Environments) program. Through this program, the committee chose to assign the task of writing a parks master plan to the RARE participant. Secondly, the decision was made to put a proposed park and recreation special district on the November 2004 ballot as one possible way to fund parkland acquisition, development and maintenance in the future.

The formation of the parks committee has given the issue of the City's need for parks real study and attention. Since the formation of the parks committee, the project to write a parks master plan has moved forward, many public involvement workshops have been held, and a proposed park and recreation district is in the process of being put on the November 2004 ballot. While there are many opposing views to how the city should pay for parks, what the park needs are, and where parks should be placed; the issue of the lack of parks in Harrisburg is being discussed, which in itself is beneficial to the City. The purpose of the parks master plan is to provide the city a roadmap to some of the possible routes it can take to achieve its goals for park development when funding becomes available. The parks master plan will layout what Harrisburg has for parks, what some of the preferred possibilities for the future are, and strategic ways to make park goals more achievable. While there are still many unknowns about how parks will be developed in the city, with leadership for parks, this plan will provide a roadmap for parks when the City is ready.

## Park Inventory

The city's only true public park is Riverfront Park which defines the western edge of the city along the Willamette River. This park is a two acre mini-park. The City also leases a small, half-acre mini-park from Burlington Northern Railroad on Smith Street, which provides outdoor picnicking facilities. These two mini-parks are the only public park facilities in the City. The city owns Heritage Park Museum. However, this facility is not a true park. It is an indoor, educational museum facility, with a 100+ indoor seating venue for large events and is currently building a conference room.

The Harrisburg Middle and High School have multiple sports fields; however, public use of these sports fields is contingent on their availability and permission from the school. The school also has two sites with playground equipment; however, this is the only location in town to have playground equipment, and public use of this equipment is only available during non-school hours. There is one county park within the area, located approximately 2 miles north of the City of Harrisburg. There are no plans in the County's 1996 parks master plan to build any new parks in this area.

## **Future Park Additions**

The City of Harrisburg is lacking in public parks which provide active recreational opportunities and in public parks that provide playground equipment. There are three mini-parks in the planning stages, which upon their development, including installation of playground equipment, will satisfy the city's need for mini-parks and playground equipment. However, to alleviate the City's deficiency in park acreage, and to reach its goals for providing a high level of service of parks to the community, the City needs to acquire a large amount of parkland. After discussion in public workshops, a desired level of service goal was set at 7 acres of parkland per thousand residents. Preferably, the acquisition of this needed acreage will result in one large piece of land in a central location on the eastside of town and land acquisition along the river. This would provide a "central" park for Harrisburg, which would alleviate the need for parks on the eastside of the city and also is a desire expressed in multiple public workshops. A "central park" which provides active recreational opportunities and also provides a gathering place for the community has been a preferred vision. Another vision for the future is a more developed riverfront and an extension of Riverfront Park with more access to the river for boaters, pedestrians, and other forms of recreation. Park development needs to provide citizens with active recreational opportunities, because no Harrisburg public parks currently offer this to citizens.

## **Park and Recreation Goals**

With help of those who attended public workshops, public comment, and an analysis of the City's needs, the following goals for parks in Harrisburg were developed.

1. Acquire adequate parkland to meet the needs of existing and future population.
2. Ensure that every child is within walking distance of playground equipment.
3. Ensure adequate outdoor picnicking facilities.
4. Provide adequate sports fields and sports facilities for existing and future populations.

5. Make the necessary investments and plans for the future, in order to build an aquatic center, community center and expanded senior center in the next ten years.
6. Provide a skate park for the youth of Harrisburg.
7. **Improving the Riverfront Part I:** Provide better boating and fishing facilities and better riverfront access.
8. **Improving the Riverfront Part II:** Provide more walking and biking trails, especially by the river, as well as an outdoor amphitheatre for summer events in Harrisburg.
9. Preserve historic resources and promote educational projects which enhance public knowledge of Harrisburg's history.
10. Secure funding to achieve park system goals.
11. Seek to gain partnerships and work together with community organizations and community members.

## Capital Improvement Plan

As part of a strategy for funding parks, a capital improvement program will give a rough estimate of the amount of funding needed to meet park system goals. The priorities for funding will be discussed in a hierarchy of projects; high priority projects should be addressed within the first 1 to 3 years, medium priority projects in years 3 to 6, and low priority projects in years 6-10. Most of the park projects on the priority table are of a high priority because of the City's deficiency in parkland.

Priority of Projects			
Park Project	High	Medium	Low
Land Acquisition	\$500,000 and up		
Playground Equipment Purchase	\$5,000 per mini-park		
Picnicking Facilities and park amenities like horseshoe pits	\$1,000 and up per park		
Development of Sports Fields		\$15,000 and up	
Floating Boat Dock and Path to the River	\$6,000 and up		
Walking Paths	Cost depends on type and location		
Skateboard Park for Youth			\$35,000-\$150,000
Swimming Pool			Possible Bond measure?
<b>Totals</b>	\$524,000 and up	\$15,000	\$35,000 and up

The largest investment and the most costly piece of park development is land acquisition. However, this is a critical first step, because until land is acquired, park development and park projects are unable to move forward. These are the highest priorities that have been established by the Parks Master Plan for completion between the 2004-2014 period.

1. **Continue the leadership and advisory capacity of the Parks Committee; or another form of leadership for Parks.** The leadership of the Parks Committee will continue to be important to ensure the implementation of the park master plan goals and priorities. If a special recreation district is formed, this leadership may be taken over by the elected board of the special district. In any case, whatever the route taken to pursue parks, leadership is essential.
2. **Acquire land for future parks.** In order to meet current and projected needs for parks Harrisburg must acquire land for parks. This is the top priority for parks, and with a LOS goal of 7 acres per 1,000 residents, Harrisburg is currently deficient in 19 acres of parkland.
3. **Make Parks a Priority in City Goals and City Funding.** Even if a special recreation district is passed, the city should remain involved in the development of parks. Parks are an essential part of city infrastructure and contribute to the health of the community. Mindful of this, the city should review the progress of park development in the community every year.
4. **Continue to work with Developers to Acquire Environmentally Sensitive Areas.** Acquiring environmentally sensitive areas can be a win-win situation for the city, developers and the environment. This has proven to be a successful way for the city to acquire land for parks.
5. **Develop the “planned” parks of Priceboro, Harris Glen and Harvest Glen** If these parks are developed with playground equipment and possibly outdoor basketball courts and or tennis courts, the city will meet its goal for having adequate mini-parks, and most children in town will be within walking distance (a quarter of a mile) of playground equipment.

6. **Develop the parkland acquired for future parks.** The first step in building Harrisburg's park system is to acquire parkland. Developing the land acquired with desired park amenities is the next step in the process of building a parks system in Harrisburg.
7. **Continue to involve citizens in the process of parkland development and acquisition.** The parks master plan will layout goals and recommendations for new parks, but this does not negate the need for citizens to be involved in process of park development as the city acquires land. The design and development of future parks should be consistent with park master plan goals, but because there are so many decisions that need to be made when a new park is being developed, citizen involvement continues to be important. The leadership of the parks committee should prioritize citizen involvement in the design of future parks.
8. **Create partnerships with School District, Museum board, VFW, Chamber of Commerce and other community organizations.** Partnerships, although sometimes difficult to form, are generally very beneficial for the community because they lead to an efficient use of resources to accomplish shared community goals, which is in everyone's best interest. Partnerships between community organizations also make the city more attractive to grantees, as they like to see a community which works together towards common goals.
9. **Organize community events and activities that use City parks.** Once parks are developed, having the parks committee or any other community group organize sports events or other special events like the Forth of July celebration, gets the community out enjoying parks together. If citizens use City parks they will grow to love and protect them. Creating community events in parks builds a great community and it also builds a community that values parks.

# Chapter One

## Introduction

Harrisburg is known as one of Oregon's oldest cities, incorporated in 1866. Originally, this area was home to the Native American group called the Kalapuyas who among other reasons, settled in the area because of the proximity to the Willamette River and its tributaries.<sup>1</sup> Later in history, as pioneers entered the area, they chose this area to settle because of the rich and fertile soils for farming and its location near the Willamette River. The Willamette River provided Pioneers a way to transport agricultural goods for sale. Today the river continues to be an asset to the community. During the decade of the nineties, the city of Harrisburg has grown in wealth as well as in population. With a larger population, a wealthier population, and an abundance of natural beauty and a rich heritage, it is a unique time, ripe with opportunity, to plan for the future and take advantage of all the wonders this city has to offer and create beautiful, vibrant parks for generations to come.

The decade of the 1990's was a period of rapid growth and change for the City of Harrisburg. During this decade, Harrisburg was the fastest growing city in Linn County growing from 1,939 in 1990 to 2,795 in 2000.<sup>2</sup> This is a 44.1% increase in population. As of 2004, the population of Harrisburg is approximately 3,000.<sup>3</sup> The financial wealth of the population has also grown significantly in the past decade. Today, fewer Harrisburg citizens are in poverty and Harrisburg's middle class has experienced growth in numbers and in earning power. These trends give a very positive outlook for the future of Harrisburg. A larger, more prosperous city has and will continue to have, a greater number of residents with the economic means to choose parks. In addition, as density increases, especially on the east side of the city, the need for parks and the necessity to plan for them becomes more urgent.

Harrisburg is known and loved by its residents and visitors for its close-knit, small-town feel and warm hearted, family oriented community. Small town values and tradition are important to the residents of Harrisburg. For example, one of the largest events in Harrisburg is its traditional Fourth of July all day celebration, which attracts many visitors to Harrisburg. The City of Harrisburg is also well known for its traditional, white gazebo, which sits along the banks of the Willamette River in Riverfront Park. The gazebo is used to host special events such as concerts and weddings. The City of Harrisburg uses the gazebo for its city logo; it has become a symbol of Harrisburg's pride in its traditional small town values.

As Harrisburg continues to grow, it risks losing some of its ability to have a close and strong community, which comes naturally being such a small town. One way to continue to maintain and nurture the close community that residents of Harrisburg value is to build neighborhood parks. Parks get people out of their homes and talking to neighbors; they bring people together by hosting special events; parks provide a space for neighbors and friends to meet while enjoying local sports, whether as participants or spectators. Parks add to the property

values of adjacent land and can be used as a tool for economic development by attracting tourists and raising property values.<sup>4</sup> As Harrisburg grows, it has a wonderful opportunity to envision what kind of community it would like to become. The City of Harrisburg believes that safe and well maintained parks are vital to the livability and success of this community. This parks master plan will serve citizens as a roadmap to reach park goals and objectives.

## Vision Statement for Parks

*“Through parks the City of Harrisburg strives to make the city more livable for residents and attractive to visitors; providing a place to bring the community together and a place for all ages to recreate and enjoy the city.”*

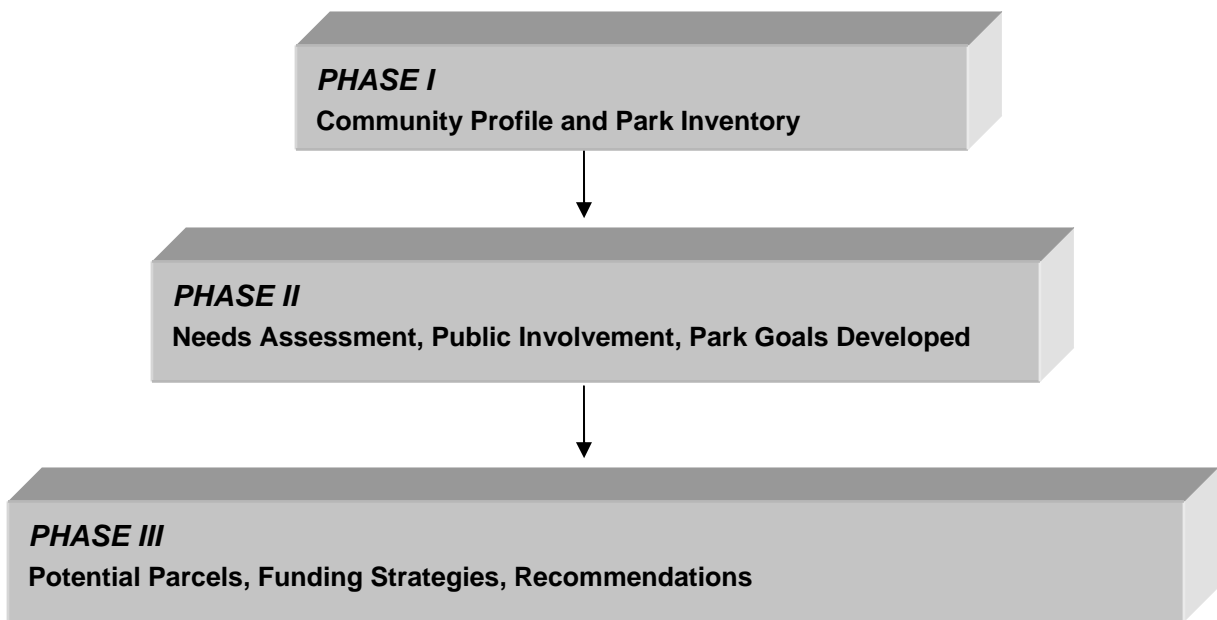
## Study Area

This master plan is written for the purpose of helping the City of Harrisburg strategically acquire land for the development of parks. Some of the parcels discussed in the plan are not within the city limits of Harrisburg. The urban growth boundary will need to be expanded in the near future, so it was appropriate for the vision of future city parks to expand outside the urban growth boundary.

## The Parks Planning Process

Parks planning is not a science but there are strategies and formulas generally followed to plan for parks. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) recommend a systems approach to parks planning. This approach values community preferences as the most important consideration to take into account in the planning process, and then working with existing facilities, available land and other factors as means to meet community preferences. This document has relied on public input and Parks Committee involvement for its recommendations. Through various mediums, many different citizens in the City of Harrisburg were contacted about their park preferences. The NRPA recommendations for park acreage, therefore, will be used only as guidelines. Ultimately, it is the community of Harrisburg’s preferences which have determined the park plan goals and the level of service (LOS) goals for parkland acquisition in Harrisburg.

## Flow Chart of the Park Planning Process



## Organization of the Plan

**Chapter 2: Community Profile:** Examines demographic trends such as population growth, growth in the various age groups within the city, racial composition, income levels, and poverty rates as they relate to planning for parks.

**Chapter 3: Parks Inventory, Findings and Needs Assessment:** This section evaluates what Harrisburg currently has in terms of parks: city, school and county park facilities available. Based on this information and the community profile, findings have been written to highlight specific park deficiencies. A needs assessment of how much and what kinds of parks, according to NRPA classification standards (used only as guidelines) are discussed.

**Chapter 4: Public Involvement and Park Goals:** This section details the public involvement process used to write the parks master plan and reports the various outcomes gained. Park goals are written in response to the public input and detailed timelines for achieving the goals are also set.

**Chapter 5: Potential Park Parcels:** Possible park parcels that could be acquired to achieve city park goals are discussed.

**Chapter 6: Recommendations:** How potential park parcels could host different park facilities and be acquired to meet city park goals is discussed as well as different scenarios for how the city could possibly strategically go about acquiring land for parks.

**Appendix A: Funding Information:** This sheet lists organizations and their contact information for possible grant funding options.

**Appendix B:** Copy of the Survey Sent to City Residents Fall of 2003.

**Appendix C:** List of acronyms

## Chapter Two

# Community Profile

The purpose of this section is to get a sense of how Harrisburg is growing and changing in order to make plans for future parks. The population changes over the past three decades are displayed for the city, county and state. Other demographic features pertinent to park planning such as the changing composition of various age cohorts, the rise of income during the 1990's and the increase in diversity that Harrisburg has experienced during the decade of the 1990's are also discussed. The community profile indicates that the past ten years have been very prosperous for the City of Harrisburg; bringing many new families, a higher median income, a decrease in poverty and an increase in diversity.

## Demographics

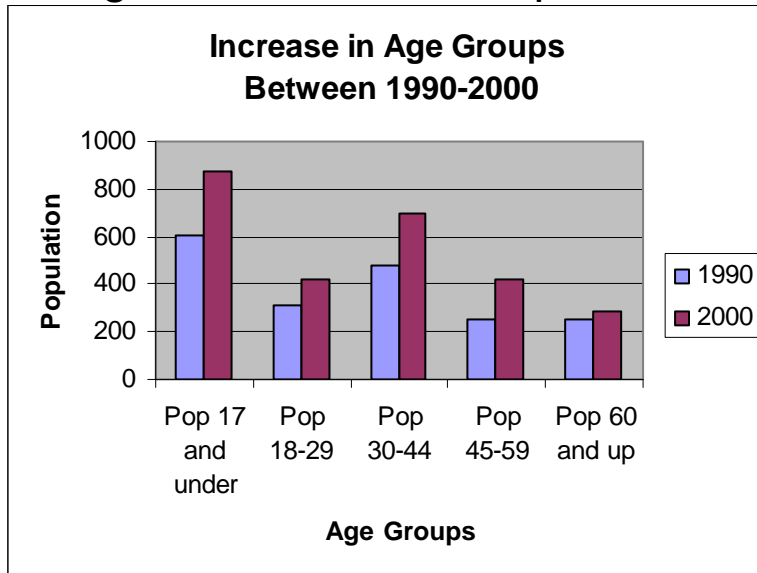
### Population

- According to the 2000 U.S. Census, during the decade of the 1990's Harrisburg was the fastest growing City in Linn County.
- The population grew from 1,939 in 1990 to 2,795 in 2000. This is a 44.1% increase. As of 2004, the population of Harrisburg is approximately 3,000.<sup>5</sup>
- The 1990 Census counted 528 families and the 2000 Census counted 752 families, resulting in a growth rate of 42.4% for families moving in the City. (Family as defined by the US Census is a group of two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.)
- The population of Harrisburg continues to grow explosively; if subdivisions under application are built as planned, Harrisburg will have approximately 3,400 residents by 2006.<sup>6</sup> With an average growth rate of 2.3% a year, there will be approximately 4,000 residents living in Harrisburg by the year 2014.

**Table 2.01 Population growth: Harrisburg, Linn County and the State of Oregon<sup>7</sup>**

	Harrisburg			Linn County			State of Oregon		
	Pop.	%Inc.	AAGR	Pop.	%Inc.	AAGR	Pop.	%Inc.	AAGR
<b>1970</b>	1,311	N/A	N/A	71,914	N/A	N/A	2,091,533	N/A	N/A
<b>1980</b>	1,881	43.4%	4.1	89,495	24.4%	2.4	2,633,156	25.9%	2.6
<b>1990</b>	1,939	3.1%	0.3	88,634	-1.0%	-0.1	2,842,321	7.9%	0.8
<b>2000</b>	2795	44.1%	4.4	103,069	16.2%	1.7	3,421,399	20.4%	2.0

# Age Distribution of Population



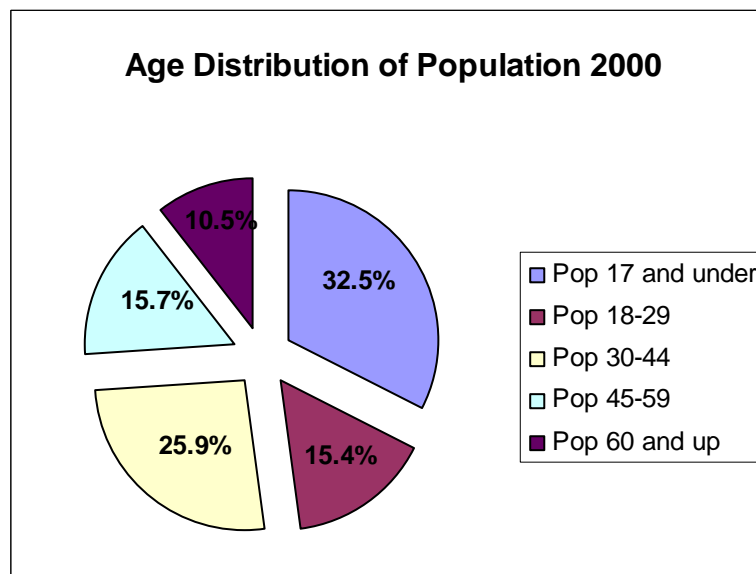
The City of Harrisburg is growing very rapidly. How this population growth is distributed throughout the different age groups in Harrisburg has implications for current and future park users. The composition of the different ages within the population is important to consider in parks planning.

## Graph 2.0 Age Distribution

The population of children 17 and under has grown considerably in the last decade. According to census data, in 1990, there were 608

residents of Harrisburg who were 17 and under, making this age group 32% of the population in 1990. The 2000 census recorded 878 residents of Harrisburg ages 17 and under, making this age group 32.5% of the population. The City of Harrisburg has consistently had a high population of youths aged 17 and under who would benefit greatly from more park and recreational opportunities.

While the actual numbers of the population of the city has grown immensely, overall, as a portion of the whole, the percentages of each age cohort has not changed much during the decade of the nineties. Children continue to be a sizeable portion of the population and the “baby boomer” population of those nearing the age of retirement has also been growing.



## Percent Increase Population: Age Cohorts

**Table 2.07 Percent Increase 1990-2000: Age Cohorts<sup>8</sup>**

Age Cohorts	% Increase
Under 5	62%
5 to 9	23%
10 to 14	43%
15 to 17	54%
18 and 19	103%
20 to 21	69%
22 to 24	-22%
25 to 29	29%
30 to 34	17%
35 to 39	45%
40 to 44	97%
45 to 49	76%
50-54	103%
55-59	29%
60-61	138%
65-69	1%
70 & up	7%

Because the City of Harrisburg has such a small population, small changes over time in the composition of the population will be magnified. However, this data is useful to understand how the population is growing and changing in the city.

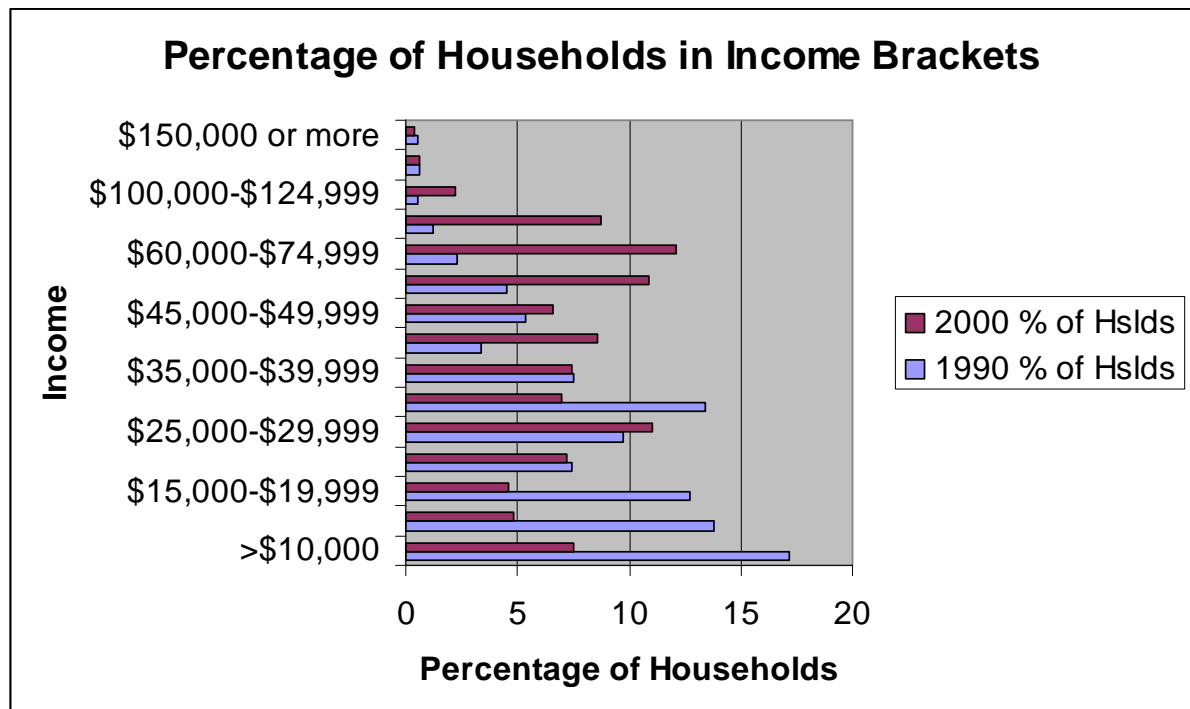
The population distribution indicates a very young population, with youth, their parents, and a growing population of persons of the age to retire. The only decline in population was in the age group of 22-24 years of age. Because Harrisburg is such a small town, this age group most likely leaves home for further education and training at this time.

The population trends of the City of Harrisburg follow national trends for population growth. The Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines manual, a project of the National Recreation and Park Association, advises recreation planners to consider these demographic trends. According to this manual, planners should be aware of, “(the) aging of society –by 2030 baby boomers will be senior citizens (1/3 of the population).<sup>9</sup> The NRPA parks manual also instructs that demographic trends for the future will require more emphasis on both eldercare and childcare. The needs of the youth and senior population are especially important to consider because besides their growing numbers, these are also age groups which have more leisure time, and therefore, would have more time to spend at parks.

