



August 1, 2024

City Council
Planning Commission
City of Bainbridge Island, WA

RE: Letter of Support for Alternatives 2 and 3 for Comprehensive Plan Update

The Park District makes this initial and early comment to indicate strong support for Alternatives 2 and 3 which are currently under consideration in the City's Comprehensive Plan Update. Alternatives 2 and 3 instructs a new Comprehensive Plan, map, and development code that acknowledges zoning standards for public parks, to be adopted by City in 2025. The Park District supports the advancement of these alternatives into the Preferred Alternative.

We see Alternative 2 and 3 as reflective of the coordination between our organizations over the years in delivering parks and recreation and park improvements to Island residents. These alternatives can enable more cooperation, efficient processes, and outcomes desired by the Park District and the larger community.

The Park District primarily supports these alternatives because they endorse more expansive Zoning designations than those currently in place, particularly in their acknowledgement of public parks as a land use that is best guided by park-specific development standards and processes.

The Park District has expertise to contribute towards land use and development provisions of the City's code. The Park District's jurisdictional expertise is also appropriate to utilize in the implementation of the development standards of a future Park Zone or similar zoning designation. Please call on our staff for assistance and cooperation towards these goals. Our point of contact is Matthew Keough, Senior Planner, at: mattk@biparks.org and (206) 565-5658.

We appreciate the City's full consideration of the community interests implicit in Alternative 2 and 3, as recognized by the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District.

Sincerely, on behalf of the Park Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Swolgaard", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tom Swolgaard
Chair of the Board of Commissioners