

Brownsville Parks Master Plan

Submitted to:

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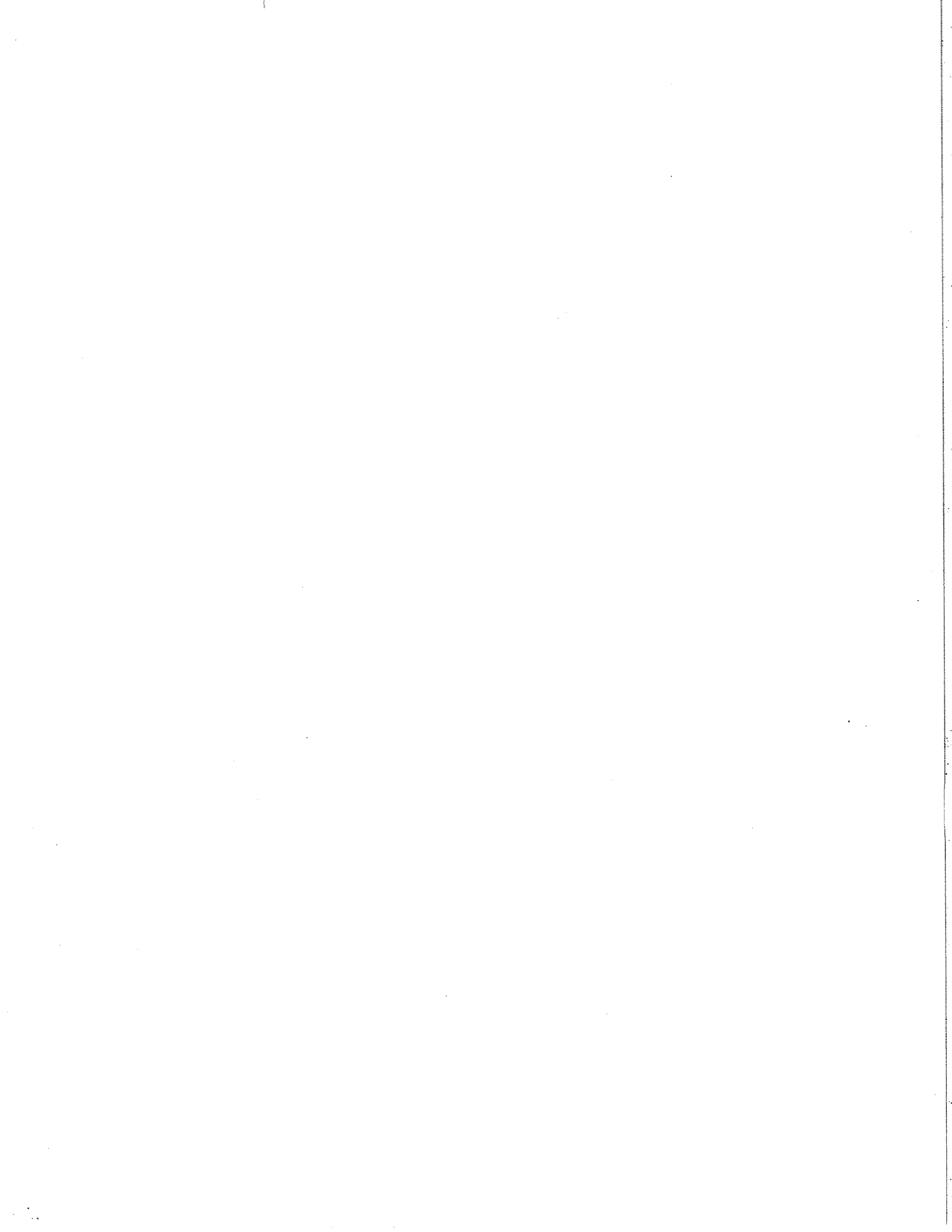
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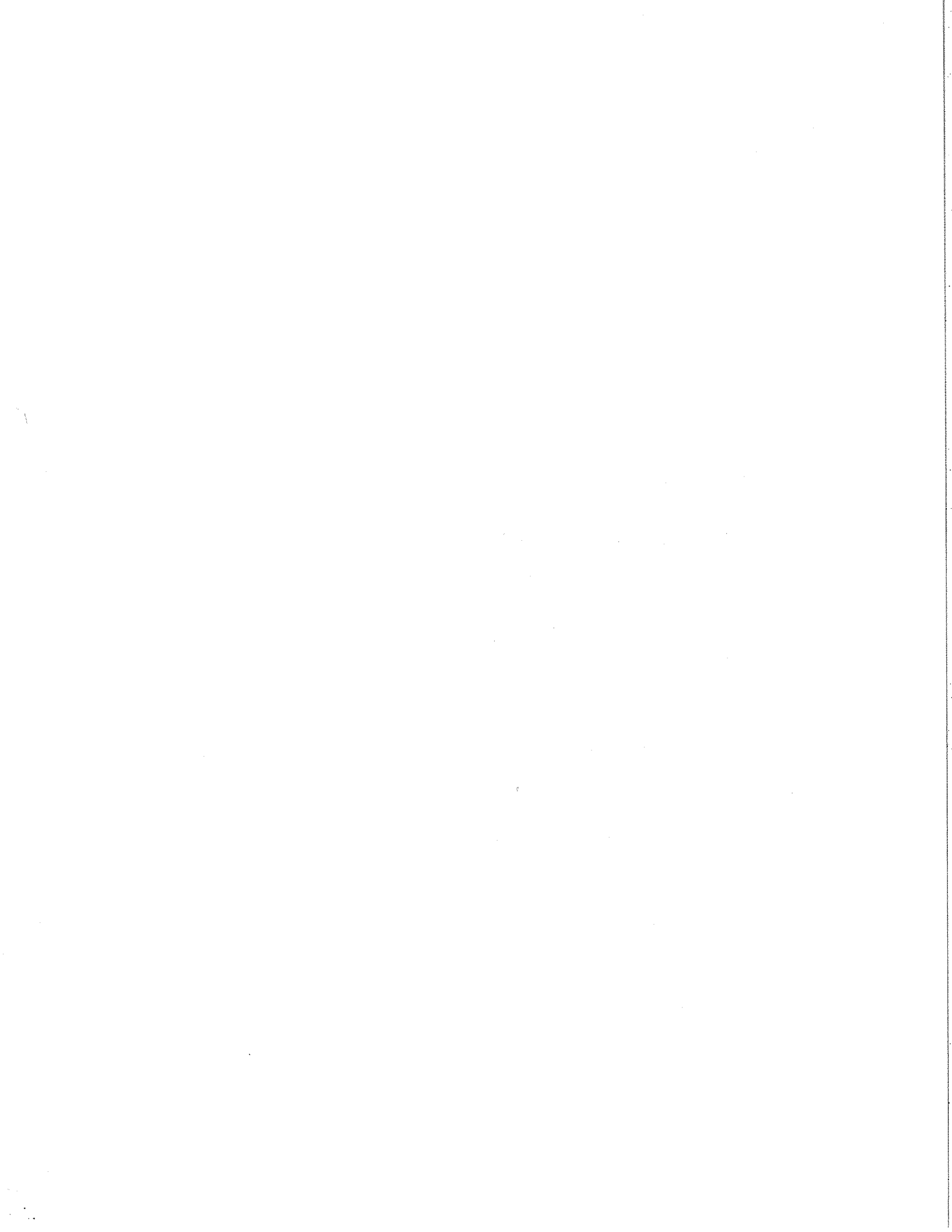
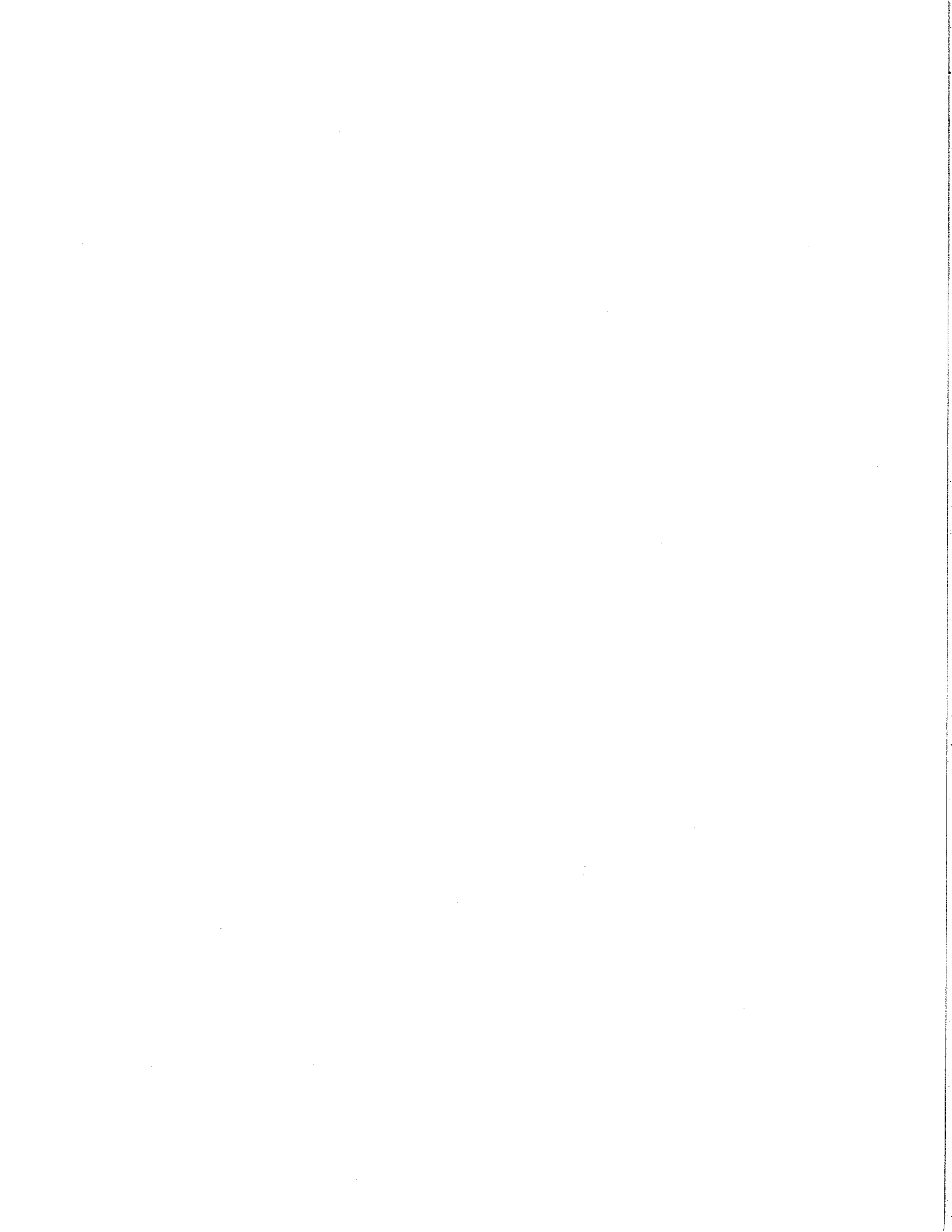
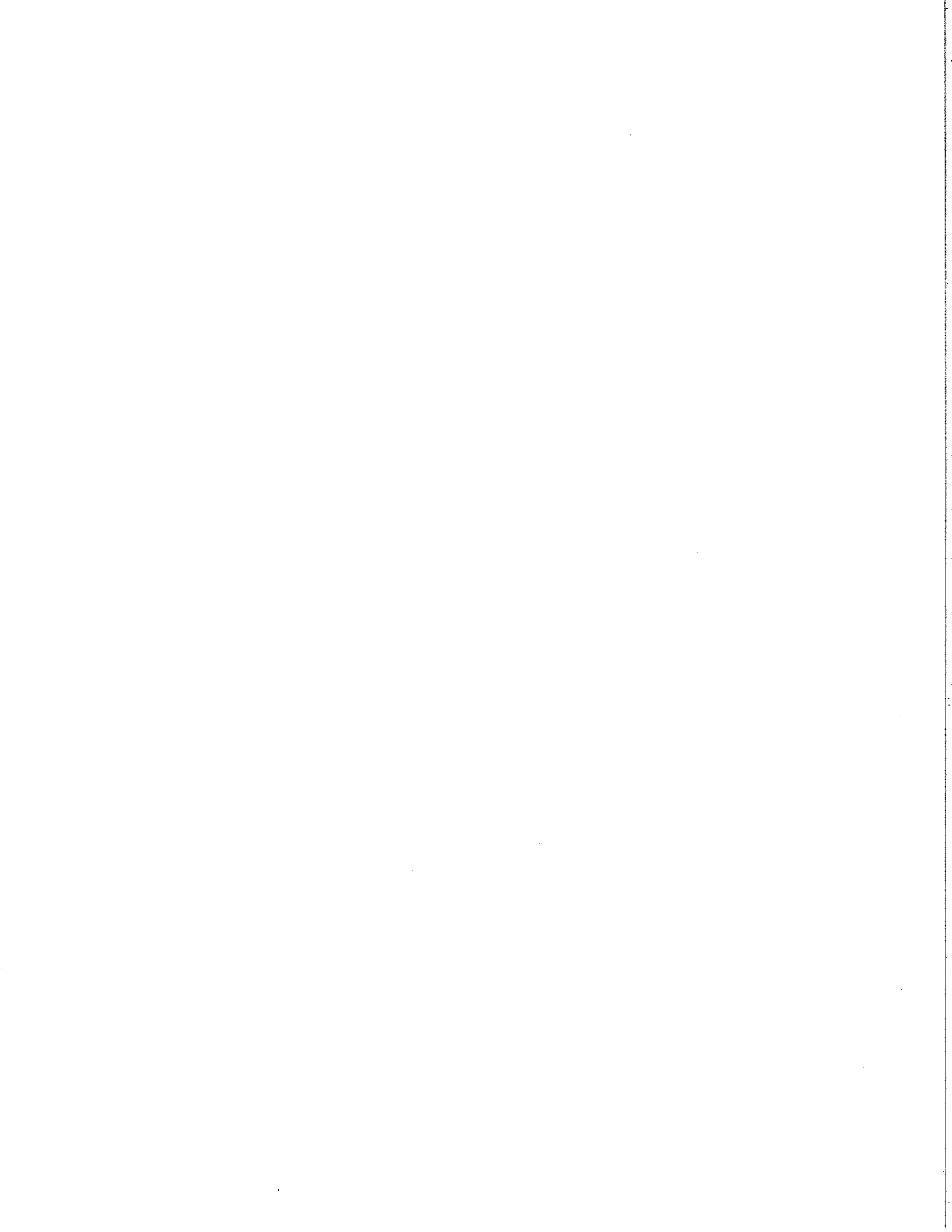


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Executive Summary

In 2003, the City of Brownsville worked with the Oregon Downtown Development Association (ODDA) to create a community vision. One outcome of the community visioning process was the recommendation to develop a parks master plan that will guide decisions related to development and management of the City's park system.

The City of Brownsville has a substantial community park system and the potential to further develop its park system. This plan provides a formal approach to addressing current and future park needs of the area. The purpose of this Master Plan is to create a long-term strategy for the City of Brownsville to adequately meet the needs of residents and to ensure a high quality of life.

In June 2003, the City contracted with University of Oregon's Community Planning Workshop (CPW) to develop the Parks Master Plan for the City of Brownsville. The Executive Summary highlights community needs, goals and actions, and a five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Brownsville's parks.

Park Inventory

As of June 2003, Brownsville owned and maintained 30.49 acres of parkland. City parks offer a range of opportunities from open space connections between two neighborhoods to community parks that provide amenities for all groups. Important to the character of the city, these parks contribute to the overall sense of place for residents. This parkland is classified as mini-park, neighborhood park, and community park. Table ES-1 shows all parks inventoried in the master plan. These parks include those owned and maintained by the City of Brownsville, Linn County, the State of Oregon, and the Central-Linn School District.

Table ES-1. Summary Table of All Park Facilities

| Park & Recreation Site | Park Classification | Acreege | Ownership |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| City Parks | | | |
| Blakely Park | Mini Park | 0.15 | City |
| Kirk Avenue Park | Mini Park | 3.46 | City |
| Pioneer Park | Community Park/Open Space | 25.14 | City |
| Library Park | Mini Park | 0.32 | City |
| Washburn Property | Open Space | 1.42 | City |
| | | Subtotal | 30.49 |
| County Parks & Historic Sites | | | |
| Linn County Historical Museum | Historical Site | ? | County |
| McKercher Park | Regional Park | 5.73 | County |
| Moyer House | Historical Site | 0.61 | County |
| | | Subtotal | 6.34 |
| School Parks | | | |
| School Property | Neighborhood Park | 2.59 | School District |
| | | Subtotal | 2.59 |
| Other Recreation Facilities | | | |
| Old Town Parking Lot | Other | na | |
| Old Town Fountain | Other | na | |
| Pioneer Cemetary | Other | na | |
| Calapooia River | Other | na | |
| Total acres of Parkland | | 39.42 | |
| Total acres of City Parkland | | 30.49 | |

Source: Community Planning Workshop, City of Brownsville, Linn County Parks Department, Linn County Assessment data.

Future park improvements need to reflect identified community needs. CPW engaged the community in an extensive public involvement process, which included park tours, public workshops and a work session with the Project Steering Committee. Park needs in the Brownsville community were expressed through this process and are based on the location of parks, park use, demographic characteristics, activity participation trends, and public input. Brownsville residents indicated a need for a number of improvements, including:

- Park amenities for all ages
- Improvement of court and skate facilities
- Historical signage within parks
- More picnic tables and additional landscaping in neighborhood and mini-parks
- Trails for walking and biking

Although Brownsville has a relatively high level of service, the City should consider additional parkland to meet park needs. As the largest park in Brownsville, Pioneer Park includes more than 90 percent of parkland in the City. Although Pioneer Park meets the

City's need for community parks, the City is underserved by neighborhood parks and mini-parks.

The City of Brownsville is currently well served by parks. There are approximately 20 acres per 1,000 residents in Brownsville. However, in order to maintain this level of service over the next 20 years, Brownsville will need to acquire new parkland.

The Acquisition Plan provides cost estimates and acquisition strategies for acquiring additional parkland to accommodate the growing population of Brownsville. According to Linn County projections, Brownsville is expected to have 2,150 residents by the year 2020. At that population, the LOS will fall to 13.6-acres of parks per 1,000 residents if additional parkland is not acquired.

Park and Recreation Goals

The Brownsville Park and Recreation Commission assisted in identifying seven goals to address the findings of this Parks Master Plan. Together with the actions, they provide a framework to plan for the future of Brownsville's parks. The goals are highlighted below.