# Income

The decade of the nineties was very prosperous for the City of Harrisburg. Poverty was reduced significantly and the middle class experienced considerable growth. Poverty decreased from 13.8% to 9.7% during the 10 year span, while simultaneously, the middle class grew larger. The number of households making 50K-99K grew by 23.8% during the decade. The median income of Harrisburg was \$40,103 in the 2000 census. The income of the residents of Harrisburg grew much faster than did the state income, causing the city's median income to catch up with the rest of the state. The wealth of the community has grown significantly during the nineties. As growth continues both economically and for its population, Harrisburg will have a larger middle class with the financial means to pay for parks if they so desire.

**Graph 2.08 Household Income: 1990 in comparison with 2000<sup>10</sup>**



## Poverty Status 1990 and 2000

**Table 2.09 Poverty Status**

<b>Age Groups</b>	<b>1990 Number of Persons in Poverty by age</b>	<b>Percentage of the Population Below the Poverty Level 1990</b>	<b>2000 Number of Persons in Poverty by age</b>	<b>Percentage of the Population Below the Poverty Level 2000</b>
<b>Total Pop. below poverty level:</b>	267	13.8%	269	9.7%
<b>Under 5 years</b>	36	1.9%	28	1.0%
<b>5 years</b>	11	0.6%	4	0.1%
<b>6 to 11 years</b>	40	2.1%	34	1.2%
<b>12 to 17 years</b>	22	1.1%	35	1.3%
<b>18 to 64 years</b>	129	6.7%	154	5.5%
<b>65 to 74 years</b>	14	0.7%	5	0.2%
<b>75 years and over</b>	15	0.8%	9	0.3%

(US Census SF3 Sample Data: Poverty status by age: Universe: persons for whom poverty status is determined 1990 and 2000)

**Table 2.10 Poverty Status: Linn County, State of Oregon and City of Harrisburg**

	<b>'90 % Pop. Poverty</b>	<b>'00 % Pop. Poverty</b>
<b>Linn County</b>	13.7%	11.40%
<b>State of Oregon</b>	12.1%	11.36%
<b>City of Harrisburg</b>	13.8%	9.7%

(US Census SF3 Sample Data: Poverty status by age: Universe: persons for whom poverty status is determined 1990 and 2000)

**Table 2.11 Median Household Income**

<b>Median Household Income City of Harrisburg</b>		
1990	2000	% increase
\$ 23,257	\$ 40,103	72.4%

<b>Median Household Income State of Oregon</b>		
1990	2000	% increase
\$ 27,250	\$ 40,916	50.2%

US Census SF3 (1990 and 2000)

## **Higher Income of Retirees**

The population of persons nearing the age of retirement in Harrisburg experienced growth during the 1990s. Research done indicates that, “In terms of per-capita disposable income in the United States, the 55-to-59, 60-to-64, and 65-to-69 age cohorts are wealthier than any other 5 year age-range cohorts.”<sup>11</sup> This population, which is growing, will demand more recreational opportunities as their numbers grow. In addition, this population will have more time for leisure and more resources to spend on recreational activities. Having more recreational opportunities available and creating a more livable city for this population, which includes parks and recreational opportunities, is a way to insure these more affluent retirees stay and continue moving to the City of Harrisburg.

## **Housing and Density**

Much of the explosive growth in Harrisburg is due to the construction of new family style housing subdivisions. These new subdivisions have brought a greater density of housing to the east side of the city, as well as increasing the population.

---

**Table 2.12 New Subdivision Growth Since 1990<sup>12</sup>**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name of Subdivision</b>	<b>Number of New Dwellings</b>
2004	Harris Glen Phase II	Approx. 20
2004	Spurlock Meadows	8
2003	Harris Glen	39
2003	Max Hammer Park	31
2003	Kwake Estates	26
2003	Marcus Landing	38
2003	North Eagle and South Eagle	24
2000	Harriswood Estates	54
1998	Paddock Duplexes (La Salle Crossing)	16
1997	Harvest Glen	31
1996	9th Street Meadows	92
1995	Clover Leaf Estates	75
1993	Branten Park	14
<b>Total number of new subdivision dwellings</b>		<b>468</b>

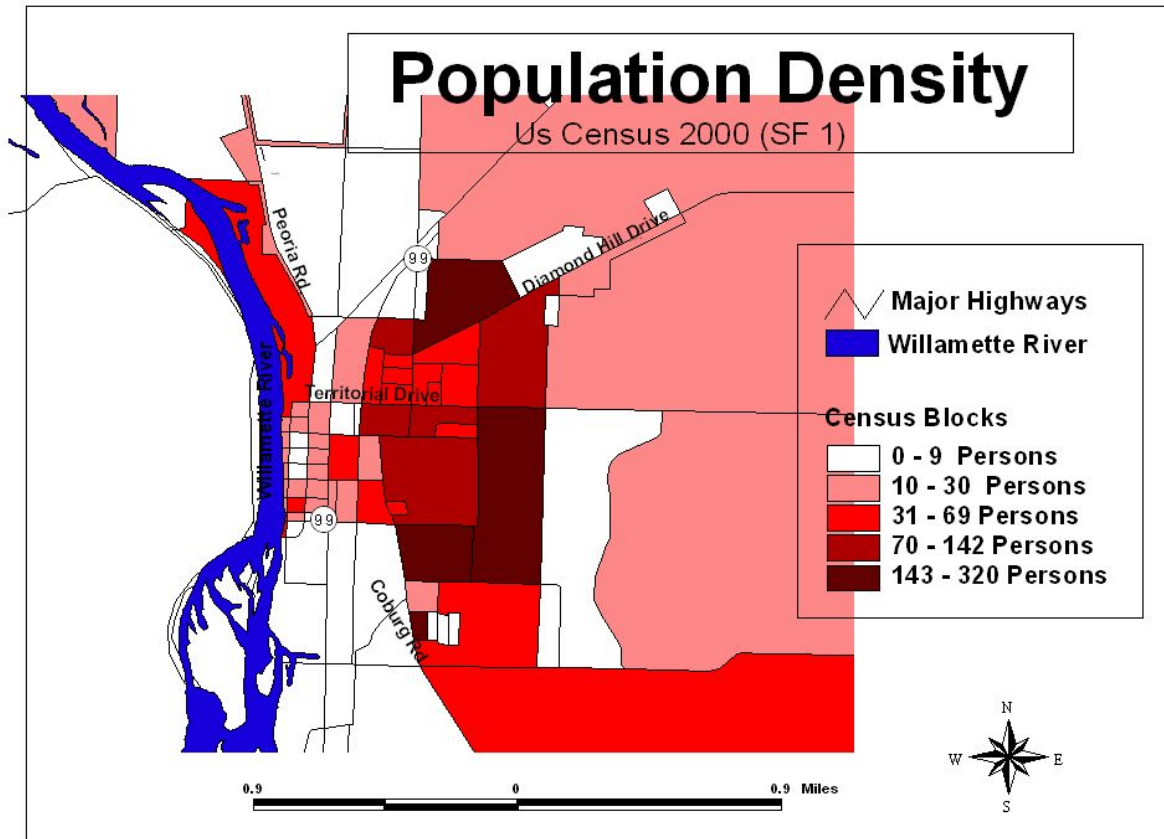
## **Growth due to New Subdivisions**

New subdivisions have been a large contributor to population growth. These dwellings are composed of single family homes with some duplex units.

These new subdivisions are primarily on the east side of the City. The population density map (Map 2.1) shows how the east side of the City is denser than the west side of the City. Map 2.1 of Population Density uses census 2000 data and does not reflect the large number of new homes built on the east side of the city in the last few years. With the barrier of the Willamette River, growth of the city has been concentrated on the eastside of the city.

The one true public park in town, Riverfront Park, is located on the west side of town. As of 2004, there are no public parks available to residents on the east side of the City. The residents of these new subdivisions as of 2004 have no walking access to public parks.

## Map 2.1 Population Density 2000



### Tenure

The 2000 census reported that 74.6% of Harrisburg residents live in owner occupied residences. This is a higher percentage of owner occupied housing than either Linn County or the State of Oregon. A higher percentage of owner occupied residences generally means the community is less transient and more invested in the city they live in. This also means that more home owners would receive the economic benefits that parks development would bring to adjacent land and home owners.

**Table 2.13 1990 Tenure Rates for the State of Oregon, Linn County and the City of Harrisburg**

	<b>State of Oregon</b>	<b>% of total</b>	<b>Linn County</b>	<b>% of total</b>	<b>City of Harrisburg</b>	<b>% of total</b>
<b>Owner occupied</b>	695,957	63.1%	22,757	65.6%	518	75.0%
<b>Renter occupied</b>	407,356	36.9%	11,959	34.4%	173	25.0%

**Table 2.14 2000 Tenure Rates for the State of Oregon, Linn County and the City of Harrisburg**

	<b>State of Oregon</b>	<b>% of total</b>	<b>Linn County</b>	<b>% of total</b>	<b>City of Harrisburg</b>	<b>% of total</b>
<b>Owner occupied</b>	856,951	64.2%	26,854	67.9%	738	74.6%
<b>Renter occupied</b>	476,772	35.7%	12,687	32.0%	251	25.4%

## Race

During the 1990's not only has Harrisburg grown, but it has also become more diverse. The Hispanic and Latino population has experienced an incredible increase. This follows state and regional trends; however, at a much greater rate.

The state of Oregon and its counties and cities are becoming much more diverse places to live and play. This has implications for the future, because these groups are part of the community and will have a voice in shaping it. A more diverse state, county and city will require more communication and understanding of other cultures and their viewpoints. Diversity can bring new life into a community with new traditions, foods and cultures. For example, in Harrisburg, a new and popular restaurant is Toreros. Parks create space for the community to communicate and, can provide places for cultural events and festivals. Parks can provide public spaces for cultures to share and merge, bringing enrichment to all.

**Table 2.15 Race 1990-2000 City of Harrisburg**

	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Percent Increase</b>
<b>Total Population</b>	1939	2795	44.1%
<b>White Alone</b>	1860	2599	39.7%
<b>Hispanic or Latino</b>	52	159	205.7%
<b>Other</b>	79	322	

(The numbers in the “other” category between 1990 and 2000 are not comparable because the way the census data was taken changed during this period. Also, the numbers don’t add up to the total population because not all of the ethnic categories available on the census sheet are displayed and for the 2000 census it is possible to check more than one ethnicity.)

# **Chapter Three**

## **Park Inventory, Needs Assessment, Deficiencies**

### **Existing Park Inventory**

The City only owns one true park: Riverfront Park. However, the city leases a small mini-park “BN Park” and school facilities are able to be used on a limited basis. Due to the small size of Harrisburg, school park facilities and ball fields are often the only sports facilities available. Therefore, these facilities are important to the community. School facilities will be included in the parks inventory, to give an idea of what the public has available for recreation, even if it is on a limited basis. There is also a hope that in the future, perhaps the city and the school district can work together to create an aquatic center. Existing site descriptions will be given for Riverfront Park, Heritage Park, BN Park, and playground facilities for the Junior High and Elementary. Other school facilities will be discussed after the existing site tables. Three important factors will be used to evaluate existing and potential parkland: the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) park classifications, NRPA national park level of service requirements, and location of parks. These criteria will address: 1.) what kinds of parks the City has and needs; 2.) how the City compares nationally in terms of park access; and 3.) whether the layout of parks in the City allows an even and fair distribution of parks to all residents.

### **NRPA Park Classifications Defined**

When considering the existing parks and proposed parks, it is useful to classify parks in order to determine what park needs are and are not being met. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) developed a national classification system for parks that will be used for this document. Existing and proposed parks in this document will be classified according to these criteria. However, in some cases, the park types overlap and can fit into multiple park categories. For instance, because Harrisburg is a small city it has a number of mini-parks. These mini-parks are all located within walking distance of residential areas. There are also several mini-parks within the city which as of 2004 that are in the planning stages of development. All of these proposed mini-parks are located in new subdivisions. These parks are classified by the NRPA as mini-parks because of their size; however, because they are located within neighborhoods they also could be considered neighborhood parks. In this document a new definition has been created to describe mini-parks which also function as neighborhood parks. This definition of a mini-neighborhood park is unique to this document and is not from the NRPA.

## NRPA Park Classifications<sup>13</sup>

### Mini-Park

The purpose of a mini-park is to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs. **Location Criteria:** the service range of these parks is a quarter of a mile radius in a residential setting; **Size Criteria:** Between 2,500 feet and one acre in size.

### Neighborhood Park

The neighborhood park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation. The purposes of these parks are to provide a place for kids to play, a place for the neighborhood to host small picnics and events. These parks should be designed around the needs of the particular neighborhood that they are serving. **Location Criteria:** between a quarter to a half a mile service range for these parks. This distance should be uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers. **Size Criteria:** 5 acres (according to NRPA) is considered the minimum size.

### Mini-Neighborhood Park

The mini-neighborhood park is not a classification given by the NRPA parks and open space classification table; however, for the purposes of Harrisburg's parks master plan this new classification for parks has been developed. Many of the existing and proposed parks in Harrisburg fit within the size and purpose of the mini-park criteria yet also are located within a neighborhood and therefore share the purpose and characteristics of a neighborhood park even their size classifies them as a mini-park. These parks are small parks which look and feel like mini-parks, yet their purpose and function matches that of a neighborhood park.

### Community Park

A community park serves a broader segment of the population and may include intensive facilities such as sports courts and playfields, or natural areas for walking. **Location Criteria:** These parks serve the general population and therefore a central location is preferable. **Size Criteria:** Generally these parks are between 2.5-over 10 acres.

### School Park

Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex and special use. These projects work when the school and city can work together to jointly achieve common goals. **Location Criteria:** determined by the location of school property. **Size Criteria:** Variable depends on the function of the park.

### Natural Resource Areas

These are lands set aside for the preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. **Location**

**criteria** are dependent on resource availability and opportunity. The **size criteria** are variable.

### **Greenways**

Greenways are used to tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment. The location criteria are dependent on resource availability and opportunity and size criteria are variable.

### **Sports Complex**

This type of park consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities to larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community. The location criteria are that these facilities are located so that the whole community can easily access them, a central location is preferred. The size criteria is determined by projected demand; usually a minimum of 25 acres.

### **Special Use**

These types of parks are oriented towards one single-purpose use, and their location criteria and size criteria are dependent on their purpose.

### **Private Park/ Recreation Facility**

Parks and recreation facilities that are privately owned yet contribute to the Public Park and recreation system. Their location and size criteria are dependent on their specific use.

## **NRPA National Standards and Needs Assessment**

The NRPA developed national standards to be used as a general benchmark for how much parkland would be desirable in a community. However, the NRPA realized that while these standards provide a look at what the “average” community should have in terms of park access, the standards do not acknowledge that each community is different and therefore has different needs for parks. In response to this, the 1995 publication of Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Guidelines Manual<sup>14</sup> suggests that each community should determine their own level of service (LOS) goals in order to best reflect the community’s unique needs for parks and recreation. During a parks workshop the Level of service goal for Harrisburg was set at seven acres per thousand persons. This is a little less than NRPA recommendations, but for a small community, this level of service should provide adequate parkland. Community taste and values are more important than national standards. The standards are still helpful, however, because they can provide guidelines to help communities decide upon priorities for needed and existing parkland.

**Table 3.1 NRPA Park Recommendations**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Planned Parks (as of 2004)</b>	<b>2004 NRPA Recommend.</b>	<b>2014 NRPA Recommend.</b>
<b>Swimming Pool</b>	1 pool per 10,000 pop.	None	None	Only if the community highly values a pool	Only if the community highly values a pool
<b>Ball Fields</b>	1 Field per 2,000 pop.	Only school facilities, none for public use	None	2.5 acres	3.3 acres
<b>All purpose courts</b>	1 court per 2,500 pop.	None	None	1.2 acres	1.6 acres
<b>Mini-Parks</b>	0.5 acres per 1,000 pop.	BN Park 0.46 acres Riverfront: 2.09 acres	3.11 acres	Achieved	0.14 acres
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>	2.5 acres per 1,000 pop.	None	0	7.5 acres	10.0 acres
<b>Community Parks</b>	5 acres per 1,000 pop.	None	None	15.0 acres	20.0 acres
<b>Totals</b>		2.55 acres	3.11 acres	26.2 acres	35.04 acres

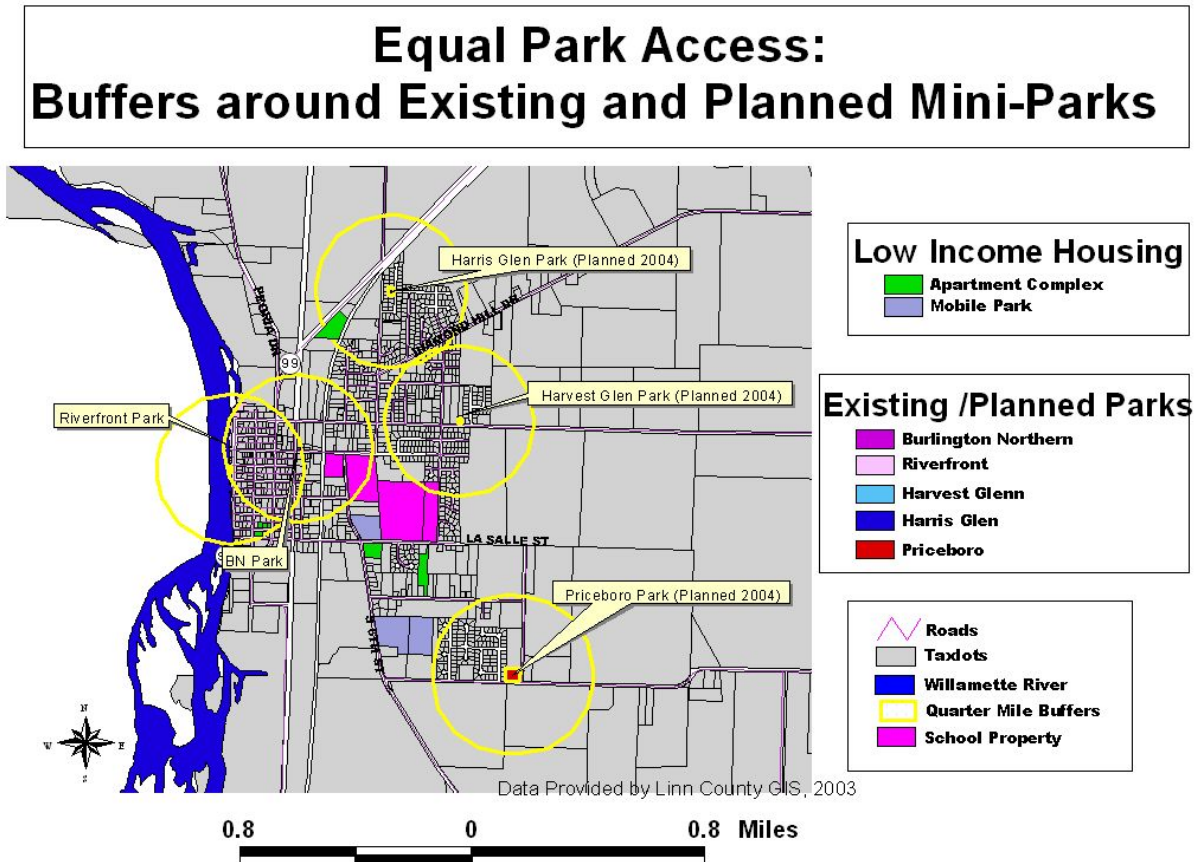
According to NRPA recommendations, upon the development of planned mini parks, the city will have sufficient mini-parks for the next ten years. This indicates that the Cities priorities for parks in the future should be medium to large parks, community and neighborhood parks.

## Equal Access to Parks

Equal access to all new parks is important so that children and families from all housing types and income levels will have easy access to future Harrisburg parks. Map 3.1 Equal Park Access, shows the location of residents in Harrisburg who are within a quarter of a mile walking distance of existing and planned city mini parks. This map also shows existing mobile home communities and apartment complexes. Both mobile home communities and an apartment

complex at 6<sup>th</sup> and LaSalle in the City of Harrisburg are not within a quarter of a mile of access to public mini-parks; whereas, the majority of the rest of the city does have access to these mini-parks. These communities are close to the school property, however, which does provide them access to playground facilities. However, if new subdivisions are the only places which are able to acquire land for new parks (which has been the case as of 2004), this could further lead to inequity in terms of access to public parks.

### Map 3.1 Equal Park Access



### Inventory and Locations of Existing Public Parks

As of 2004, the only existing parks in Harrisburg are mini-parks and mini-neighborhood parks.

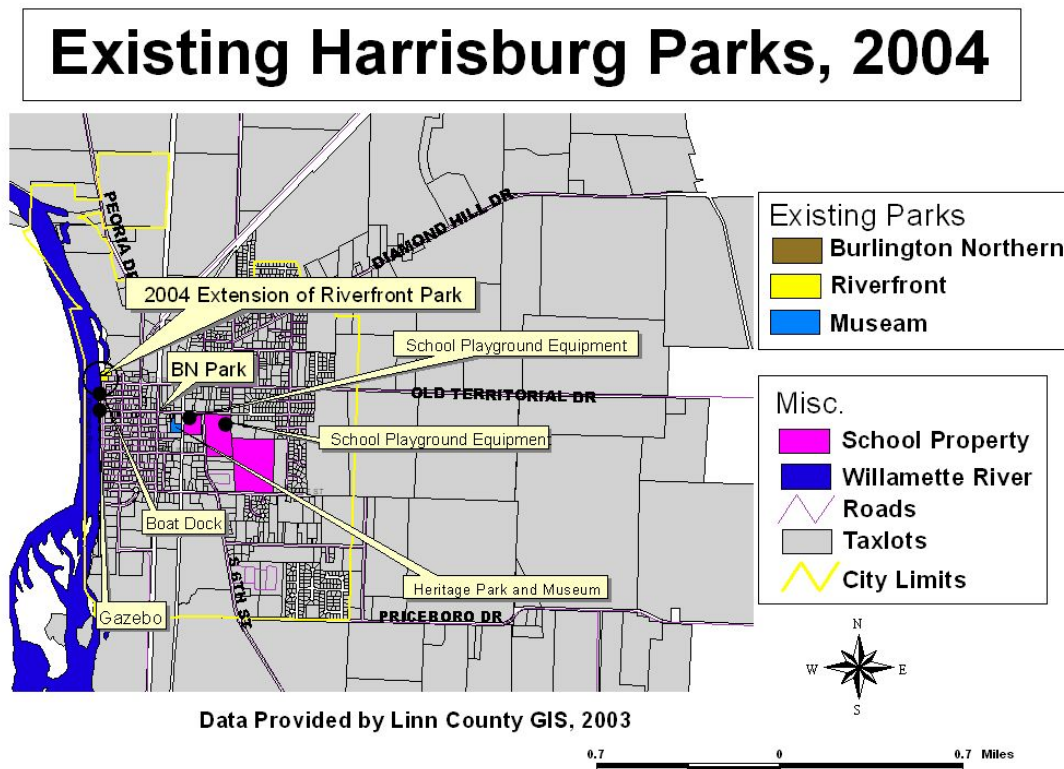
## Level of Service for Parkland

In comparison to nearby communities, the citizens of Harrisburg enjoy less parkland per resident than do the residents of its near-by neighbors of Brownsville and Junction City.

**Table 3.2 Level of Service**

Information Source	Level of Service (LOS)
NRPA Recommendation	10-20 acres per 1,000 residents
As of 1999, Pacific NW Cities <sup>15</sup>	8.1 acres per 1,000 residents
As of 2003, City of Brownsville	20 acres per 1,000 residents
As of 2004, Junction City	4.79 acres per 1,000 residents (including city leased ball fields)
As of 2004, City of Harrisburg	0.85 acres per 1,000 residents (including leased BN Park but not including Heritage Museum)

**Map 3.2 Existing Harrisburg Parks, 2004**



## Riverfront Park



## Harrisburg Existing Parks

**Table 3.2 Riverfront Park**

**Table 3.2 Riverfront Park**

<b>Location</b>	Along the banks of the Willamette River from La Salle Street north to Territorial. See Map 3.2
<b>Size/Dimensions</b>	A long, narrow strip of parkland. Vertically, it is approx. 685 long between the gazebo and the alley north of Kesling. The width of the strip is approximately 11 feet at its narrowest and 56 feet at its widest. The recent addition of parkland to the north is 402 feet long. This park is approximately 2.09 acres. (See map 5.2)
<b>Classification</b>	Mini-Park
<b>ADA Accessible</b>	Riverfront park is fully ADA accessible. However, access to the river banks is not ADA accessible because the only way to access to the river shoreline is via the boat ramp. In the future, a path which is ADA accessible, and a path which would give non boating recreationalists access to the river is desired.
<b>Park Amenities</b>	Gazebo, two picnic tables, two benches, BBQ grill, a boat ramp, restrooms, paved parking lot, trash receptacles, drinking fountain, and decorative street lamps. Parking lot with 11 spaces, all of which can accommodate RV and boat parking.
<b>Condition</b>	Excellent
<b>Type of Use</b>	Passive recreational activities and special events in gazebo.
<b>Opportunities</b>	Scenic river view, the park is well maintained. Riverfront park embodies the identity of Harrisburg with its classic white, gazebo. This park is already important to the residents of Harrisburg. There is an undeveloped riverfront natural area to the north and south, which could provide for an extension of this park in the future. A nature trail could be extended to the south where it could connect with another natural area. The extension of trails north and south would have the potential for creating a loop back to public roads. This will improve access to the park and create a circuitous trail for walkers, joggers and bicyclists.
<b>Constraints</b>	Land to the north and south of riverfront park is not owned by the City. The park has had problems with vandalism. Certain residents have mentioned that they don't feel safe at the park because of illegal activity in the neighborhood.

