# Comprehensive Plan Update Preliminary Draft

Parks Board Presentation November 20, 2025

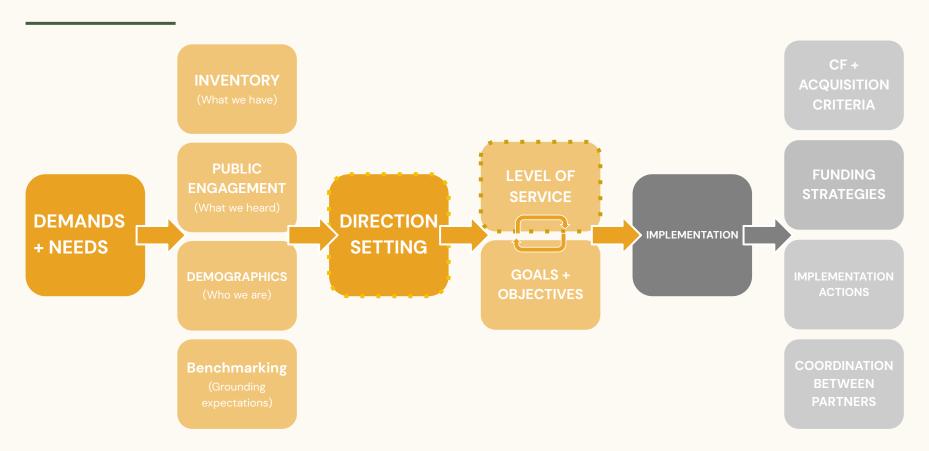
framework



### Park Planning - Direction Setting

	Level of Service	
Provides direction for parks + recreation on BI	✓	✓
Required by RCO		✓
Туре	Quantitative	Qualitative

### Preliminary Draft - Process



### Preliminary Draft - Outline



### Preliminary Draft - Framing questions

Is this LOS tool an accurate assessment of assets?

What (if any)
components of the
LOS should we
focus on
increasing?

**INFLUENCES** 

Goals & objectives (emphasizing key priorities)

**Funding strategies** 

Capital facilities list

CF + acquisition criteria

**Coordination with partners** 



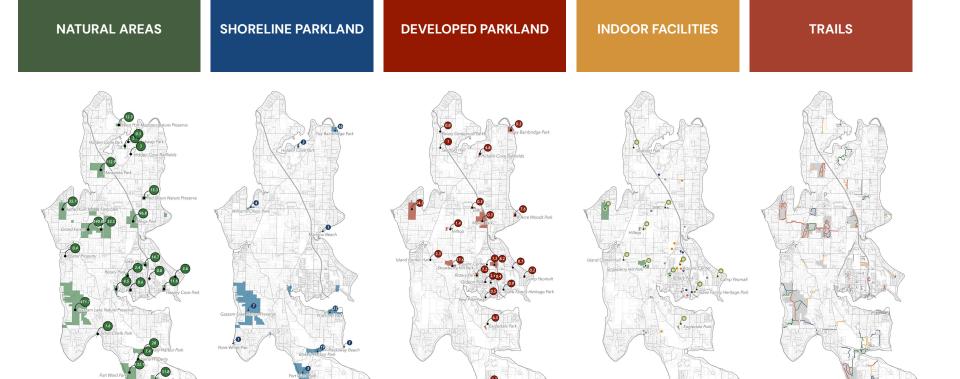
### What we have: parks inventory

Owner	Natural Areas	Recreational Shoreline	Developed Park Land	Indoor Facilities	Trails
BIMPRD	1562 acres	76 acres	129 acres	80,000 ft <sup>2</sup>	42 miles
COBI	144 acres	22 acres	5 acres	###	###
BISD	104 acres	0	###	###	###
BILT	535 acres	###	0	0	###
Total	2009 acres	98 acres	239 acres	###	42 miles