The plan goals provide objectives that the City should work towards to meet the community's current and future park needs. The goals respond to suggestions and concerns that arose through the process of developing this plan. The goals are:

- Goal 1.** Acquire additional parkland and open space
- Goal 2.** Ensure adequate access to parks
- Goal 3.** Ensure a balance between natural areas and active recreation activities
- Goal 4.** Conduct needed park maintenance
- Goal 5.** Secure long-term funding
- Goal 6.** Increase public outreach
- Goal 7.** Respect historical context

Capital Improvement Program

The Capital Improvement Program provides a detailed roadmap for implementing needed improvements and additions to the park system in the next five years. As part of this program, goals and actions for the City of Brownsville were identified, and then specific projects to target these goals were developed.

The CIP reflects community priorities and resources. CPW gathered input from public forums, a past park survey, city staff. The CIP prioritizes projects and provides cost estimates. The high priority projects should be addressed within the first 1 to 2 years, medium projects addressed in years 2 to 4, and low priority projects addressed in years 3 to 5.

The CIP provides information for projects on a park-by-park basis. It also identifies system wide improvements and new parks and amenities.

The following table provides estimated costs for the suggested capital improvement projects in existing parks in Brownsville. The total estimated cost for these improvements is between \$84,500 and \$157,500 and shows the need to develop a funding strategy to pay for these improvements. Funding options such as grants, partnerships, donations, and various other strategies may be used to leverage City funds for park improvements as well as acquisition.

Table ES-2. Cost Estimates for Capital Improvement Projects for Existing Parks in Brownsville for Five Years

| Park | Low | High |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Pioneer Park | \$67,000 | \$125,000 |
| Blakely Park | \$7,500 | \$12,500 |
| Kirk Avenue Park | \$10,000 | \$20,000 |
| Washburn | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total for all parks | \$84,500 | \$157,500 |

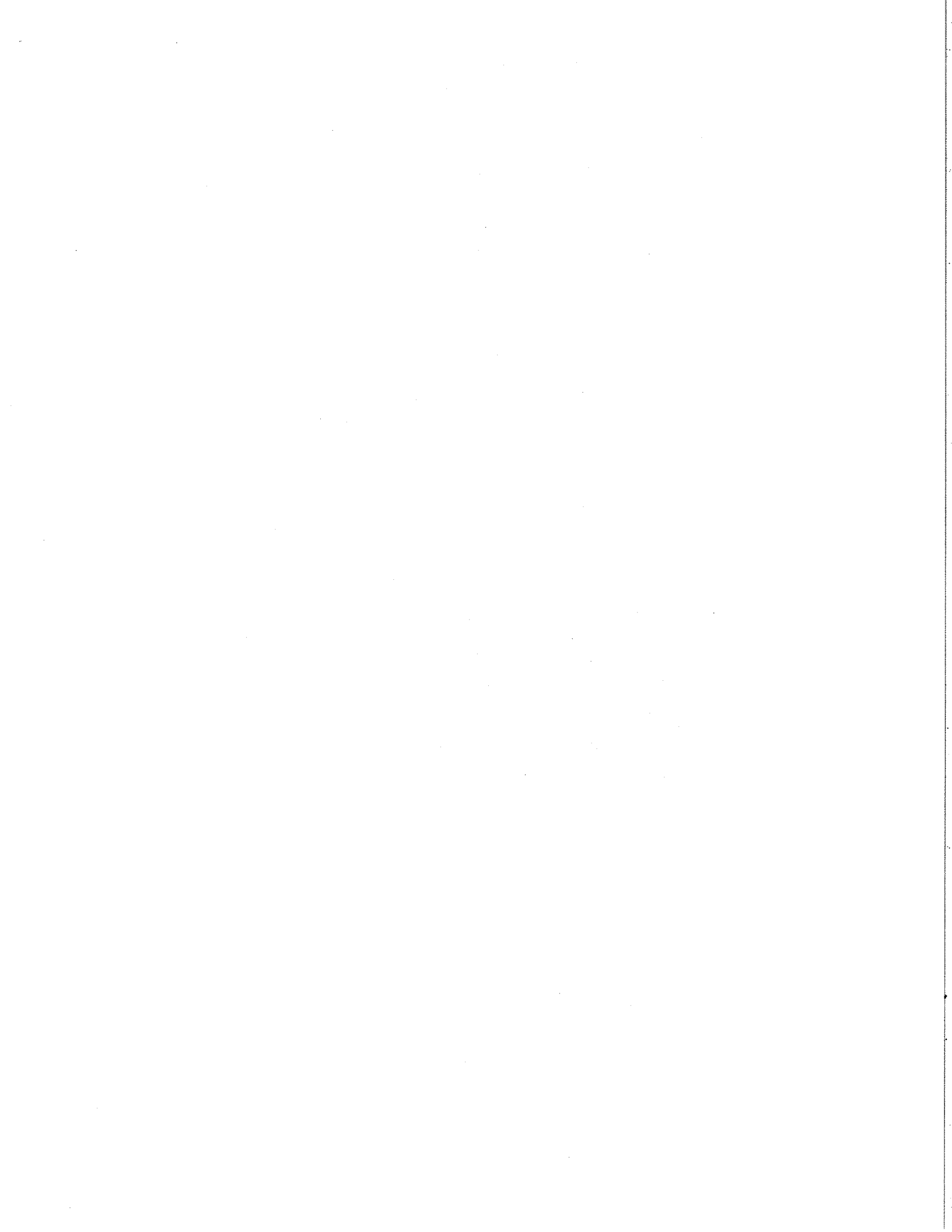
Source: Community Planning Workshop

The Parks Master Plan establishes the following actions as priorities to be completed in the 2004-2009 period:

1. *Establish Park Commission as advisory body to Council.* This action will establish a Park Commission composed of seven residents appointed by City Council. The Park Commission will make recommendations to the City Council implement the park plan. The Parks Commission will make recommendations to the Budget Committee in the annual budgeting process.
2. *Develop Blakely Park improvements.* A developed park on the south side of Brownsville is a priority. The City will develop Blakely Park in a manner consistent with the conceptual plan presented in this document. Improvements will include a play area, vegetative screening or fencing, a drinking fountain and landscaping.
3. *Install signage at all parks.* Signage at city parks is inconsistent. The Park Commission shall develop a consistent sign design and format and work to install signs at all City parks. This priority also includes directional signs to Pioneer Park from Highway 228 and Main Street.
4. *Develop basketball court at Pioneer Park.* The Parks Commission shall work with the Brownsville Recreation Center to develop a basketball court at Pioneer Park. The Recreation Center will have primary responsibility for design, fundraising, and

construction of the facility. The Parks Commission shall be involved in the design process and shall make a recommendation to the Council regarding facility design

5. *Evaluate historical and ecological significance of the Washburn Property.* The significance of Washburn Park was in question at the time this plan was prepared. The Park Commission shall conduct a topographic survey of Washburn Park to identify the boundaries. The Commission shall also evaluate the historical and ecological significance of the Washburn Property. At the completion of these tasks, the Park Commission shall advise the Brownsville City Council on options for the park. If no historical or ecological significance is found on the Property, the Commission will consider sale of the property as an option. The Brownsville Park Plan proposes no improvements for the Washburn Property.
6. *Develop restroom and parking improvements at Kirk Avenue Park.* The Brownsville Park Plan proposes several improvements at Kirk Avenue Park. The Park Commission shall make restroom and parking improvements a priority. The Commission shall also consider opportunities for restoration of the natural areas of the park when the sewer trunk line upgrade occurs.
7. *Identify and evaluate sites for new parks.* The identification and evaluation of potential park sites shall be an ongoing task for the Park Commission. The first site the Commission will evaluate for improvements is the Public Works site that encompasses approximately 3.5 acres.
8. *Develop a Parks System Development Charge Ordinance.* The Parks Commission, with staff assistance, shall develop a Parks SDC. The SDC shall provide options for dedication of land in lieu of fees. All dedications shall be consistent with the acquisition criteria in this plan.



Chapter 1

Introduction

Located in the southern Willamette Valley of western Oregon, the City of Brownsville is situated along the Calapooia River, 24 miles north of Eugene and 81 miles south of Portland. In the mid 1800's, the current site of Brownsville became home to pioneers traveling south from the Oregon Trail. Today, historic plaques mark places along Territorial Road near the Calapooia River, a natural amenity that runs through town. This town of approximately 1,500 people is a community that takes pride in their historic past and the tranquility of small-town life while planning to move forward into the future.

As one of Oregon's first settlements in 1846, Brownsville prospered in the retail, grain and lumber industries. Once a source of reliable power was supplied, the town set up mills along the north side of the river for flour and wool then later for a sawmill, furniture factory and tannery.¹ After the railroad was established in 1880, North Brownsville became a busy manufacturing and trade center.²

The City of Brownsville has one large community park and several smaller parks. The Brownsville Parks Master Plan provides a systemwide approach to address the park needs for the City of Brownsville over the next 20 years.

The Parks Planning Process

Why Plan for Parks?

Park facilities are key services provided by cities or special districts that meet demand for recreational experiences and enhance a community's quality of life. Providing adequate park facilities is a challenge for many communities. Lack of resources—both staff and money—limits many communities' ability to develop and maintain adequate parks systems. Identifying system priorities and matching them with available resources requires careful planning. Many communities develop and adopt park system master plans to guide development of their parks system.

As our country moves through the 21st Century, public agencies are being challenged to maintain and create livable communities in spite of the environmental challenges, economic pressures, and social trends that make planning increasingly complex. Planners must respond in a way that provides equitable, high quality parks and services.³

Parks provide a variety of resources and opportunities for communities. These include passive and active recreation opportunities, preservation of open space and wildlife habitat that may include environmentally sensitive land such as wetlands or shorelines and preservation of historic, cultural, and natural resources.⁴ In addition, parks may serve as formal and informal meeting places in a community—drawing residents together and creating a sense of cohesiveness.

Local governments may prepare and adopt local parks master plans pursuant to Statewide Planning Goal 8: Recreational Needs and OAR 660-034-0040. These plans may be integrated with local comprehensive land use plans. Parks master plans help to give a community direction in developing future parks and making improvements to existing parks to meet community needs.

Steps in the Planning Process

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) recommend a systems approach to parks planning. This approach “places importance on locally determined values, needs, and expectations... The systems planning approach is defined as the process of assessing the park, recreation, and open space needs of a community and translating that information into a framework for meeting the physical, spatial and facility requirements to satisfy those needs.”⁵ NRPA provides guidelines that may be adapted by individual communities to best suit local needs. The systems plan can then be integrated into planning decisions and strategies that address other community needs such as housing, commerce, schools, environmental management, transportation, and industry.⁶

As shown in Figure 1-1, the park planning process involves several steps. An inventory of the city’s current park facilities is one of the first steps. This involves looking at the amenities offered at each park and assessing the condition of the park itself and its amenities. Also, an important early step is obtaining community input. Public input assists planners in determining the appropriate level of service (LOS) provided by current and future facilities. The LOS approach is “based on the premise that parkland alone cannot meet the full range of recreation needs. Rather, the LOS is an expression of the instances of use of activity areas, and the facilities that are necessary to actually satisfy demand.”⁷

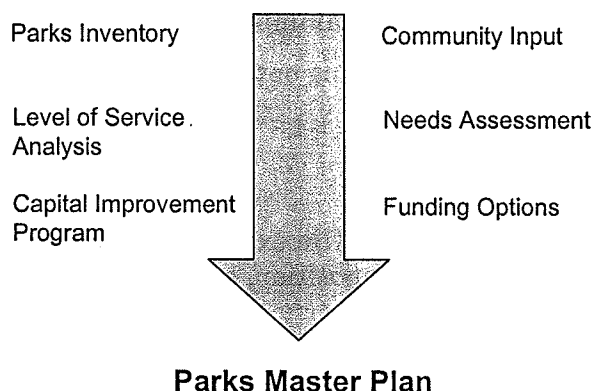
These first three steps all feed into the community needs analysis. This analysis determines what improvements need to be made to current facilities and the type and size of additional facilities needed for the future.

The needs analysis is then used to create a capital improvement program (CIP) in which policy-makers and planners make specific recommendations for improvements and land acquisition, determine the cost of each of these recommendations, and prioritize them. This

is followed by research on possible funding options for the community, allowing the CIP to be implemented.

All of these components together make up the parks master plan for a community—giving the community direction and a plan to better accommodate the needs of current and future residents.

Figure 1-1. The Parks Planning Process



Purpose of this plan

The purpose of the Parks Master Plan is to create a strategy for the City of Brownsville to provide the type of land and amenities for the scale and services of park space that the citizens of Brownsville desire. More specifically, the purpose of this plan is to:

- Inventory existing park facilities, including an analysis of appropriate park classifications and standards;
- Identify park needs based on current technical data and citizen input;
- Present a capital improvement program, including potential acquisitions, that addresses specific standards for each park classification with estimated project costs and target completion dates; and
- Identify potential funding sources to implement the capital improvement program.

Methods

A variety of methods were used to create this plan. The general approach that CPW took involved the following steps:

1. Background research on community demographics and park resources.
2. An inventory of the condition and amenities of each of existing park, school facility, and other recreational facilities in the area.

3. Analysis of a community survey conducted by the City in 2000.
4. Facilitation of several public workshops to discussion issues, concerns and opportunities.
5. Research on park standards and classifications to be a basis for developing standards and classifications specific to Brownsville.
6. Research on costs for capital improvement projects.
7. Research on possible funding options for capital improvement plan.

Organization of this Plan

- **Chapter 2: Community Profile** examines trends in population, housing, age composition, school enrollment, racial composition, income levels, poverty rates, and employment as they relate to parks planning.
- **Chapter 3: Park Classifications and Inventory** includes information on all park types available to area residents. The park inventory provides an inventory of parks, including facilities owned and maintained by the City, School Districts, County and State. The inventory provides information on the condition, amenities, and classification of each facility. This also includes a baseline level of service analysis for existing facilities.
- **Chapter 4: Brownsville Park Needs, Goals, and System Improvements** examine park and recreation needs based on results from the inventory, a community survey, and public workshops. It then presents the goals and actions and a 5-year capital improvement program (CIP). The CIP focuses on specific park improvements with cost estimates and a priority ranking for each project. This also includes a program for parks and open space land acquisition.
- **Chapter 5: Funding Strategies** identifies funding options available to finance the CIP and parkland acquisition.

The plan also includes one appendix:

Appendix A: Funding Information lists contacts, names, phone numbers, and website contacts for all the funding options listed in Chapter 5.

¹ Explore Brownsville One of Oregon's Original Settlements. Published by the Linn County Museum of Friends in The Brownsville Times, September 1994.

² Ibid, The Brownville Times September 1994.

³ Mertes, James D. and James R. Hall. *Park, Recreation, Open Space And Greenway Guidelines*. National Recreation and Park Association (1995), (p. 11).

⁴ Mertes and Hall, (p. 58).

⁵ Mertes and Hall, (pp. 12-14).

⁶ Mertes and Hall, (p. 14).

⁷ Mertes and Hall, (p.63).

Chapter 2

Community Profile

Brownsville’s location and demographic characteristics present both opportunities and constraints for the community’s park system. This chapter describes socioeconomic characteristics of Brownsville and nearby areas. Demographic trends provide an understanding of present and future park need. Demographic trends should be considered when siting future park facilities and in prioritizing capital improvements.

Demographic characteristics

Population

Table 2-1 shows population trends between 1970 and 2000 for Brownsville, Linn County and Oregon. Brownsville grew at an average annual growth rate (AAGR) of 1.2% between 1990 and 2000. This growth rate is lower than the 1.4% AAGR of Linn County as well as Oregon’s growth rate of 2.0%.

Table 2-1. Population trends of Brownsville, Linn County and Oregon, 1970-2000

| Year | Brownsville | AAGR* | Linn County | AAGR | Oregon | AAGR |
|------|-------------|-------|-------------|------|-----------|-------|
| 1970 | 1,034 | na | 71,914 | na | 2,091,533 | 1.80% |
| 1980 | 1,261 | 2.0% | 89,495 | 2.2% | 2,633,105 | 2.60% |
| 1990 | 1,281 | 0.2% | 91,597 | 0.2% | 2,842,321 | 0.80% |
| 2000 | 1,449 | 1.2% | 104,894 | 1.4% | 3,421,399 | 2.00% |

Source: PSU Population Research Center, US Census, Office of Economic Analysis, Oregon Blue Book
 AAGR – Average Annual Growth Rate

The Population Research Center at Portland State University estimates that Brownsville’s population in 2002 was 1,440 persons, a decrease of 20 persons from its 2001 estimate of 1,460 persons. The population data suggest that Brownsville has experienced growth rates over the past 30 years that are comparable or slightly lower than Linn County and considerably lower than the State as a whole.

State law requires incorporated cities to develop “coordinated” population forecasts.⁸ In general, the statutory requirement is that forecast growth for all cities and rural areas sum to a county control total forecast developed by the State Office of Economic Analysis.

The coordinated 2020 population forecast for Brownsville is 2,150 persons.⁹ This represents an increase of about 50% (710 persons) over the 2002 population, or a 2.3% average annual growth rate. CPW

used the coordinated population forecast to estimate future parkland need for the Urban Growth Boundary.

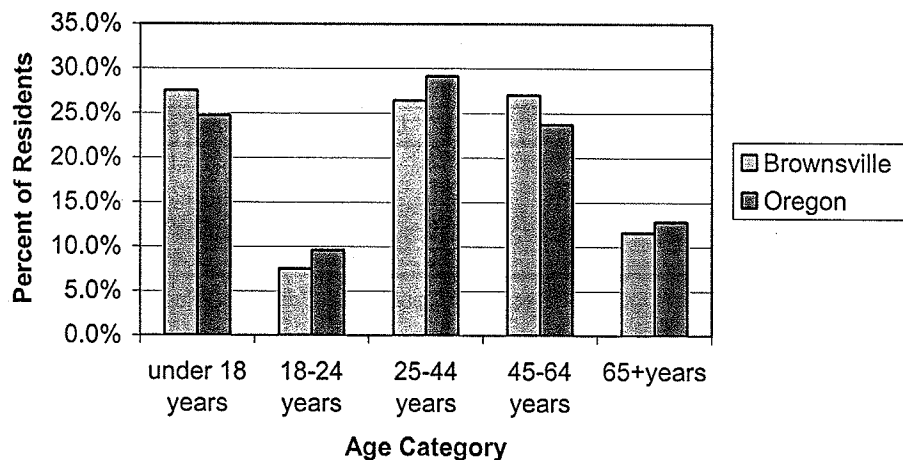
The implication of future population growth is increased demand for infrastructure—including parks. In short, by 2020 the existing parks system will be servicing a population that is 50% larger than today's population. The City of Brownsville will need to acquire new parkland if it desires to maintain the current level of service.

Age characteristics

Age is an important factor in parks planning. Each age group has different recreational needs and desires. Current and future age distribution of a community should influence the facilities and amenities offered in parks.

