

# PARK LAND NEEDS / SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS

## COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARK LAND NEEDS

The need for park land in the City of Gresham is based on the concept that residents should be served by a variety of different park types. As stated in the 2009 City of Gresham Park and Recreation, Trails and Natural Areas Master Plan (2009 Park Master Plan), basic recreation amenities (i.e. playgrounds and sports courts) should be provided within a half mile walking and biking distance of most park users.

Community parks are a minimum of 10 acres, are multi-functional community assets that are intended to serve the entire city and provide habitat protection and opportunities for recreation for all ages and abilities. Recreation can be both active, such as sports and play areas, or passive, such as picnicking and walking.

Neighborhood parks are smaller in size and are intended to serve those within relatively close walking and biking distance. Neighborhood park amenities are often focused on sports and play and do not include large open spaces or dense natural areas.

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) recommends park providers offer one park for every 2,281 residents served, with 9.9 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. The 2009 Park Master Plan projected the City would need to add and an additional 88-acres of

community park land and an additional 81-acres of neighborhood park land to serve a population of 112,000 residents and meet the basic level of service needs. These additional six parks will help the city move closer to meeting the level of service needs.

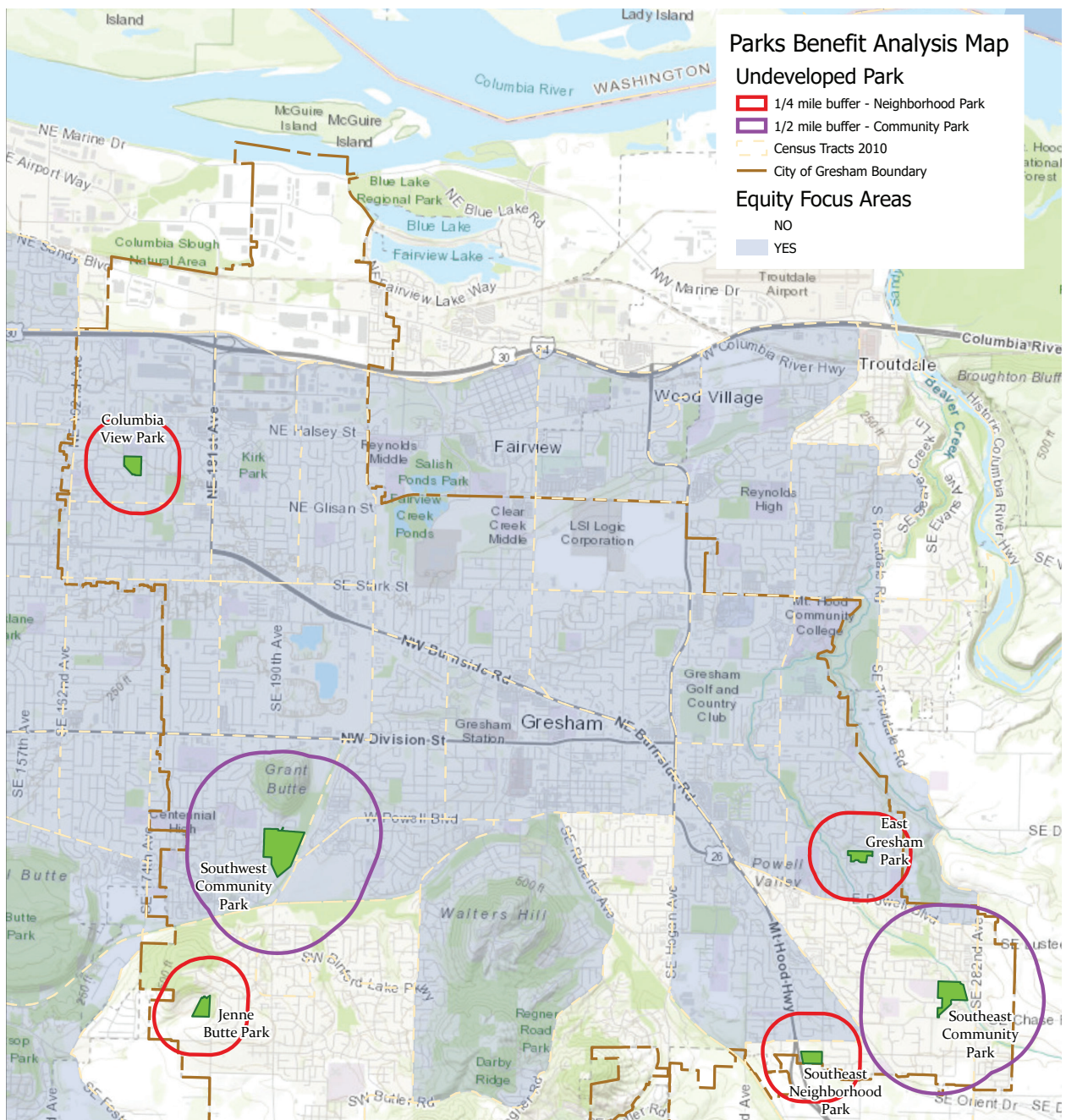
## SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS