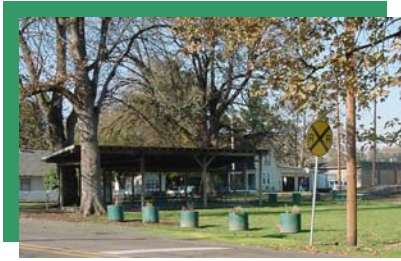
## Heritage Museum Park



**Table 3.4 Heritage Museum Park**

<b>Location</b>	<b>490 Smith Street, behind the fire station</b>
<b>Size/Dimensions</b>	1.21 acres, square lot with a strip leading into the property. Three buildings sit on the property: an old home which houses artifacts, the picnic pavilion and another building to display restored farm equipment and other antiques. See Map 3.2.
<b>ADA Accessible</b>	Fully ADA accessible.
<b>Classification</b>	Special Use: Historical/Cultural
<b>Park Amenities</b>	Picnic Pavilion, seen above, can seat up to 100 people for special events. In 2004, new restrooms and a conference room have been added. The park is more of a museum than a true park, with a multitude of restored historic machines and historic buildings.
<b>Condition</b>	Excellent
<b>Type of Use</b>	Educational; with space to host special events and meetings.
<b>Opportunities</b>	There is an opportunity to create an outdoor park within the museum facilities. The museum is filled with interesting artifacts and is immaculately taken care of, so it would work well if the City could find a way to build upon these resources and add on to the museum to include some kind of outdoor park within these grounds. There is undeveloped land available on this site. This land is intended for a future City Hall, but includes enough space for parkland between the City Hall and museum buildings. It is anticipated this park area would be well suited for a passive use, such as a rose garden.
<b>Constraints</b>	There is a lack of parking. This is problematic especially for large events, which the picnic pavilion hosts. The museum has plans for expansion, which would increase the need for parking. Room is available for additional parking. However, the availability of funds is the main obstacle.

## Burlington Northern Park



**Table 3.5 Burlington Northern Park**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Corner of 4th and Smith Streets</b>
<b>Size/Dimensions</b>	0.46 Acres, a square parcel 93'X100'. The covered picnic structure is 18'X43" See Map 3.2
<b>ADA Accessible</b>	This park is ADA accessible.
<b>Classification</b>	Mini-Park
<b>Park Amenities</b>	The picnic structure consists of a metal roof structure over concrete slab. Under this structure there are two picnic tables, a water spigot, drinking fountain, and trash receptacle, and BBQ. During the summer there is one picnic table on the grass. Green cement flower planters line Smith Street and 4th.
<b>Condition</b>	Run-down
<b>Type of Use</b>	Picnics; passive recreational use
<b>Opportunities</b>	The park has good access; it is close to downtown Harrisburg. The park has beautiful, huge old big-leaf maples and cedars surrounding the property. The planters if maintained could add to the City visually.
<b>Constraints</b>	The park is not owned by the City. It is leased from Burlington Northern Railroad. This impacts, to some degree, the amount of investment the City might be willing to make in the park. The park is right next to the railroad so the noise of the train will be experienced during train crossings.

## **Harrisburg School District Park Facilities**

School park facilities are not officially considered City parks. However, because Harrisburg is a small town, it can be very beneficial to work in partnership with the school to combine school and public uses of sports facilities.

### **Partnerships are beneficial for Parks**

Partnerships between the school and city for park development are especially important for rural communities where community facilities are fewer. When the city and the school district work together it truly benefits citizens by making more efficient use of resources and providing more facilities to both school kids and the general public. With this in mind, as both the school district grows and the city grows, both parties should work to find common goals and use that as a basis for working together.

For example, the city of Junction City, which is just four miles from Harrisburg, has an agreement with its school district to lease 7 acres of ball fields. The city leases property between the elementary school and middle school for ball field purposes and so the city has first priority for use for these ball fields. As part of the agreement, the city is in charge of the maintenance for these 7 acres. The ball fields at the high school and middle school which are not leased by the city, have first priority use by the school, however city uses are only second priority to school uses. In turn, the city rents out its parks and swimming pool to the school district at reduced rates. This partnership between the school and the city benefits all citizens by providing both the city and the school district access to more recreational facilities; and it also uses resources and tax dollars more efficiently by working together to serve citizens.

Currently, the City of Harrisburg and the school district do not have a working agreement to share the use of sports fields. However, as the City becomes more serious about providing for citizens needs for parks and the population continues to grow, requiring the school and city to grow, hopefully the school and city can work together and keep the best interests of the community in mind when planning park and recreational facilities for the future.

## **Harrisburg School District Park and Recreation Facilities**

The playground facilities and the tennis courts will be discussed in the tables below. Other school recreational facilities include: three ball fields at the High School, one ball field at the Junior High and one at the elementary school grounds. The High School also has a multi-use field that can accommodate soccer and other sports. In total the school owns 20 acres of land. Of the 20 acres, 16 acres has been developed into sports fields and other recreational facilities. Four acres of school property is currently undeveloped. The elementary and middle schools have two basketball backboards located under a large open sided covered area. The backboards and hoops are in fair condition.

The playing surface is asphalt and in fair condition. There are no full court outdoor basketball facilities.

**Table 3.6 Play facility to the West of Elementary School**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Smith and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets</b>
<b>Size</b>	90'X80' (0.17 acres)
<b>ADA Accessible</b>	This playground is not fully ADA accessible.
<b>Classification</b>	School Facility
<b>Play Surface</b>	Gravel
<b>Park Amenities:</b>	Playground unit that includes a slide, metal tube bridge, two tire swings, various climbing apparatuses. A new swing set with 2 swings was installed in 2004. Six tractor type tires embedded in ground for climbing purposes. Two tennis courts, adjacent to the playground are in such a state of disrepair that they are unable to be used.
<b>Condition</b>	Good; playground equip. is approximately 15 years old so it requires regular maintenance. The tennis courts are in such bad condition, they are unusable.
<b>Type of Use</b>	School use and some use by the general public; active use by kids 12 and under
<b>Opportunities</b>	This playground equipment could possibly be expanded, which would be worthwhile if there were adequate opportunities for the general public to take their kids to the playground. The tennis courts have substantially deteriorated to a state where they are presently not usable. Also, there are school sports fields nearby, and kids with families that are going to games could use the playground equipment while their siblings participate in different sports activities. There is opportunity to build on what exists here.

**Table 3.7 Play facility east of Elementary School**

<b>Location</b>	Located behind the front entrance of the elementary school (east side of the building)
<b>Size</b>	Oval, half-moon shaped playground with dimensions of approximately 118'X54'
<b>ADA Accessible</b>	This playground is not ADA accessible.
<b>Classification</b>	School facility; New equipment 2002
<b>Play Surface</b>	Woodchips
<b>Park Amenities</b>	New playground facilities were completed summer of 2002. The playground consists of 6 swings, 1 large slide, 2 larger "play stations" each with 2 plastic slides and climbing equipment. In addition, there is a rolling arm swing on a hinge and a small play station with holes for climbing and a barrel roll and other climbing.
<b>Condition</b>	Excellent
<b>Type of Use</b>	School use with some use by the general public; active use with kids 12 and under

## County Parks

The residents of the City of Harrisburg have one county park in close proximity: Mc Cartney Park two miles north of the city. This park provides a boat dock and it is 21.5 acres. It primarily serves boaters and other river recreational users. The 1996 Linn County parks master plan does not include any new parks for the Harrisburg area. The County has indicated, however, that they would be willing to consider a partnership with the City of Harrisburg for parks, especially for waterfront property.

## County Parks Master Plan

The 1996 County parks master plan has a goal of acquiring more of riverfront property. A partnership between the City of Harrisburg and the County parks could provide an opportunity to develop greater riverfront access for both the City of Harrisburg and the region.

## Summary of All Existing Park Facilities

Table 3.8 Summary of All Existing Park Facilities			
Park Facility	Park Classification	Acreage	Ownership
<b>True City Park</b>			
Riverfront Park	Passive Mini-Park	1.09 acres	City
<b>City Museum Park</b>			
Heritage Museum	Passive Educational Facility	1.21 acres	City
<b>Private Park</b>			
BN Park	Passive Mini-Park	0.46 acres	Burlington Northern
<b>School Parks</b>			
Elementary, Middle and High School Grounds	Active	20 acres (with 4 acres undeveloped)	School
<b>Total Acres All types of Parks</b>		44.26 acres	
<b>Total Acres City Park and Museum</b>		2.30 acres	
<b>Total Acres True City Park</b>		2.09 acres	

## Evaluation of Deficiencies

Upon reviewing demographic trends and doing an inventory of what exists, an evaluation of current deficiencies can be used as a tool to guide the planning for parks in the future.

### Findings: Demographics

- Harrisburg is experiencing explosive population growth; there will be approximately 4,000 residents living in Harrisburg by the year 2014.
- Families as defined by the census (Family as defined by the US Census is a group of two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption ) have had a 42.4% increase from 1990-2000.

- As of the 2000 census, 32.5% of the population was 17 or under. Nearly a third of the population is of the age to heavily utilize parks, sports fields and playground equipment.
- The number of citizens nearing or entering retirement has grown during the 1990's. According the U.S. census, during this decade, the age group of 50-54 experienced a 103% increase and the age group of 65-60 experienced a 138% increase. This makes planning for park facilities that cater to the needs of those at the age of retirement especially important.

### **Findings: Income**

- During the decade of the 1990's poverty decreased from 13.8% to 9.7% in the City of Harrisburg (U.S. Census)
- The number of households making 50K-99K grew by 23.8% during the decade of the 1990's.
- The median household income in Harrisburg grew at a faster rate than the state median household income, with a 72.4% increase in the past decade.

### **Findings: Tenure**

- The 2000 census reported that 74.6% of Harrisburg residents live in owner occupied residences; this is higher than both Linn County and State percentages of owner occupied housing.

### **Findings: Density and Housing**

- The east side of Harrisburg has the greatest population density and is the area which continues to experience growth. Currently, the east side of Harrisburg has no parks, except for school facilities. Besides planned mini-parks, there are no public parks on this side of town.

### **Findings: Race**

- The City of Harrisburg has followed state and national trends of becoming a more diverse city. During the 1990's the Hispanic and Latino population experienced a 205.7% increase.

### **Findings: Parks**

- Harrisburg set a level of service (LOS) goal of 7 acres of parkland per thousand residents. As of 2004, this means the city is deficient in 18.45 acres of parkland.
- According to NRPA standards, Harrisburg is currently deficient in ball fields, all purpose courts, neighborhood parks and community parks.
- A map of existing parks and parks in the planning stage suggests that some mobile home communities and apartment complexes will not be within the suggested quarter mile radius of mini-park access when planned mini-neighborhood parks are built.
- The only playground equipment currently available is school equipment located in the center of town. This leaves many kids out of walking distance to playground facilities and equipment.

- All of the current athletic fields located in the City are owned and operated by the school district. For facilities like a baseball dug-out the public must get permission from the school to use these school facilities. Adult leagues must leave Harrisburg for games.
- The only tennis courts in town, located at the elementary and middle school, are in such poor condition they are unable to be used.
- There are currently no outdoor full court basketball courts available in the City.
- All parks in the City, except for school facilities, provide only passive recreational opportunities. There is a deficiency in active-recreation opportunities in City Parks.

## **Findings: Recreation**

An inventory of recreational opportunities shows that the youth of Harrisburg have options through school offerings and through the Harrisburg Sports Program (HSP). There is high participation by the youth of Harrisburg in both school recreation opportunities and extra curricular programs and in the Harrisburg Sports Program activities. However, outside of school offerings, the Harrisburg Sports Program is the only opportunity the youth have for recreational activities. The Harrisburg Sports Program is run entirely by volunteers, so this program is contingent on volunteer support and donations. There are currently no opportunities for adult recreational activities in Harrisburg.

- The Harrisburg Sports Program (HSP) is the only non-school offerings for extra curricular sports programs.
- The HSP uses sports fields in Junction City for many of their games.
- For adult recreational opportunities, the residents of Harrisburg have to travel out of the City.
- There are no recreational opportunities for seniors. However, the senior center does provide social activities.
- A high number of high school students participate in High School sports and extra curricular activities. There is high demand from this population for recreational and after school activities.

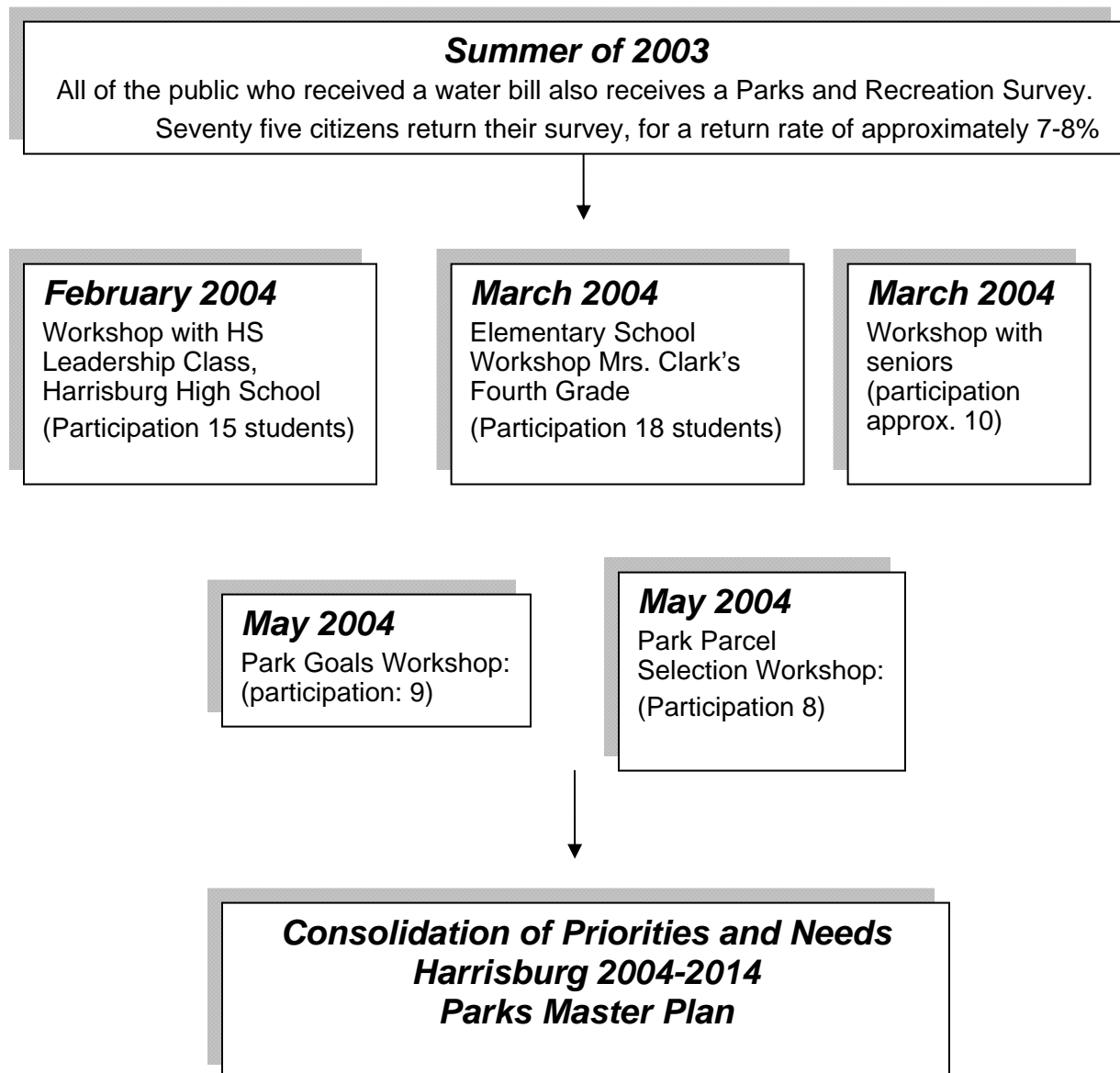
# Chapter 4

## Public Involvement

### Public Involvement Process

Public involvement is a critical part of the planning process because it guides and directs the priorities of the master plan. Citizen input will determine what kind of level of service (LOS) the City of Harrisburg chooses, and it will determine what kind of parks and park amenities citizens would like to see in the future. Even after the master plan is written and is in various stages of implementation, citizen input will continue to be a critical part of the process to ensure that future parks best serve their users, the citizens of Harrisburg. The opinions of citizens have been collected in several different ways. In July of 2003, all residents inside the city received a parks and recreation survey in their water bill. Seventy five surveys were returned to the city, for a return rate of approximately 7- 8%. In 2004, more specialized workshops and meetings were organized to get specific opinions from different groups within the city. The following groups were met with: the Harrisburg High School leadership class, the senior center, a fourth grade elementary class, and two parks workshops open to the public on park goals and park parcel selection were held. On the following page, a flow chart depicts the different ways public input was solicited and the number of citizens involved in this stage of the planning process for the master plan.

## ***Flow Chart of the Public Involvement Process***



## **Parks and Recreation Survey**

Public input was first sought through a survey sent to all citizens in the city who received a water bill in July 2003. The survey was given to all citizens in order to inform them that park development would be a priority for the city in 2004 and to give all citizens a chance to voice their opinions in the early stages of discussing this issue. The survey was not scientific but was a useful tool to assess citizen opinions.

The scope of the survey was very broad. It included questions about how much citizens value parks; how much they believed the city needs new parks; what kind of parks or park amenities the city needs; the priority they give to various types of parks and park amenities; and finally, how much citizens were willing to pay for parks.

## ***Results***

Seventy five households within the city returned their survey, which resulted in a return rate of 7-8%. A complete copy of the survey may be view in Appendix B.

## **General Parks and Recreation Comments**

The first section of the survey asked citizens how much they value parks in general and their importance rating for new parks in the city. The respondents to the survey were asked to rate the following questions (listed in Table 4.1: statements in the survey) on a scale of 0 through 5 with 0 meaning they disagree with the statement and 5 meaning they agreed with the statement. For interpretation of the results, a 3, 4 or 5 rating by the respondent was classified as an agreement to the statement. The chart below displays the results.

**Table 4.01 Parks and Recreation Survey Results: General Comments**

<b>Statements in the Survey</b>	<b>0/1 Disagree</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5 Agree</b>	<b>% who agree</b>
Parks are important for family events.	8	4	8	8	31	80%
Parks are a good way to get to know your neighbors.	13	10	12	14	9	60%
Parks, by helping people get to know each other, help develop community spirit.	11	7	17	15	9	69%
Parks, by helping people get to know each other, help to reduce crime.	16	11	10	8	12	53%
Parks help to reduce stress.	13	7	11	11	18	67%
Parks and recreational opportunities should exist for persons of all ages.	9	1	3	7	25	65%
There are not enough parks in Harrisburg to meet present needs.	13	7	5	7	25	76%
With the growth of our city, we had better acquire parkland before it's all gone.	11	3	6	10	28	76%
There is a need for more recreational opportunities in Harrisburg.	10	4	7	9	29	76%
<b>TOTALS</b>	104	54	79	89	201	

The results of this first section of the survey indicated that of the respondents to the survey, a large number were in agreement with many of the positive statements about parks.

## Specific Parks and Recreation Needs

A section of the survey asked respondents to indicate the specific needs the city had for various park amenities. The survey respondents were given a list of park amenities and asked to evaluate how much the City currently needs these park amenities; the survey respondents were given a choice of the following responses:

1.) now, 2.) in the future, 3.) never and, 4.) don't know. The numbers under each section indicate the raw number of respondents which checked each box.

**Table 4.02 Specific Parks and Recreation Needs**

<b>Need</b>	<b>Now</b>	<b>Future</b>	<b>Never</b>
Baseball and softball fields	12	18	7
Soccer fields	11	9	11
Fishing/boating facilities	15	5	11
Community Center	15	13	10
Expanded senior center	7	15	10
Bicycle paths	12	11	17
Arts and crafts classes	10	12	9
Hiking/jogging trails	12	10	11
Swimming pool	12	13	13
Skateboard park	12	7	22
BMX bike area	6	7	24
Horseshoe pits	15	9	9
Campground	11	11	13
Picnic Areas	24	5	6
Preserved natural area	14	5	16
Children's Playground	23	5	8
Outdoor basketball courts	21	5	12
Indoor basketball	8	9	15
Senior sports program	10	8	11
Tennis courts	11	9	10
Fitness classes	15	8	15
Weight training facility	6	9	14
Pre-school kids activities	14	6	11
Land for open spaces	12	6	15

Respondents of the survey indicated that the most immediate priorities for park amenities were: picnic areas with 43 respondents, children's playgrounds with 43 respondents, and horseshoe pits with 32 respondents. The top three requests for future needs were a swimming pool, with 35 respondents, a community center with 33 respondents, and arts and crafts classes with 29 respondents. From this

survey, the greatest opposition to future park amenities was 28 respondents who did not favor ever constructing a BMX bike area, 24 respondents who did not favor ever constructing a campground and, 23 respondents who did not favor ever constructing a skateboard park.

## **Willingness to Pay**

The last question on the survey was in regards to a proposed park and recreation district and how much a household would be willing to pay for a parks and recreation district. While this master plan is not written for the purpose of creating a parks and recreation district, the dollar amount the public is willing to pay for parks is useful information. Many respondents to the survey did not answer the question in regards to their willingness to pay; however, the average amount of the 39 residents within the city who did respond to this question was \$141.28 per year. This is a sizeable amount and shows there is a group of citizens who are willing to pay for parks.

## **Workshop with High School Leadership Class**

In early February 2004, an interactive presentation and workshop was done with the Harrisburg leadership class to solicit student opinions about what kind of parks the city needs for the future. Fifteen students in the leadership class participated in the presentation. Each student was asked to fill out sheets of paper listing park amenities they believe Harrisburg needs in the future. There was no limit to the number and types of parks the students could put on their “wish list”. Below is a list of all the types of parks that the students listed on their sheets (this list is not indicative of how many students wrote each type of park down, it is just a condensed list of all the types of park amenities they chose.)

- Recreational Park with picnic areas;
- Clear paved walking paths;
- A “fun” center: ping pong table, swimming pool and skate park;
- Soccer fields;
- Skate park or BMX park;
- Swing sets and slides;
- Swimming pool;
- Murals/Art Expressions and,
- Ping Pong

After students finished writing their wish list for parks (the list above), the students were then asked to prioritize this list. Students were given a red dot to indicate their first priority or 50% of future park resources and 2 blue dots to indicate their secondary priorities, each blue dot representing 25% of future park resources.

## **Results**

A fun center received the most dots with 8 red first priority dots and, 8 blue second priority dots. A swimming pool alone was the second most popular option

receiving 6 red first priority dots and 3 blue second priority dots. A recreational park with picnic tables received one first priority red dot and three second priority blue dots. Lastly, a skate park or BMX park received three second priority blue dots.

After this exercise students were also asked about location. They were asked specifically on handouts to circle locations in the city they believed were good locations for new parks and to explain whether they would prefer one or two large parks rather than three to four small parks or vice versa. In terms of physical location, those that answered the question all thought the new parks should be centrally located preferably near the school. Every student who filled out their sheet also replied that one or two large parks were preferable over a few small parks. Some of the reasons given for their preference for one or two large parks were as follows:

- More people would be together.
- Harrisburg is small enough that it wouldn't be that difficult to get to one large park, and it would be nice to have a big park with lots of people and lots of things to do.
- A big park would be better because more people would be there to hang out with you while you are there. Since it is a small community, you would see a lot of people you know!
- One park is easier to control, everything is concentrated in one area instead of being spread out and a big park could save money on facilities such as bathrooms.
- Big parks are better places to meet lots of people.
- One big park would provide more activities for a big group, families etc. and if it was more popular more people would go there.
- One big park would be more open and populated. A place for the whole family to enjoy different activities.

