



CHAPTER 3

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The framework for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan lies with the Goals and Objectives, which are designed to, when implemented, help the department achieve its vision and sense of direction for programs and services of the Moses Lake Parks & Recreation Department. They also establish the basic framework for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan, which serves as an element of the City of Moses Lake Comprehensive Plan.

Definitions:

Goal: A goal is a statement towards which City effort is directed to provide the level of service the community desires. In this sense, a goal is an ideal and a value to be sought.

Objective: An objective developed for each goal is a precise statement or milestone to measure the movement toward reaching the stated goal.

▪ **Administration and Operations:**

Goal: The Moses Lake Parks & Recreation Department will respond efficiently and effectively to the community's evolving priorities and needs. The department will be accessible and responsive to the community it serves, creating new policies, procedures and technologies in response to changing needs over time.

- Continue developing a work environment that promotes trust, respect, open communication and teamwork between all levels of staff.
- Engage citizens committed to tourism and parks advocacy with public service through the Moses Lake Tourism Board and the Parks Advisory Board.
- Ensure a well-trained workforce that is motivated to achieve department and citywide goals.
- Offer programs at a range of costs (free, low-cost, full-cost recovery, etc.) and implement strategies to ensure program affordability, while meeting financial goals.
- Design and manage parks, recreational trails and facilities offering universal accessibility for residents of all physical capabilities, skill levels, and age, income and activity interests.
- Incorporate sustainable standards and best management practices into planning and design of new parks and rehabilitation of existing facilities.
- Deliver measurable economic benefit to the community through programs, special events and facilities.
- Keep leisure-time opportunities and facilities cost effective and environmentally compatible.
- Evaluate opportunities to produce revenues in excess of expenditures in appropriate areas to help fund other programs.
- Partner with local hospitals, schools, and other agencies to develop and fund outreach that promotes community health through parks and recreation.
- Annually evaluate recreational programs in terms of overall community interest, cost and persons served.
- Continue the parks maintenance system that emphasizes safety, comfort and a positive experience for park users and citizens.
- Maintain and regularly update the asset management plan to promote efficiency and stewardship system-wide.
- Provide a routine preventive maintenance program for all parks, facilities, equipment, vehicles and other assets.

- When upgrading or renovating existing parks and recreation facilities, add features that meet current needs, address ADA accessibility issues, and maximize maintenance and operations efficiencies.
 - Serve as the primary leader and coordinator of parks and recreational programs for the community.
 - Develop staff growth with educational classes, certification and training through a commitment to participation in seminars and classes, e.g. NRPA Park Maintenance and/or Revenue Management schooling, National Playground Safety Certification, and professional associations.
 - Work with downtown businesses on community events to promote tourism.
 - Investigate innovative available methods, such as growth impact fees, land set-aside or fee-in-lieu-of-donation ordinances, and inter-local agreements, for the financing of facility development, maintenance, and operating needs in order to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match user benefits and interests and increase facility services
 - Consider joint ventures with other public and private agencies such as Grant County, the Moses Lake School District, private schools, regional state, federal, and other public and private agencies including for-profit concessionaires, where feasible and desirable.
 - Create a comprehensive, balanced park, recreation and open space system that integrates Moses Lake facilities and services with resources available from Grant County, Moses Lake School District and other state, federal and private park and recreational lands and facilities in a manner that will best serve and provide for resident interest.
 - Cooperate with Grant County, Moses Lake School District and other public and private agencies to avoid duplication, improve facility quality and availability, reduce costs and represent resident area interests through joint planning and development efforts.
- **Parkland and Open space Facilities:**

Goal: Provide a diverse system of parks and natural areas, including neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks, natural areas, trails and greenways, and special use areas.

- Balance the need to provide new parks and open space with the need to protect and preserve existing public investments.
- In cooperation with other public and private agencies, preserve waterfront access for trails and recreational activities including canoeing, kayaking, power boating as appropriate along the shoreline of Moses Lake and adjacent waters.
- Work to expand water trails, waterfront access, shoreline trails and expanded water related activities.
- Acquire shoreline property whenever possible, recognizing that the Moses Lake waterfront is a unique regional resource.
- Develop viewpoints where the topography prevents direct access, knowing that visual access to the water is vital.
- Provide a blend of passive and active parks and open spaces which fulfill the recreational needs of the City's residents and meets the adopted park standards of service.
- Incorporate sustainable standards and best management practices into planning and designing new parks and rehabilitation of existing facilities.
- Acquire and develop parks to provide an equitable distribution of facilities to all City residents, taking into consideration physical barriers when determining equity and plan for all residents to be within one-half mile of a neighborhood park.