In 2020, the population of Gresham was approximately 110,000 residents. As part of the Concept Plan project, staff completed a demographic analysis of areas within a half-mile radius of the two undeveloped community parks and a quarter-mile radius for the four undeveloped neighborhood parks. This included evaluating socio-demographic data for the five-year period between 2013 and 2017 within the surrounding park areas specific to historically marginalized populations that are culturally diverse and for households with limited income.

A map (Parks Benefit Analysis Areas, pg.7) shows Census tracts where; the rate of people of color is greater than the regional average; people with limited English proficiency is greater than the regional average; incomes are equal to or less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Level; and density (persons per acre) of one or more of these populations is double the regional average - was created to show geographic disparities that could help inform where to direct future investments based on equity factors that are collectively shown on the map as "Equity Focus Areas".

For instance, developing a park that serves culturally diverse neighborhoods could support programming opportunities that directly benefit this segment of Gresham residents who rely on accessing community gardens in our park system for fresh food native to their ethnic group;

or offering sport facilities that resonate with a range of diverse cultural groups. Similarly, households with limited income could greatly benefit from accessing nearby developed park and recreation assets if they are within walking and biking distance to their homes.



# PARK COMPARISON MATRIX

The table below was developed to provide an ability to compare each of the parks across a variety of park attributes that are essential building blocks and considerations in park development.

EXISTING CONDITIONS				
COMMUNITY PARKS	ACRES	NATURAL RESOURCES	EXISTING AMENITIES	SERVICE AREA
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	34 ac	16 ac wetland complex & existing mixed conifer forest	Informal soft surface trails and habitat restoration projects	Culturally diverse neighborhood and households with limited income
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	16 ac	Kelly Creek flows along eastern border of site	Significant views of Mt. Hood and informal trails	Median income households

EXISTING CONDITIONS				
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS	ACRES	NATURAL RESOURCES	EXISTING AMENITIES	SERVICE AREA
<b>EAST GRESHAM</b>	5.5 ac	Kelly creek flows through northeast corner. Significant mixed conifer forest.	Informal soft surface/BMX trails. Ped bridge @ creek. Picnic tables & dog waste station	Households with limited income
<b>JENNE BUTTE</b>	15.4 ac	9 ac wetland covers majority of site. Unique caldera geology	Benches and swing set. Informal soft surface trails and educational signage	Median income households
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	6.5 ac	Mixed conifer forest covers site. Wetlands in NW corner of site	Informal soft surface trails	Culturally diverse neighborhood and households with limited income
<b>COLUMBIA VIEW</b>	7.5 ac	Large tree canopy with lawn underneath	Informal soft surface trails and dog waste stations	Culturally diverse neighborhood and households with limited income

- Design:** Issues that may affect design complexity or schedule
- Permitting:** Site constraints that may affect permitting complexity or schedule
- Construction:** Site conditions that may affect construction complexity or schedule
- Maintenance:** Estimated annual full-time-equivalent maintenance needs based on concept plan

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS			
DESIGN	PERMITTING	CONSTRUCTION	MAINTENANCE
No major issues identified	Wetland viewpoint and tree removal for parking lot	Flat site and area for staging	1.2 FTE
Increased complexity due to slopes for accessible routes	No major concerns identified	Good construction access. Slopes increase complexity.	0.9 FTE

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS			
DESIGN	PERMITTING	CONSTRUCTION	MAINTENANCE
Tree survey necessary for trail design. Unique sections of grading will increase complexity	Documentation of existing tree impacts	Tree protection measures will increase complexity	0.2 FTE
Increased complexity due to slopes for accessible paths. Wetland buffers.	Wetlands increase complexity	Good construction access. Slopes increase complexity.	0.5 FTE
Detailed tree survey necessary for trail design. Wetland delineation may be necessary.	Documentation of existing tree impacts	Tree protection measures will increase complexity. Good construction access.	0.2 FTE
No major issues identified other than placement of amenities near property buffer	No major concerns identified	Good construction access.	0.4 FTE

\*FTE - Full Time Equivalent employee