According to the U.S. Census, Brownsville's median age was 36.9 and Oregon's was 36.3 in 2000. Age distributions between these two areas are reflected in Figure 2-1. The data shows similarities between city and state, with Brownsville having a higher percentage of residents under 18 years of age while Oregon has a higher percentage of residents the ages of 25 to 44.

Figure 2-1. Brownsville's and Oregon's Age Distributions in 2000



Source: US Census

Over the last several decades, Brownsville has experienced shifts in the age distribution. Brownsville's 1980 Comprehensive Plan indicates the total number of children in Brownsville will peak around 1990 followed by a sharp decline. The plan attributes the estimated sudden change to a rapid decline in household size and small population increase from 1980 to 1999. Brownsville has an average proportion of the population age 65 or more and a high proportion of youth (27.6%), age 18 and younger. In general, these trends reflect a growing aging population and the current young,

family-oriented demographic observed in Brownsville.¹⁰ Census data indicates that the total number of children in 1990 was not followed by a sharp decline, rather the city experienced a slight increase in the number of children between the ages of 5 and 19.¹¹

Between the years 1990 and 2000 the 45 to 64 year old age population grew rapidly in Brownsville.¹² This age group represents the largest portion of Brownsville residents. Two areas that reflect recent trends of aging in Brownsville are the growing proportion of people 45-64 years of age and the declining percentage of residents under 44 years old. According to the US Census, the percentage of people between the ages of 45 and 64 grew by 39.4%. The population of people under 44 grew by 3.4%.¹³ The population of people under 18 also grew.

In creating a parks master plan, all age groups should be considered so that their needs may be appropriately met; these trends can help the community decide what amenities future parks should include. The data indicates the City should focus its resources on services and amenities for children and older adults.

Race and Ethnicity

According to the 2000 US Census, approximately 94.3% of Brownsville is White, followed by 3.1% of two or more races, 2.7% Hispanic, 1.6% American Indian, and less than one percent for the following races: Black, Asian, and Pacific Islander.

School Enrollment

Other than the Head Start Program, Brownsville school-aged children are bused to the Central Linn School District in Halsey, Oregon. The 2000 US Census indicates that 50.4% of the population of school aged children age three and over (199 persons), are enrolled in Elementary School (grades 1-8), 6.8% are enrolled in Nursery School, 7.6% in Kindergarten, 21.8% are enrolled in High School (grades 9-12), and 13.4% are enrolled in College or graduate school.

Total Central Linn District enrollment reported for 2001 was 682 while 2000 Census data indicates total school enrollment for the population in Brownsville three years and over was 395. It is noteworthy that the Census data includes persons enrolled in colleges, community colleges, and other post-secondary institutions.

Housing trends

Housing characteristics provide information that can be useful for parks planning. The rate, type, and location of housing development are important variables that provide information on where future parks should be located. Moreover, this data is useful for parks planning because it gives insight into the potential funding base (e.g. property taxes and systems development fees).

The 2000 Census indicates the total housing units in Brownsville was 579 units, with 92.4% occupied and 7.6% vacant. Census data estimates a 2.8% homeowner vacancy rate and a 13.8% rental vacancy rate.

With regards to housing tenure, of 535 occupied housing units, 76.6% are owner-occupied while 23.4% are renter-occupied housing units. A recent Oregon Downtown Development Association (ODDA) study, predicts a steady increase in owner and renter occupied housing units for Brownsville over the next five years.¹⁴

The average household size in 2000 was 2.7% and is expected to decrease over the next five years.¹⁵

Income and Poverty

In 2000, the median household income for Brownsville's residents was higher than the median household income for Linn County and the State of Oregon.¹⁶ Brownsville's median household income is expected to grow from \$42,107 in 2003 to \$47,045 in 2008. Likewise, the same trends for average household income and per capita income is expected to grow from \$50,676 in 2003 to \$57,973 in 2008 and \$18,750 in 2003 to \$21,582 in 2008, respectively.¹⁷

The percentage of persons below the poverty level in Brownsville was 8.8% in 2000, which is below the State of Oregon's percentage in 2000.¹⁸

Summary

- Between 1990 and 2000, Brownsville grew at a rate of 1.2% annually. By 2020, the City is expected to grow to 2,150 persons—an increase of 50% over the 2002 population. An increase in demand for parks and recreation facilities will result from this population increase.
- Almost 27% of Brownsville residents were 18 or under in 2000. The large youth population should be considered as Brownsville develops and updates its capital improvement for parks.
- Census data shows that persons aged between 45 and 64 grew almost 40% between 1990 and 2000. The park master plan considers the aging adult population.
- Demographic trends should be periodically reviewed to ensure parks planning keeps pace with community needs.

⁸ ORS 195.036

⁹ Personal communication with Brownsville Staff, October 10, 2003.

¹⁰ Ibid

¹¹ US Census, 2000

¹² US Census, 1990 and 2000

¹³ US Census 2000 and Oregon Economic & Community Development website accessed August 22, 2003 < <http://info.econ.state.or.us>>

¹⁴ Oregon Downtown Development Association's (ODDA) Resource Team Report for Brownsville, Oregon, 2003

¹⁵ Ibid

¹⁶ US Census, 2000

¹⁷ Ibid

¹⁸ Ibid

Chapter 3

Park Classifications and Inventory

Park classifications serve as guidelines to evaluate the current park system and future needs. CPW used the National Recreation and Parks Association's (NRPA) classifications and definitions as a reference in creating a classification system that is specific to Brownsville's resources and facilities. CPW worked with Brownsville residents to modify the NRPA classifications to better reflect Brownsville's unique location and input received during the public workshops.

In creating the classifications, park function was considered a more important factor than size. Park properties owned by the Central Linn School District and the Linn County Parks Department are included within the classification system, representing the full range of recreation opportunities in and near Brownsville.

Park Classifications

Table 3-1 defines the category, benefits, functions, size, service area, and amenities for each category of parks. The system includes six park classifications: (1) mini-parks; (2) neighborhood parks; (3) community parks; (4) regional parks; (5) school parks; and (6) trails, connectors, and open space. Each classification serves a specific purpose within the City's system, including a set of design characteristics.

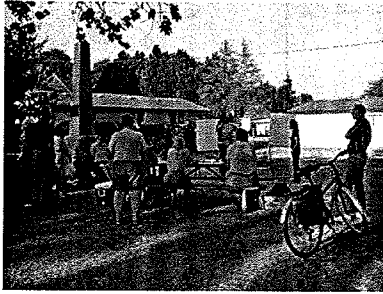
Table 3-1. Brownsville's Park Classification System

| TYPE OF FACILITY | DEFINITION | BENEFITS & FUNCTION | SIZE CRITERIA | SERVICE AREA | DESIGN CRITERIA | EXISTING PARKS OF THIS TYPE* | |
|--------------------|---|---|---------------|------------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | | | NAME | ACREAGE |
| Mini-Parks | Mini-parks offer open space within neighborhoods, providing passive or limited active recreational opportunities. Mini-parks may simply be open lots within neighborhoods or may be more developed with a limited number of amenities. These should be accessible by sidewalks, trails, or low-traffic streets. | Mini-parks provide a balance between open space and residential development. They offer opportunities for passive recreation opportunities sand/or limited active recreation opportunities for neighboring residents. Mini-parks add activity and character to neighborhoods and may be an appropriate space for neighborhood gatherings. | 0-0.75 acres | 1/4 mile or less | Mini-parks may offer low-intensity facilities such as benches, picnic tables, multi-purpose paved trails, landscaping, and public art. If the mini-park also offers active recreation it may include children's play areas, community gardens, and a limited number of sports courts. | Blakely Park Library Park | 0.15 0.32 |
| Neighborhood Parks | Developed Neighborhood Parks offer accessible recreation and social opportunities to nearby residents. These should be accessible by sidewalks, trails, low-traffic residential streets. These should accommodate the needs of a wide variety of age and user groups. | Neighborhood parks provide access to basic recreation activities for nearby residents of all ages; contributes to neighborhood identity and creates a sense of place | 0.75-5.0 | 1/4-1/2 mile | Neighborhood parks should include both passive and active recreation opportunities such as children's play areas, sports courts and fields, picnic facilities, public art, open turf areas, swimming pools, sitting areas, landscaping, community gardens, restrooms, and pathways. Security lighting and off-street parking may be provided if necessary. | Kirk Avenue Park ¹ | 2.59 |
| Community Parks | Community Parks provide a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities for all age groups. These parks are larger in size and serve a wider base of residents than neighborhood parks. Community parks often include facilities for organized group activities as well as facilities for individual and family activities. Community parks also preserve open spaces and unique landscapes. | Community parks provide a variety of accessible recreation opportunities for all age groups. They also provide educational opportunities, serve recreational needs of families, preserve open spaces and landscapes, and provide opportunities for community social activities and events. These can serve as a community focal point. | 5.0-50 acres | 1/2-5 miles | In addition to amenities offered at neighborhood parks, community parks may also offer sports facilities for large groups, amphitheaters, group picnic areas, botanical gardens, event space, interpretive facilities, and community centers. Higher quality children's play areas may be provided to create a family play destination. | Pioneer Park | 25.14 |

¹ Park name may change in the future

| TYPE OF FACILITY | DEFINITION | BENEFITS & FUNCTION | SIZE CRITERIA | SERVICE AREA | DESIGN CRITERIA | EXISTING PARKS OF THIS TYPE* | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---------------|--|--|------------------------------|---------|
| | | | | | | NAME | ACREAGE |
| Regional Parks | Regional Parks provide a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities for persons of all ages and serve to preserve unique landscapes. These parks are larger than community parks and attract people from outside of the community. As such, they offer overnight opportunities--such as camping. These are generally state owned parks. | Regional Parks offer opportunities for large expanses of open space that draws both residents and visitors. These offer opportunities to attract tourists to the community while also benefiting residents. | 50+ acres | Determined by location, size, and amenities offered. | Regional Parks should offer a variety of recreation opportunities such as benches, picnic tables, multi-purpose trails, landscaping where appropriate, camping amenities, and natural areas. | McKercher Park | 5.73 |
| School Parks | School Parks may be established through a relationship with the school district which allows neighboring residents to use school grounds during non-school hours. These can serve many of the same functions as Neighborhood Parks. | School Parks offer an opportunity to expand recreational, social, and educational opportunities in an efficient and cost effective manner. | Varies | Determined by location of school district property | School Parks offer varying amenities such as children's play areas, open turf, sport courts and fields, running tracks, benches, picnic tables, landscaping, and multi-purpose trails. | School Property | 2.59 |
| Trails, Connectors and Open Space | Trails and connectors should be established to link elements of the park system or community. Open space areas should be managed primarily for ecological values and secondarily for recreation. | Trails and connectors provide opportunities for alternative transportation routes. Open space provides opportunities for habitat conservation and restoration. | Varies | N/A | Trails and connectors should be established based on their ability to link parks or other areas of the community. Only limited improvements should occur in open space areas. | Washburn Park (Open Space) | 1.42 |

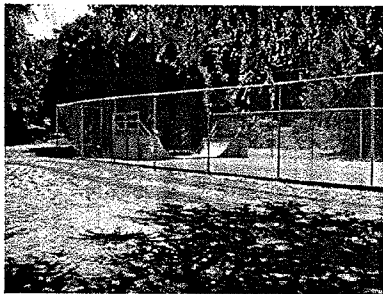
* Note: The City does not own parks in italics



Blakely Park photo by CPW

Mini-Parks

Mini-parks are the smallest unit of the parks system. These offer limited recreational opportunities and they provide a balance between open space and residential development in neighborhoods. Mini-parks are 0.75 acres or less. Mini-parks are 0.75 acres or less. Brownsville has two mini-parks: Blakely Park and Library Park.



Kids' Park photo by CPW

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are considered the basic unit of a park system. These parks provide accessible recreation opportunities for residents of all ages. Neighborhood parks contribute to the neighborhood character and create a sense of place. These parks are usually 0.75 to 5 acres. Brownsville has one neighborhood park-Kirk Avenue Park.



Pioneer Park photo by CPW

Community Parks

Community parks serve a wide base of residents with recreational and social opportunities. These often include facilities for organized group activities and may serve as a community focal point while preserving open spaces and unique landscapes. Community parks are usually 5 to 50 acres in size. Brownsville has one community park—Pioneer Park.

Regional Parks

Regional parks are larger than community parks, and serve residents as well as people from outside the area. As such, they often offer overnight opportunities. Regional parks preserve large amounts of open space and are usually over 50 acres in size. Brownsville has no regional parks. Pioneer Park, however, functions in some respects like a regional park because of the types of amenities and events held at the park.

School Facilities

School facilities offer the potential for partnerships between the Central Linn School District and the City. School grounds may be made accessible to residents during non-school hours. This is an efficient and cost-effective way to expand recreational opportunities

for residents, as they may serve many of the same functions as neighborhood parks. Brownsville has one school facility:

Trails and Connectors

Trails and connectors are public access routes that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the community. These facilities offer a variety of trail-oriented recreational opportunities such as walking, biking, and running. At present, Brownsville has no formally designated trails and connectors. Brownsville has one designated open space area: the 1.42-acre Washburn Property.

Park Facility Inventory

A critical aspect of planning for the future of a city's park system is to conduct an inventory and condition assessment of existing facilities and amenities. The inventory provides information on existing City parks, as well as parks and facilities owned by the City of Brownsville, the Brownsville School District, and Linn County Brownsville. The inventory also includes a condition assessment, including a list of concerns, for all city-owned facilities.

CPW, with assistance from city staff, undertook the inventory and condition assessment of the City's park facilities. The following inventory establishes what amenities each park contains, what activities occur in each, as well as a condition assessment of the facilities and amenities.

Some of the parks inventoried are not within Brownsville's City Limits or the Urban Growth Boundary. However, these parks are included here because they serve residents by providing recreational opportunities and open space.

Table 3-2 shows park facilities in the City of Brownsville and Linn County area by classification, area, and ownership. Map 3-1 shows the location of city parks in Brownsville.

City Parks

The City of Brownsville owns and maintains 30.58 acres of parkland. This parkland is classified as mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and open space. City parks offer a range of opportunities from open space as a connection between two neighborhoods to community parks that provide amenities for all groups. These parks contribute to the overall sense of place for residents and important to the character of the city.

The following sections provide a detailed description of each park facility owned and maintained by the City of Brownsville. (Each park's classification is indicated in parenthesis)

Table 3-2. Summary of Brownsville Area Park Facilities

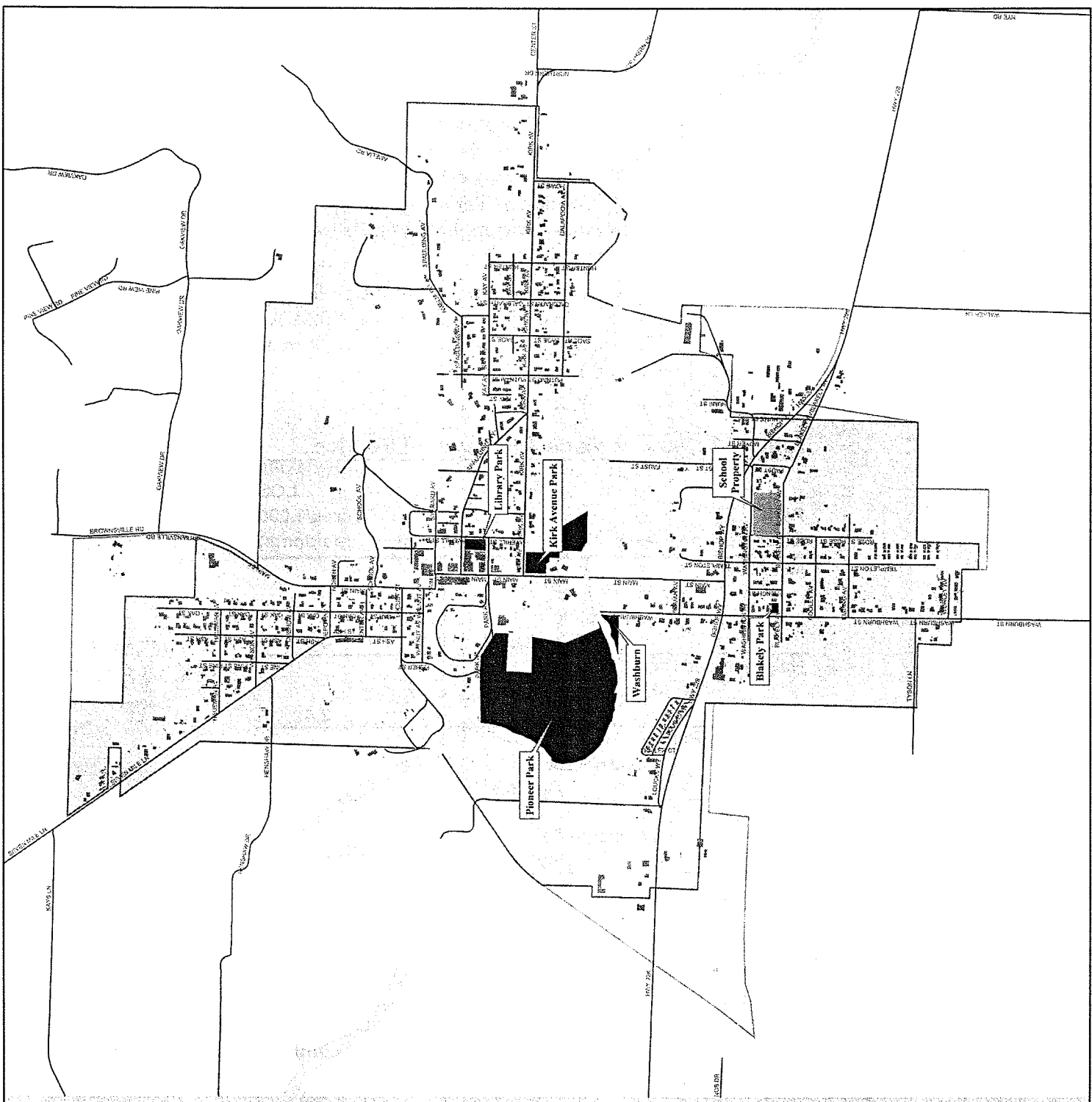
| Park & Recreation Site | Park Classification | Acreege | Ownership |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| City Parks | | | |
| Blakely Park | Mini Park | 0.15 | City |
| Kirk Avenue Park | Mini Park | 3.46 | City |
| Pioneer Park | Community Park/Open Space | 25.14 | City |
| Library Park | Mini Park | 0.32 | City |
| Washburn Property | Open Space | 1.42 | City |
| | | Subtotal | 30.49 |
| County Parks & Historic Sites | | | |
| Linn County Historical Museum | Historical Site | ? | County |
| McKercher Park | Regional Park | 5.73 | County |
| Moyer House | Historical Site | 0.61 | County |
| | | Subtotal | 6.34 |
| School Parks | | | |
| School Property | Neighborhood Park | 2.59 | School District |
| | | Subtotal | 2.59 |
| Other Recreation Facilities | | | |
| Old Town Parking Lot | Other | na | |
| Old Town Fountain | Other | na | |
| Pioneer Cemetary | Other | na | |
| Calapooia River | Other | na | |
| Total acres of Parkland | | 39.42 | |
| Total acres of City Parkland | | 30.49 | |

Source: Community Planning Workshop, City of Brownsville, Linn County Parks Department, Linn County Assessment data.