Generally, the consensus was that one large park would be a better choice because one park would concentrate park usage to one area. The students liked the idea of one park which would have more concentrated park usage and therefore would be busier and more populated than smaller parks. Students seemed to prefer the idea of a type of central park where it would be very likely that you would run into friends or neighbors. This type of set up would also be good for families or other groups where different people wanted to do different activities yet they would still all be close by. The students also mentioned that they worried about crime and hoped that if there was one large park, that enough people would go to this park to make it a safe place to be. They also like the idea of the park being in a central location to keep the park safe and to make it accessible to all parts of the city.

Summarizing the top choices of the leadership class, a majority of the students would like to see some sort of community center which includes a swimming pool and some type of outdoor park with many different types of park activities in a central location. The activity of placing dots demonstrated that the students would rather spend all the park resources on one large park and or community center rather than multiple small parks throughout the city. Upon discussing this idea, the students also liked the idea of kids having somewhere to go after

school to hang out together in a structured or unstructured way. As Harrisburg grows, because it is a small town, and does not have many locations or businesses for youth activities; and a community center could provide a safe and trouble free place for youth to find productive and positive after school activities.

## Workshop with Fourth Grade Class

*“It is the child in the man (woman) that is the source of his (her) uniqueness and creativity, and the playground is the optimal milieu for the unfolding of his (her) capacities and talents.”<sup>16</sup>*

—Eric Hopper

The topic of discussion during the fourth grade workshop about parks was playground equipment. The act of play and children “playing” together, which is the purpose of play equipment, is very important to a child’s physical and social development. Playing allows a child to develop their motor skills in a non-competitive environment, and play teaches kids how to share and work with others. Playgrounds are very important places because they are one of the few places (besides the school) which are dedicated solely for children. Playgrounds are also unique areas where public space is designed just for children. Playgrounds provide children a public environment with which to learn how to interact productively with other kids.

For the workshop, large posters were hung around the room, each displaying a different kind of play equipment. The kids were given 3 dots and instructed to place the dots on their favorite pieces of play equipment. There were 7 girls and 11 boys who participated in this exercise and there were 12 different kinds of play equipment where a child could put their “vote”.

Top Choices of the fourth grade class were:

- Skateboard Park (10 boys and 3 girls)
- Slides (2 boys 3 girls)
- Tubes, tunnels and hiding spots (3 boys and 3 girls)
- Monkey bars (5 boys and 4 girls)
- Climbing equipment (6 boys and 3 girls)

The last part of the fourth grade workshop was an assignment for each child to design their own playground. This activity reinforced the findings of the voting activity. The kids drew playgrounds that provided tunnels, monkey bars, obstacle courses and skate board parks. The findings from this fourth grade class are indicative of where these kids are at in their stage of physical development. They want to explore, climb and interact with the playground equipment provided. A skateboard park received the highest number of votes, with most of those votes coming from boys, although the number of votes from girls was as high as other playground amenities. When kids drew their ideal playground, quite a few of those playgrounds included a place for the kids to ride their skateboards. The findings that can be gained from this workshop are that kids as young as fourth grade through high school kids would be interested in

using a skateboard park and that playground equipment in town should provide a variety of activities to cater to the different stages of development physically and socially that different age kids are experiencing.

## **Public Workshop:**

### **Determination of Park Goals**

A public workshop was held on May 5, 2004 to discuss park goals and a desired LOS for parkland in the City of Harrisburg. The first half-hour of the workshop consisted of a presentation given on the parks master planning process and different factors to consider upon drafting park system goals. There were nine citizens who attended this meeting and after the presentation they broke up into two groups: one group discussed a desired level of service (LOS) for parkland another group discussed park goals 7 and 8, improvements to Riverfront Park.

**Group work on Goal #1: Level of Service for Parks** The conclusions of this group were that the City of Harrisburg needs to mortgage its future and buy a 20-25 acre parcel in preparation for the future. Even if the City doesn't have the money to pay for this parcel outright, a mortgage would be a necessary sacrifice to ensure that future generations and the City of Harrisburg had a centrally located park. The group members worried that if no action is taken to acquire parkland in the near future, the City of Harrisburg will lose its chance to have large centrally located park.

This group reasoned that a centrally located park is the most preferable option in terms of land acquisition because it would provide a large area to potentially host a sports facility that would be large enough for the City to host games and would also allow other park amenities. If the park was centrally located it would be within walking distance of a large number of citizens. Overall, this group thought this type of park would add greatly to the livability of the City of Harrisburg.

#### **Outcomes Group 1:**

- *The desired LOS goal for the City: 7 acres per thousand residents.*
- *One large centrally located park 20-25 acres is desired to fulfill present and future needs for parkland in Harrisburg.*

### **Group work on Goals #7 and #8: Improving the Riverfront**

The main outcome of the group working on the park goals seven and eight were that the top priority for the Riverfront is better access. Presently, it is very difficult to access the actual riverfront because the bank is so steep along Riverfront Park. Ways to provide better access to the River were discussed by this group and are listed below.

## Outcomes Group 2:

**Floating Boat Dock:** The City is currently looking into finding possible grant money from the Marine Board to help with this project. This idea behind this project is a floating removable boat dock that can be taken out during the winter months to avoid damage. In addition to the floating boat dock, it is hoped that as a part of this project, a walking path from Riverfront Park could be constructed from the high banks of Riverfront Park to the boat dock and that this walkway would be ADA accessible. The Oregon Marine Board did not approve a grant for this project in 2004; they reasoned that there is not enough time for the necessary permitting and environmental assessment needed before the project can begin. The city hopes to re-apply for this grant next year.

**Pedestrian Access to River Bank:** Another site to access the River that is north of the existing boat dock is desired according to this group. The boat ramp can be a noisy place to try and enjoy the River so another floating boat dock further up the river could provide a place for pedestrians and those out fishing to enjoy the River in a more tranquil setting.

**Walking/Biking Paths along the River:** Walking/Biking paths along the River would be great ways to give citizens access to the River. The walking paths could provide people places to exercise and enjoy wildlife.

**Swimming Lagoon:** Along the walking path and ideally close to Riverfront Park a swimming lagoon could be added for summer enjoyment. Of course, safety would be a large concern; but if a shallow area without a large drop off could be identified and warning signs were placed, this could provide responsible citizens a place to recreate in the summer.

**Camping Along the River:** This group also liked the idea of building a camp ground near the River. Monaco Coach has their service station for RV's in town so Harrisburg already experiences a large amount of RV traffic. If Harrisburg was to offer these RVs a place to camp, perhaps they would stay longer and make a vacation out of their visit. This kind of camping spot would also make a nice destination for locals or travelers from nearby communities to come for a weekend.

**Better Park Amenities:** Desired park amenities that the group felt the city needed for the future development and extension of Riverfront Park were more trees and BBQ stands.

## Public Workshop: Potential Parcel Selection

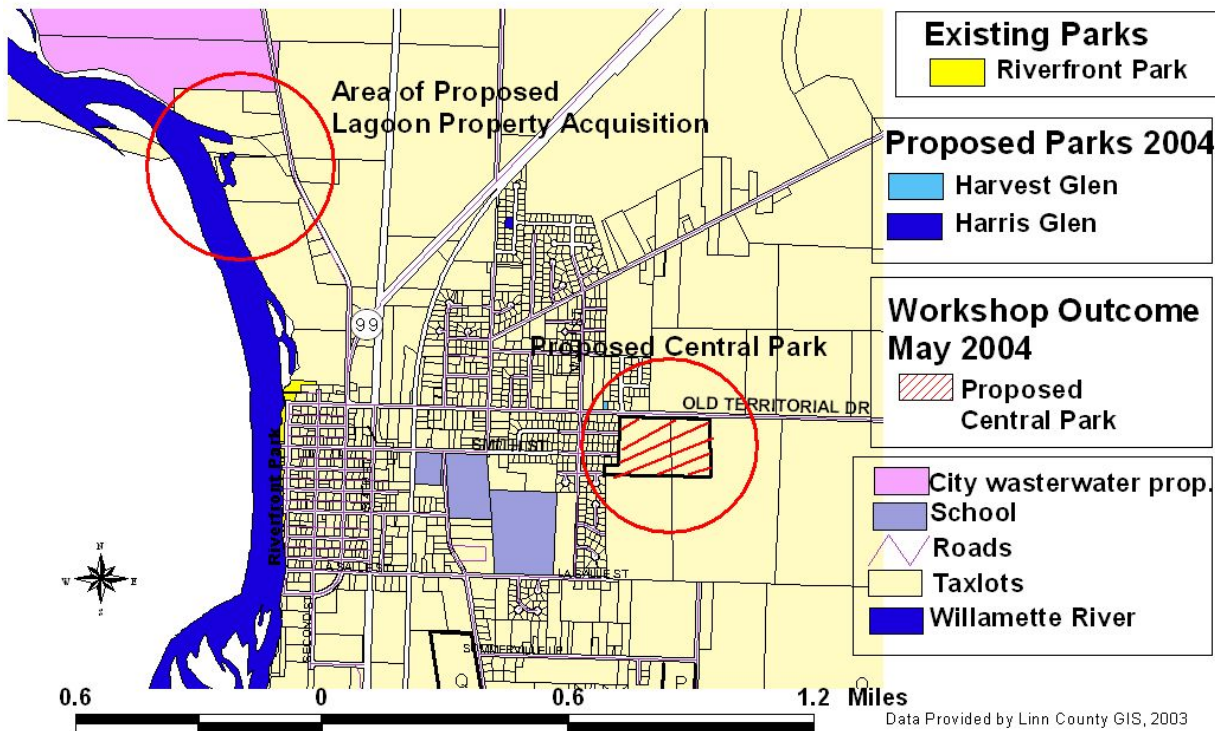
This was the second public workshop regarding the parks master plan. It was held on May 20<sup>th</sup> 2004 to discuss potential parcels for acquisition and different strategies for gaining needed parkland. A presentation was given to review park goals discussed in the previous meeting and maps were presented showing different areas of possible land for development throughout the city.

### Outcomes:

Two areas for parkland acquisition were favored among the workshop participants: the lagoon property along the riverfront to the north of the city and a “central” park for the city located between territorial and Moore Street to the east of the city. A map below shows the two parcels chosen during the workshop as top priorities for land acquisition.

## Map 4.2 Outcomes of May 20<sup>th</sup> Park Workshop

### May 20th Park Workshop, 2004



**Lagoon Property Acquisition** The lagoon property, which is currently owned by Morse Bros. Corp., is in a floodplain and is unable to be fully developed, and therefore, this may allow the city to acquire this land at a lower price. This property, which is quite scenic, also lines up nicely with the city wastewater property and could provide a link into the desired linear Riverfront biking and walking paths in the future.

**Harrisburg's Central Park** Having a large, central park with many park amenities and sports facilities for the whole family was something that was mentioned in many different workshop groups. During this workshop, a possible location for the central park was discussed as shown above on the map. The property outlined above was chosen because it has a central location, with Territorial Street, a major arterial as its northern boarder and Smith Street also feeding into the property. The location of this property is also very close to the school so if sports fields were built, school sports teams could easily have access to them for practice.

The strategic idea behind land acquisition in this location was that the city could buy land in 5-10 acre increments to eventually accumulate enough land for a 25-30 central park in ten years. This would allow the city to slowly invest in the

city park system every year, and build its finances and the park in a slower, more financially feasible manner.

## Summary of Outcomes

With so little existing parkland there is a vast amount of choices about possible types of parks, park amenities, and park sizes to be decided for future parks. With this in mind, the goal of the public involvement process was to get citizens to create a vision about what their top priorities would be for parks in the future. Listed below are the general outcomes of the public involvement process.

- **The value of community is important to the citizens of Harrisburg**

The parks survey done in fall of 2003 indicated that citizens value parks as a way to foster community and it also gave citizens a way to list some of their preferences for park amenities they desire in Harrisburg. The workshops held both with the public and with school groups indicated that the value of seeing your neighbors, having picnics with family and friends and other social, community type activities are highly valued as important functions for parks. This should be considered in the design of future parks in Harrisburg.

- **A Central Park for Harrisburg**

One of the ideas that came up consistently in the workshops for the park master plan was a desire to have a “central” park for the City of Harrisburg. This park would provide a central gathering spot which could be used for family events, sports events and a general meeting place for kids, families and friends. The desire for a “central” park reflects the value of community that citizens of Harrisburg believe parks should serve.

- **Parks and park amenities designed for active recreation**

Currently the City of Harrisburg’s only true park provides only passive recreational opportunities. When asked what kinds of park activities people would like to see in the future, things like sports fields, basketball courts, walking paths and other opportunities for active recreational opportunities are desired for the future.

- **Better access and recreational opportunities for the Riverfront**

Citizens in parks workshops repeatedly mentioned their desire to have better access and more recreational opportunities near the riverfront. When planning for parks along the river, park design should prioritize better access to the river.

In summary, there are many possibilities for future park development in the City of Harrisburg, which means there are a lot of decisions to be made in the future. To guide future decisions for park development eleven park goals were formulated from the basis of the public input received. The purpose of these park goals for the city is to give a framework to guide present and future leaders in making decisions for park development when resources become available for parks.

# Harrisburg Park Goals and Priorities

The tables state small goals or objectives in order to meet long-term park goals. These short-term objectives are laid out in five year increments. Tasks to be accomplished and desired outcomes during these five year increments are also described according to the timeline set in the park goals tables.

## GOAL #1

**Acquire adequate parkland to meet the needs of existing and future population.**

Objectives	1-5 yrs	6-10 yrs	10-15 yrs	Tasks to be accomplished by 2009	Tasks to be accomplished by 2014
Acquire 15-20 acres	✓				
Acquire 5-10 acres		✓			
Acquire 5-10 acres			✓		
<b>Total parkland in Harrisburg</b>	<b>15-20 acres</b>	<b>20-30 acres</b>	<b>35-45 acres</b>	<b>Most of the needed land is acquired. Harrisburg is prepared to build great parks.</b>	<b>Parkland is developed with desired park facilities. Harrisburg has a great park system.</b>

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**GOAL #2****Ensure that every child is within walking distance of playground equipment.**

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<b>Objectives</b>	<b>1-5 years</b>	<b>6-10 yrs</b>	<b>10-15 yrs</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2009</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2014</b>
Build playground equip. for Harvest Glen Park Site	✓				
Build playground equip. for Arrow Leaf Park Site	✓				
Build playground equip. for Priceboro park site	✓				
Acquire a small site within downtown area to put place playground equip. or perhaps place some playground equip. at Riverfront	✓				
Acquire small site near lower income housing near 6 <sup>th</sup> and Sommerville to place playground equip.	✓				
Continue to acquire small parcels of land in new subdivisions for small mini parks which can provide playground equipment.	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Build playground equipment on proposed mini-neighborhood parks and continue to acquire and build playground in new developments.</b>	✓	✓	✓	<b>Every child in Harrisburg is within ¼ of a mile distance from playground equipment.</b>	

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**GOAL #3****Ensure adequate outdoor picnicking facilities at Harrisburg parks.**

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Objectives	1-5 yrs	6-10 yrs	10-15 yrs	Tasks to be accomplished by 2009	Tasks to be accomplished by 2014
Install more picnicking facilities at Riverfront Park	✓				
Install picnic facilities at new Harvest Glen, Arrow Leaf and Priceboro mini-neighborhood parks	✓				
When new parkland is acquired, a portion of that land will be dedicated to picnicking facilities.	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Picnic facilities available at most Harrisburg parks.</b>				<b>All proposed and existing sites have picnic facilities included in their design.</b>	<b>Harrisburg is known as a wonderful small town for families to go on a picnic.</b>

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**GOAL #4****Provide adequate sports fields for existing and future populations.**

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Objectives	1-5 years	6-10 yrs	10-15 yrs	Tasks to be accomplished by 2009	Tasks to be accomplished by 2014
Dedicate land for building sports fields.	✓			Make decisions about where to place new sports fields.	
Invest capital for sports facilities		✓		Develop funding plan.	
Build outdoor basketball courts and new tennis courts	✓				
<b>Acquire necessary sports facilities to give sports teams and leagues for all ages and the citizens of Harrisburg a place to practice and play in Harrisburg.</b>				<b>Parkland acquired for sports fields completed and construction of sports fields has begun.</b>	<b>Harrisburg has adequate sports facilities to host games in Harrisburg.</b>

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**GOAL #5**

**Make the necessary investments in order to build an aquatic center, community center and expanded senior center in the future.**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>1-5 years</b>	<b>6-10 yrs</b>	<b>10-15 yrs</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2009</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2014</b>
Determine what citizen's desire these facilities include, what kind of programming they would like to see with these facilities and how much they are willing to spend.	✓			Public input gathered by survey, workshops or other form.	
Work with the school district to form a potential partnership.	✓				
Determine if future city hall design includes a community center.	✓				
Do a master plan for the community center and whatever other facilities the citizens decide to include in that.	✓	✓		Hire a team of consultants to write a master plan based on public input gathered.	
Decide on a final design and get cost estimates	✓	✓		Get competitive bids on the final design.	
Decide how project will be financed and if a bond measure needs to be voted on, include it in the upcoming election.		✓		Put a potential bond measure on the ballot	
<b>New community center including new quarters for an expanded senior center is built. An aquatic center is built as a part of that project.</b>				<b>Plans for the community center and aquatic center have been completed. A plan for financing this venture is also in place.</b>	<b>A new community center, expanded senior center and aquatic center have been completed.</b>

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**GOAL #6****Provide a skate park for the youth of Harrisburg.**

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Objectives	1-5 years	6-10 yrs	10-15 yrs	Tasks to be accomplished by 2009	Tasks to be accomplished by 2014
As the city acquires parkland, find a site suitable for a skate park.	✓			Land acquisition	
Do a survey of kids in Harrisburg to determine how much a skate park would be used. Based on that and the growth rate of Harrisburg, determine how much of a skate park Harrisburg would need.	✓			Survey and planning stages	
Get cost estimates for a skate park. Look into possible ways to fund a skate park.	✓			Cost estimates and funding	
<b>With funding taken care of, find consultants who can help the city design a skate park for the site selected.</b>		✓		<b>Hire consultants design and build skate park.</b>	

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**GOAL #7: IMPROVING THE RIVERFRONT PART I****Provide better boating and fishing facilities and better riverfront access.**

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Objectives	1-5 yrs	6-10 yrs	10-15 yrs	Tasks to be accomplished by 2009	Tasks to be accomplished by 2014
Install a floating dock adjacent to the boat landing	✓			Apply for grant money OMB	
Create a trail down to the river and the floating boat dock.	✓				
Make the boat landing double wide		✓			
Additional parking		✓			
<b>Add on existing boat facilities to create a safe, fun and functional park for boaters and citizens to enjoy the river.</b>				<b>Improve boat landing access with new floating boat dock.</b>	<b>Increase parking and ramp becomes double wide.</b>

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**GOAL #8: IMPROVING THE RIVERFRONT PART II**

**Provide more walking and biking trails, including a bike and pedestrian trail along the river and in the long-term create an amphitheatre along the river to host summer concerts and events.**

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<b>Objectives</b>	<b>1-5 yrs</b>	<b>6-10 yrs</b>	<b>10-15 yrs</b>	<b>Tasks for 2009</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2014</b>
Extend the riverfront path that currently exists north of the Gazebo. Work with Monaco and Morse Brothers to buy or lease property or create right-of-way agreements.	✓			Start the conversation about how to acquire property and work with these companies.	
Make sure there are adequate bike lanes in the city to connect city residents with new riverfront bike paths and outdoor amphitheatre		✓			
Start construction on new bike and walking paths.		✓	✓		Start and continue the construction of these paths.
Acquire a site for an amphitheatre by the river	✓			Find a site that will work for this purpose that the City can afford to purchase.	
Have a landscape architect give different design options for an outdoor amphitheatre and give cost estimates for each design.		✓			
Figure out where funding is going to come from and how much citizens are willing to pay for the facility. If a local bond measure is needed put it on the ballot.			✓		
Construction of outdoor amphitheatre			✓		
<b>Give citizens more passive and active recreational opportunities to enjoy the beauty of the river.</b>				<b>A vision, plan of action and financing mechanisms are in place.</b>	<b>There are biking/ walking paths and an outdoor amphitheatre.</b>

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**GOAL #9****Secure funding to achieve park system goals.**

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<b>Objectives</b>	<b>1-5 yrs</b>	<b>6-10 yrs</b>	<b>10-15 yrs</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2009</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2014</b>
A park and recreation district is put before the voters in the 2004 November election.	✓				
A park master plan is completed in 2004	✓				
Apply for State Park's local government grants. These grants are available every three years, with 2005 the start of the next grants cycle.	✓				
Fundraising: have citizens adopt-a-tree or adopt-a-bench	✓	✓	✓		
Make parks a priority in the CIP	✓	✓	✓		
Continue leadership for parks: if a special district forms that would be provided through a board. If no special district is formed perhaps the parks committee can continue its leadership.	✓	✓	✓		
A leadership group that could separate itself through the city, and perhaps obtain non-profit status, a "friends of Harrisburg parks group" could apply for grants from private foundations.	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Find a way to fund land acquisition and maintenance of parks.</b>	✓	✓	✓	<b>Explore funding and secure funding opportunities. It's critical that leadership for parks continues.</b>	<b>Funding mechanisms are in place to ensure parks are acquired and maintained.</b>

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**GOAL #10 Seek to gain partnerships and work together with community organizations and community members.**

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Objectives	1-5 years	6-10 yrs	10-15 yrs	Tasks to be accomplished by 2009	Tasks to be accomplished by 2014
Build a volunteer base from the community to help make decisions about parks, park funding and, other tasks as needed.	✓	✓	✓		
Partner with organizations like the Museum and School District.		✓	✓		
Work with downtown businesses to better understand how parks can help bring people into their stores.	✓	✓	✓	Consider the development of an economic development plan tied to the park system.	An economic development plan is written that includes strategies for attracting tourists, sports enthusiasts and others to downtown Harrisburg.
Work with Junction City to coordinate amenities like bike paths and perhaps sharing of different park amenities.		✓	✓	Keep up-to-date on what Junction City has planned for its park system.	Work with Junction City to build a connected bike path and other collaborative projects.
Host sports local and regional sports tournaments.	✓	✓	✓	.	
Work with nearby small towns to collaboratively sponsor events: antique fairs, farmers markets, craft fairs, etc. Parkland can be a staging ground for these events.	✓	✓	✓	Bigger can be better and more efficient. The more communities involved in the event cuts costs for each city, and has the potential to attract more locals to participate and attract more tourists to come.	
<b>Use the resources of the community efficiently and to their highest and best use.</b>	✓	✓	✓	<b>Working collaboratively with other organizations creates more win-win situations for Harrisburg parks and its partners.</b>	

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**GOAL #11**

**Preserve historic resources and promote educational projects which enhance public knowledge of Harrisburg's history.**

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<b>Objectives</b>	<b>1-5 yrs.</b>	<b>6-10 yrs</b>	<b>10-15 yrs</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2009</b>	<b>Tasks to be accomplished by 2014</b>
Form a historical committee to pursue projects that promote the historic nature of Harrisburg.	✓				
Put up signage along the river of where the ferry used to be, and or other historical markers.	✓				
Promote historic preservation of buildings in Harrisburg	✓				
<b>Historic nature of Harrisburg is preserved and enhanced.</b>				<b>Historic Committee is formed to pursue projects.</b>	<b>Harrisburg is known as a charming small town with a historic sense of identity.</b>

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# Chapter 5

## Potential Parcels

This chapter on potential parcels for parkland is a conceptual plan, just meant to give a framework for some of the options that the City has for the future. Because these parcels of land in the parks master plan are only conceptual, landowners have not been consulted. At the end of this chapter conceptual drawings of potential parks using the top priorities in the parks master plan are included.

The City of Harrisburg has so little in the way of parkland that it is essentially a blank slate for future park development. That makes this an exciting time for the city as it looks to the future and contemplates the creation of new parks. With so little existing parkland, the possibilities for future parks are almost endless. Would citizens like to invest in one large park for the future, or would they rather divide resources and invest in smaller parks scattered throughout the city? To help look towards the future, the park master plan will outline potential park parcels for the future and discuss the pros and cons of these selected parcels. The park master plan will also discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using park resources to purchase one large park vs. multiple smaller parks.