Non-Profit Properties

BIMPRD Owned Trails ----- COBI Owned Trails



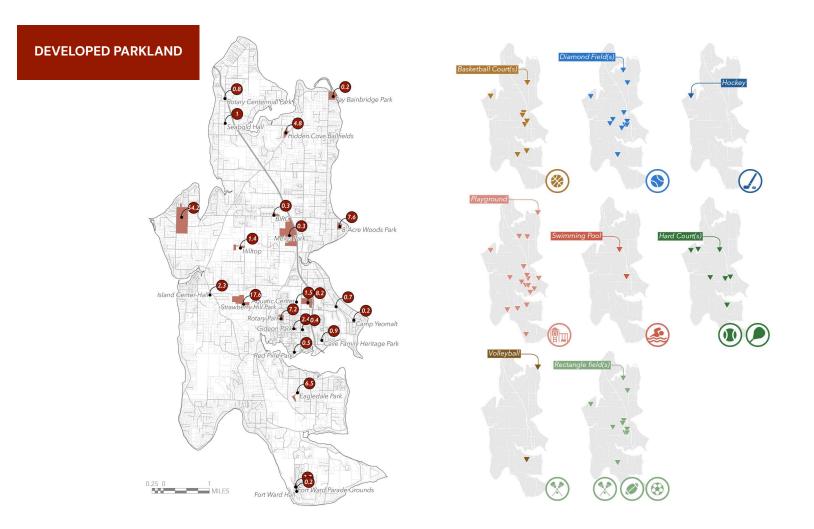
**1562 acres** 

76 acres

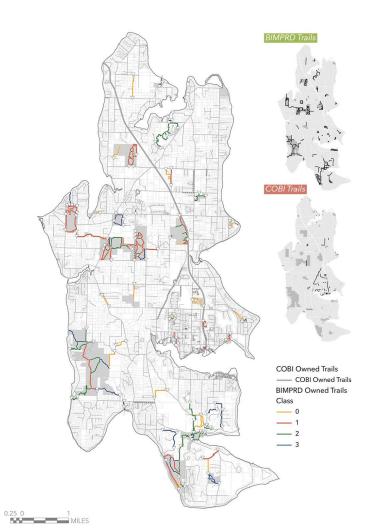
129 acres

49,400 SF

42 miles

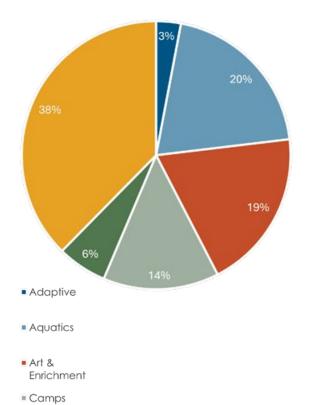


### **TRAILS**



### **RECREATION: total programs**

Recreation Program Area	2023	2024
Adaptive	102	145
Aquatics	832	↑ 976
Art & Enrichment	1228	J 902
Camps	672	<b>↑</b> 676
Outdoors	188	<b>1</b> 290
Sports & Fitness	1918	<b></b> 1826



Outdoors

Sports & Fitness



### What we heard: key findings

- Maintaining existing land, facilities, and programs
- Increasing trail connections
- Stewarding existing **natural areas**
- Increasing access to recreational shoreline
- Adding amenities and expanding trails are the top ways to encourage park use



# framework

### Level of Service - Overview

- Measures what the parks system provides now and how that may change in the future
- Can be per capita measurements
- Traditionally measured as "acres/1000 people" but contemporary planners use a myriad of metrics



### Level of Service - Goals

- Reflect public input
- Set realistic goals
- Create a tool that is easy to use and understand
- Reflect the assets of BI Parks and partners



### Preliminary Draft - Outline



### Setting LOS - 2026 Framework



### Determining quantity

- Based on typical metric of acres, Indoor SF, and trail miles of parkland per 1000 residents
- Benchmarks quantity against demographically similar peer cities to place guardrails on park system expansion



### Quantity approach: Benchmarking

	Population	Median Income	Population Density*	Median Age
Bainbridge Island	24,254	\$159,882	904	51.6
Mercer Island	24,742	<u> </u> 202,359	↑ 4,024.70	45.3
PenMet	<u></u> 51,426	145,437	<b>↑</b> 1,093.90	47.4
Kenmore	23,391	137,926	↑ 3,956.00	40.1
Issaquah	<u> </u> 38,977	153,786	<b>↑</b> 3,429.00	38.9

### Quantity approach: Benchmarking

Jurisdiction	Natural Areas (acres/1000)	Developed Park Land (acres/1000)	Indoor Facilities (ft²/1000)	Trails (miles/1000)
BI Parks	53.1 (1)	16.2 (1)	1940 (1)	1.65 (1)
Kenmore <sup>1</sup>	5.13 (4)	1.11 (5)	0 (5)	0.16 (5)
Mercer Island <sup>2</sup>	11.6 (3)	7.88 (3)	469 (4)	1.13 (2)
Issaquah³	38.8 (2)	6.58 (4)	807 (3)	1.08 (3)
PenMet	4.55 (5)	9.66 (2)	1430 (2)	0.50 (4)

### Quantity LOS Score

Natural Areas (acres/1000)	Developed Park Land (acres/1000)	Indoor Facilities (ft²/1000)	Trails (miles/1000)
5	5	5	5

<sup>\*</sup> Recreational shoreline is omitted because not all peer jurisdictions have shoreline access

### Determining quality

- Assesses natural areas, recreational shoreline, developed parkland, indoor facilities, and trails based on performance in fulfilling intended uses
- 1-5 scoring rubric completed by staff members across multiple departments
- Park properties received individual scores by system area (aggregated for final system area score)