MAP 3-1 Brownsville Parks and Recreation Sites

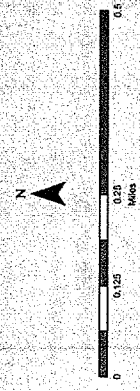
Parks Master Plan City of Brownsville

Oregon



-  School Park
-  Brownsville City Parks
-  City Limits
-  Urban Growth Boundary

Community Park: Pioneer Park
Neighborhood Park: Kirk Avenue Park, Washburn
Mini-Park: Blakely Park, Library Park



Data Sources:
Oregon Department of Transportation, County Maps, Microstation design file
Oregon Geographic Data Center
City of Brownsville
City of Brownsville
Community Planning
InfoGraphics, Lab

Baseline Level of Service

The Level of Service (LOS) analysis is based on the park classification system, the City's 2002 population and the 2020 coordinated population forecast. LOS, as used for this plan, is defined as acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Table 3-3 shows the baseline (2002) LOS for each park classification, based on Brownsville's 2002 population of 1,440 persons.

According to the City's coordinated population forecast, Brownsville is expected to have 2,150 residents by the year 2020. At that population, the LOS will fall to 13.6-acres of parks per 1,000 residents if additional parkland is not acquired.

Table 3-3. Park Acreage and Level of Service

| | | Brownsville | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | | LOS | |
| Park Classification | Park | Acreage | (acres/1,000 residents) |
| Mini Park | | | |
| | Blakely Park | 0.15 | |
| | Library park | 0.32 | |
| | Subtotal | 0.47 | 0.3 |
| Neighborhood Park | | | |
| | Kirk Avenue Park | 3.46 | |
| | Subtotal | 3.46 | 2.4 |
| Community Park | | | |
| | Pioneer Park | 25.14 | |
| | Subtotal | 25.14 | 17.5 |
| Open Space | | | |
| | Washburn Park | 1.42 | |
| | Subtotal | 1.42 | 1.0 |
| Total | | 30.49 | 21.2 |

Source: Community Planning Workshop, 2003

Brownsville has a relatively high level of service for a community of its size. Table 3-4 shows a comparison of the level of service provided by selected Oregon communities. Brownsville's level of service of 21.2 acres per 1000 residents is double the closest comparable community of Brookings (LOS 9.6 acres/1000 residents).

The key reason for Brownsville's high level of service compared to other communities is Pioneer Park. More than 90% of the City's park acreage is in Pioneer Park. The implication of this finding is that the city is well-served in the community park classification, but potentially underserved in the neighborhood and mini-park classifications.

Table 3-4. Level of Service Comparison

| City | Developed Park Acreage | Undeveloped Park Acreage | Year 2002 Population | Dev. Parks/1000 Residents |
|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Astoria | 90.4 | ns | 9,790 | 9.2 |
| Brookings | 55.5 | na | 5,760 | 9.6 |
| Brownsville | 30.5 | na | 1,440 | 21.2 |
| Canby | 76.4 | na | 13,440 | 5.7 |
| Lincoln City | 37.0 | 177.0 | 7,420 | 5.0 |
| Newport | 20.0 | 70.0 | 9,650 | 2.1 |
| Seaside | 10.3 | 64.0 | 5,950 | 1.7 |
| Sweet Home | 21.6 | na | 8,235 | 2.6 |

Source: Community Planning Workshop, 2003

Blakely Park – (Mini)

Blakely Park is a 0.15-acre mini-park located on the northwest corner of Blakely and Washburn Streets (see Map 3-1). The park is the location of a historical site and monument, donated by the Linn County Pioneer Association. This largely undeveloped park offers passive recreational opportunities for the community, and is within close proximity to the downtown area and Calapooia River. Notably, Blakely Park is the only city park facility south of Highway 228.

Access to the park is available at two locations, one off Blakely Street and the other off Washburn Street. On-street parking accommodates approximately eight vehicles. The park currently has no designated handicapped spaces. While Washburn Street has two-sided parking available, Blakely Street has only one-sided parking. The entire park is accessible to handicapped persons. There is no pedestrian access from the north. Highway-228 is located approximately one block north and as of 2001, had an average daily traffic count of 4,700 cars.¹⁹ A painted crosswalk does not exist across the Highway, near Blakely Park. Racks are not available for bicycle parking on-site.

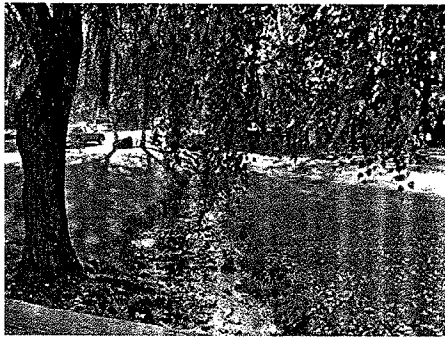
A medium-density residential neighborhood surrounds the park on all sides. Local residents report that a younger age demographic currently resides in this neighborhood. There is no buffer between the park and residential property to the north. A newly constructed play structure is available for use just three blocks east on the school district property. While water is available for irrigation, there currently is no irrigation or drainage system.

The turf appears to have minor problems that require routine maintenance. The tree and plantings include Oregon Oak and boxwood hedges. Two cement sidewalks lead to all areas of the park.

Amenities

- Historic monument recognizing the original site of Brownsville's first store in 1852 and Territorial Road
- One large mature Oregon Oak tree

- One new play structure located three blocks east on school property
- Flat topography
- Sidewalks on two sides
- Hedge paths provide walkway designation
- Surrounded by neighborhood
- The only city park located in the south side of Brownsville



Library Park

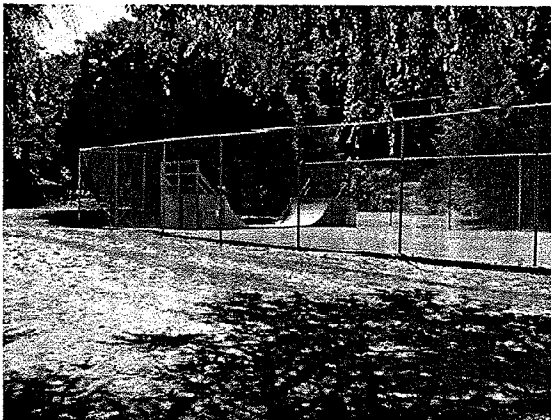
Library Park– (Mini Park)

Library Park is a 0.32-acre county-owned site located off Park Avenue adjacent to the Linn County Historical Museum. The Meneffee Walkway sign is located on the southwestern corner and provides a path leading to businesses on Spaulding. A mature Willow tree shades a portion of the daylighted mill race, which runs through the park.

Library Park offers a picnic table, monument, bench and a walking path.

Kirk Avenue Park² – (Neighborhood)

Kirk Avenue Park is a 3.46-acre neighborhood park located on the southeast corner of Kirk and Main Streets. The park is located near the entrance of Downtown Brownsville and offers many active and passive recreational activities to the community while preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.



Skateboard/basketball facilities at Kirk Ave. Park

Access to the park is primarily available off Kirk Street, as no pedestrian access across the millrace waterway bordering the Main Street access currently exists. While there is no on-street parking, a gravel parking lot can accommodate approximately 10-12 vehicles, none of which are designated handicapped spaces. The existing gravel parking area is not delineated and could be organized more efficiently. The park does not have any formal pedestrian access and is not ADA accessible. There is no pedestrian access from the north. There are no racks available for bicycle parking at Kirk Avenue Park.

Residential neighborhoods surround the park on the north, east and across the Calapooia River to the south. Main Street is west and north of the adjacent residential property. There are a number of

² This facility is sometimes called "Kid's Park." The park name may change in the future.

water features associated with this park site which include a small natural wetland area to the northeast, the mill-race outfall and day lighted waterway along the western border, and the Calapooia River



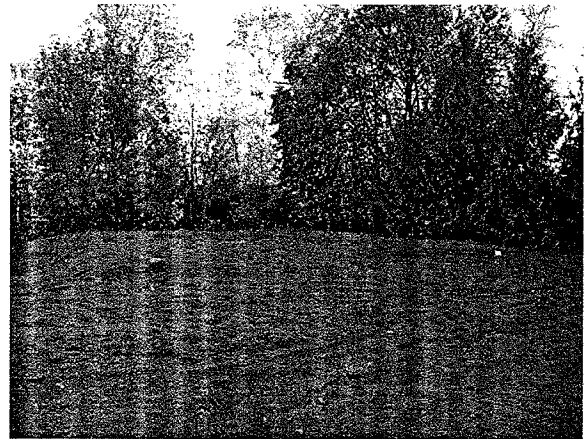
Tailrace and wetland area at Kirk Ave. Park

to the south. While there is no irrigation or drainage system, a sewer project is scheduled to take place over the next two to four years, which could be timed with future park improvements. The sewer project will use an existing easement through the park for a trunk line upgrade.

There are two identifiable facilities in the park. These include: (1) a historic jailhouse structure and (2) a recreational

facility. The recreational facility was originally designed as a tennis court. However, the court was not designed to regulation dimensions and was receiving little use according to City staff. The court area now encloses a basketball court and skateboard half-pipe. Two basketball hoops are on-site, each one is less than regulation half court. There appears to be high use from the teenage population in Brownsville.

The turf appears matted down from vehicle parking, which has led to many turf problems that may require replacement rather than repair. The trees and plantings include several mature trees such as cottonwoods and a variety of orchard trees and blackberry bushes along the river path. Trees provide shade to all areas of the park, with the exception of the northwest corner. The area was inundated with water during the 1996 flood, just covering the basketball court. There is one green and white metal sign that designates the day use area and that the park closes at dusk.



Natural areas at Kirk Avenue Park

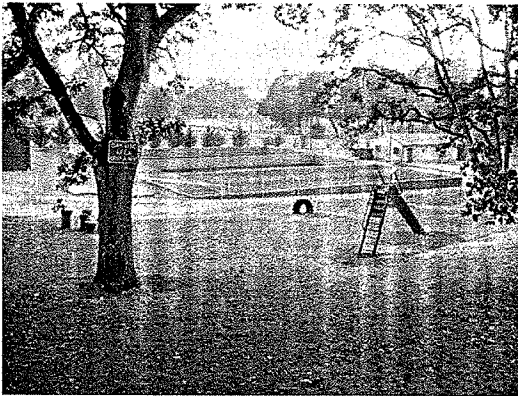
Amenities

- Historic jailhouse
- One porta-potty
- Visibility of teenagers
- Natural areas with wetland features and plenty of shade

- River access
- Mill-Race waterway and outfall
- Potential site for trail head and/or scenic byway kiosk
- Proximity to downtown region

Pioneer Park – (Community)

Pioneer Park is a 25.14-acre community park, located between the Calapooia River and downtown Brownsville. The park offers active and passive recreational opportunities to the community while



preserving a large open-space area adjacent to a river way. The park is composed of natural areas, active recreation areas, parking areas, gravel roadways, sidewalks, park facilities, water treatment facilities, and river paths.

Access to the park is available at two locations, one near a steep slope at Park Avenue from downtown and the other at Fisher Road. The Fisher Road access is only open during Pioneer Picnic in the summer. A gravel roadway extends in a complete circle through Pioneer Park. The park accommodates approximately 200 cars during large seasonal events, yet varies throughout the year.



Parking is not clearly delineated, with cars typically parking in the west and south portions of the gravel roadways. During major events, parking is allowed on the eastern field and not allowed near buildings. Vehicles must observe a five mph speed limit. A sidewalk leading from downtown ends near the park entrance. While sidewalks do not lead to all areas of the park, a five-year old sidewalk path extends to an approximate half a mile loop. Portions of the park are accessible to handicapped persons, but not all restroom facilities are easily reached by wheelchair. There are no racks available for bicycle parking at Pioneer Park.

Play facilities at Pioneer Park

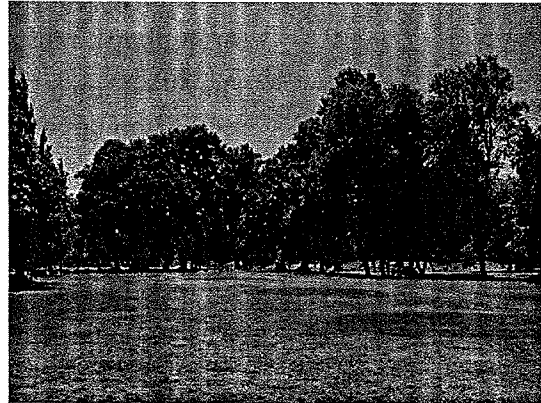
Residential property surrounds the park to the north, east, and south. Private property to the north and south are designated rural residential. Farmland borders the park to the west. Signs for Pioneer Park on Main Street direct vehicle traffic to the park. Wood and metal signage at the park entrance, playground and ballfields are not uniform. The park currently does not have an irrigation system in place.

There is grass turf throughout the park and sod on the ballfields. The trees include Douglass Fir, Big Leaf Maples, oaks, walnut and cottonwoods. Approximately 50 trees were lost to recent windstorms.

The Garden Club maintains flowerbeds near the Garden Club building.

Amenities

- One covered pavilion with kitchen, dance hall, public telephones and 22 picnic tables
- One seated amphitheater
- Two permanent restroom facilities
- Two porta-potties
- Gravel parking areas
- Walking and river paths
- Three play areas that include swings, a rocket slide, slide, tire structures, monkey bars, sandbox, colored round stool structures and benches
- Three partially covered horseshoe pits
- Two water fountains
- Two baseball fields
- An area for soccer and football
- One historical plaque, memorializing the site of Territorial Road
- Three wellheads
- Two to three internal metal signs
- Brownsville's water treatment facility
- 20-30 campsites for tent camping and serve both tents and RV's
- A swimming hole and rope swing



Natural Areas at Pioneer Park

Washburn Property (Open Space)

The Washburn property is an undeveloped, 1.42-acre³ parcel of land located where North East Washburn Street meets the Calapooia River. Existing maple trees frame a paved and gravel path that leads north along Washburn Avenue to the river's edge. The city owns property on the northwest side of the gravel path, residential property is to the west, commercial property is to the east, and

³ The actual area of the Washburn property may be different. The 1.4 acre figure is from the Linn County GIS database. A survey will be required to determine the actual area of the site.

Pioneer Park lies directly to the north. The property had no formal public access at the time this plan was adopted.

A portion of a stone bridge pylon remains on the property located west of the gravel path. The site was identified in the *Brownsville Downtown Vision* as a potential component of a pedestrian/bicycle access to south Brownsville. Such a linkage would require construction of a bridge across the Calapooia River.

The location and adjacent land uses limit the ability to develop the Washburn Property as a City park. The site has been cleared up to the edge of the riparian area and may present opportunities for streambank restoration.

The Washburn Property offers the following amenities and potential recreation opportunities:

- Open space
- Habitat and riparian area restoration

School District Facilities

The Central Linn School District owns 2.59 acres of land that could potentially serve as parkland during non-school hours.⁴

School Property – (School Park)

The Old Brownsville School Property is a 2.59-acre site located between Blakely and Washington Avenue. The Central Linn School District uses the former elementary school as its administrative offices and runs a Head Start Program from 9:30 to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The property is two-blocks east of Blakely Park and includes a playground.

While the school site is largely occupied by a school building converted to house the Central Linn District administrative offices, the site includes a playground that is used for the head start program. It is not clear whether the District supports public use of this facility, although anecdotal information suggests that area residents use the playground. The City should formalize a use policy with the School District for the site.

County Park Sites

County Parks

Regional parks, often owned by the County or State, offer opportunities for large expanses of open space that draw both residents and visitors. These offer opportunities to attract tourists to

⁴ While the school site is over 5 acres, the area of land usable for recreational activities is considerably less.

the community while also benefiting residents. In the Brownsville area, this includes McKercher Park located approximately five miles east of Brownsville on Highway 228.

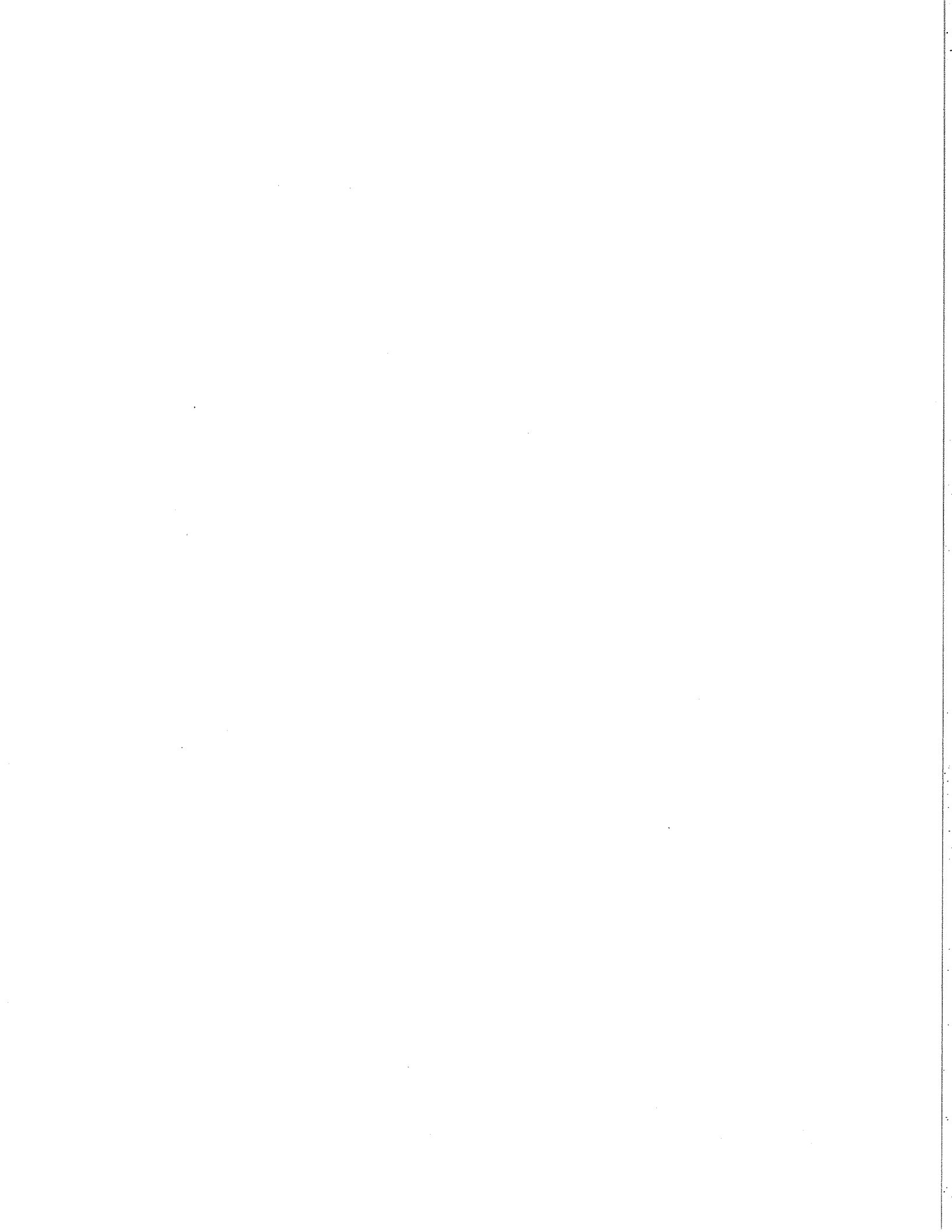
McKercher – (Regional Park)

McKercher County Park is a 5.73- acre area about five miles east of Brownsville on Highway 228.