- Plan for the future so adequate open space, historical elements, recreation facilities and programs are provided for future generations.
 - Actively seek park and open space acquisition, development and redevelopment through a variety of methods, including local financing, dedicated taxes, private dedications, partnerships and joint ventures.
- **Recreation Facilities:**
Goal: The Moses Lake Parks & Recreation Department will maintain, revitalize and expand parks and recreational facilities to support recreation activities, protect existing investments, maximize maintenance efficiencies, and improve user safety and accessibility.
- Investigate and complete a feasibility study to provide and develop a multiple use indoor community center that provides classroom instruction, recreational programs, physical conditioning, meeting facilities, gymnasium and spaces for a variety of recreational programming for all skill levels and age groups, including preschool, youth, teens and seniors on a year-round basis.
 - Continue to provide facilities that allow programming support for soccer, baseball, softball, football, basketball, volleyball, hockey, tennis and other instructions and participatory programs for all ages, skill levels and income groups in the community that provide the largest number of participants.
 - Continue to provide dedicated sports fields in complexes to accommodate tournament play and to achieve maintenance and programming efficiencies.
 - Where appropriate and economically feasible, develop and operate specialized and special interest recreational facilities like aquatic centers, ice arenas, convention and theater facilities, and marinas for these interests in the general population.
 - Strive to develop athletic facilities that meet the highest quality competitive playing standards and requirements for all age groups, skill levels and recreational interests.
 - Continue coordination of long-range planning efforts with the local school district to ensure the availability and accessibility of playgrounds/ play areas, athletic fields, and indoor facilities.
 - Where appropriate and consistent with the goals and protections of the park system, initiate joint planning and operating programs with other public and private agencies to determine and provide for special activities on a regional basis, e.g. golf opportunities, high level competitive field, additional water/shoreline opportunities, archery or shooting ranges, marinas and/or camping.
 - Cooperate with other public agencies, e.g. Grant County, WDFW to provide for a wide range of recreational experiences based on a system of water and shoreline areas, neighborhood parks and playfields, historic sites, natural study areas and open space plazas.
- **Recreational Programs and Activities:**
Goal: To meet the leisure needs of all age groups and interest and provide a wide range and variety of outdoor and indoor recreation programs that engage a broad cross-section of the community.
- Continue to serve as the primary leader and coordinator of parks and recreation programs for the community.
 - Ensure a broad range of programs to stimulate good health and physical development for all ages.
 - Provide programs, special events and facilities that promote a sense of community and stimulate socialization of the individual and family.

- Continue to be innovative in offering and providing a broad and varied program of leisure activities, recreation programs and services relevant to the needs, interests and abilities of all citizens.
 - Promote special events and recreational programming within parks to enhance community identity, community activity and environmental education.

- **Museum & Art Center:**

Goal: To provide high quality arts and cultural programming to the community, designed to enhance the role of the arts and preserve local history. The mission of the Moses Lake Museum & Art Center is to emphasize the history and art of Central Washington.

 - Promote programming that utilizes artistic resources and talents within the scope of the museum’s mission.
 - When possible, acquire public artworks to furnish public spaces.
 - Maintain and operate designated city-owned facilities that provide cultural opportunities for the community-at-large.
 - Develop exhibits, display artifacts, conduct lectures, classes and other programs that document Moses Lake’s heritage.
 - Use marketing materials to promote understanding of the community’s cultural and natural history.
 - Continue and enhance opportunities for public art, both permanent and temporary installations.
 - Serve as the primary example of excellence among local arts and cultural organizations.
 - Promote art and cultural as partners in economic development.
 - Identify, preserve and interpret Moses Lake’s heritage, traditions, historic and cultural features.

- **Trails and Access Corridors:**

Goal: Moses Lake Parks & Recreation will strive to create a network of connected trails, bikeways, streets and wildlife corridors, creating an integrated system to provide a diverse and wide variety of recreational opportunities for the neighborhoods and business district.

 - Establish a comprehensive system of multi-purpose off-road trails, scenic routes, on-road routes, and greenway corridors for jogging, running, walking and cycling through and around Moses Lake as defined in the 2005 Moses Lake Activity Trails Master Plan.
 - Develop high-quality shared-use trails that link residential neighborhoods, community parks, elementary and middle schools, downtown businesses and extend trails to outlying areas of the Moses Lake urban growth areas that have the ability to support alternative means of transportation.
 - Increase natural area and open space linkages within the developed areas, particularly along a shared-use path built within the right-of-way of existing or former railroad right -of-way corridor.
 - Work with WSDOT, BLM, DNR, WDFW, Grant County and other appropriate public and cooperating private property owners to link and extend trails as defined in the 2005 Moses Lake Activity Trails Master Plan.
 - Locate trailheads at, or in conjunction with, park sites, schools and other community facilities and furnish trail systems with appropriate trailheads which include support amenities such as signage, drinking fountains, restrooms, emergency call boxes, benches and parking.

- Develop trail improvements of a design and development standard easy to maintain and access by maintenance, security and other appropriate personnel, equipment and vehicles.
- **Natural Areas and Habitat Conservation:**

Goal: Promote an ethic of preservation, protection and conservation for sustained outdoor recreation opportunities, environmental education and resource management.

 - Preserve and protect significant environmental features for park and open space use, including unique wetlands, open spaces, woodlands, shorelines and waterfronts, which reflect Moses Lake’s natural heritage.
 - Encourage environmental education, learning opportunities and partnerships for shoreline and habitat opportunities.
 - Develop and manage natural areas to protect and enhance significant natural resources, including sensitive habitats and native species.
 - Identify and acquire significant natural areas to meet outdoor recreation and habitat protection needs, as well as wildlife habitat connectivity.
 - Coordinate with Community Development through the City’s Comprehensive Plan to define and conserve a system of open space corridors or separators to provide definition between natural areas and urban land uses within the Moses Lake developing area.
 - Preserve environmentally sensitive areas as natural area linkages and urban separators, particularly along the shorelines that define Parker and Pelican Horn.
 - Cooperate with other public and private agencies and with private landowners to set aside land and resources necessary to provide high quality, convenient parks, recreation and open space facilities before the most suitable sites are lost to developments.