Excluding mini-parks, Harrisburg is deficient in all types of public parks. Therefore, the City of Harrisburg not only has many possibilities and choices in terms of what kind of locations it could place future parks but it also has many possibilities in what types of parks it would like to build. There are many ways Harrisburg could accomplish gaining its needed acreage for future parks. The map 5.1 Overview of the City of Harrisburg (pg 52) shows the location of the vacant land surrounding the City. The purpose of this map is to highlight the parcels of land where future development will occur and think about good locations to put parks in the context of the new growth of Harrisburg. In the next 10-20 years much of this land will be developed. The reader of the park plan should view the map and these parcels and imagine, within the context of growth, where would be good locations for future parks? Building parks is an investment; like putting money in a savings account, the land may not be worth much today but in ten years, if current growth trends continue, it is certain to be a wise investment. Says City Parks Forum Director Mary Eysenbach, “The benefits that urban parks provide to communities are like the compounding interest that accrues from a savings account, they just keep adding up.”<sup>17</sup>

For example, the City could acquire one very large parcel of 20 acres or more or a couple medium size parcels (10 acres or more) or three -to- four smaller parcels (3-5 acres each) either within or outside the city limits. The parcels presented are examples to illustrate some of the choices that Harrisburg has for its future park locations and sizes. Some of the potential parcels presented are well over 20 acres, but as time passes and more development occurs, these parcels of land will

be subdivided. The bigger question for the residents of Harrisburg to consider at this moment is where citizens would like to see future parks located as the city grows and what size of park or parks would be suitable to implement city goals for parks.

## Potential Parcels: Large vs. Small

The City of Harrisburg has a large deficiency in providing parkland to its residents. For this reason, there are a lot of choices about how the City could possibly fulfill its needs for parks. During public workshops on park goals and park parcel selection, the advantages and disadvantages of multiple small parks versus one large park was discussed. There are reasons to have both large and small parks, and with such a large deficiency in parkland, the city will want to acquire land for both large and small future parks.

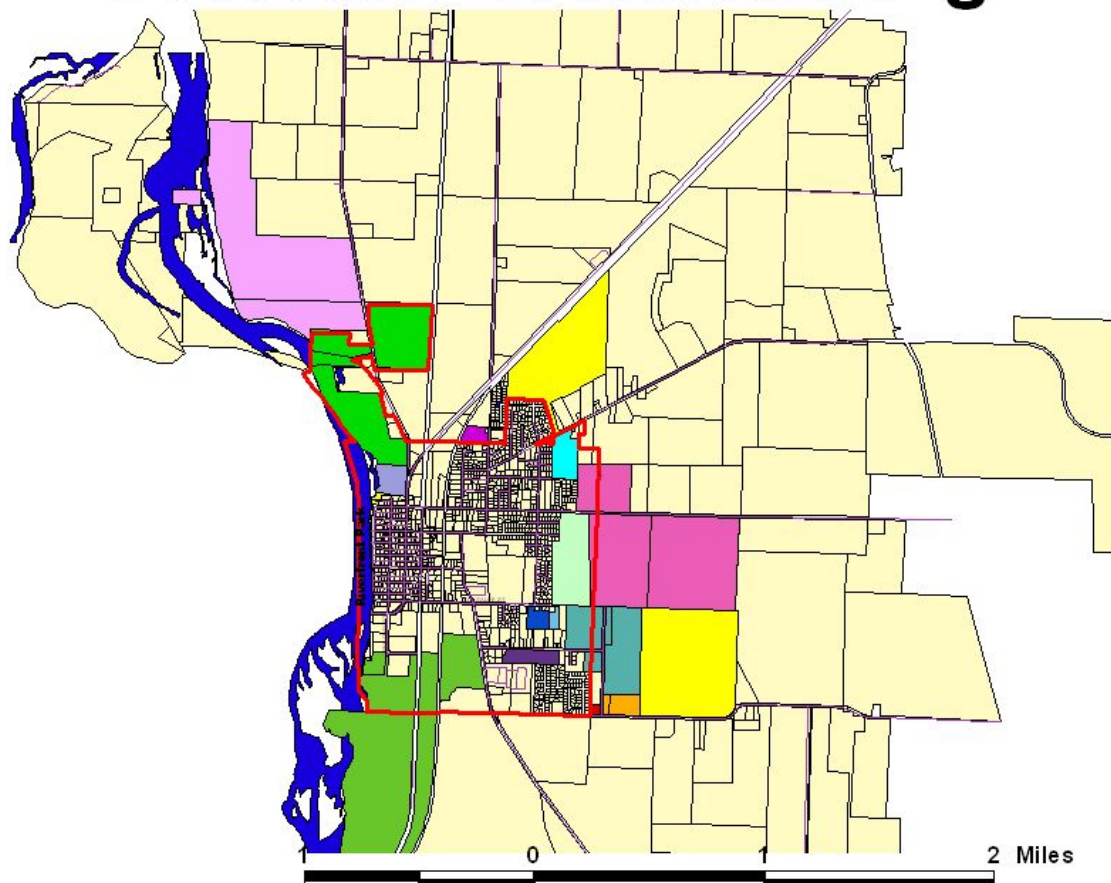
**Table 5.8 Opportunities and Constraints of Large and Small Parcels**

Parcel Size	Type of Park	Opportunities	Constraints
<b>Small (3-5 acres)</b>	<b>Specialized Parks</b> one for baseball, one for soccer, one for picnics etc.	Parks within the city would be more spread out which would allow a greater number of citizens to be within walking distance of larger city parks. For just one large site it would be cost effective to install restrooms and perhaps a concession stand and lights. However, with multiple small sites, the cost of installing these types of amenities would be greater.	Families who have kids playing multiple sports would have to do more running around. There is not as much opportunity to socialize with neighbors whose kids play different sports than yours.
<b>Large (10 or more acres)</b>	<b>Sports Complex</b> a large site which would include many types of sports fields and facilities	Many sports facilities would be situated together which would allow for families with kids in different sports to be in the same vicinity during their kids games. The site would be more used because it had more options, which would probably make it busier. Lots of use of the facility is good because if more people hang around the site, it promotes community and talking with neighbors. The site being well used and busy also would give it a sense of energy as it is frequently used. It would be more cost effective to install just one set of restrooms for city parks, one set of lighting, and one concession stand, etc. Maintenance would be less expensive at a large facility. A sports complex would be a more appropriate site for tournaments, which could be beneficial to local businesses.	This site would probably be louder, especially during tense games, which may disturb residents who live nearby. There may be traffic and parking problems resulting from increased usage.

As discussed earlier in the master plan, the only “true” city park, Riverfront Park is already a major asset to the City and a symbol of the character and sense of place that defines the City of Harrisburg. This chapter will discuss potential parcels on the eastside of the city and it will also discuss possibilities to extend Riverfront Park in the future.

## Map 5.1 Overview of the City and Potential Park Parcels

# Overview of Harrisburg



### Potential Parcels for Parks

- SB Enterprises
- Morse Brothers
- Powell
- Rawlins
- Crabb
- Drongesen
- Labar
- Henson
- Dublin Investments
- Monoco
- City Wastewater Facility
- Diamond Hill Dvpmnt
- Poublon

## Proposed Park Parcel:

### City Owned Wastewater Facility

The lavender shaded parcel in the map above is the piece of property purchased by the City in 1988 for the purpose of building a new wastewater facility. Most of this site is being used for the construction of the wastewater treatment plant; however, up to twenty acres may be useable in the future for park development. Unfortunately, at the moment, the site is busy with the construction of the wastewater facility, and the City will need a couple years to gauge where and what pieces of land may be suitable for a city park. One of the hopes for this parcel, irregardless of where and which parts of the property could be developed into parkland, is that the perimeter of this property can be connected to a bike and walking path in the future, along the outline of the parcel A (see map 5.2 below). There are great possibilities for a long linear Riverfront park and for Walking/Biking paths along the Willamette. Some land from the city owned wastewater treatment site could be dedicated to this walking/biking path loop and perhaps picnicking facilities could also be provided along this path. This loop will be discussed below.

**Map 5.2 Parcel A: Land adjacent to the River  
City Owned Wastewater Facility  
and Potential Riverfront Parcels**

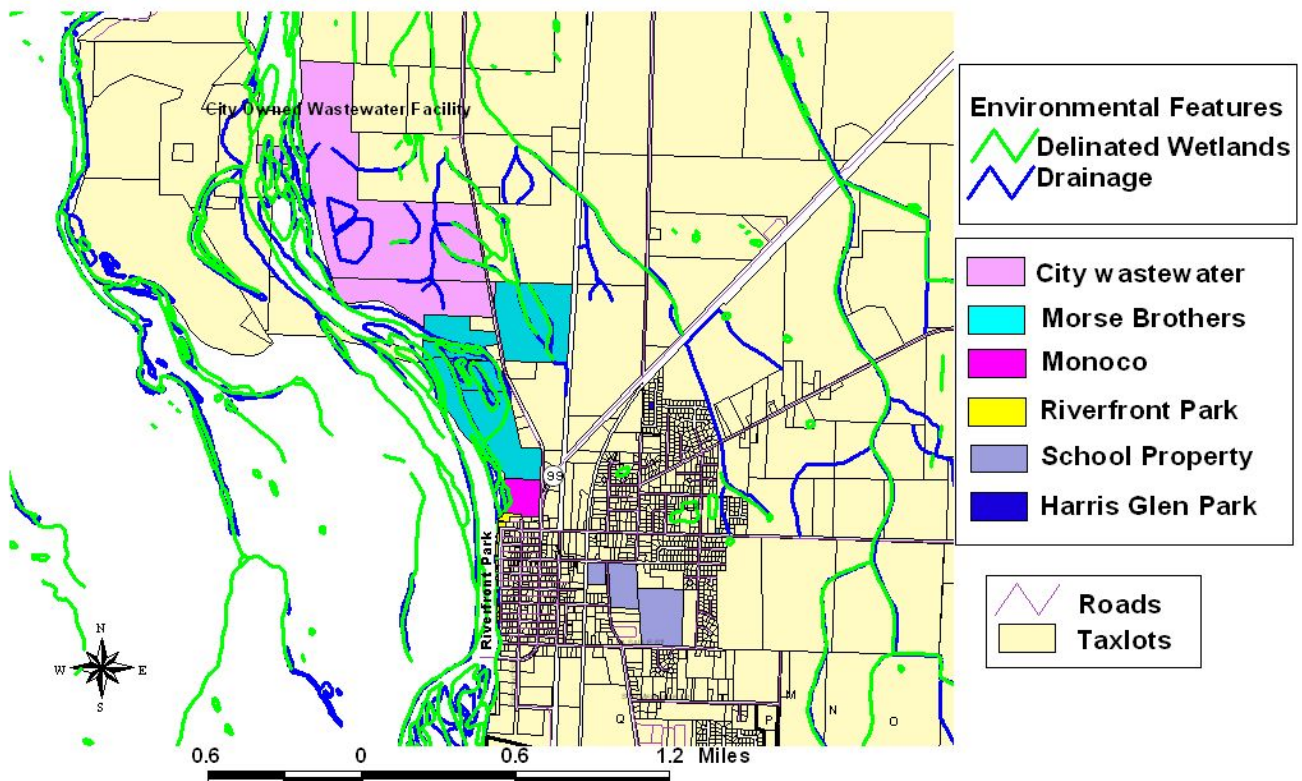


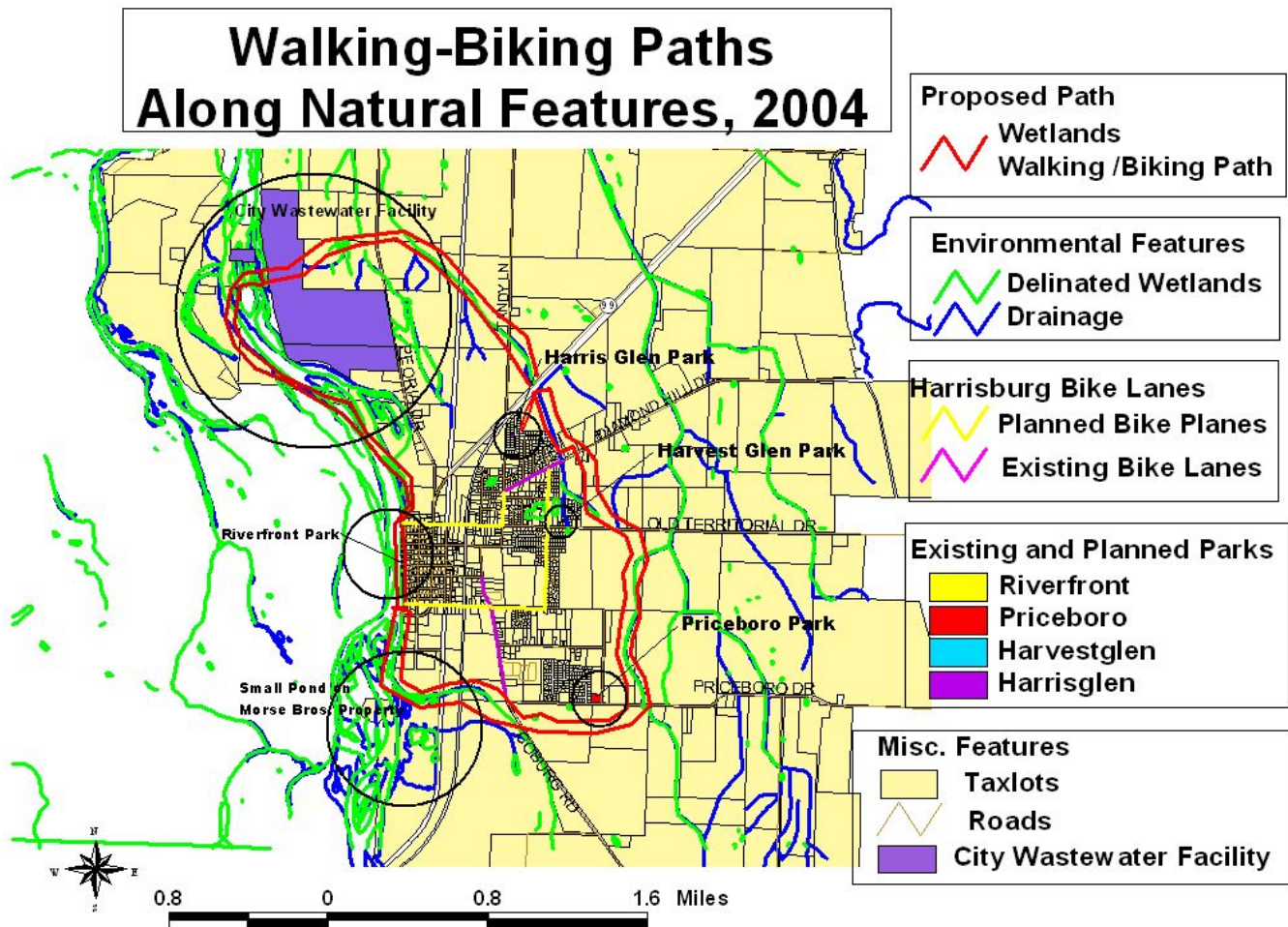
Table 5.1 City Owned Wastewater Facility	
<b>Dimensions of the Park/ Acreage</b>	This is a large 192 acre parcel. However, a large portion of it will be used for the city's waste water treatment plant. The parcel is L shaped, with approximately 6,500 feet along the river.
<b>Location</b>	This parcel is located north of the city, with the Willamette River defining the property to the west and Peoria road to the east.
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	
<b>Scenic</b>	<b>High:</b> However, the parkland would be adjacent to the City's wastewater facility.
<b>Wildlife Viewing</b>	<b>High:</b> There are frequent sittings of wildlife along the River.
<b>Recreational Activities</b>	<b>Many Possibilities:</b> This property could be considered for everything from nature trails to possible ball fields.
<b>Unique Opportunities</b>	Connection with Riverfront park and acreage for other recreational activities.
<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	
<b>Wildlife</b>	Would have to take the River habitat and wildlife into consideration when designing a park.
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>	There are wetlands on the eastern portion of this property; the site is wet, many drainage features are located on the property (see environ. features map).
<b>Unique Constraints</b>	The park would have to be designed around the wastewater treatment plant; this could cause conflict in terms of design of a park. The wetland could possibly limit the usage of the space available for ball fields. The property is zoned EFU, which means a park use would be conditional. The Department of Environmental Quality has provided financing for the original wastewater facility construction. Presently, DEQ regulations will not allow any of this land to be used as a park. DEQ could be asked to reconsider this restriction for a part of the property. Much of the property is irrigated by effluent from the wastewater facility. It would have to be verified that a park use would not pose a health risk.

The City of Harrisburg is very fortunate to be located adjacent to such an incredibly scenic river. The Willamette River was declared an “American Heritage River” by the federal government. The Willamette River is a unique asset of the community, and it provides a vast array of recreational opportunities from fishing, boating and wildlife viewing, just to name a few. The city has already taken advantage of its proximity to the river with its investment in Riverfront Park. This park is very special to the city with the traditional white gazebo which hosts wedding receptions and other large events. Fortunately, there is very little development to the north or south of Riverfront Park. Morse Brothers Corp. and Monaco Coach are the two corporations which own most of the land to the north and south of Riverfront Park. So an extension of Riverfront Park would require working with these companies to acquire or lease the necessary land. To provide a walking or biking path would require minimal acreage, and this has been something that the citizens of Harrisburg would like to see in the future as a way to enjoy the River and get exercise.

The proposed walking path outlined in red below is designed to take advantage of the natural features surrounding the City of Harrisburg. The map is meant to be a concept map, just outlining one of the many possibilities for a looping walking and biking path around the city. To read the map, green lines indicate delineated wetlands and blue lines indicate drainage routes. When the clean water act was enacted wetlands became protected by the federal and state government, which has caused these natural features to be a headache for development. For this reason, the portions of property which are delineated as wetland property may be able to be purchased for a much lower price. Developers have also shown a willingness to donate wetland properties in return for the City’s commitment to their long-term care. Creating a boardwalk over the very wet areas or just using the walking/biking path in the summer could be beneficial for wetland preservation and for citizen’s recreational needs.

The loop shown in the map 5.3 below is along wetland property and it is about 7.5 miles long and it could connect to the proposed Priceboro Park and Harvest Glen Park. It could also be connected with other city parks as they are added to the Harrisburg park system.

**Map 5.3 Walking-Biking Paths along Natural Features**



## Proposed Extension of Riverfront Park

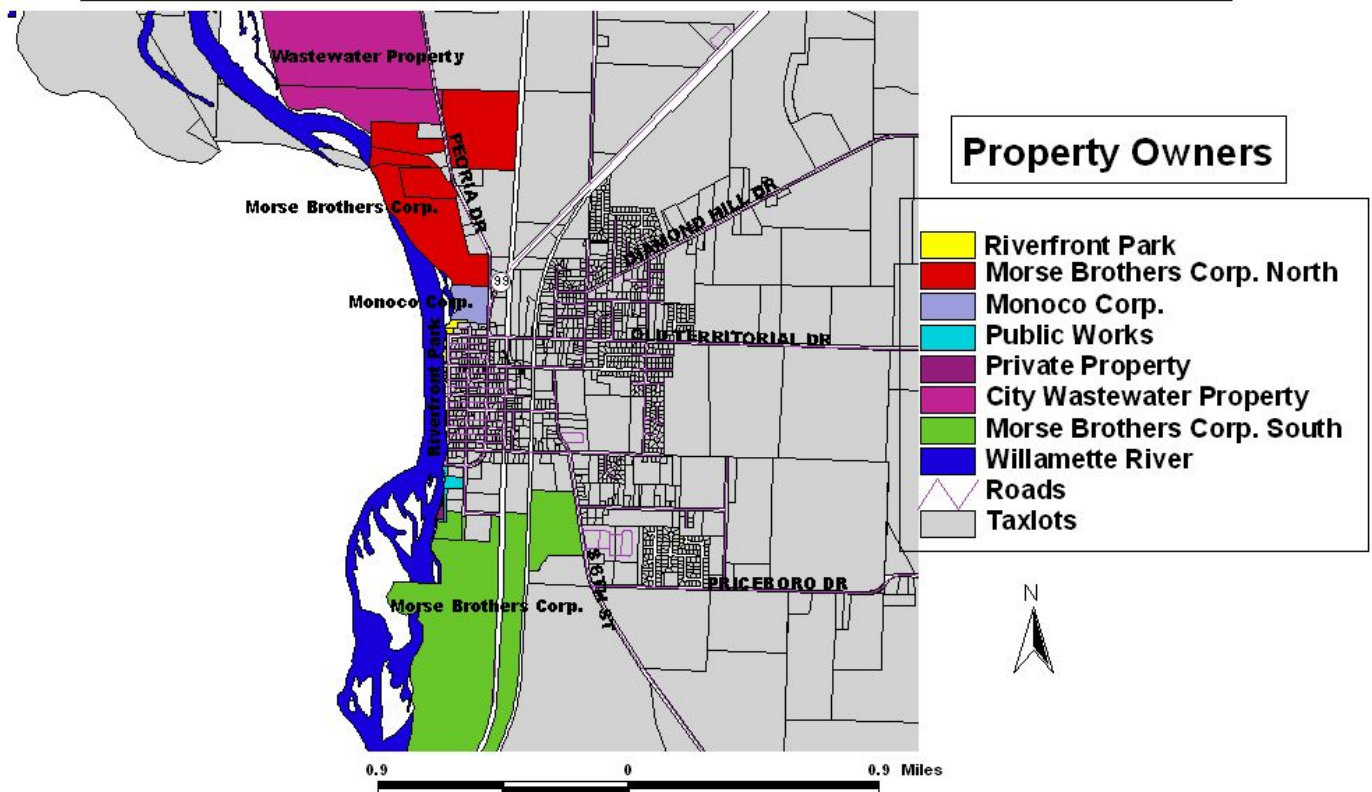
Riverfront Park, as discussed earlier, is the only true park in Harrisburg, and it is very important to the community. There are many possibilities to extend and build upon this park, to give citizens more ways and more opportunities to enjoy riverfront access. Therefore, ways to improve and extend Riverfront Park would make this park even more of an asset to Harrisburg. There are many visions of what this park could become in the future.

## Potential Parcels for Extending Riverfront Park

All the proposed parcels discussed are located on map 5.4 below. Upon viewing this map, the reader can get an idea about the possible ways to extend Riverfront to both the north and south.

Map 5.4 Potential Parcels for the Extension of Riverfront Park

## Potential Parcels for the Extension of Riverfront Park



### Active Recreation: Biking and Walking

Because Riverfront Park is already a linear park, adding a walking and biking path along the river and extending it both north and south would provide a very scenic route for those seeking exercise and relaxation. Even if the city cannot afford to acquire these entire parcels of land, the city could work toward gaining a right-of-way to build a biking and walking path through these parcels.

North of the current Riverfront Park there is a parcel of land owned by Monaco. This site is where Monaco services their recreational vehicles, which means that the owners of these vehicles often use the facilities of Riverfront Park, while their RV is being serviced. The extension of Riverfront Park would benefit the clients of Monaco who are getting their RV's service.

### Passive Recreation: Amphitheatre and Picnicking

Another vision for the future of Riverfront Park is an outdoor amphitheatre. Taking advantage of the scenic beauty of the Willamette River, an outdoor amphitheatre would provide a venue for people to enjoy the beauty of the river

while hosting summer events. An amphitheatre would also provide the City with a place to host special events and festivals in the summer. For instance, summer plays and concerts or outdoor craft and art fairs to show local works. This could be used as an economic development tool to draw people to the area for events and outdoor recreation; tourists who would then spend money during their visits to the city. This could be built on property owned by Morse Bros. also called the “lagoon property” (red property on map 5.4 above).

### **Increased River Access: Boating and Fishing**

Another draw to Riverfront Park is its boat dock and fishing pier for recreational boaters and fishers. In the future, the boat dock facilities may need to be improved and widened to allow for increased demand as the population of the area grows.