McKercher County Park offers the following amenities and recreational opportunities:

- Fishing
- Hiking
- Swimming
- Picnicking

¹⁹ Oregon Department of Transportation,
http://www.odot.state.or.us/tbb_monitoring/02tvt/20022902.htm



Chapter 4

Brownsville Park Needs, Goals, and Proposed System Improvements

This chapter describes park needs, park system goals, and capital improvements for existing and potential parks in Brownsville. CPW worked with City staff and Brownsville citizens to develop a set of goals that reflect the unique characteristics of Brownsville. CPW developed the needs analysis by evaluating the characteristics of present and future residents, level of service (LOS), the community survey, and public input.

Park needs are based on demographic trends, evaluation of the location and facilities in the City's park system, and input from residents. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) provide a framework for evaluating park system adequacy. This framework emphasizes locally identified needs when determining park adequacy.

Park Use

Both Brownsville residents and non-residents use Brownsville parks for a variety of activities throughout the year. Pioneer Park acts as the cornerstone of Brownsville's park system and offers many activities, including camping, swimming, fishing, walking dogs, picnics, baseball, and private parties. In addition, several large events throughout the year draw large number of residents and visitors to Pioneer Park. Blakely Park provides an area of open space for small children as well as opportunities for picnics and sitting. Kirk Avenue Park offers active recreational activities and access to the River.

Park Needs

This section identifies park needs in Brownsville based on the location of parks, park use, demographic characteristics, activity participation trends, and public input. Although Brownsville has a relatively high level of service, the City should consider additional parkland to meet needs of current and residents. As the largest park in Brownsville, Pioneer Park includes more than 90 percent of parkland in the City. Although Pioneer Park meets the City's need for

community parks, the City is underserved by neighborhood parks and mini-parks.

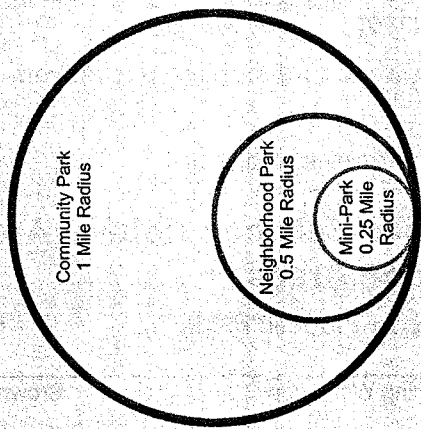
Map 4-1 shows the service area for each of Brownsville's parks. The map shows areas in the north, east and south areas of Brownsville are underserved by parks.

Blakely Park provides the opportunity for passive recreational activities south of Highway 228. Though the park includes an historical monument, Brownsville residents indicated a need for a number of improvements, including historical signage, picnic tables, and additional landscaping.

Kirk Avenue Park offers both active and passive recreational opportunities just three blocks from downtown Brownsville. Facilities include a tennis/basket ball court, a skate ramp, a historical jailhouse structure, and access to the River. The park offers a casual parking design, which allows users to park their cars in a large portion of the park. Brownsville residents indicated a need to organize the space within the park to enhance natural areas and improve the basket ball/skating facilities.

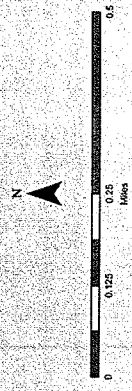
Pioneer Park offers the widest variety of activities for Brownsville residents and out of town visitors. Similar to other parks, the park allows flexibility for parking, camping, and picnicking with respect to location and frequency. Brownsville residents indicated that they would like to maintain the current management approach while improving other elements such as signage, restrooms, landscaping, identification of native trees and plants, and preservation of natural areas.

MAP 4-1 Service Areas for Existing Brownsville Parks Parks Master Plan City of Brownsville Oregon

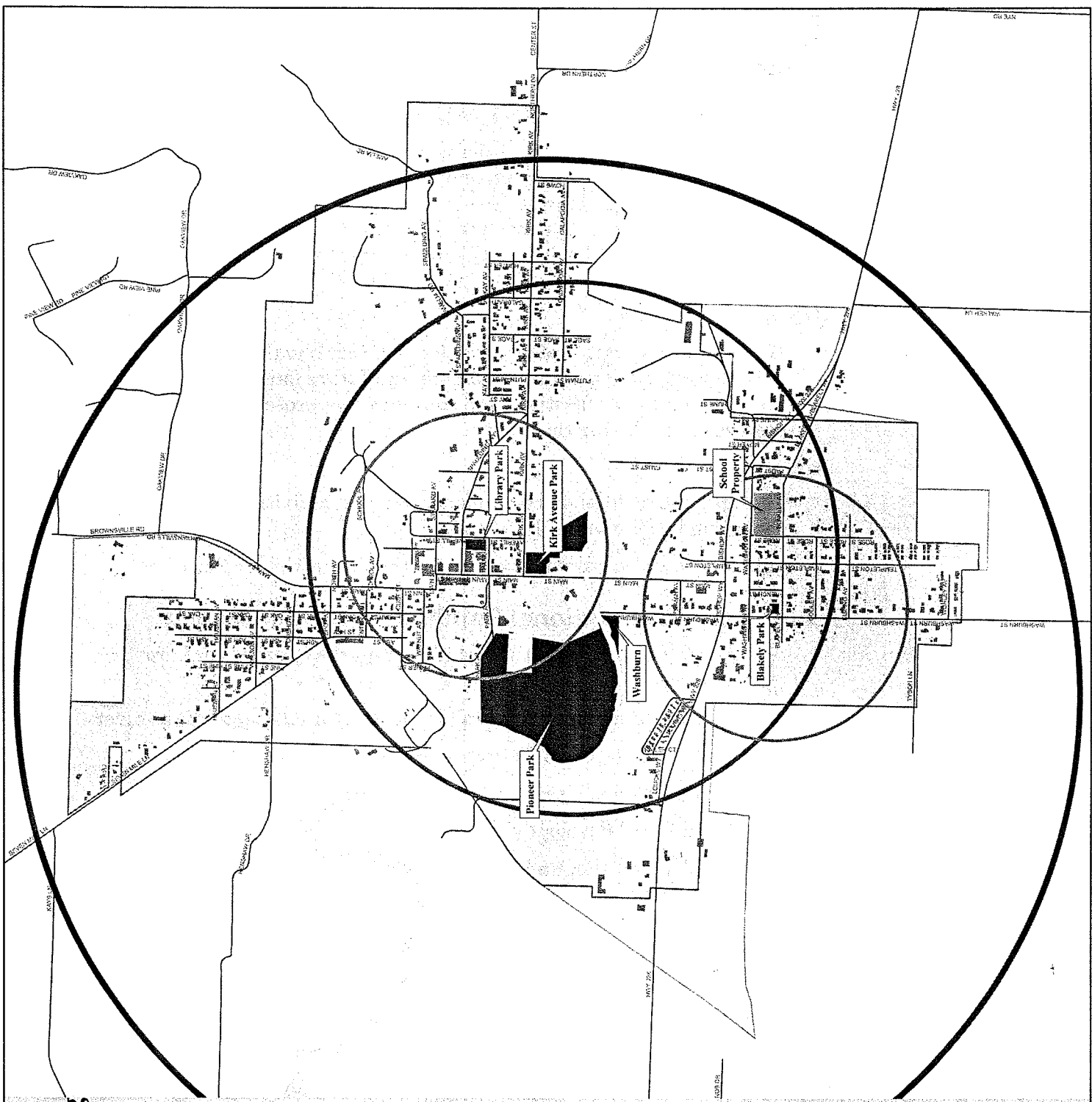


-  School Park
-  Brownsville City Parks
-  City Limits
-  Urban Growth Boundary

Community Park: Pioneer Park
Neighborhood Park: Kirk Avenue Park, Washburn
Mini-Park: Blakely Park, Library Park



Data Source:
Oregon Department of Transportation, County Maps, Microscale design file
http://www.oregon.gov/odot/transportation/infrastructure/maps/ctmmap/ctmmap.html
City of Brownsville
http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us



Systemwide Goals and Actions

The Parks Master Plan identifies a series of goals and actions to define priorities and guide implementation. Together the goals and actions provide a framework to develop and maintain parks through 2025. These goals and actions may be carried out through the implementation of the detailed Capital Improvement Program in the next section.

Goals

The plan *goals* provide objectives that the City should work towards to best meet the community's current and future park needs. The goals respond to suggestions and concerns that arose through the process of developing this plan.

Actions

The *actions* are detailed recommendations for activities that the City should undertake to fulfill its goals.

Following are the goals and action for the Parks Master Plan.

Goal 1. Acquire Additional Parkland and Open Space

- Acquire new neighborhood and mini-parks in areas that are underserved
- Focus on underserved areas, particularly areas south of the river
- Partner with school district to use school property
- Develop parks to serve a range of demographic ages
- Acquire and develop "view park"
- Develop and adopt a park systems development charge (SDC) ordinance that allows the City to accept parkland in lieu of fees

Goal 2. Ensure Adequate Access to Parks

- Create a pedestrian and bicycle linkage to south Brownsville
- Ensure the parks are accessible to residents of all ages throughout the City
- Work toward achieving compliance with the American Disability Act standards and provide wheelchair access to all restroom facilities and the river
- Provide effective directional signs to parks from key roadways and pathways
- Provide year round access to parks

Goal 3. Ensure a Balance Between Natural Areas and Active Recreation Areas

- Maintain camping in Pioneer Park

- Provide exercise activities
- Develop a playground at Blakely Park
- Develop a succession tree plan for Pioneer Park, other city parks and planting strips within public right-of-ways
- Identify critical natural areas within parks, including an inventory of native plants found within the park system
- Provide pedestrian access and seating opportunities as appropriate

Goal 4. Conduct Needed Park Maintenance

- Provide adequate park maintenance
- Consider park maintenance when evaluating acquisitions and improvements

Goal 5. Secure Long Term Funding

- Develop a short and long-term financial plan for city parkland
- Develop partnerships with the private sector and other public agencies
- Adopt a parks system development charge (SDC) ordinance

Goal 6. Increase Public Outreach

- Develop consistent, attractive signage for all parks in the system
- Provide effective directional signs to parks from key roadways and pathways
- Develop park pamphlets that provide a map of all parks and describe opportunities and amenities
- Expand volunteer program to foster participation by all age groups addressing projects throughout the system – specifically including a youth volunteer program with teen-focused events
- Formally establish a Parks Advisory Board appointed by City Council. The advisory board would review issues related to parks and make recommendations to City Council
- Include Plan Review for parks as one of the functions of the parks advisory board

Goal 7. Respect Historical Context

- Ensure historic resources are protected
- Ensure development of new facilities are designed within existing historical context

Capital Improvement Program

An important component of a parks master plan is the capital improvement program (CIP). The CIP provides specific details and costs of projects that the City of Brownsville should implement to work towards the goals and actions developed through the planning process. This chapter also provides a detailed roadmap for implementing suggested improvements and additions to the park system. The time frame is usually five years for projects and 20 years for acquisitions. A capital improvement program prioritizes projects and estimates how much specific park improvements will cost. The intent is to provide the City with a capital-budgeting tool that clearly identifies priorities, costs, and potential funding sources.

The CIP reflects community priorities and resources. To develop the list of potential projects, CPW gathered input from a variety of sources; public meetings, a household survey of Pioneer Park, and meetings with the Brownsville Parks Steering Committee. CPW then facilitated three separate public meetings where community members refined and prioritized the list of potential projects. The CIP rates projects as high, medium, or low priority. High priority projects should be addressed in years 1 and 2, medium projects addressed in years 2 through 4, and low priority projects addressed in years 3 through 5.

The City of Brownsville and the Brownsville Parks Steering Committee balanced needed improvements with budget constraints. The improvements reflected in this plan represent what the Committee considers a reasonable program given the City's financial capacity.

Capital Improvement Projects by Park

Table 4-1 displays the proposed capital improvement projects for each City-owned park. Implementation of these projects will help the City to work towards the goals outlined above so that the parks can better serve current and future residents. Each project is ranked as high, medium, or low priority, and a cost estimate is given with the source of the estimate.

To create the capital improvement program, CPW developed cost estimates for the improvement suggestions from the needs analysis presented above. Sources for the cost estimates came from past projects by the City of Brownsville Staff, Biological Mediation Systems, past price quotes for the City, City of Brookings Park Maintenance, Action Signs and Banners, Martin Brothers Signs, Outside Toys Pro, Jerry's Home Improvement, www.plumbingsupply.com, *The Park Catalogue* – Highlands Products, and *Kerr's Cost Data for Landscape Construction: Unit Prices for Site Development 13th Edition* (1993), and other community center development costs. CPW also examined the City of

Brownsville's Parks and Recreation Budget information and facility schedules.

Total costs for each park in Tables 4-1 and 4-2 represent an estimated range of costs for the capital improvement projects for the next five years. Because there is a great deal of variation in prices and prices were unavailable for some projects, it is recommended that the City consult with local contractors before beginning these projects. Total costs for system-wide projects and new parks and amenities were not calculated because the details, quantity, size, and location of amenities has not yet been determined. Price ranges are listed for these projects to give the City a ballpark figure when deciding what capital improvement projects to undertake.

Table 4-1. Capital Improvement Projects, Costs, Priorities, and Funding Options by Park (High Priority = pursue in 1-2 years, Medium Priority = pursue in 2-4 years, Low Priority = pursue in 3-5 years)

| Park | CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS | PRIORITY | COST ESTIMATE | SOURCE OF COST ESTIMATE | FUNDING OPTIONS |
|--------------|--|----------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Pioneer Park | Entrance sign (2'x5' sandblasted MDO plywood or high density urethane) | High | \$100-\$200 | Identification sign (2'x5' sandblasted MDO plywood) Action Signs, Oregon. www.action-sign.com | Parks budget/donations |
| | Historic Interpretive sign (2'x5' redwood) | High | \$700-\$800 | Identification sign (2'x5' redwood) Martin Bros Sign. Eugene, Oregon 541-554-2857 | Parks budget/donations |
| | Play structure (Kidtown) | Medium | \$20,000 - \$50,000 (est) Long-term Maintenance (Plan including equipment and groundcover): 1hr/lwk fixing equipment/etc., once a year oil wood structure/turn over bark 8 hrs to spray oil, 16 hrs to turn over bark (\$2,125/yr) | Dave Lentz, City of Brookings Park Maintenance | SDC revenues, grants |
| | Play Structure (plastic) | Medium | \$4,000-\$5,000 | Outside Toys Pro http://www.outsidetoyspro.com/ | SDC revenues |
| | Play structure (wood) | Medium | \$5,000-\$7,500 | Outside Toys Pro http://www.outsidetoyspro.com/ | SDC revenues |
| | Sidewalk Improvements | Medium | \$20,000 | City of Brownsville Public Works | General budget/parks budget |
| | Basketball Court (concrete) | High | \$15,000-\$16,000/court | Kerr's | Parks budget |
| | Restroom Improvements | Medium | \$35,000-\$58,000 for new facilities | Biological Mediation Systems, Inc. www.biologicalmediation.com | SDC revenues, grants |

| Park | CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS | PRIORITY | COST ESTIMATE | SOURCE OF COST ESTIMATE | FUNDING OPTIONS |
|---------------------|---|----------|---|--|------------------------------|
| | Trees/vegetation | Low | Varies | Local nurseries | Parks budget / donations |
| Blakely Park | Entrance sign (2'x5' sandblasted MDO plywood) | High | \$100-\$200 | Action Signs, Oregon. www.action-sign.com | Parks budget / donations |
| | | | | | |
| | Historical sign (plaque) | High | Na | | Parks Budget / donations |
| | 30 " Halsey Taylor drinking fountain | Medium | \$300-\$700 each | PlumbingSupply.com | Parks budget, general budget |
| | Concrete bench | Medium | \$500 | The Park Catalogue, Highland Products | Parks budget, general budget |
| | Treated lumber and steel picnic table (8') | Medium | \$200-\$300 | The Park Catalogue, Highland Products | Parks budget, general budget |
| | Table ground anchor and padlock | Medium | \$26 | The Park Catalogue, Highland Products | Parks budget |
| | Fence | Low | \$500 - \$2000 \$4.99 each section, wood, 19 x 36 inch \$2.99 each section vinyl, 10 x 33 inch \$14.99 each, white wood 3 x 8 foot | Jerry's Home Improvement Quote 541-689-7848 | Parks budget |
| | Trees/vegetation | Low | Varies | | Partnerships |
| | 22 gallon oak litter receptacle | High | \$230 | The Park Catalogue, Highland Products | Parks budget |
| | Play structure (wood) | Medium | \$5,000-\$7,500 | Outside Toys Pro http://www.outsidetoyspro.com/ | SDC revenues |

| Park | CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS | PRIORITY | COST ESTIMATE | SOURCE OF COST ESTIMATE | FUNDING OPTIONS |
|------------------|---|----------|--|--|---|
| Kirk Avenue Park | Entrance sign (2'x5' sandblasted MDO plywood) | High | \$100-\$200 | Action Signs, Oregon. www.action-sign.com | Parks Budget |
| | Entrance sign (2'x5' redwood) | High | \$700-\$800 | Martin Bros Sign. Eugene, Oregon 541-554-2857 | Parks Budget, Partnerships, grants, Donations |
| | Table ground anchor and padlock | High | \$26 | The Park Catalogue, Highland Products | Parks budget |
| | Restrooms | Medium | \$1320-one toilet, pit type, uni-sex, 48" x 45" x 86" for the existing jailhouse structure \$30-\$70 – china lavatory wall hung sink 21"x14" – 24"x14" \$700-\$1000-stainless steel lavatory wall hung sink 24"x19" 2 hrs/wk on restroom maintenance (\$1,920/year) | Kerr's Jerry's Home Improvement Quote 541-689-7848 | Parks budget |
| | Lighting | Low | \$3,300-\$6,900 each for site lighting with service, distribution system, poles, bases, standards, lighting fixtures, control switches, and lamps (2-3 lights) | Kerr's | Parks budget |
| | Kiosk | Low | | | Grants |
| | Reconfigure Chain Link Fence | | \$3.11/linear foot over 7' high, \$200 for labor (2 laborer) to remove 40' x 110' fence | Kerr's | Parks budget |
| | Trees/vegetation | Low | varies | | Donations |

Source: CPW

Pioneer Park

Pioneer Park is a 25-acre community park located west of downtown Brownsville between Park Avenue and the River. As Brownsville's largest park, Pioneer Park offers the largest variety of activities, including camping, swimming, sports, and private parties. Pioneer Park also hosts public events throughout the year.