# Quality: Scoring rubric

Not in Use 1	These are park lands that lack the facilities needed in order for them to serve their intended uses.  For example: land slated for a neighborhood park that is currently inaccessible, or land meant as Natural Area that requires significant remediation.
Underperforming 2	These are parks that lack some needed facilities or amenities, or whose facilities or amenities are in need of repairs or maintenance.  For example: A natural area that needs a significant amount of habitat restoration, or that lacks the trails needed to provide adequate access, or a neighborhood park whose playground is in need of replacement.
Meeting Expectations 3	These are parks that have the facilities and amenities to serve their intended use, and these facilities and amenities are in working order.  For example: A natural area with minimal invasives and good trail access, or a neighborhood park with play structure, benches and bathroom facilities.
Exceeding Expectations 4	These are parks that have new, ample, bespoke, or otherwise exceptional facilities in working order.  For example: Fay Bainbridge's shoreline access and recreation amenities
Above & Beyond 5	These parks are resident and visitor favorites because they have outstanding facilities, ample amenities, well-maintained trails, art or historic elements, and/or provide access to local natural wonders  For example: the Kids Up! Playground at Battle Point Park, or the Grand Forest's extensive trail system

## **Quality LOS Score**

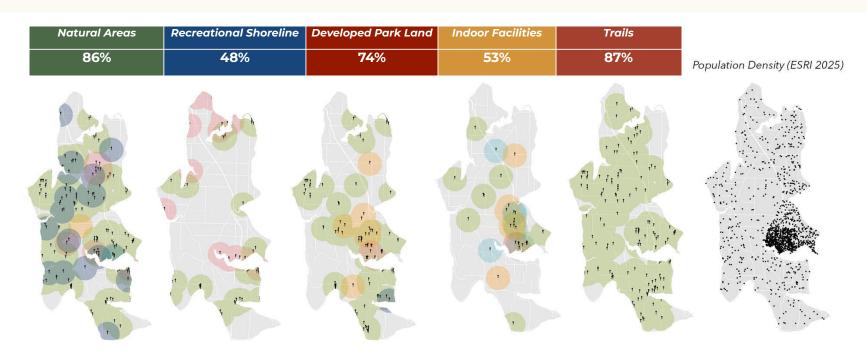
Natural	Recreational	Developed	Indoor	Trails
Areas	Shoreline	Park Land	Facilities	
2.47	2.84	3.07	2.92	2.77

### Determining access

- Utilizes a buffer analysis to identify population within a walkable distance of natural areas, recreational shoreline, developed parkland, indoor facilities, and trails
- Buffers capture the population within a ½
   mile walking radius of park access points
- Access includes all agencies in order to ensure the Parks District does not pursue duplicative programming



### Measuring access



WITHIN A HALF MILE WALK...



### Access: Population within 1/2 mile

Natural Areas	Recreational Shoreline	Developed Park Land	Indoor Facilities	Trails
5	4	5	4	5

### LOS SUMMARY

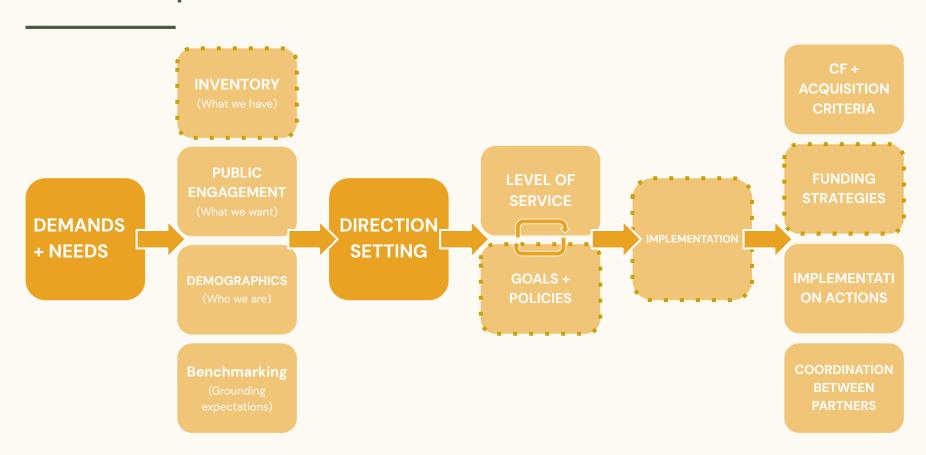
	Natural Areas	Recreational Shoreline	Developed Park Land	Indoor Facilities	Trails
Quantity	5	5	5	5	5
Quality	2.5	2.8	3.1	2.9	2.8
Access	5	4	5	4	5
Average	4.2	3.9	4.4	4.0	4.3



### Next steps

- 1. Incorporate feedback from partners
- Finalize inventory for BI Parks and partner properties
- 3. Outline funding strategies
- Finalize Goals & Objectives based on Parks
   Board and partner feedback
- 5. Implementation actions

### Next steps





### Discussion: LOS Strategy

1. Do the proposed LOS measures for quantity, quality, and access provide the right framework to help the board identify priority actions?

### Discussion: LOS Strategy

2. Does the inventory and the proposed LOS capture the community's parks and recreation opportunities across providers (pending updates to inventory numbers)?

### Discussion: LOS Priorities

- 3. What priorities do you see for the District in these areas?
  - a. What service levels do you think should increase? Decrease? Stay the same?
    - i. What strategies and actions should this prompt?

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