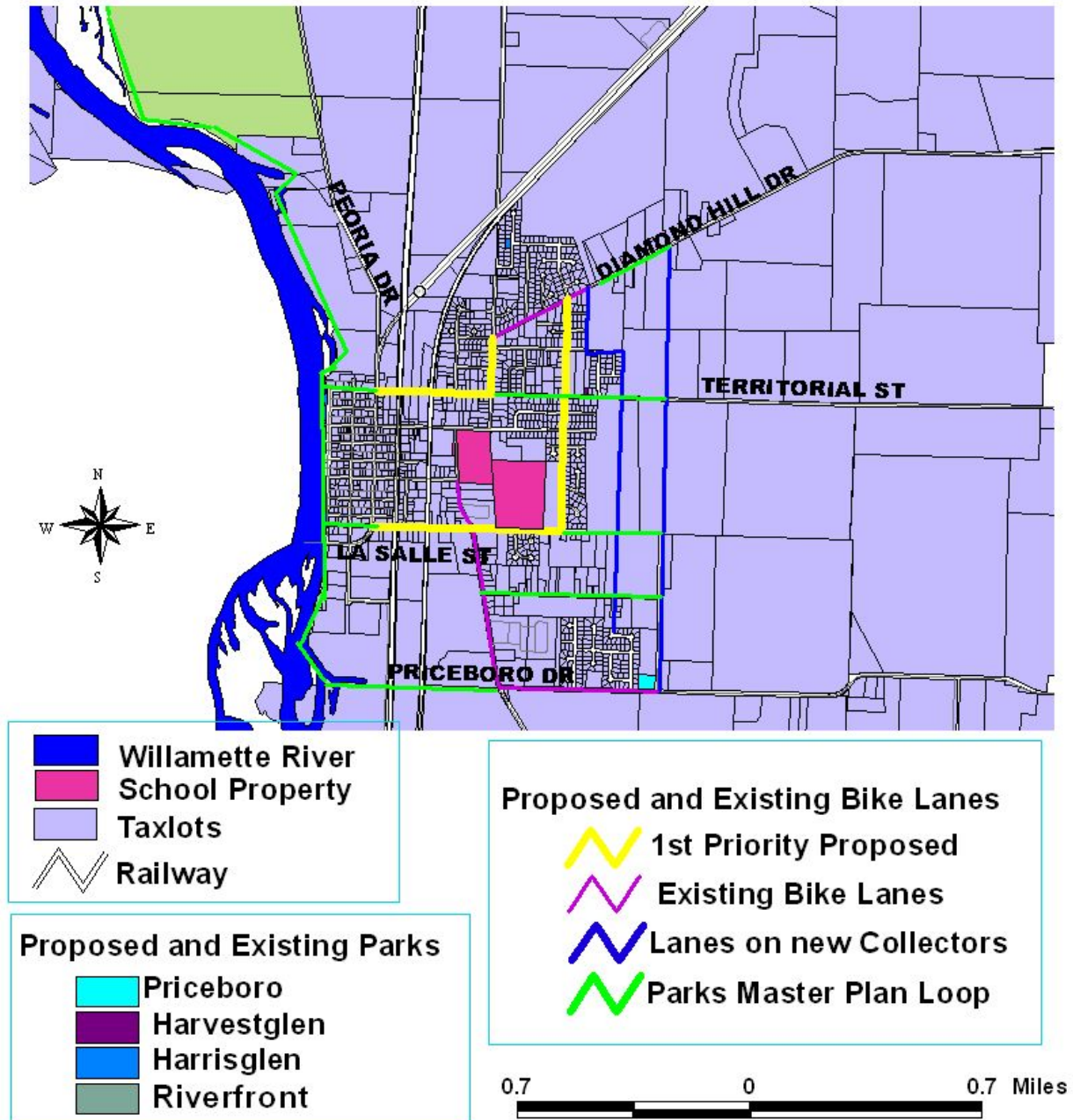
South of Riverfront Park, the Morse Brothers Corporation owns a very large parcel of land which is over 200 acres (parcel in green on map 5.4). This parcel has a beautiful pond, centrally located, which could provide a relaxing spot for picnics and fishing. This fishing hole could be nicely connected with Riverfront Park, especially if a walking and biking path is extended to this area. This property is also in the 100 year flood plain, which means that it cannot be developed, making it a good property for parkland.

## **Looping bicycle path**

Building on existing bike trails and the walking and biking path envisioned as part of an extension of Riverfront Park both north and south, a bike path looping around the city could connect city residents to the amenities of Riverfront Park. Map 5.5 Proposed and existing bike lanes, shows existing city bike lanes, proposed bike lanes (according to Harrisburg’s transportation system plan), and the remaining bike lanes that would need to be built in order to create a loop around the city which could connect up with Riverfront park. These proposed extensions of the city’s bike lanes within town would be beneficial not only because they would link up safe routes to future parks but would also provide safe travel to school for kids that ride their bikes to school. In order to create this loop, in addition to the proposed lanes according to Harrisburg’s TSP, bike lanes would need to be extended from third to First Street on both Territorial and LaSalle in order to connect to Riverfront Park. On the east side of the city, the new street of Cramer would need to have bike lanes installed and existing bike lanes on Diamond Hill would have to be extended to meet up with the bike lanes on Cramer. This loop is separate from the proposed natural walking/biking trail proposed along Harrisburg’s natural features. However, these two paths would be complimentary.

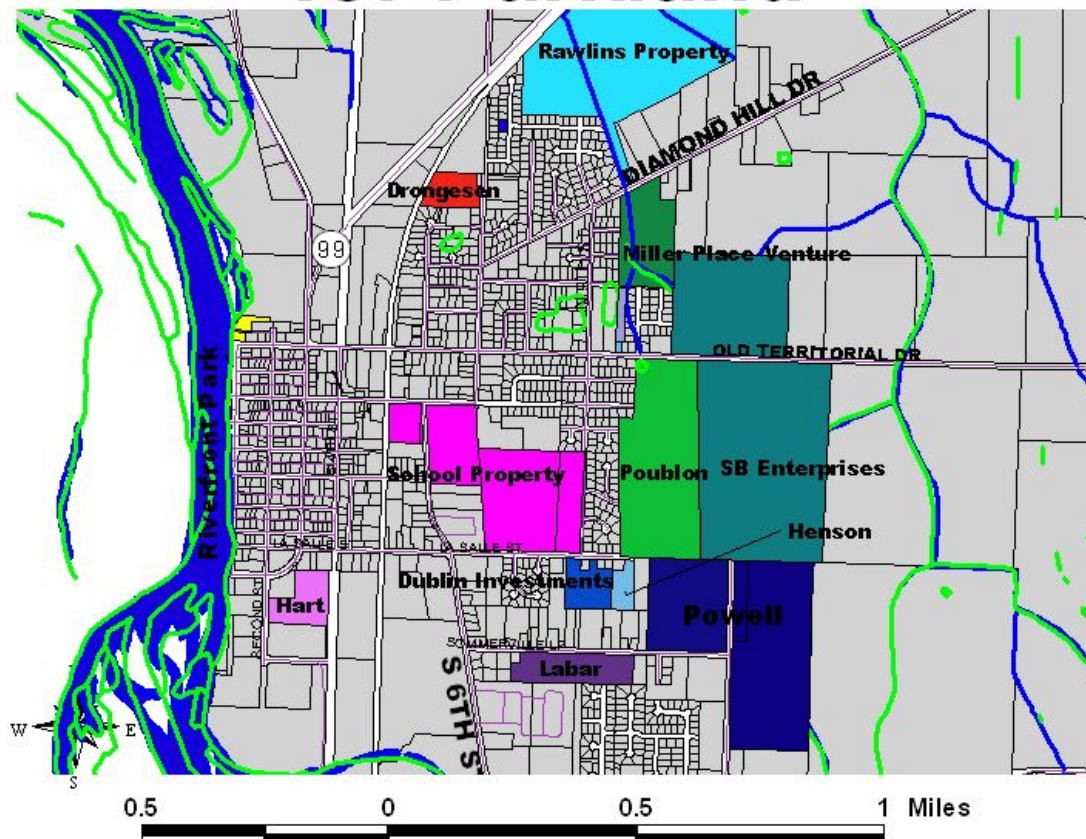
Map 5.5 Proposed and Existing Bike Lanes

# Proposed and Existing Bike Lanes



Map 5.6 Potential Properties for Parkland (Eastside)

# Potential Properties for Parkland



## Environmental Features

- Drainage
- Delineated Wetlands

## Larger Parcels

- Rawlins
- Miller Place Joint Venture
- Powell
- Poublon

## Smaller Parcels

- Drongesen
- Labar
- Hart
- Henson
- Dublin Investments

- School Property
- Willamette River
- Roads
- Taxlots
- Riverfront Park

## Eastside Proposed Parcels

The eastern side of the city has no City parks while also being the most densely populated area of the City. Therefore, this area is in great need of parks. The map below illustrates some of the potential parcels for parks. Many of the parcels highlighted in the map 5.6 are larger than a desired park, but as the city grows to the east, these parcels will be subdivided. The purpose of the map below is to illustrate some of the possible places on the east side of the city to locate new parks

## Opportunities and Constraints Potential Eastside Properties

This section provides tables which have outlined the opportunities and constraints of a few of the possible parcels for parkland shown in the maps. The purpose of these tables is to consider some of the pros and cons of choosing land in these areas.

<b>Table 5.2 Rawlins Property, Proposed Sports Complex Site or Community Park</b>	
<b>Dimensions of the Park</b>	3,335 ft along Hwy 99, 2,429 ft to the south and 1,513 feet north to south. The property also has a narrow strip going north to south from Diamond Hill Road. See map 5.6 Potential Parcels. The total parcel is 88.90 acres.
<b>Acreage</b>	
<b>Location</b>	North of Diamond Hill rd on the east side of town, east of the Harvest Glen Subdivision.
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	
<b>Recreational Activities</b>	This site is large enough that all or a portion of this site could be considered for the creation of a sports complex. However, some of the site may be wet during the winter as it does contain drainage.
<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>	Two lines of drainage run through the parcel and a tiny part has been delineated as wetlands.
<b>Unique Constraints</b>	The parcel is currently outside the UGB. However, if the City grows at its current rate, it is just a matter of time before this land is within the city.

Table 5.3 Poublon Property, Proposed Sports Complex Site or Community Park	
<b>Dimensions of the Park and Acreage</b>	The parcel is 38.99 acres, rectangular in shape 857 ft east to west and 2,113 feet north to south.
<b>Location</b>	This property is east of 9 <sup>th</sup> street and the development on 9 <sup>th</sup> street. It borders the urban growth boundary on the east side of the city. See map 5.6 Potential Properties
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	
<b>Recreational Activities</b>	This parcel would be an ideal site for a sports complex. It is located close to the school facilities so it would be easily accessible for after school sports activities and it would also be close enough that if an aquatic center is built adjacent to the school in the next ten years, it could become part of the sports complex.
<b>Unique Opportunities</b>	Its central location also would make it very accessible
<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>	According to Linn County GIS data, there are a small amount of wetlands (approximately 100'x110' in a pentagon shape) in the northwestern corner of the property, just south of Territorial.

## Smaller Potential Parcels

If the community decides that a few smaller parks are more desirable than one large park, this document will give the reader a few parcels to consider.

**Moody Property:** This piece of property is just north of Harvest Glenn mini-park, with linear dimensions 90 ft. x 580 feet just below Burton. This parcel could provide a piece of land in which to put a scenic bike path connecting the Harris Glen wetland park with the wetland property on the north side of Burton Street. It could provide a bike and walking path, with picnic tables and scenic trees along the perimeter.

**Drogesen Property:** This property (4.69 acres, 645 ft. east to west and 407 ft north to south) is located south of Hwy 99, on the north side of town. It would be a good location for a specialty park on the north side of town. As of 2004, however, the residents of this property inhabit a double wide on the property.

**Labar Property:** This property, as of 2004, is occupied by a single family residence. However, the property has a good location for new parkland because it sits between the new development on Priceboro and the new development occurring close to the school on Sommerville. It is a rectangular piece of property

(1,316 ft. x 319 ft.) and the park is also located within walking distance of the mobile home park communities and apartment complex on LaSalle, solving the problem of not having public parks within walking distance of these communities.

**Hensen Property and Dublin Investments Property:** The combined acreage of both of these rectangular properties is 8.06 acres. Both parcels are located south of La Salle where the street dead ends on the east side of the city. This land is slated for future development. However, like the Labar property, the location of this property offers good access for residents in the southeastern side of the city, while also being close to the school.

**Hart Property:** This property sits on the southwestern side of the city, sandwiched between Second and Fourth Street, south of Sommerville Loop; it currently sits within the enterprise zone. However, it could still be considered for a park. The location of this property would be good for those residents who live in downtown Harrisburg and perhaps this park could be tied to the riverfront with a biking and walking path. This property is 6.72 acres.

**Miller Place Joint Venture:** South of Diamond Hill Road, this site was slated for development until it was determined that the site was mostly wetlands except for 7 build able acres. For this reason, the city may be able to acquire some of this land for a park. This piece of land is fairly centrally located and is large enough that it could provide many different opportunities for a park. This wetland site could link with the smaller wetland property Harvest Glen that the City has recently acquired. This potential parcel will be discussed further on in the document.

## Buying land outside the UGB

Because Harrisburg has such a large deficiency in parkland and also has limited funds for land acquisition, one possible option is to buy land outside the UGB. While it would be preferable to buy land inside the city which could be immediately developed into a city park, buying land outside the UGB would provide the city the option to buy land at a reduced price and then develop it at a later date when there may be more funds for parks. The city should not play the role of developer with this venture, but rather look at the benefits to future generations, who would benefit from such foresight.

This option would also allow the city to buy a large piece of property which could be suitable for a “central park” which was an option that was preferred by many citizens who participated in the citizen input process. Because Harrisburg is growing so quickly, land that is acquired outside the UGB could feasibly be developed into a new park in the next 10-15 years. With a little foresight, the future of parks could be invested in early on before the price of land became too great.

Potential parcels outside the UGB discussed above are the Rawlins property, SB Enterprise property and the Powell property.

## Parks in the Planning Stages

Especially for the proposed sites, the opportunities and constraints are important considerations to determine possible uses for these proposed park sites. All new parks need to consider that the park and park amenities must be ADA accessible. The park parcels which are in the planning stages can be viewed on Map 5.3 (Walking Biking Paths along Natural Features pg. 65)



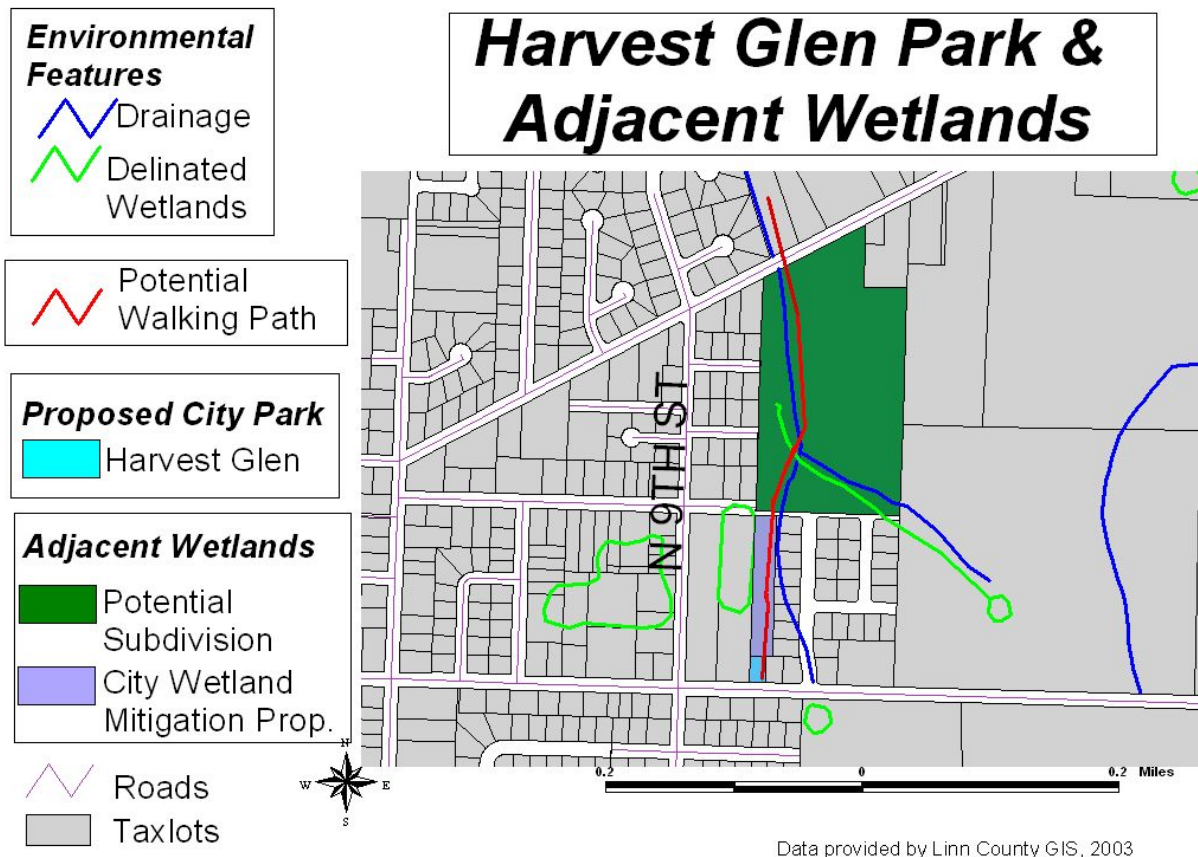
### Harvest Glen Proposed Park

This parcel of land is scheduled to be deeded to the City by the developer for the creation of a neighborhood park. This parcel of land was deeded to the city in exchange for the City's agreement to care for a wetland mitigation site to the north.

**Table 5.5 Proposed Harvest Glen Park**

<b>Dimensions of the Park</b>	It is a rectangular piece of property, approximately 109 feet by 66 feet. (0.17 acres)
<b>Location</b>	North of Territorial on the east side of the city. See Map 5.3, page 65 for location.
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	
<b>Wildlife Viewing</b>	This park is located next to wetlands. It is also near many other wetland sites, so the opportunity for viewing wildlife and unique species of wetland plants exists.
<b>Possible Recreational Activities</b>	Playground equipment and a picnic table are best suited to this site. This parcel is too small for ball fields or most other uses.
<b>Unique Characteristics</b>	The site is near wetlands, which means wildlife viewing and unique environmental education opportunities exist. There is a strip along the wetlands that is part of the same lot, but not considered wetlands. This would allow the construction of a bicycle or pedestrian path to connect territorial street with Burton street and create viewing areas for the wetlands. It is only 7,000 square feet, which limits its use.
<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>	Site is located next to wetlands and it is a small parcel (7,194 sq. ft).

The wetland mitigation site, to the north, will need care and monitoring from the City for the next three years. This property, however, has a 25 ft. wide linear path which is not wetland. This 25 foot buffer could be converted to a walking/biking path which could connect to Harvest Glen Park. There is also a possibility that a walking path could be extended north of the City owned wetland mitigation site to connect with the proposed subdivision for this property. This proposed subdivision has discovered a significant amount of wetlands and therefore it is unlikely that the entire piece of property will be built out, which would possibly leave a piece of property for a walking path.



## Proposed Harris Glen (Arrow Leaf) Park

This piece of property is scheduled to be turned over by the developer of the Harris Glen Subdivision to the City. This park was created through the city's neighborhood community development ordinance which allows for modifications in a developers subdivision plan (smaller lots, etc.) if a compensation for those modifications, like a public park or other public amenity is provided.

There are preliminary plans for a half-court basketball court, a playground and green space for outdoor games and activities. This subdivision has family oriented housing, and so the park amenities and design takes this into consideration. The residents of this subdivision will be within walking distance of this park.

<b>Table 5.6 Proposed Harris Glen (Arrow Leaf) Park</b>	
<b>Dimensions of the Park</b>	A rectangular park, 98' by 142' approx. 0.32 acres.
<b>Location</b>	In the Harris Glen Subdivision north of Diamond Hill; See Map 5.3, page 65.
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	
<b>Scenic</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>Wildlife Viewing</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>Possible Recreational Activities</b>	<b>High</b> Basketball, playground and green space for activities proposed
<b>Unique Characteristics</b>	Located within the subdivision, so it is within walking distance of the entire neighborhood.
<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>	<b>Low</b> The developer is putting in irrigation for the park.

### **Proposed Priceboro Park**

This parcel of land is scheduled to be given to the City by the developer of the Harriswood Estates subdivision. It will serve residents of this subdivision and others. This area is composed of family style homes. Park facilities that consider children and families would serve this population well.

## Priceboro Park



**Table 5.7 Proposed Priceboro Park**

<b>Dimensions of the Park</b>	A rectangular park 263.58 ft. E-W and 450 ft. N-S (2.8 acres)
<b>Location</b>	On the eastern side of the city on the corner of Priceboro and Cramer. See Map 5.3 page 65.
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	
<b>Scenic</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>Wildlife Viewing</b>	Some wildlife may occasionally visit the storm detention pond.
<b>Recreational Activities</b>	<b>Many Possibilities</b>
<b>Unique Characteristics</b>	As of 2003-2004, this parcel of land is outside the UGB. This means either the UGB must be expanded before this park can be developed or the park needs a conditional use permit from Linn County.
<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>	Includes a half acre storm detention pond.

## Conceptual drawings of potential parks, using top park priorities;

### 1.) Neighborhood Park

There are several planned neighborhood parks in the works for the City of Harrisburg: Arrow Leaf (Harris Glen), Harvest Glen, and Priceboro. These parks will be mini-neighborhood parks. This neighborhood park concept drawing shows some of the possibilities these neighborhood parks can provide the community.

### 2.) Riverfront Natural Area Park

Extending and expanding Riverfront Park is a goal of the parks master plan. The Riverfront Natural Area Park concept drawing gives some possibilities for the extension of Riverfront Park to the north. This concept drawing is based on the piece of property north of the existing Riverfront Park. The drawing gives just some of the many possibilities for extending Riverfront Park.

### 3.) Sports Park

This concept drawing shows some of the possibilities for Harrisburg's central park. The drawing is done based on a proposed 13 acre site. Ideally, a centrally located site in town could be developed into a multi-use sports and family park for the City in the future.

All of these concept drawings have been done based on public park workshops. However, upon the acquisition of parkland, actual park amenities will be the byproduct of community discussion.

# Chapter 6

## Recommendations

## Funding Strategies

The recommendations section will give some cost estimates as of 2004 for accomplishing park master plan goals, along with corresponding funding options and strategies. While it is difficult to make explicit recommendations because funding for parks is uncertain, this information can help city leaders when they are faced with decisions about how much certain types of park amenities cost and some of the possible ways to fund park expenditures.

### Park Goal 1:

*Acquire adequate parkland to meet the needs of existing and future populations.*

*Priority: High*

#### **Recommendation:**

- Acquire one large (10-20 acre) parcel of parkland in the near future. (short-range next 1-2 years)
- Acquire a smaller parcel of land (3-5 acres) every 5 years.

During the workshops on park goals, a desired level of service (LOS) was determined to be 7 acres per thousand residents. With this LOS goal the City of Harrisburg, as of 2004, is 18.45 acres deficient in parkland. As a result of this large deficiency in parkland and a desire expressed in multiple park workshops for one large park, the parks master plan recommends that city should aim to acquire one large 15-25 acre parcel for a central park.

One option for pursuing this goal would be to purchase a large parcel (15-20 acres) within the next couple of years for a park. Then the city could acquire a smaller 3-5 acre parcels in order to meet its LOS goal.

#### **OR**

The city could initially purchase a 5-10 acre parcel and then build on to that purchase every year to eventually acquire a 15-20 acre park.

In either scenario, the city has a large deficiency in parkland which means land acquisition is a very high priority to achieving park master plan goals.

**COSTS:** A couple of options will be discussed for the city to consider when contemplating the purchase of a large parcel of land for a future park.

### **Option 1: Buy land within the UGB for a future park**

**PROS:** Land is developable immediately for a new city park

**CONS:** Land within the UGB is expensive to purchase

To immediately acquire land that could be developed into a park the city could buy a large parcel within the city. This would be the most expensive option with land within the UGB going for approximately \$40,000-50,000 per acre. This means that the total cost for a 15 acre parcel would then be approximately \$600,000-\$750,000. This is a very large expense for a new park.

**Option 2: Buy land outside the UGB** with the knowledge that the land may not be able to be developed as a park for several years; however, within about ten years, the city could use this parcel of land for parkland.

**PROS:** Land is less expensive outside the UGB so it would save the city money. It would also allow the city more time to save the money necessary to develop the park.

**CONS:** Because the land is outside the UGB the city would have to wait until the UGB is expanded in order to develop the land as a park.

Land outside the UGB varies in price according to how much speculation there is about when and where the UGB will be expanded and whether the plot is build able. However, this could be a way for the city to save a considerable amount of money in the capital costs required for parkland acquisition. If the land outside the UGB is not build able and is considered farmland its price can range from approximately \$2,500-\$4,500 an acre. For a 15 acre parcel this would cost the city between \$37,500-\$67,500; resulting in a cost savings of between \$562,500-\$682,500, as compared to purchasing a similar piece of land within the UGB. If the city is short funds for building parks, this option of delayed gratification, would allow park goals to be achieved at a later date in time.

### **Option 3: The donation or reduced purchase price of environmentally sensitive areas**

**PROS:** Environmentally sensitive areas while not build able are still useable for parkland. In the past, these sites have been donated to the city in return for the city's agreement to care for the property long-term. This can be a win-win situation for the city, the developer, and the environment.

**CONS:** Depending on how wet the site is there can be limitations on what kind of park amenities, or types of park, are permissible for development options for the future park.