At this time, the City of Brownsville does not wish to modify the management approach at Pioneer Park. However, the Parks Steering Committee and Brownsville residents identified the need for several modest improvements, including signs, restrooms, landscaping, and protection of natural areas.

The Parks Commission should monitor Pioneer Park use and evaluate the present management system at least every five years to determine if modifications are needed/ A modified management approach may include restoration of the river area, consolidating river access, and establishing a wellhead and tree protection area. Opportunities for restoration of the riparian area can include consolidating access to the river by providing a designated pathway to the river, as well as planting willow trees for bank stabilization. Maintaining access should include providing adequate sidewalks that comply with the American Disability Act standards, linking the existing sidewalks to the north restrooms and maintaining flexibility for users to choose camping locations.

The City can protect its wellhead area by considering opportunities for restoration of the riparian area, limiting use near the area and planting native shrubs around the existing fenced in well equipment.

A Tree Protection Area is an area that is maintained for the benefit of the trees health and character of the park. These benefits would include less soil compaction and damage to the roots. As a result, a healthier and more enjoyable tree canopy will exist within the park. CPW recommends the city explore how Oregon's Department of Forestry's Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program can assist with grants that aim to improve the long-term health and care of trees in Pioneer Park.

Trees contribute to the environmental and economic health of a community by providing shade, cleaning the air and water, and increasing property values.²⁰ To manage the existing trees and related vegetation, CPW recommends the city routinely monitor the health of Pioneer Park trees and support a management approach that addresses "tree succession". Signs of unhealthy trees include discoloration of leaves, dead branches and disease such as root rot. Base compaction from vehicle parking can significantly contribute to the above tree abnormalities. The city and county may want to consider establishing a Urban Forestry Program to develop strategies to monitor the change in tree canopy over time and to develop

strategies to manage their trees to maximize benefits while minimizing maintenance costs and liability.²¹

If the Parks Commission documents negative impacts to trees and other natural areas, potential solutions include restricting automobile access to the affected areas as well as restricting camping on the affected areas.

Suggestions for native tree plantings in the Tree Protection Area include: Big Leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*), and flowering dogwood (*Cornus nuttallii*).

Suggestions for native tree plantings along the river include: Red Alder (*Albus rubra*), Black cottonwood (*Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa*) and Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*).

Suggestions for shrubs near the Wellhead Protection Area and near the proposed Azalea Garden Footpath adjacent to Fisher Road include: Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), Nootka rose (*Rosa nutkana*), Red-flowering current (*Ribes sanguineum*), Vine maple (*Acer circinatum*) and Bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

Based on the needs analysis and public input, CPW recommends the following improvements:

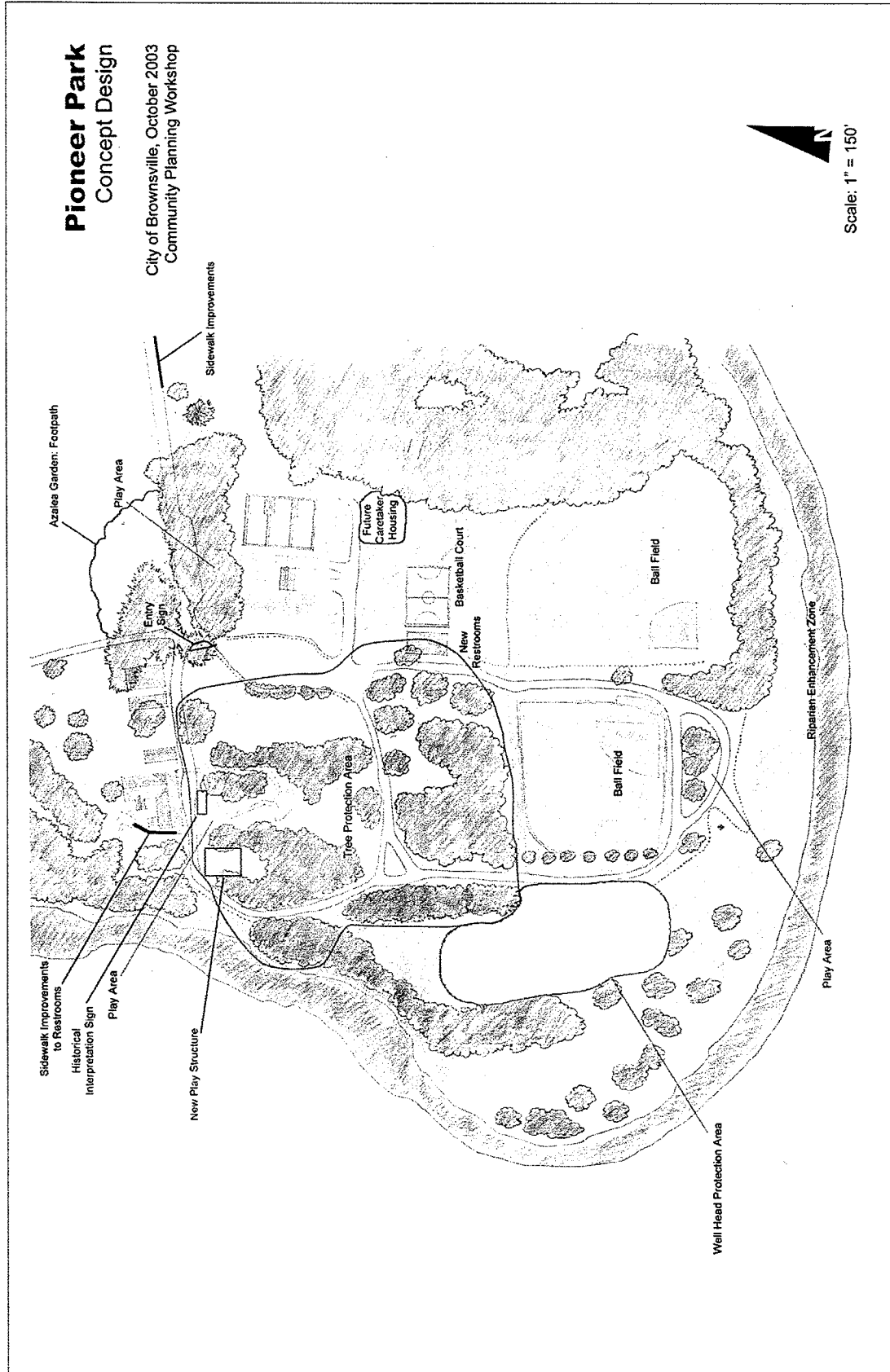
- Entrance sign (2'x5' sandblasted MDO plywood or high density urethane)
- Entrance sign (2'x5' redwood)
- Play structure (Kidtown)
- Play Structure (plastic)
- Play structure (wood)
- Restroom Improvements
- Trees/vegetation

Figure 4-1 shows a conceptual diagram of Pioneer Park and key areas where improvements may be located.

²⁰ Oregon Department of Forestry website accessed December 1, 2003
<http://www.odf.state.or.us/divisions/management/forestry_assistance/ucf/default.asp?id=3020108>

²¹ Broward County's Urban Forest Initiative website accessed December 1, 2003, <<http://www.broward.org/treecanopy>>

Figure 4-1. Pioneer Park Concept Design



Blakely Park

Blakely Park is an 0.15-acre mini-park located on the corner of Washburn Street and Blakely Avenue. It is Brownsville's only park south of Highway 228. Although the park is home to a monument and a large shade tree, no other improvements exist within the park.

Brownville residents and members of the Parks Steering Committee indicated the need for a variety of improvement to accommodate small children and picnickers. There is no need for changes to management of the park at this time.

Based on the needs analysis, CPW recommends a number of modest improvements, including a play structure, picnic tables, a sign, garbage cans, a hedge or fence, and landscaping. Table 4-1 lists each improvement, its cost, and recommended priority/timing.

Figures 4-2 and 4-3 presents a conceptual site plan that illustrates the relative location of each recommended improvement.

Figure 4-2. Blakely Park Conceptual Plan

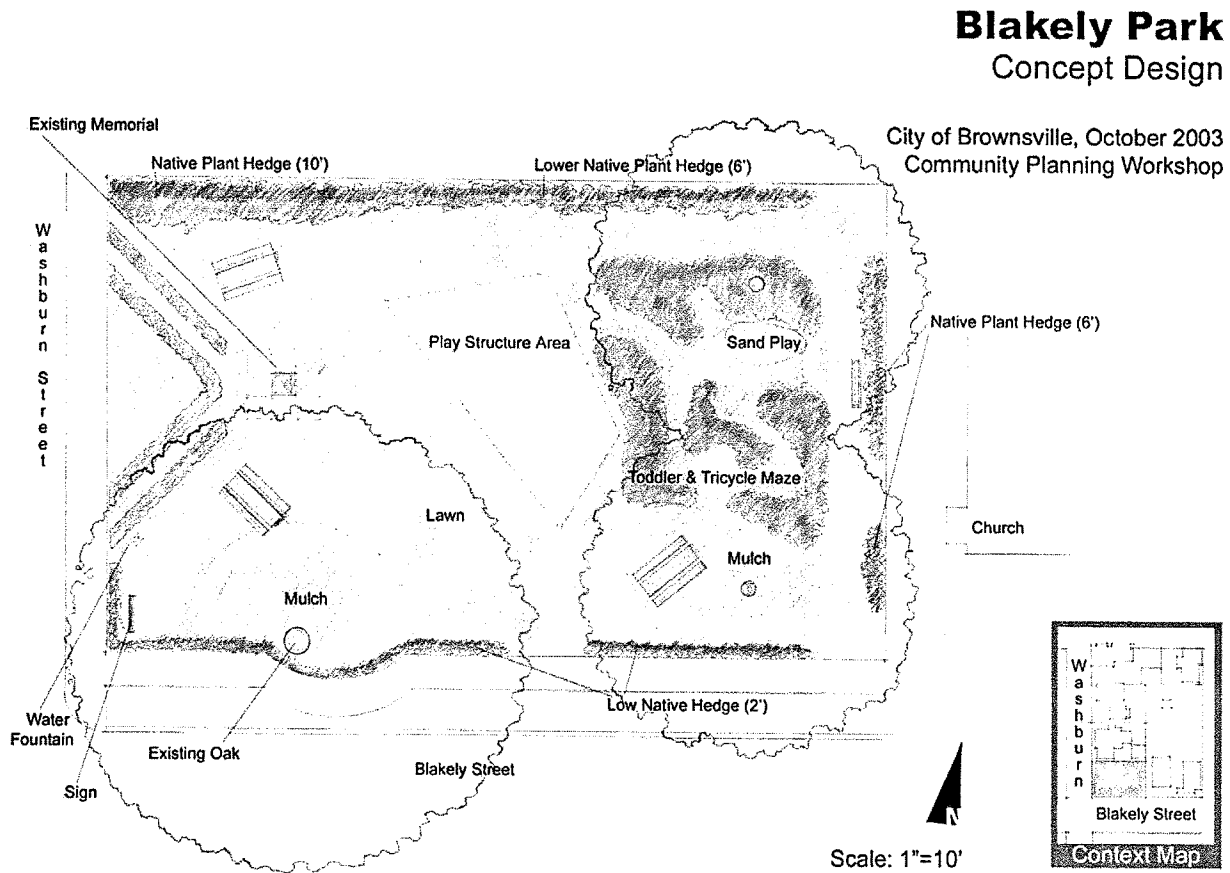
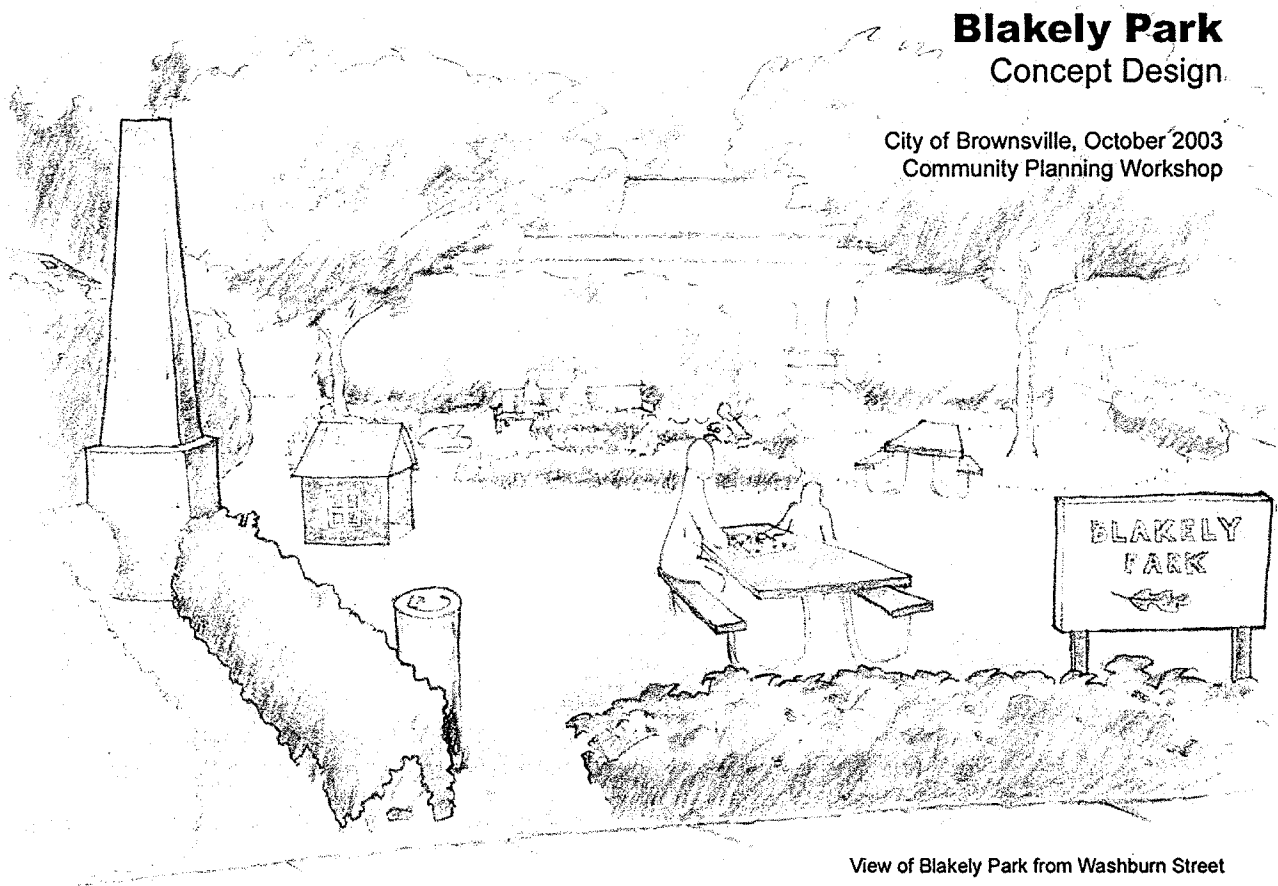


Figure 4-3. Blakely Park Conceptual Plan



Kirk Avenue Park

Kirk Avenue Park is a 2.59-acre neighborhood park located on the corner of Main Street and Kirk Avenue. Brownsville residents use the park for a variety of passive and active activities, including skateboarding, basketball, picnicking, and accessing the river.

Brownsville residents and members of the Parks Steering Committee identified the need to organize the space within the park so that natural areas and recreational areas have distinct designations.

Based on input from Brownsville residents and the needs analysis, CPW recommends that the City of Brownsville make modifications to the current parking arrangement. Figure 4-2 illustrates a recommended design for parking within Kirk Avenue Park that will maximize the number of parking spaces while allowing for recreational activities and natural areas. The City of Brownsville would like to maintain the use of Kirk Avenue Park as overflow parking during citywide events. Therefore, CPW recommends

delineating the parking area with a removable barrier (such as large boulders).

Brownsville residents indicated that Kirk Avenue Park's high visibility is one of the park's strengths. With that in mind, CPW recommends that the City consider implementing a small scale lighting plan, which could include safety lighting in the parking area and near the jailhouse. Historically, the park has been used as a day use park. Therefore, the City should consider the specific purpose of any potential lighting and communicate with surrounding neighbors to develop a sensible lighting plan.

Figures 4-4 and 4-5 illustrate the relative location of other recommended improvements, such as signage, picnic tables, and improvements to the basketball court and restrooms. The space designated for parking would hold approximately 11 vehicles situated perpendicular to Kirk Avenue.

Figure 4-5 refers to the area south of the path that runs along the tailrace as a "wet meadow area," which can also be thought of as a riparian forest area. The City of Brownsville can develop a specific planting plan that will integrate riparian species into the park. Although it is not indicated in Figures 4-4 and 4-5, the southern portion of the park has experienced growth of invasive species along the path to the River. Future sewer improvements beneath the path will provide the City an opportunity to remediate these invasive species, as well as other necessary improvements to the path.

Table 4-1 summarizes the costs and timing of these improvements.