**Table 6.1 Park Goal 1: Cost Estimates**

<b>Land Acquisition</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Source of Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Funding Options</b>
Option 1: Land within UGB	High	\$40,000- \$50,000 per acre	City Councilor Gerald Gorbett, (only given as an approximate)	Parks budget: SDC, CIP
Option 2: Land outside UGB	High	\$2,500-\$4,500 per acre (with the stipulation that this land is not build able)	City Councilor Gerald Gorbett, (only given as an approximate)	Parks budget: SDC, CIP
Option 3: Environmentally Sensitive Areas	High	Donated or minimal cost to city	N/A	Parks budget: SDC, CIP

## **Park Goal 2:**

*Ensure that every child is within walking distance of playground equipment.*

*Priority: High*

### **Recommendation:**

- Place playground equipment at the 3 proposed mini-park sites: Priceboro, Harris Glen and Harvest Glen

This goal is easily achievable by the city because of three proposed mini-parks which are in the planning stage. The parks master plan uses the NRPA definition of a being within a quarter of a mile of a mini-park as being within walking distance. If playground equipment is built at all of these three proposed sites, most of the children in the City of Harrisburg will be within walking distance of playground equipment. The cost of buying the playground equipment for these sites ranges from \$4,000-\$7,500. This cost does not include the cost of the labor to install the playground equipment. However, because these are neighborhood parks, it may be possible to organize some neighbors to volunteer their time and labor to installing the playground equipment. Volunteer work is highly regarded when applying for grants, so this would be good leverage for applying for future grants for playground equipment.

**Table 6.2 Park Goal 2 Cost Estimates**

Playground Equipment	Priority	Cost Estimate	Source of Cost Estimate	Funding Options
Play structure (plastic)	High	\$4,000-\$5,000	Outside Toys Pro www.outsidetoyspro.com	SDC, grants
Play structure (wood)	High	\$5,000-\$7,500	Outside Toys Pro www.outsidetoyspro.com	SDC, grants

## Park Goal 3:

*Ensure adequate outdoor picnicking facilities at Harrisburg parks.*

*Priority: High*

### Recommendation:

- Place picnicking facilities at all of the new Harrisburg mini-park sites and place more picnicking facilities at Riverfront Park.
- Priority: High

As of 2004, there are plans to place 2 more BBQ stands with picnic tables in Riverfront Park, so that this park has better picnicking facilities. Additionally, if picnicking facilities are placed at the proposed mini-park sites, this goal can be achieved.

**Table 6.3 Park Goal 3 Cost Estimates**

Picnicking Equipment	Priority	Cost Estimate	Source of Cost Estimate	Funding Options
Moveable picnic tables: steel and wood	High	\$250-\$700	2004 Du Mor Catalog	SDC, grants
In ground wooden pedestal table	High	\$900-\$1,500	2004 Du Mor Catalog	SDC, grants

## Park Goal 4:

*Provide adequate sports fields and sports facilities for existing and future populations.*

*Priority: High*

### Recommendation:

- When a large 15-20 acre site for parkland is acquired by the city, solicit citizen input and design needed sports fields and facilities into the park.
- Priority: High

The city currently does not have any city parks which offer sports fields or sports facilities like basketball courts or tennis courts. Therefore, this is a current and future need for parks and when parkland is acquired, these features should be designed into the site plan for future parks.

**Table 6.4 Park Goal 4 Cost Estimates**

<b>Sports Facilities</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Source of Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Funding Options</b>
Tennis Courts	Low	A hard court can cost between \$22,000-\$45,000 These costs can vary depending on a number of factors such as: site work, fence, lighting, choice of court surface, windscreens, etc.	<a href="http://www.premiertenniscourts.com/faqs.htm#2">www.premiertenniscourts.com/faqs.htm#2</a> 800-572-6058	SDC, grants, Parks budget
Basketball Court 6" pole, steel rectangular board, and fixed rim	High	For fixed rim and pole \$1,450 (doesn't include pavement & paint for court)	www.americanathletic.com	SDC, grants, parks budget
Equipment for Baseball Diamond	Medium-High	Chain link backstops: \$1,200-\$2,100 (doesn't include costs to set up the field)	Collegiate Pacific 888-566-8966	SDC, grants, parks budget
Equipment for Soccer Field Set-up	High	For permanent goal: Frame \$1,426-\$2,100 Nets: \$170-\$328. (doesn't include costs to set up the field)	www.scoremaster.com	SDC, grants, parks budget

The installation of sports facilities for City parks is an expensive investment. However, if you look at the long-term use of these facilities if they are well maintained, these are investments which will pay off greatly by citizen use and enjoyment.

## **Park Goal 5:**

*Make the necessary investments in order to build an aquatic center, community center and expanded senior center in the future.*

**Priority: Medium**

## Recommendation:

- In the next 5 years form a committee to research this issue.
- In the next 5-10 years hire consultants to write proposals for the desired facilities based on committee recommendations and put a potential bond measure on the ballot.
- Priority: Medium

This is a long-range goal for the city. However, because of the large financial costs involved with this type of project early planning is wise. Also, because of the costs associated with this project, though research and community involvement to help guide and design the proposed facilities are very important. There are many ways with which to go about meeting this goal: one big facility to house a community center, aquatic center and senior center together or multiple buildings and projects. The advantage of putting all these facilities together under one building is that you could propose just one bond measure to pay for the new facilities.

## Park Goal 6

*Provide a skate park for the youth of Harrisburg.*

*Priority: Medium-High*

## Recommendations:

- Place a small skateboard park in one of the city parks. A small skateboard park would only require approximately a quarter of an acre.

The parks workshops done both in the elementary school and the high school revealed that Harrisburg children of a wide range of ages would be interested in having a skateboard park. From fourth graders to high school students, this wide range of age groups would enjoy the use of a skateboard park, which would make it a worthwhile addition to the community.

**Table 6.5 Park Goal 6 Cost Estimates**

Skateboard Park Equipment	Priority	Cost Estimate	Source of Cost Estimate	Funding Options
Small pre-designed park	Medium-High	\$35,000-\$40,000	2004 Product Guide Huna Designs <a href="http://www.hunadesigns.com">www.hunadesigns.com</a>	SDC, grants, general funds

## Park Goal: 7

*Improving the Riverfront Part I: Provide better boating and fishing facilities and better riverfront access.*

*Priority: High*

## Recommendations:

- Install a floating boat dock; seek the assistance of the Marine Board in this project.

- Create a trail from the gazebo area down to the river and the floating boat dock.
- Long-range: make the boat dock landing double wide.
- Priority: High

The installation of a floating boat dock would make the river much more accessible to non-motorized recreationalists and it would also aid boaters in securing their boat to their vehicle. Along with the vision of a floating boat dock is a trail that would allow for pedestrian access to the river and mitigate the sharp cliff that prevents riverfront access from the gazebo area of Riverfront Park.

**Table 6.6 Park Goal 7 Cost Estimates**

Facility	Priority	Cost Estimate	Source of Cost Estimate	Funding Options
Floating boat Dock and trail from the gazebo area to the River: Materials Only	High	Approx. \$6,000	Grant written 2004 for the Oregon Marine Board	Possible matching funds from the Oregon Marine Board

## Park Goal: 8

*Improving the Riverfront Part II: Provide more walking and biking trails, including a bike and pedestrian trail along the river and in the long-term create an amphitheatre along the river to host summer concerts and events.*

*Priority: Medium-High*

### Recommendations:

- Acquire “lagoon property” to the south of the City owned wastewater treatment facility property.
- Try and work with Monaco and Morse Bros. to get a right-of-way to build a linear walking/biking path along the river to connect from Riverfront Park north to the city owned wastewater treatment plant.
- Form a group from the parks committee or other group to investigate the possibility of an outdoor theatre.
- Form a partnership with Linn County park department to help accomplish goals for better access to the river.

The community of Harrisburg is very fortunate to be situated adjacent to such a beautiful river. Walking and biking paths along the river would allow better water front access and more active type recreational opportunities along the river. It is a shame not to take advantage of the wonderful natural feature of the river. There are many possibilities of how the City could provide more and better access to the river, and this plan recommends highly that the city realize the potential of this scenic attraction. While the Linn County park master plan does not have any plans for new parks in the Harrisburg area, one of the goals for parks is to increase access to the river. Therefore, a partnership with Linn

County parks to increase public access to the river could be beneficial to the City and the County.

**Table 6.7 Cost Estimates Goal 8**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Funding Options</b>
Cost of acquiring "Lagoon Property" south of City owned wastewater treatment plant.	High-Medium	Unknown	Parks budget, SDC, grants, or possible HRA funds

## **Park Goal: 9**

*Secure Funding to achieve park system goals.*

*Priority: High*

### **Recommendations:**

- Pursue multiple options for funding; but most importantly, maintain leadership for parks.
- Continue the work of the Parks Committee.
- Priority: High

Finding funding for parks is a difficult task because, as in the case of the City of Harrisburg, for the last decade, funds for parks have not been available in the City budget. On the positive side, there are many ways to fund parks, and if multiple strategies are employed to find funding for parks, the burden is lessened for each party. As of 2000, the city has increased its SDC charges, which has provided more money earmarked solely for parks. However, as is the case for most cities, SDC money alone is not enough to fund park development. With a vision for park laid out with a master plan and a demonstrated interest in parks by citizens, the city will be eligible for state grants. These grants are done on a bi-annual basis, and the next cycle for local government grants will be in 2005. The funding for local government grants for parks is contingent upon the legislative approval of Oregon Parks and Recreation District's budget. Application for these grants will be due May 2005; and the parks master plan highly recommends that the city take the time to apply for these funds.

In November 2004, a proposed park and recreation district may be placed on the ballot for the voter of Harrisburg to consider. This proposed park and recreation district would provide a permanent source of funding from property taxes and would be governed by an elected five person board. If this passed by voters, parks in Harrisburg will be securely funded. However, the issue of increased property taxes for parks has been controversial.

The table below describes the pros and cons of different funding options for parks. There are many options for funding as shown in the table below. However, for the success of achieving funding from any of these mechanisms is dependent upon strong leadership from city staff and local leaders for parks.

**Table 6.8 Pros and Cons of Different Funding and Support Sources for Parks**

Funding Source	Implementation Time	Duration	Pros	Cons
Partnerships	Short-Term	Varies	Builds cooperation	Requires ongoing coordination
			Increases ability to pursue projects through sharing of resources	No guarantee of success
Donations	Short-Term	Ongoing	Can be a win-win situation May include land, financial, or materials	Requires continuous time and effort
Grants	Short-Term	Varies and limited	Good track record with grants often leads to more grants	Requires staff time for applications (with no guarantee or aware) and ongoing reporting
			Often support new, one-time expenditures	Often short-term and only for specific projects (not usually including staff time)
				Often require matching funds
Parks and Recreation District	Long-Term	Ongoing	Provides ongoing source of funds	Long-time to form
			All area park users (not only City residents) would pay for services	Some citizens may oppose
			Fund source would directly and only benefit parks	Could mean loss of revenue (control) for City
Land Trusts	Long-Term	Ongoing	Good way of working with landowners	Often have very specific projects in mind
				Lengthy process
				Land trusts may have limited resources
Bonds	Long-Term	Limited	Distributes costs over life of project	Debt burden must not be excessive
			Can generate substantial capital	May require voter approval
Levies	Long-Term	Limited	Can generate reduced-interest funding	Intergenerational inequity (levies are carried by current users, although future users will benefit.)
			Can provide substantial funding for short-term (under 10 year) projects	Requires voter approval (double majority)
System Development Charge	Long-Term	Ongoing	Development helps pay for the capital improvements, which will be necessary to provide residents with adequate park services.	Can only be used for capital improvements, not for deferred or ongoing maintenance needs.
			Ordinance in place	
Mandatory Dedication	Long-Term	Ongoing	Ensures parkland is located near or within future developments	Requires legally defensible methodology
			In conjunction with fee-in-lieu of dedication provides flexible way for City for provide parkland for new residents	
Local Improvement District	Short-Term	Varies	Can have a specific purpose	Must be abandoned if property owners provide written and signed objection
			Costs are paid by benefiting property owners	
			City or property owners can initiate	

Source: Community Planning Workshop, 2003 Brownsville Park Master Plan

## Park Goal: 10

*Seek to gain partnerships and work together with community organizations and community members.*

**Priority: High**

## Recommendations:

- Build a diverse base of community members to help aid in making decisions about parks; park leadership will be necessary to accomplish this.
- Work with the business community to better understand how parks can help them improve their business.
- Work with the school district to partner on accomplishing park goals that both organizations have in common.
- Priority: High
- Work in coordination with other local communities to host events and festivals in local parks.

Parks are used by a wide variety of people for many different recreational and leisurely pursuits. Making partnerships between the various user groups who benefit from parks is beneficial not only in gaining financial support but also in securing a solid volunteer base for parks. Harrisburg is a small town so there are a limited number of organized groups to build relationships with. However, the small size of Harrisburg makes it even more important that community partnerships are made to ensure that the limited resources for parks are used efficiently and shared between the different user groups. Partnerships are essential to ensure that all user groups and community members have a voice in park development. These essential community partnerships cannot occur, however, without leadership. It is the recommendation of this plan that leadership for parks include the work of making important community partnerships and that leadership for parks include a diverse group of citizens so that public views are well represented.

## Park Goal: 11

*Preserve historic resources and promote educational projects which enhance public knowledge of Harrisburg's history.*

*Priority: Low*

## Recommendations:

- Leadership for parks should pursue park projects which promote the historical nature of parks.
- Partner with the Heritage Museum on projects to promote Harrisburg's history in parks.
- Install historical signage;

Incorporated in 1866, Harrisburg has a rich history and is known as one of Oregon's oldest cities. As Harrisburg grows and new construction continues, it has an opportunity to honor these historic sites, instead of letting them get lost in the new development. This plan recommends that historic interpretive signs be placed along Riverfront Park and that the city's history be incorporated into this park.

# Funding Strategies

It is difficult to make exact recommendations for ways to fund park goals because of uncertain funding and other unknown variables. As a result, funding strategies will be discussed in a general sense, for the purpose of providing an educational tool to guide the City when different resources become available. Different funding strategies will be discussed; public (federal, state, and local) and private funding sources.

Key questions to guide the City as it formulates a funding strategy are:

- How much funding is needed for land acquisition?
- What are funding strategies for land acquisition?
- How much funding will be needed to build and develop parks once the land is acquired?
- What are some strategies for funding park development?
- How much funding will be required to maintain parks once they are fully developed?
- What long-term partnerships can be pursued?

Below is listed some of the most common ways to fund parks; their benefits and limitations, and if and how the City of Harrisburg has employed them in the past as funding mechanisms. The purpose of this section is for it to be used as an educational tool to find which funding source may work best for a particular project. Not all of the funding mechanisms described will work or be a good fit for all projects. Finding money for parks is one of the most difficult tasks for park development, but like many investments, there are different routes to take for funding, and multiple strategies are a good way to insure the most funding.

## System Development Charges

System Development Charges (SDC's) are one-time fees charged to new development to help cover the costs associated with building capital facilities to meet the needs created by growth. Oregon local governments are authorized to enact SDC's only for capital facilities for transportation, water, wastewater (sewer), storm water drainage, and parks and recreation facilities. (City of Portland Parks and Rec SDC methodology report) Park SDCs can therefore be used for purchasing parkland and developing parks, but it cannot be used for ongoing maintenance. This type of funding is also unreliable because building construction tends to be cyclical, so the amount of SDCs can vary considerably from year to year.

An SDC can consist of an "improvement fee" which the funds are dedicated to costs associated with capital improvements to be constructed. Or an SDC can consist of a "reimbursement fee" for costs associated with capital improvements which have been completed or are under construction.

The City of Harrisburg currently has a SDC charge of \$ 1,078 per EDU (each dwelling unit). The parks SDC charge in the City of Harrisburg has doubled in the two times it has been amended in 1997 and 1998 to reflect the city's growing

need for new infrastructure, which includes parks. This increase in the city's SDC charges has provided more city revenue that is solely dedicated to parks. However, SDC funds alone, as is the case for other cities, is not enough to fund all of the needs of parks. In a report commissioned by the City of Portland to research parks SDC's called "Parks and Recreation System Development Charges Methodology Report and Residential SDC Rate Study," this finding about parks SDC's was discovered: "When the costs of providing the needed facilities were calculated, it was determined that "improvement fee" SDC rate approaching \$5,000 per single-family dwelling units would be required."<sup>18</sup>

The City of Portland, understandably, decided that a \$5,000 SDC improvement fee was an excessive and unfair burden to place on developers. However, this finding does illustrate how SDC charges alone cannot fund the needed new infrastructure of parks as the city grows. SDC funds can supplement park expenditures and they can be used to leverage other funds for park development, but alone they are not capable of building the all the needed new infrastructure for parks, and are often times an unreliable funding source.

## Dedications and Wetlands

In the past, developers have shown a willingness to dedicate wetlands and sites with environmentally sensitive areas to the City for parkland. This has been a win-win transaction benefiting both the developer and the city, although there are important considerations to ensure that it is a fair transaction for both parties.

The proposed park site of Priceboro has been acquired because of the one acre storm distension pond on the property. The proposed 0.17 acre park Harvest Glen has been donated in return for the city's care of the Moody wetland property. Additionally, a new park is being developed on the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Priceboro on a site where wetlands are present. In the future, this park may be given to the city.

**Table 6.9 Opportunities and Constraints of Wetland Acquisition for Parkland**

Opportunities	Constraints
Developers have shown a willingness to donate this kind of property so there are usually no capital costs upfront.	If a wetland mitigation site is donated to the city which requires care and monitoring, the costs of staff time and maintenance could add up quickly.
Environmental organizations may give grants to develop properties into environmental education parks. Because wetland parks are relatively new communities that find a successful way to transform their wetland properties into parkland often times can find grantees willing to fund an innovative project.	Very wet properties may not provide usable parkland. Or the property may only be usable in summer months.
Wetlands provide ecological benefits of water purification and storm water retention.	Wetland property has limitations for park development because no structures are allowed on the property and wetland

## **Mandatory Dedications**

Other than the dedication of environmentally sensitive areas, another option that the city can investigate for needed future parkland is mandatory dedications. If the City is collecting SDC from developers, however, having a mandatory dedication can be a duplicitous charge to the developer. For this reason, if this policy is pursued, a reduction or elimination of SDCs may be required so that developers are not charged twice for development fees.

To pursue this option, the city can draft local ordinances which specify that during development, a portion of land shall be dedicated for park and recreation purposes. There are a few different ways which the local ordinance can be drafted to specify how the parkland will be dedicated. Parkland dedication can be based on a percentage of the total development, the number of proposed units or lots; or the number of persons per lot or unit in a proposed development. The city can also specify a minimum development size into their ordinance and use fee in-lieu of dedication requirements if a dedication is not feasible due to site limitations.

If a mandatory dedication policy is pursued by the city an acquisition plan and level of service goal (parkland acres per 1,000 residents) needs to be clearly stated in order to establish a legal nexus between mandatory dedication and the expected public welfare. This policy should be drafted in a way that does not place too great of a burden on the developer. However, this can be a useful way of acquiring small parks in dense developments.

## **Partnerships**

Partnerships are especially beneficial in a small town where resources are limited and so multiple groups often share the use of facilities. There are many potential partnerships that could be formed around parks; because when well designed, a good parks system can benefit the community in many different ways.

## **Neighborhood Community Development Ordinance**

Recently, the City of Harrisburg created a new ordinance which allows for more design flexibility for developers. If a developers plan provides a common space, recreational facility or other amenities which would compensate for a reduction of normal city requirement for development, modifications to city lot requirements or other restrictions may be modified. The Harris Glen Park was acquired because of this ordinance. This ordinance allows developers more options and the community more options by placing value on the creation of public space.

## **Potential Partners for Parks in Harrisburg:**

## Local Partners

- HART Center
- Local Businesses
- School District
- Heritage Museum

## State and National Partners

- State Agencies
- Linn County Park Department
- Land Trust Organizations
- National non-profit parks organizations: Nature Conservancy

On the local level, there are various potential partners whose interests overlap with the purposes of park development. The most obvious partnership and the one with the most overlap is the school district. The school district is a natural partner for projects like sports fields and a possible aquatic center. For example, Junction City leases school ball fields to make them available to the public. This benefits the school by providing income for their extra land and because the city takes responsibility for the fields they also provide the maintenance for them. If these agreements are worked out well, they usually benefit all parties involved: the city, the school and the public.

Other local partnerships could be with the HART center which hosts a local farmers market. If there was a public space at a local park, this would be a great place to host this event. A better park system could benefit local business by bringing more people into town, whether it is for sports events or tourists. The business community's ideas around how to build parks so that they foster economic development should be considered.

The Heritage Museum could also be a potential partner for park development. This group could help insure that historic markers were incorporated into park design and development.

The Linn County Parks Department also has indicated that they could be a potential partner for a project, if the park project were to be in line with overall county park goals; and one pertinent County park goals is the desire to provide better public access to the river.

Forming partnerships can be a difficult task because it requires a lot of communication and willingness from both parties to work together to find the best solution for both parties. But with time, if a solid base of understanding is built, they can be very beneficial.

## Donations

Even with Harrisburg's limited park acreage, Harrisburg residents have shown a great willingness to donate to their parks. At Riverfront Park the construction of the gazebo was financed almost entirely by donations. The old fashioned light posts that were installed in the Park were financed by donation, with recognition for the donors on a plaque on the lamppost. New BBQ grills were also donated from Hurd's hardware in 2004. This is very encouraging that the community has been so willing to contribute to

parks even with so little existing city parks. To continue to encourage philanthropy, tax incentive should be emphasized, and potential matching funds could be offered by the City. In some cases, developers have also shown a willingness to donate land with the primary motivation of a tax-write off.

## Land Trusts

Land trusts were developed to help landowners protect their land's natural and historic qualities. "Land Trusts are local, regional, or statewide nonprofit conservation organizations directly involved in helping protect natural, scenic, recreational, agricultural, historic, or cultural property. Land trusts work to preserve open land that is important to the communities and regions where they operate. Land trusts respond rapidly to conservation needs and operate in cities, rural, and suburban areas. Land trusts now operate in every state in the nation protecting land of local, regional, and national importance."<sup>19</sup>

According to University of Oregon's CPW, some of the tools that land trusts use to protect land are:

- Conservation easements (which allow land to be protected while a landowner maintains ownership.)
- Outright land acquisition by gift or will
- Purchases at reduced costs (bargain sales)
- Land and/or property exchanges

Contact information for local land trust organizations can be found in Appendix A.

## Bonds

Bonds are long-term debt instruments that a municipality uses to finance needed new infrastructure for the city. The benefits of using bonds to pay for needed infrastructure like parks are that borrowing the money through the form of a bond will distribute the costs of the project over the life of the project, rather than requiring today's taxpayers to pay for future use. Also, during times of inflation, debt allows future repayment of borrowed money in cheaper dollars. By not exhausting current cash-on-hand, borrowing can allow the city to purchase needed equipment and allow for contingency funds.

Oregon law requires that all Unlimited-Tax General Obligation (ULTGO) bonds be authorized by a vote of the people. The Oregon Bond Manual- 4<sup>th</sup> Edition<sup>20</sup>, recommends municipalities hire a bond counsel prior to the bond election to ensure that all requirements are met for a legal bond election.

A fundamental rule associated with issuing long-term debt instruments is that they may not be issued for maturity longer than the project's useful life. The public should not be paying for a major park or recreational facility after it is no longer in use.<sup>21</sup> However, if the city works with citizens, a bond can be a useful tool to complete large projects, like an aquatic center or community center.

## Grants

Grants are a great way to supplement park expenditures; however, they are not a good long-term stable funding source. The best sources for potential future grants are state

agencies. The State Parks open their eligibility for the “Local Government Grant program” which provides up to 60 percent funding assistance for cities/park districts with populations less than 30,000.<sup>22</sup> Grants, like this one, require that the proposed project be consistent with outdoor recreation and goal and objectives contained in the State Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). These grants are highly competitive, like most grants, so they need to be a good fit and they require considerable staff time to complete and research. Other state agencies like the Oregon Marine Board have grant offerings every year that also should be looked into. A list of state grant programs is listed in Appendix A.

Private foundations tend not to fund city government projects like parks. However, if citizens organize, and separate themselves from the City, private funders are more likely to fund the work of volunteer or non-profit groups. In a small town, because there are limited civic or non-profit organizations, even very small organization by citizens can gain the attention of grantees. However, the application process is lengthy and requires considerable time and effort.

# Appendix A

## Funding Information

Appendix A provides brief descriptions and contacts for the funding strategies presented in Chapter 6. The contact information for the funding appendix has been provided by the Community Planning Workshop, December 2003.

### Partnerships

#### State and Federal

##### **Linn County Parks & Recreation Department**

Brian Carroll, Director  
Phone: (360) 967-3917  
Website: [www.co.linn.or.us/](http://www.co.linn.or.us/)

##### **Division of State Lands, Wetland Mitigation Banking**

###### **Contact:**

Wetland mitigation specialist  
Division of State Lands  
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100  
Salem, Oregon 97301-1279  
Phone: (503) 378-3805, Ext. 285  
Website: <http://statelands.dsl.state.or.us/>

##### **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**

###### **Contact:**

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
3406 Cherry Avenue NE  
Salem, Oregon 97303-4924  
Phone: (503) 947-6000  
Website: <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/>

##### **Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**

###### **Contact:**

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department  
Heritage Conservation Division  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C  
Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: (503) 986-0707  
Website: <http://www.shpo.state.or.us/>

##### **Oregon Youth Conservation Corps**

Through assistance received from the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC), communities receive needed services, and unemployed youth are placed in gainful activities. The program can provide an opportunity for youth to serve as

role models for others, which instills a growing commitment to community. OYCC funding is distributed in equal amounts to each county in Oregon every summer. The program funds individual projects ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

The OYCC program consists of grants of labor and capital financing. These grants generally support conservation or environment-related projects proposed by non-profit organizations. Youth corps members work on projects such as:

- Construction of trails, boat docks, disability access ramps, fences and picnic tables;
- Restoration/preservation of wetlands, stream banks, endangered species and other wildlife habitat, and historical and cultural sites;
- Maintenance of all of the above after wind, floods, fire or normal use;
- Plantings, water quality testing, removing non-native plants and weeds, watershed work, managing nurseries, landscaping, mapping, surveying and recycling and community service projects.

**Contact:**

Oregon Youth Conservation Corps  
255 Capitol Street NE, Third Floor  
Salem, Oregon 97310  
Phone: (503) 378-3441  
Fax: (503) 373-2353  
Website: <http://www.oycc.state.or.us>

## **Local**

Public, private, and non-profit organizations may be willing to fund outright or join together with the City of Harrisburg to provide additional parks and recreation facilities and services. This method may be a good way to build cooperation among local public and private partners. A list of potential partners besides police and fire departments, utility providers, and the school district include:

- The Museum Board
- The HART center
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts
- VFW

Local businesses may also be willing to partner with the city to provide park services. For example, HURDS Hardware in 2004 donated two BBQ stands to the city. The Chamber of Commerce would be a good place to begin to form such partnerships.

**Contact:** Taryl Perry  
235 W.6<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Junction City, OR 97448  
Phone: (541) 998-6154

## **Not-for-Profit Organizations**

### **American Farmland Trust**

(For agricultural lands only)

Contact: American Farmland Trust  
1200 18<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 331-7300  
Fax: (202) 659-8339  
Website: <http://www.farmland.org/>

### **The Nature Conservancy**

Contact: The Nature Conservancy of Oregon  
821 S.E. 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97214  
Phone: (503) 230-1221  
Fax: (503) 230-9639  
Website: <http://nature.org/>

## **Grants**

### **Private Grant-Making Organizations**

#### **National Grants**

##### **American Greenways Dupont Awards**

This program is a partnership between Dupont, The Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society. The Conservation Fund forges partnerships to protect America's legacy of land and water resources. Through land acquisition, community initiatives, and leadership training, the Fund and its partners demonstrate sustainable conservation solutions emphasizing the integration of economic and environmental goals.

**Contact:**

The Conservation Fund  
1800 N. Kent Street, Suite 1120  
Arlington, Virginia 22209-2156  
Phone: (703) 525-6300  
Fax: (703) 525-4610  
Website: <http://www.conservationfund.org/conservation/>

### **State Grants**

#### **Oregon Community Foundation Grants**

Proposals to the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) are prioritized for funding based on their fit with a set of basic guiding principles and four specific funding objectives.

1. To nurture children, strengthen families and foster the self-sufficiency of Oregonians (40-50% of OCF Grants);

2. To enhance the educational experience of Oregonians (15-20% of OCF grants);
3. To increase cultural opportunities for Oregonians (15-20% of OCF grants);
4. To preserve and improve Oregon's livability through citizen involvement (10-15% of OCF grants);

Only about 5 percent of Community Grants are above \$50,000. Larger grants tend to be made only for projects that are an exceptionally good fit with OCF priorities, have a broad scope of impact and address an area to which OCF's board has decided to give special attention.

**Contact:**

Oregon Community Foundation  
1221 SW Yamhill, #100  
Portland, Oregon 97205  
Phone: (503) 227-6846  
Fax: (503) 274-7771  
Website: <http://www.ocfl.org/>

## **Oregon Department of Forestry**

Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Grants  
Forestry Assistance Program  
2600 State Street  
Salem, Oregon 97310  
Phone: (503) 945-7391  
Website: [www.odf.state.or.us/divisions/management/forestry\\_assistance](http://www.odf.state.or.us/divisions/management/forestry_assistance)

## **The Collins Foundation**

The Collins Foundation's purpose is to improve, enrich, and give greater expression to the religious, educational, cultural, and scientific endeavors in the State of Oregon and to assist in improving the quality of life in the state. In its procedures, the Foundation has not been an "Operating Foundation" in the sense of taking the initiative in creating and directing programs designed to carry out its purpose. Rather, the trustees have chosen to work through existing agencies and have supported proposals submitted by colleges and universities, organized religious groups, arts, cultural and civic organizations, and agencies devoted to health, welfare, and youth.

**Contact:**

Cynthia Adams  
Director of Programs  
The Collins Foundation  
1618 SW First Avenue, Suite 505  
Portland, Oregon 97201  
Phone: (503) 227-7171  
Website: <http://www.collinsfoundation.org/>

## **Regional Grants**

### **Paul G. Allen Forest Protection Fund**

The Paul G. Allen Foundation focuses its grant making on the acquisition of old growth and other critical forestlands. Priority is given to projects that protect forestlands with a strategic biological value that extend or preserve wildlife habitat, and, where possible, offer opportunities for public recreation and education. The foundation is particularly interested in landscape-scale projects that provide optimal potential for protection of ecological integrity, functional and intact ecosystems, connectivity, and biodiversity conservation.

**Contact:**

Grants Administrator  
PGA Foundations  
505 5th Ave South Suite 900  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
Email: [info@pgafoundations.com](mailto:info@pgafoundations.com)  
Website: <http://www.pgafoundations.com>

### **Bonneville Environmental Foundation**

Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF) watershed project grants to date have ranged from \$5,000 to \$40,000. Any private person, organization, local or tribal government, located in the Pacific Northwest (OR, WA, ID, MT) may submit a proposal to BEF. Proposals will only be considered, however, from applicants proposing to complete a watershed biological assessment or applicants operating within the context of a previously completed watershed biological assessment.

**Contact:**

Bonneville Environmental Foundation  
133 SW 2nd Avenue, Suite 410  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
Phone: (503) 248-1905  
Fax: (503) 248-1908  
Website: <http://www.bonenvfdn.org/about/index.shtm>

### **Ben B. Cheney Foundation**

Washington and Oregon institutions are eligible for Cheney Foundation grants. Letters of inquiry outlining the proposed project are required. Full applications are accepted only from those whose inquiry letters are of interest to the foundation. There are no deadlines.

**Contact:**

Ben B. Cheney Foundation  
1201 Pacific Avenue, Suite 1600  
Tacoma, Washington 98402  
Phone: (206) 572-2442  
Website: <http://www.benbcheneyfoundation.org/index.html>  
Email: [info@benbcheneyfoundation.org](mailto:info@benbcheneyfoundation.org)

## **Public Grantmaking Organizations**

### **Federal**

#### **National Park Service**

##### **Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program**

The National Park Service provides recreation grants for economically distressed urban cities. The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program was established in November 1978 by Public Law 95-625, authorizing \$725 million to provide matching grants and technical assistance to economically distressed urban communities. The purpose of the program is to provide direct federal assistance to urban localities for rehabilitation of critically needed recreation facilities. The law also encourages systematic local planning and commitment to continuing operation and maintenance of recreation programs, sites, and facilities. Only cities and urban counties meeting established criteria are eligible for assistance.

##### **Contact:**

National Park Service  
Pacific West Region (AK, ID, OR, WA)  
Columbia Cascade Support Office  
909 First Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98104-1060  
Phone: (206) 220-4126  
Website: <http://www.ncrc.nps.gov/uparr/>

#### **Land and Water Conservation Fund**

Oregon's estimated appropriation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for FY 2002 is \$1,925,181.00. Of this amount, approximately \$1,121,610 million will be available for local government projects and \$747,740 for eligible state agency projects. The remaining 2.9 percent has been set aside for administrative costs. To be eligible for LWCF grants, the proposed project must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives contained in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and elements of a jurisdiction's local comprehensive land use plan and parks master plans.

This program uses federal dollars from the National Park Service that are passed down to the states for acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of park and recreation areas and facilities.

##### **Contacts:**

725 Summer Street NE, Suite C  
Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: (503) 378-4168 Ext. 241  
Fax: (503) 378-6447  
Website: [http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants\\_lwcf.php](http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants_lwcf.php)

#### **U.S. Department of Transportation**

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) was enacted June 9, 1998 as Public Law 105-178. TEA-21 authorizes the federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 6-year period 1998-2003. The TEA-21 Restoration Act, enacted July 22, 1998, provides

technical corrections to the original law.<sup>23</sup> TEA-21 funding for parks and connections includes:

- Bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways;
- Recreational trails program;
- National Scenic Byways Program;
- Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot.

**Contact:**

U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 7th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590  
Phone: (202) 366-4000  
Website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/index.htm> and  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/sumenvir.htm#btapw>

## **State**

### **Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)**

#### **State Pedestrian and Bicycle Grants**

ODOT provides grants to cities and counties for pedestrian or bicycle improvements on state highways or local streets. Grants amount up to \$200,000, with a local match encouraged. These grants require the applicant to administer project. Projects must be situated in roads, streets or highway right-of-ways. Project types include sidewalk infill, ADA upgrades, street crossings, intersection improvements, minor widening for bike lanes. These grants are offered every two years.

**Contact:**

Michael Ronkin  
Phone: (503) 986-3555

#### **Transportation Enhancement Program**

Funds are available from ODOT for projects that enhance the cultural, aesthetic and environmental value of the state's transportation system. Eligible activities include bicycle/pedestrian projects, historic preservation, landscaping and scenic beautification, mitigation of pollution due to highway runoff, and preservation of abandoned railway corridors. A minimum of 10.27% match is required. There is \$3 million of annual funding available for the fiscal years of 2002 through 2005. The application cycle is every two years.

**Contact:**

Pat Rogers  
Phone: (503) 986-3528

#### **Transportation Safety Grants**

This ODOT program promotes transportation safety such as programs in impaired driving, occupant protection, youth, pedestrian, speed, enforcement, bicycle, and motorcycle safety. Over \$1.25 million is awarded annually. There is not an application process. Projects are chosen by problem identification.

**Contact:**

Sandi Bertolani  
Phone: (503) 986-4193

More ODOT funding information can be found on Oregon's Economic Revitalization Team website formerly:  
<http://communitysolutions.state.or.us/funding/transport.html>. A new site can be found at the Governor's website: <http://governor.oregon.gov>. This information includes a detailed table of available funding, program contacts, application cycles, and a description of who can apply. This website also contains specific information on Oregon

**Oregon Economic and Community Development Department****Oregon Tourism Commission, Matching Grants of up to \$100,000**

The Oregon Tourism Commission funds are coordinated with department's Needs and Issues process in order to give applicants more exposure to a greater number of potential funders. The focus is on tourism-related projects within a larger economic development strategy. Funds are for tourism projects such as marketing materials, market analyses, sign age, visitor center development planning, etc., but not for construction. The funding cycle varies.

**Contact:**

Willamette Valley Region  
Oregon Tourism Commission  
Phone: (503) 986-0004

Specific Oregon Economic and Community Development Department funds can be found at Oregon's Economic Revitalization Team website formerly:  
<http://communitysolutions.state.or.us/funding/transport.html>. A new site can be found at the Governor's website: <http://governor.oregon.gov>.

**Oregon Department of Environmental Quality****Water Quality Nonpoint Source Grants (319 Grants)**

Approximately \$2.7 million is available each year in grants from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for nonpoint source water quality and watershed enhancement projects that address the priorities in the Oregon Water Quality Nonpoint Source Management Plan. These grants require a minimum 40% match of non-federal funds and a partnership with other entities. Applications are generally due around June 15<sup>th</sup> each year. Contact the program for specific deadlines. Funds are awarded February of the following year.

**Contact:**

Ivan Camacho  
Phone: (503) 229-5088

Specific Oregon Department of Environmental Quality funds can be found at Oregon's Economic Revitalization Team website formerly:  
<http://communitysolutions.state.or.us/funding/transport.html>. A new site can be found at the Governor's website: <http://governor.oregon.gov>.

## **Oregon Division of State Lands**

### **Easements**

The Oregon Division of State Lands grants easements for the use of state-owned land managed by the agency. An easement allows the user to have the right to use state-owned land for a specific purpose and length of time, and this does not convey any proprietary or other rights of use other than those specifically granted in the easement authorization. Uses of state-owned land subject to an easement include, but are not limited to gas, electric and communication lines (including fiber optic cables); water supply pipelines, ditches, canal, and flumes; innerducts and conduits for cables; sewer, storm and cooling water lines; bridges, skylines and logging lines; roads and trails; and railroad and light rail track.

#### **Contact:**

Western Region Staff  
Phone: (503) 378-3805

### **Wetlands Program**

The Oregon Division of State Land's Wetlands Program staff implements the wetland program elements contained in the 1989 Wetlands Conservation Act. They also help implement the Removal-Fill Law. The program has close ties with local wetland planning conducted by cities, providing both technical and planning assistance.

#### **Contact:**

Wetland mitigation specialist  
Division of State Lands  
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100  
Salem, Oregon 97301-1279  
Phone: (503) 378-3805, Ext. 285  
Website: <http://statelands.dsl.state.or.us/>

## **Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department administers several grant programs including the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (described under "Federal Grant-Making Organizations" in this section), Local Government, and Recreation Trails grants.

#### **Contacts:**

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C  
Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: (503) 986-0707  
Website: <http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants.php>

### ***Local Government Grants***

Local government grants are provided for the acquisition, development and rehabilitation of park and recreation areas and facilities. Eligible agencies include city and County Park and recreation departments, park and recreation

districts, and port districts. The Local Government Grant program provides up to 50 percent funding assistance. For cities/park districts with populations less than 5,000 and counties with populations less than 30,000 the program provides up to 60 percent funding assistance. Projects that do not exceed \$50,000 total cost and a \$25,000 grant request, qualify as small grant requests.

**Contact:**

Grants Project Coordinator: Marilyn Lippincott

Phone: 503-986-0711

Fax: 503-986-0793

Grants Coordinator

Phone: (503) 986-0712

Fax: (503) 986-0793

**Recreation Trail Grants**

Every year, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department accepts applications for Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grants.

Types of projects funded include:

- Maintenance and restoration of existing trails
- Development and rehabilitation of trailhead facilities
- Construction of new recreation trails
- Acquisition of easements and fee simple titles to property

Grant recipients are required to provide a minimum of 20% match. Projects must be completed and costs billed within two years of project authorization.

Recreation Trails Grants

Phone: (503) 986-0750

Fax: (503) 986-0793

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) administers a grant program that awards more than \$20 million annually to support voluntary efforts by Oregonians seeking to create and maintain healthy watersheds. Types of grants provided by OWEB include: upland erosion control, land and/or water acquisition, vegetation management, watershed education, and stream habitat enhancement.

**Contacts:**

Grant Program Manager

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360

Salem, Oregon 97301-1290

Phone: (503) 986-0203

Fax: (503) 986-0178

Website: <http://www.oweb.state.or.us/>

Program Representative, Willamette Basin

Phone: (503) 986-0185

## **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**

### **Sport Fish and Restoration Program Funds**

Cities, counties, park and recreation districts, port districts, and state agencies may receive funding from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Funds are awarded at the start of each federal fiscal year to priority projects. This is a matching fund program of 75% federal and 25% by the State Marine Board. Eligible projects include acquisition and construction of public recreational motorized boating facilities, such as: boat ramps, boarding floats, restrooms, access roads, parking areas, transient tie-up docks, dredging and signs.

#### **Contact:**

Realty Manager  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
3406 Cherry Avenue NE  
Salem, Oregon 97303-4924  
Phone: (503) 947-6000  
Website: <http://www.boatoregon.com/Facilities/FundSource.html>

## **Park and Recreation District**

Special districts, such as a park and recreation district, are financed through property taxes or fees for services, or some combination thereof. A governing body elected by the voters directs all districts. A good source for information is the Special District Association of Oregon (SDAO).

SDAO was established in 1977 to pursue the common interests and concerns of special districts. SDAO has outlined to the process of forming a special district.

#### **Contact:**

Executive Director  
Special Districts Association of Oregon  
PO Box 12613 , 727 Center street NE, Suite 208  
Salem, Oregon 97309-0613  
Phone: (503) 371-8667; Toll-free: 1-800-285-5461  
Fax: (503) 371-4781  
E-mail: [sdao@sdao.com](mailto:sdao@sdao.com)  
Website: [www.sdao.com](http://www.sdao.com)

## **Land Trusts**

There are local and national land trusts which would help with projects that protect and conserve open space and critical habitat lands.

### **The Wetlands Conservancy**

The Wetlands Conservancy (TWC) is a non-profit land trust. It was founded in 1981 and is dedicated to preserving, protecting, and promoting the wildlife, water quality and open space values of wetlands in Oregon.

#### **Contact:**

Phil Lamb  
Executive Director  
The Wetlands Conservancy  
PO Box 1195

Tualatin, Oregon 97062  
Phone: (503) 691-1394  
Email: [wetlands@teleport.com](mailto:wetlands@teleport.com)

### **Land Trust Alliance**

**Contact:**

Dale Bonar  
Program Director  
Land Trust Alliance  
3517 NE 45th St  
Seattle, Washington 98105-5640  
Phone: (206) 522-3134  
Fax: (206) 522-3024  
Email: [ltanw@lta.org](mailto:ltanw@lta.org)  
Website: [www.lta.org](http://www.lta.org)

### **Trust for Public Land**

**Contact:**

Oregon Field Office  
Trust for Public Land  
1211 SW Sixth Ave.  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
Phone: (503) 228-6620  
Fax: (503) 228-4529  
Website: [www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org)

### **Northwest Land Conservation Trust**

**Contact:**

Northwest Land Conservation Trust  
P O Box 18302  
Salem, Oregon 97305-8302  
Email: [nwlct@open.org](mailto:nwlct@open.org)  
Website: <http://www.open.org/~nwlct/>

### **The Greenbelt Land Trust**

**Contact:**

The Greenbelt Land Trust  
P O Box 1721  
Corvallis, Oregon 97339  
Phone: (541) 752-9609  
Email: [info@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:info@greenbeltlandtrust.org)  
Website: [www.greenbeltlandtrust.org](http://www.greenbeltlandtrust.org)

## Appendix B

### Copy of Parks Survey

A Parks Committee was formed in January to consider our City's serious need for parks and recreational activities. According to national standards, the City of Harrisburg has a great need for additional parks. This will not come as a surprise to anyone who lives here.

The Parks Committee is still in the early stages of addressing the problem. It needs information from you so that the Committee will be able to determine how to best respond to these needs.

General parks and recreation comments. With a zero meaning you disagree with the statement, and five being a high level of agreement, write a number 1 through 5 to indicate your feeling about each of the following statements:

Parks are important for family events.	_____
Parks are a good way to get to know your neighbors	_____
Parks, by helping people get to know each other, help to develop community spirit.	_____
Parks, by helping people get to know each other, help to reduce crime.	_____
Parks help to reduce stress.	_____
Parks and recreational opportunities should exist for persons of all ages.	_____
There are not enough parks in Harrisburg to meet present needs.	_____
With the growth of our city, we had better acquire parkland before it is all gone.	_____
There is a need for more recreational opportunities in Harrisburg.	_____

Specific parks and recreation needs. Indicate with an "X" in the appropriate box if you feel there is a need for each of the following items now, in the future, or never. If you feel there is a need now and there will be more of a need in the future, you may mark both boxes:

NEED	NOW	FUTURE	NEVER	DON'T KNOW
Baseball & softball fields				
Soccer fields				
Indoor basketball courts				
Outdoor basketball courts				
Hiking/jogging trails				
Bicycle paths				
Fishing/boating facilities				
Tennis courts				
Swimming pool				
Skateboard park				
BMX bike area				
Picnic areas				
Horseshoe pits				
Campground				

NEED	NOW	FUTURE	NEVER	DON'T KNOW
Preserved natural area				
Children's playgrounds				
Community center				
Expanded senior center				
Senior sports program				
Arts and crafts classes				
Fitness classes				
Weight training facility				
Pre-school kids activities				
Land for preserved open spaces				

Park and Recreation District. The Parks Committee believes the best way to reach its goal of offering parks and recreation opportunities to citizens in our area is to form a Park and Recreation District. It would be a separate entity, like the school district and the fire district. It would be devoted entirely to developing a quality parks and recreation program. Of course, the biggest need to make this happen is money, and a Parks and Recreation District would be supported by property taxes if approved by an election of the citizens.

Would you like to see a Parks and Recreation District formed in this area? Yes: \_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to pay property taxes for a Parks & Rec. District? Yes: \_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_

Other Parks & Recreation Districts in Oregon receive an average of about \$2.00 per thousand from citizens to support the districts. This means that the owners of a \$100,000 home would pay \$200 per year to support parks and recreation. How much per year would your household be willing to pay to support a Parks and Recreation District? \$\_\_\_\_\_

If a Parks and Recreation District is to be formed, it will require preparing informative handouts, getting petitions signed, and contacting persons for support. Are you, or a member of your household:

- Willing to serve on a committee to create a Parks & Rec. District? Yes: \_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_
- Willing to circulate a petition so that there will be an election to create a Parks & Rec. District and establish a tax rate? Yes: \_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_
- Willing to help with the election campaign? Yes: \_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_
- Willing to make a financial contribution to the campaign? Yes: \_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_

If you are willing to help in any of the ways mentioned, please provide the following information so that you can be contacted:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Parks Committee and City Council are committed to improving the park and recreation situation in Harrisburg. Please remember, though, that while you are helping to take the first steps to make many of the things mentioned in this survey a reality, it will take a lot of time and money to make most of them happen.

## Appendix C Acronyms

<b>ADA</b>	American Disabilities Act
<b>BN</b>	Burlington Northern
<b>CIP</b>	Capital Improvement Plan
<b>CPW</b>	Community Planning Workshop (University of Oregon)
<b>EDU</b>	Each Dwelling Unit
<b>HSP</b>	Harrisburg Sports Program
<b>LOS</b>	Level of Service
<b>NRPA</b>	National Recreation and Parks Association
<b>OPRD</b>	Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
<b>RARE</b>	Resource Assistance for Rural Environments
<b>SDC</b>	System Development Charge

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- <sup>1</sup> Tweet, Bess Historic *Harrisburg Little Town on the Willamette River*. Express Printing & Graphics- Eugene, Oregon 1994.
- <sup>2</sup> U.S. Census 1990 and 2000 data SF1
- <sup>3</sup> Population projection given by City Administrator Bruce Cleeton, 2004; based of AAGR and the number of subdivision applications the City has received.
- <sup>4</sup> Crompton, John L. "Parks and Economic Development." American Planning Association, 2001. (pg. 12 the Proximate Principal)
- <sup>5</sup> Population estimate given by City Administrator Bruce Cleeton, 2004.
- <sup>6</sup> This estimate has been provided by Bruce Cleeton, City Administrator, 2004.
- <sup>7</sup> (US Census SF1 Data 1990 and 2000; 1970, 1980 data Harrisburg Comprehensive Plan; AAGR: Annual Average Growth Rate)
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census data 1990 and 2000 SF1
- <sup>9</sup> Mertes, James D. Hall, James R. "Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines." National Recreation and Park Association, 1995.
- <sup>10</sup> U.S. Census data 1990 and 2000 Income SF3
- <sup>11</sup> Mertes, James D. Hall, James R. "Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines." National Recreation and Park Association, 1995.
- <sup>12</sup> Data provided by City Administrator Bruce Cleeton, 2004.
- <sup>13</sup> NRPA Parks and Open Spaces Classification Table (1990)
- <sup>14</sup> Mertes, James D. Hall, James R. "Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines." National Recreation and Park Association, 1995.
- <sup>15</sup> As cited in the 1999 Salem Parks Master Plan
- <sup>16</sup> Retrieved from: [http://www.instituteforplay.com/6playing\\_to\\_learn.htm](http://www.instituteforplay.com/6playing_to_learn.htm) June 2004.
- <sup>17</sup> Retrieved from American Planning Association website: [www.planning.org/newsreleases/2004/ftp0212042.htm](http://www.planning.org/newsreleases/2004/ftp0212042.htm) June, 2004.
- <sup>18</sup> Portland Parks and Recreation System Development Charges Methodology Report and Residential SDC Rate Study. July 15, 1999 Don Garner & Associates.
- <sup>19</sup> Retrieved June 2004 from: [www.possibility.com/landtrusts/#whatis](http://www.possibility.com/landtrusts/#whatis)
- <sup>20</sup> *Oregon Bond Manual- 4<sup>th</sup> Edition*, 1998, Oregon State Treasury and Municipal Debt Advisory Commission
- <sup>21</sup> Crompton, John L. 1999. *Financing and Acquiring Park and Recreation Resources*. Champaign, IL, Human Kinetics.
- <sup>22</sup> Retrieved from Oregon State Parks Website: <http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants-localgov.php> June, 2004