Figure 4-4. Kirk Avenue Park Conceptual Plan

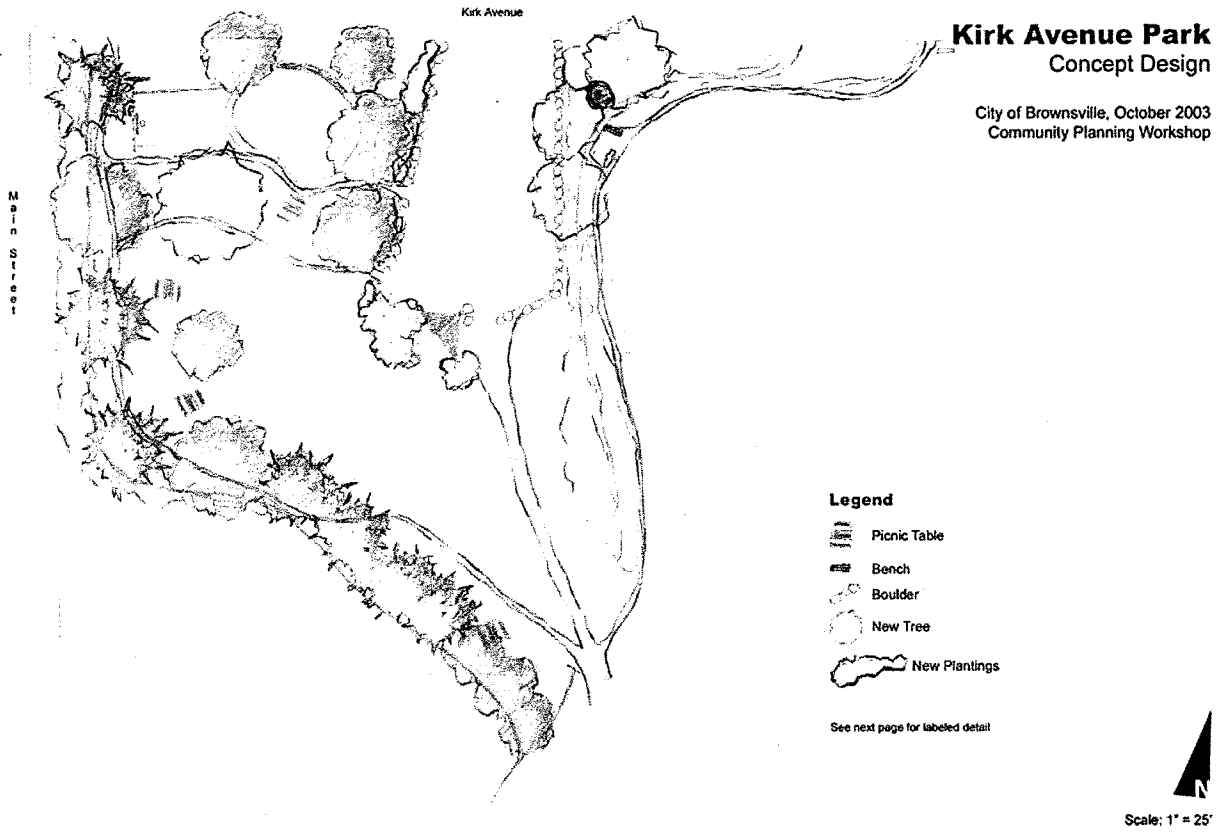


Figure 4-5. Kirk Avenue Park Conceptual Design

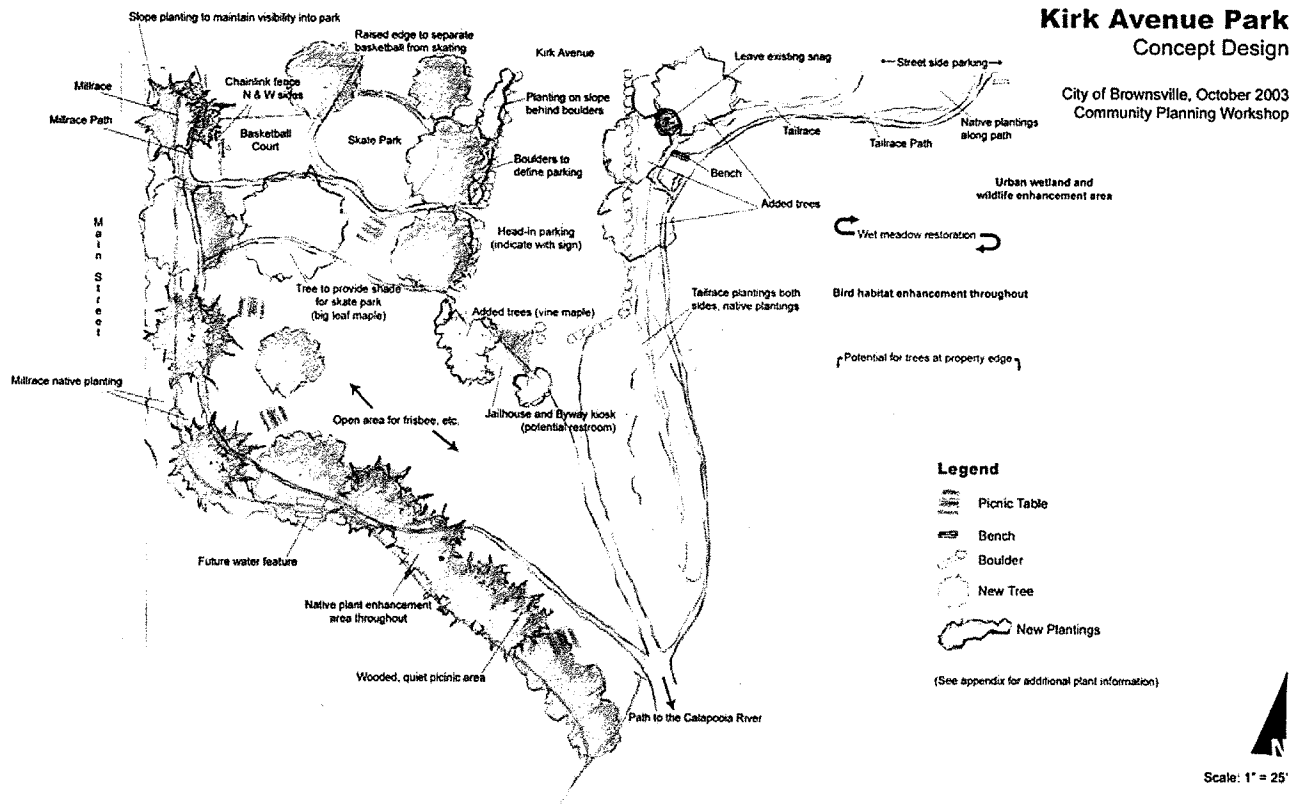
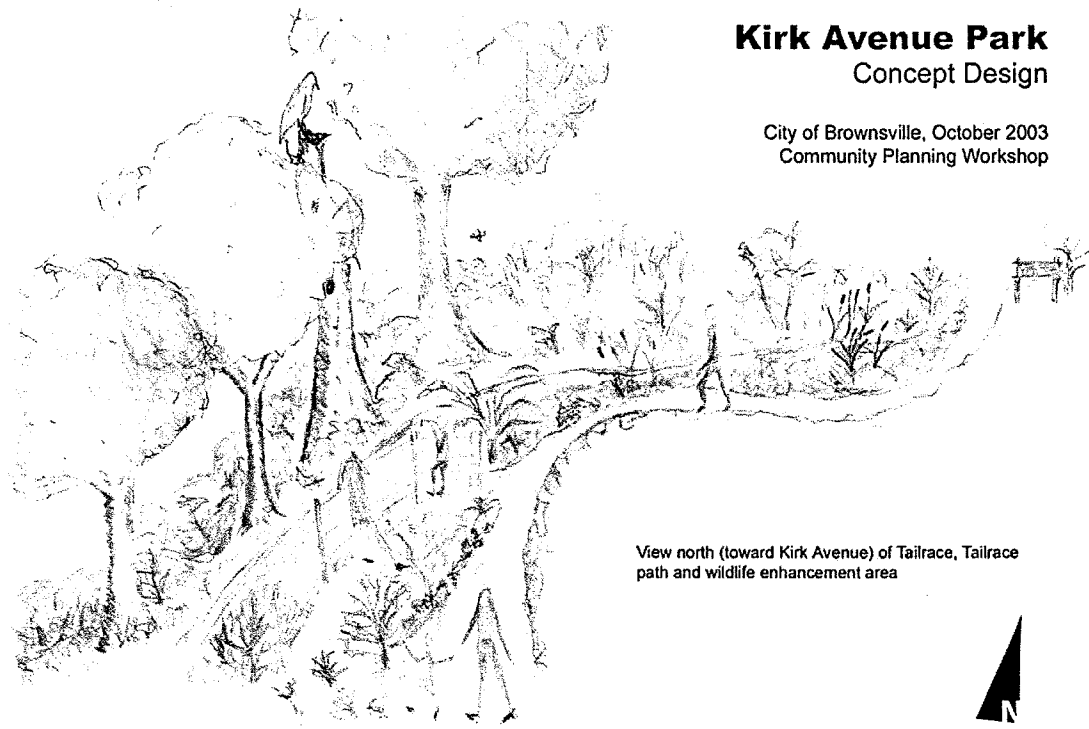
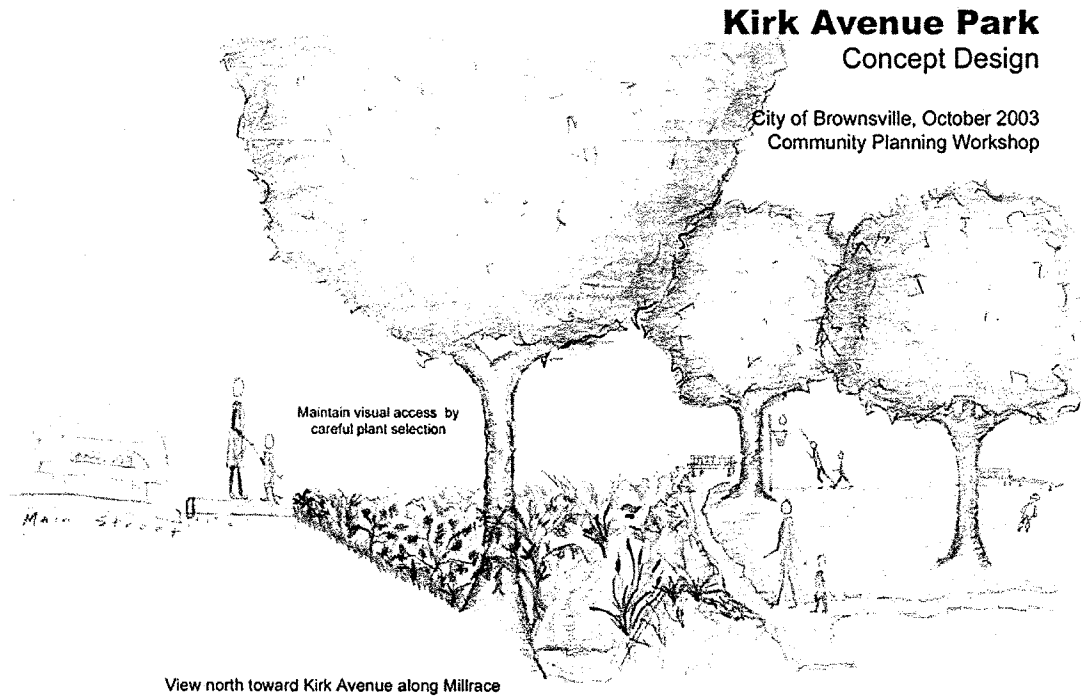


Figure 4-6. Kirk Avenue Park Conceptual Design



Washburn Property

The Washburn Property is a 1.42-acre site located at the north end of Washburn Street. The site was undeveloped at the time this plan was prepared.

The site may have historical significance to Brownsville. Prior to early settlement of the Willamette Valley, the point where the main north-south trail crossed the Calapooia River, was important to the movement of the Native Americans and later trappers in the area.²² In the mid-1800's, a ferry and bridge crossing near the Washburn site played a leading role in the establishment of Brownsville, being on the mainline of the Territorial Road. During this time, the Brownsville community was known as Kirk's Ferry.²³ The exact location of Kirk's Ferry was in question at the time this plan was prepared.

CPW conducted a community workshop to gather input from city residents regarding the Washburn property and its potential to serve as a neighborhood park. The main issues related to the Washburn area include safety, access, trespass, vandalism, restoration of the natural area, flooding potential, and the cost to implement projects. Opportunities include creating a pedestrian or trail linkage on site, providing river access, the potential for tourist attraction, preservation of a historical site and a safer route for children to access Pioneer Park.

This site was identified as a potential trail linkage in the City's visioning document. Preliminary research suggests that a bridge spanning the Calapooia River will cost between \$250,000 and \$500,000.⁵ This is a significant investment for the City and no funding source had been identified at the time this plan was completed.

The property had no formal public access at the time this plan was adopted. The location and adjacent land uses limit the ability to develop the Washburn Property as a City park. Moreover, the configuration of the site presents significant challenges to its development.

The Brownsville Parks Master Plan proposes no improvements on the Washburn Property. The Brownsville Park Commission should take following steps to clarify the potential of the Washburn Property:

- Conduct a topographic survey to determine the property boundaries and current size. Portions of the property may have been claimed by erosion.
- Identify the exact location of Kirk's Ferry. If Kirk's Ferry is found to have crossed the Calapooia at another location, the property has no identified historical significance.

⁵ www.continentalbridge.com

- Assess the significance of habitat on the site. The property includes significant river frontage. The river frontage should be assessed for its habitat potential. If the potential is judged to be high, then the City should explore options for restoration.
- Conduct a Park Commission tour of the site. This tour should evaluate the property's potential for development (if any) and confirm safety and other issues raised during public meetings.

Based on information gathered in the three steps described above, the Park Commission should make a recommendation to the Brownsville City Council regarding future options for the site. At a minimum, the Commission should consider the following options:

1. Retain the site in public ownership as open space. The Commission may want to exercise this option if the site is determined to have historical significance, or it has high habitat values.
2. Conduct restoration activities on the site and then sell the site with a deed restriction that limits future development of the site. This option would be appropriate if the site is determined to have high habitat value; particularly in a restored state. The site is in the floodway, so no development can occur. However, the deed restriction could be structured in a manner that requires vegetation management.
3. Sell the site. This option would be appropriate if the Commission determines the site has no historical significance and little ecological significance. If the City decides to sell the site, it should sell it at fair market value as determined by a professional appraisal.

In summary, the Brownsville Parks Master Plan does not identify any improvements for the Washburn Property—including public access. If the City determines it is in its best interest to retain the property, it should manage it as open space with a focus on habitat restoration. This management objective should be complemented by limiting public access to the site.

Parkland Acquisition

The City of Brownsville is currently well served by parks. There are approximately 20 acres per 1,000 residents in Brownsville. In order to maintain this level of service over the next 20 years, Brownsville will need to acquire new parkland.

This section describes parkland needs for Brownsville based on the City's coordinated population projections for 2020. It then discusses

⁶ www.continentalbridge.com

cost estimates and strategies for both short-term and long-term land acquisition.

Brownsville is well served with a large community park and in general needs more mini-parks, neighborhood parks, and view parks. Map 4-2 shows the general location of potential parkland for the City of Brownsville.

One of the goals of the Parks Master Plan is to acquire additional park and open space land. The Plan advocates the City pursue acquisition of the following types of parks:

- 2-3 new neighborhood parks
- 2-5 pocket parks
- 1 view site
- Open space (as appropriate)

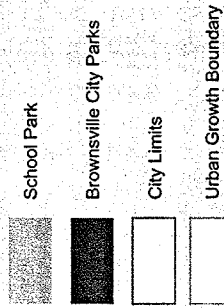
The City needs between six and nine acres of neighborhood parkland and one and three acres of mini-parkland. The City could benefit from having additional neighborhood and mini-parks located in the north, northeast and south areas of Brownsville (Map 4-2). An opportunity to develop a public view site may exist, as the city owns approximately two acres on the butte property. Portions of the existing Public Works site and School Property in South Brownsville may also serve as potential park sites. The City may also want to acquire the adjoining property to the north and south of Pioneer Park.

MAP 4-2 Potential Park Sites in Brownsville

Parks Master Plan City of Brownsville

Oregon

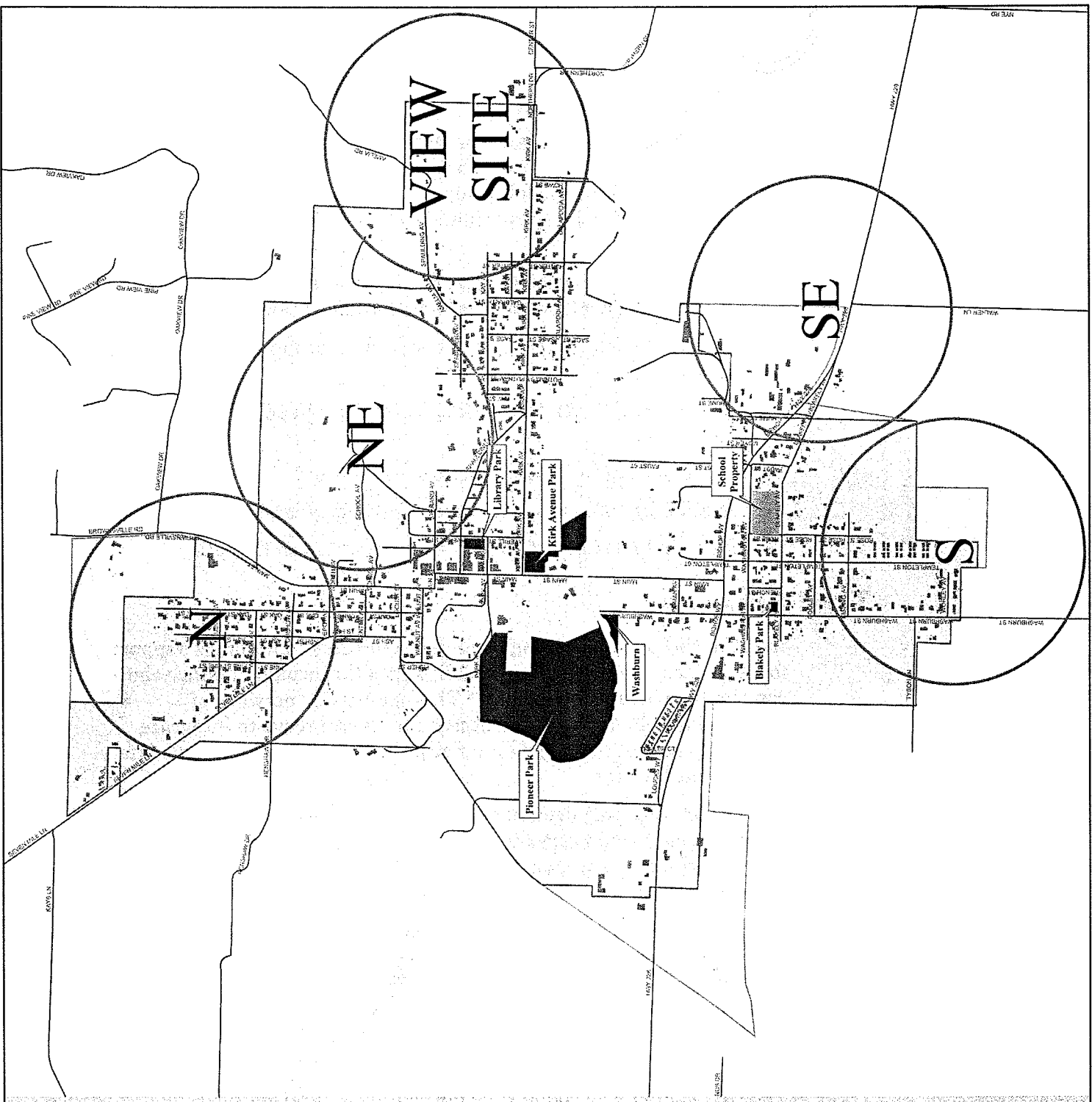
- 1) NE
- 2) VIEW SITE
- 3) S
- 4) SE
- 5) N



Data Sources:
Oregon Department of Transportation, County Maps, Information design file
http://ocdot.state.or.us/infocenter/infocenter.asp?infocenter=map
OneMap (http://www.onemap.org)
http://www.gis.state.or.us/
City of Brownsville



InfoGraphics Lab



Parkland Acquisition Criteria

This section provides guidance on how to determine the suitability of potential parkland, when using both short and long-term strategies. The City shall assess the following criteria when they decide to acquire parkland or accept parkland in lieu of system development charges:

- The topography, geology, access to, parcel size, and location of land in the development available for dedication;
- Potential adverse/beneficial effects on environmentally sensitive areas;
- Compatibility with the Parks Master Plan in effect at the time of dedication;
- Vehicular and pedestrian access to the site;
- Availability of previously acquired property; and
- Parkland need based on priorities identified in this plan.

Trail Linkages

Input in the City's visioning document indicates community support for the concept of pedestrian trail linkages that would enhance the connection within Brownsville.²⁶ This open-space network of community public spaces and access routes can serve to integrate different areas of town and enhance pedestrian circulation and safety throughout the city.

The ODDA visioning document identified two potential river crossings that would serve to link downtown to South Brownsville. The City should conduct a preliminary feasibility analysis of the river crossings—with a focus on the cost of pedestrian bridges.

The Main Street Bridge offers other possibilities for enhanced pedestrian linkages. According to City staff, the bridge will likely be replaced within the planning horizon (2025) of the Parks Master Plan. The City should participate in the design phase of the bridge replacement. This plan recommends that the City work to ensure a design that is more pedestrian friendly than the existing bridge.

The City should also spend time developing a more detailed conceptual map of a community-wide pedestrian system that recognizes financial constraints. There is some potential to link this process with the TGM grant that will evaluate design alternatives for Highway 228 in 2004.

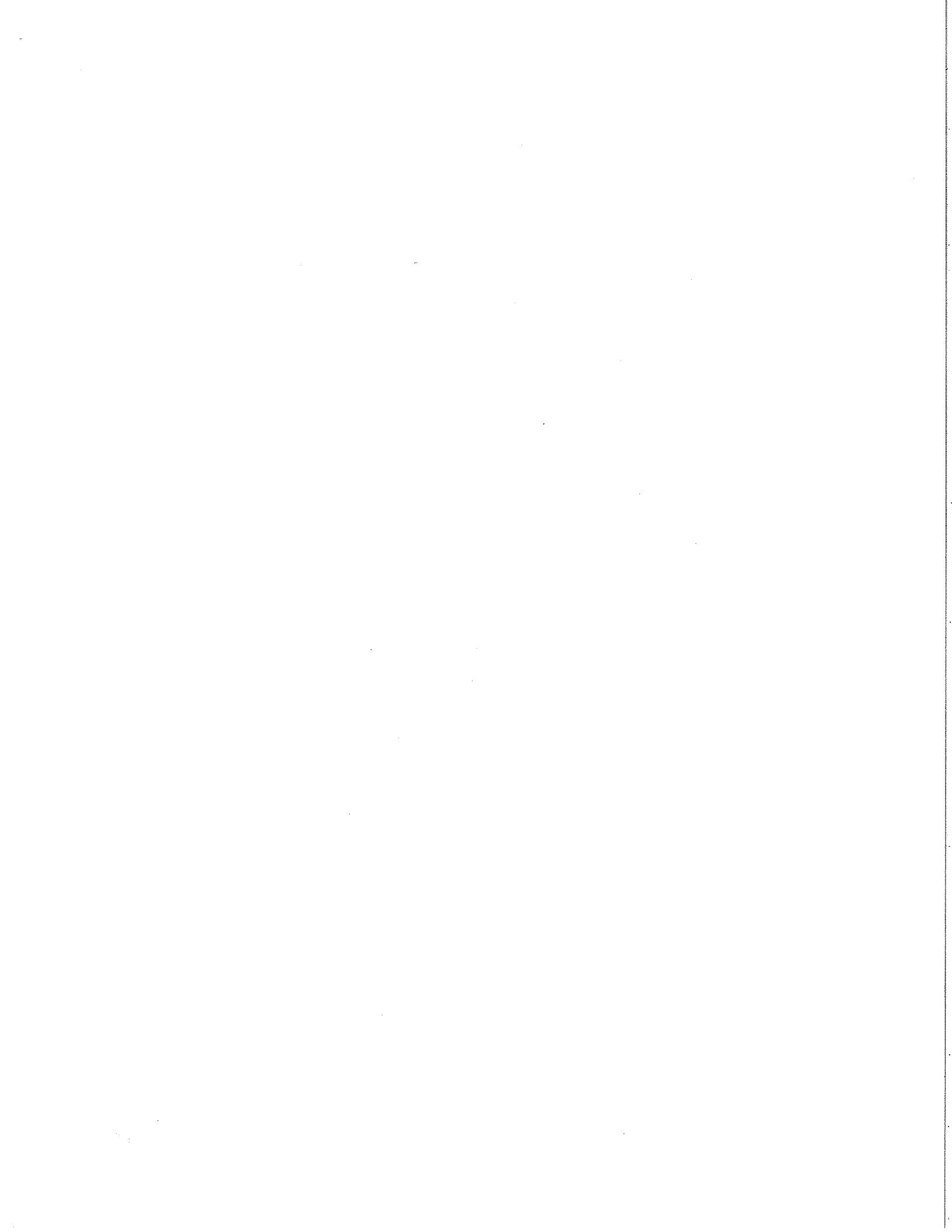
²² Brownsville Historic Review Board document prepared October 23,2003

²³ Ibid

²⁴ Brownsville Historic Review Board document prepared October 23,2003

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ Oregon Downtown Development Association's (ODDA) Resource Team
Report for Brownsville, Oregon, 2003



Chapter 5

Funding Strategies

The previous chapter described park projects and acquisition priorities for Brownsville's park system. Brownsville needs to pursue new and ongoing funding sources to fulfill identified capital improvement and maintenance goals. A funding strategy is also necessary to meet the City's parkland acquisition goals. Brownsville should strive to have a diversified funding and support strategy that is comprised of short and long-term sources.

This chapter presents recommended funding and support strategies. This includes an evaluation of public (federal, state, and local) and private funding sources. Non-monetary support in the form of partnerships and volunteerism as well as monetary support are presented.

Key questions the City should ask as it pursues a funding and support strategy are:

- How much funding is needed to maintain existing park and recreation facilities?
- How much will be needed to maintain future park and recreation facilities?
- What stable, long-term funding sources can be created for ongoing maintenance, land acquisition and capital improvement needs?
- What long-term partnerships can be pursued?
- Where should future parks be located that maximize the use of available funding?

Figure 5-1 summarizes the funding and support strategies. Contact information for each category is provided in Appendix A.

Figure 5-1. Funding and Support Sources

| 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

Each funding strategy has differing implementation time requirements. Staff can immediately act upon short-term strategies. However, before action is taken, staff should consider the time and effort necessary to proceed with each strategy. Long-term strategies will likely take five or more years to implement. In some cases, a funding strategy can be pursued immediately, and provide ongoing support. These sources have the advantage of providing support or funding over an extended period of time. In other cases, a funding strategy will provide support for a limited period. Some sources, such as grants last for only specified periods and require renewal.

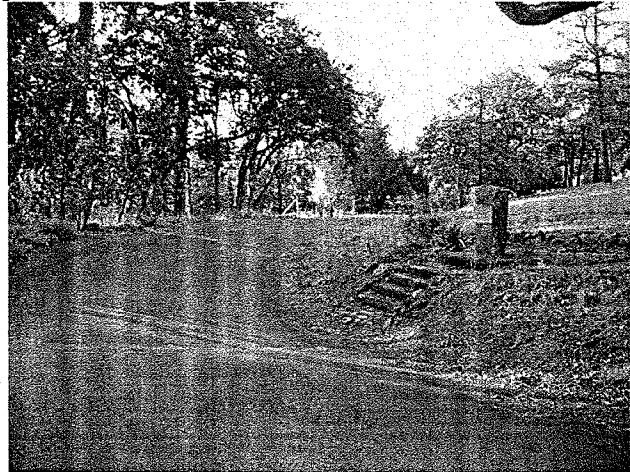
Recommended Funding Strategies

Partnerships

Partnerships can play an important role in the acquisition of new park and recreation facilities and in providing one-time or ongoing maintenance support. Public and private for-profit and non-profit organizations may be willing to partner with the City to fund outright, or work with the City to acquire additional parks and recreation facilities and services.

Certain organizations may be interested in improving or maintaining an existing facility through a sponsorship. This method is a good way to build cooperation among public and private partners.

The specific partnering process used depends on who is involved. Potential partners include State agencies such as the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (especially for acquisition of lands with habitat potential), local organizations, land trusts, and national organizations such as the Nature Conservancy.



Statue representing partnership at Pioneer Park

Although partnerships may not yield monetary benefits, there are other important benefits including:

- Efficiencies involving the removal of service duplication or use of complementary assets to deliver services
- Enhanced stability because future service is more probable when multiple parties make a commitment to it
- Organizational legitimacy of one or more partners
- The ability to pursue projects that the City may not have the resources to complete
- Identification of opportunities through partner organizations

The key problem with partnerships is that there is no guarantee of success. Developing projects with partners requires considerable time and energy.

Donations

Two key motives for donation are philanthropy and tax incentives. These benefits should be emphasized when collaborating with landowners. There are many strategies for courting donations including building public relations, creating a healthy community,

boosting employee morale, and existing tax structures that have built in incentives for donating land. It is important to note that for some potential donors, tax considerations are the primary reason for contemplating a major land donation. Soliciting donations, like partnering, takes time and effort on the part of City staff, but can be mutually rewarding. Generally, donations are not stable sources of land or finances.

Pursuing donations through partnerships may provide advantages to all parties involved. For example, working a land transaction through a non-profit organization may provide tax benefits for the donor, can provide flexibility to the City, and can reap financial benefits for the non-profit. The City may want to create a parks foundation which would be place to keep donation funds and spend them in a restricted manner.

Grants

Grants are a good strategy to supplement park acquisition and development funds. Many grant organizations throughout the country fund park acquisition and improvements, although few provide funds for ongoing maintenance activities. Two factors that make grants challenging are (1) most grant organizations have lengthy processes that will require staff time and effort, and (2) grants usually have very specific guidelines and only fund projects that specifically address their overall goals. Moreover, grants should not be considered a long-term stable funding source.

Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grants administered by the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, for example, require that the proposed project be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives contained in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Because grants are usually highly competitive, staff time should be allocated carefully to apply for grants that are a good fit.

Because many grant agencies look favorably upon collaborative projects, a potential benefit of grant proposals is that they can foster partnerships between agencies, organizations, and the City. Appendix A outlines organizations' goals and provides contacts for state, regional, and federal grant opportunities.

Land Trusts

Land trusts use many tools to help landowners protect their land's natural or historic qualities. Land in land trusts may provide open space for aesthetic, visual or recreation purposes. Tools used by land trusts include:

- 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

A landowner can donate, sell, or exchange part of their land rights to a land trust, in cooperation with the City. There is a tax incentive to donate the land as a charitable gift, although it is the responsibility of the landowner to pursue the tax deduction.

Collaborating with land trusts and landowners takes considerable time and effort. Steps included in the process are:

- Determining the public benefit of a landowner's property for preservation. This step identifies the natural or historic values of the land
- Working with the landowner to develop goals and objectives for the land
- Gathering information including, title and deed information, maps, photographs, natural resources information, structural features, and land management and mining history
- Conducting an environmental assessment for evidence of hazardous materials or other contaminants
- Determining whether a new survey is needed to establish easement boundaries
- Designing the terms of the easement

Contact information for land trusts that operate in the area is in Appendix A.

Bonds

To issue long-term debt instruments (bonds), a municipality obtains legal authorization from either the voters or its legislative body to borrow money from a qualified lender. Usually the lender is an established financial institution, such as a bank, an investment service that may purchase bonds as part of its mutual fund portfolio, or sometimes, an insurance company.

Issuing debt is justified based on several factors:

- Borrowing distributes costs and payments for a project or improvement to those who will benefit from it over its useful life, rather than requiring today's taxpayers or ratepayers to pay for future use.
- During times of inflation, debt allows future repayment of borrowed money in cheaper dollars.
- Borrowing can improve a municipality's liquidity to purchase needed equipment for project construction and improvements. Debt issuance also does not exhaust current cash-on-hand, allowing such general fund revenues to be used for operating expenses.²⁷

The longer the maturity term, the higher the interest rate required to borrow for that period of time because borrowers have to compensate investors for locking up their resources for a longer time.

Oregon law requires that all Unlimited-Tax General Obligation (ULTGO) bonds be authorized by a vote of the people. The *Oregon Bond Manual – 4th Edition*²⁸, recommends municipalities hire a bond counsel prior to the bond election to ensure that all requirements are met for a legal bond election.

The Bond Manual also notes that approval of an ULTGO bond requires considerable effort. Some examples of ways to gain public support include attitude polls, forming a bond issue citizens' committee, holding public meetings, leaflets, and door-to-door canvassing. Note that under Oregon law, no public resources may be used to advocate a pro or con position regarding a ballot measure. Accordingly, any printed materials must be purely explanatory in nature.

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. People should not be paying for a major park or recreational facility after it is no longer in use.²⁹ Furthermore, Brownsville should be very clear about the specific actions to be carried out with the bond revenue. Working with the community is an important aspect of passing a bond.

The key benefit of bonds for park acquisition is that the City can generate a substantial amount of capital. This capital can then be used to purchase parkland to accommodate needs far into the future.

Levies

A local option levy for capital improvements provides for a separate property tax levy outside the City's permanent rate limit. This levy may be used to fund a capital project or a group of projects over a specified period of time, up to 10 years. Revenues from these levies may be used to secure bonds for projects or to complete one or more projects on a "pay as you go" basis.

The advantages of levies include reduced interest, increased flexibility, enhanced debt capacity, improved borrowing terms, and increased fiscal responsibility. The major disadvantages of this approach are insufficient funding, intergenerational inequity (if, for example, long-term facilities are paid for disproportionately by current users), inconsistency of funding requirements, and use of accumulated reserves. There are also legal requirements including property tax limitations imposed by Article XI, Section 11 of the Oregon Constitution.³⁰

Local option levies require voter approval and are subject to the double majority requirement. In addition, increases in the assessed valuation of each property are limited to three percent per year

(Section 11(1)(b)), with special exemptions for property that is improved, rezoned, subdivided, or ceases to qualify for exemption. In combination with the fixed permanent rate, the limitation on the growth in assessed value will limit the growth of taxes on individual properties to an average of 3% per year. Due to these limitations, local option levies are not generally considered to be a good alternative to the use of general obligation bonds for large projects or groups of projects.

Property tax levies can be used for facility operations and maintenance, land acquisition, and capital improvements.

Dedications and Systems Development Charges

A system development charge or SDC is a one-time fee imposed on new development to equitably cover the cost of facility capacity needed to serve new customers. The purpose of the system development charge is to impose a portion of the costs of capital improvements for water, wastewater drainage, streets, flood control, and parks upon the developments and redevelopments that create the need for or increase the demand on the specific capital improvement for which the SDC is being enacted.³¹

An SDC can consist of an “improvement fee” (for costs associated with capital improvements to be constructed) or a “reimbursement fee” (for costs associated with capital improvements already constructed or under construction).³² The methodology used to establish the reimbursement or improvement fee are included in state statute guidelines (ORS 223.297-223.314). Since every community is different, each City establishes how they will apply the system development charge. Examples of how some local Oregon communities levy park SDC’s include the following:

- Non-residential and residential facilities (single family, multi-family, manufactured homes)
- Commercial development
- Industrial development

To decide if park SDC’s are appropriate for Brownsville, the City should evaluate how much growth it is experiencing, whether the capacity of existing infrastructure can accommodate new development and if the community has a reliable plan for future improvements needed as a result of growth.³³ The rates associated with the specific park SDC and cost of improvements should be proportional to the new customers or users of the park facility

The City of Brownsville already has an adopted Systems Development Charge Ordinance (Ordinance No. 91-0-477). This establishes the authority to impose a portion of the cost of capital improvement upon those developments that create a need for or increase the demands on capital improvements. Currently, a Systems Development Charge (SDC) in Brownsville can be charged for water,

wastewater, and sewer improvement and are set by council resolution.³⁴

No specific formula exists to establish a park SDC yet. The Parks Master Plan recommends the City establish a parks SDC. The City should start by exploring the broad guidelines outlined in ORS 223.297-314 and refer to recent statutory changes in Senate Bill 939.
35

SDCs should be periodically reviewed to assure that they are actually meeting the costs of development. The methodology for assessing SDCs in the future should be reviewed to assure that fees will be sufficient to meet the projects specified in the Capital Improvement Program (Chapter 4) and the goal of providing 10 acres per 1,000 residents as the city grows over the next 20-years.

Dedications

Another option that the City should investigate to meet future parkland need is mandatory dedications. Local ordinance can specify that during development, a portion of land shall be dedicated for park and recreation purposes. Dedications can be done in a variety of ways. Dedication of land can be formulated based on (1) a percentage of the total development, (2) the number of proposed lots or units, or (3) the number of people per lot or per unit in a proposed development. Because the third option is based on the number of people who would potentially access the new parkland, it is the method most likely to provide enough recreation space.

Fee in-lieu of dedication is a mechanism cities can use when dedication is not feasible due to the size, type, or location of a new development. Some communities write a minimum development size into their ordinance.

An acquisition plan and a local parks standard (number of acres/1,000 residents) are key components of a mandatory dedication policy. The acquisition plan should include a list of criteria for land parcel acceptance or rejection (See Chapter 4). The standard helps establish a legal nexus between mandatory dedication and the expected public welfare; however, measures should be taken to assure that the dedication policy is not too onerous for the developer. Mandatory dedications, if adopted, will only be one of the multiple strategies employed by the City to develop new parkland.

²⁷ *Oregon Bond Manual – 4th Edition*, 1998, Oregon State Treasury and Municipal Debt Advisory Commission.

²⁸ *Oregon Bond Manual- 4th Edition*, 1998, Oregon State Treasury and Municipal Debt Advisory Commission

²⁹ Crompton, John L. 1999. *Financing and Acquiring Park and Recreation Resources*. Champaign, IL, Human Kinetics.

³⁰ Section 11 was created via House Joint Resolution 85, 1997 and adopted by the people of Oregon, May 20, 1997 via Measure 50

³¹ League of Oregon Cities website accessed on November 3, 2003
<<http://www.orcities.org/citycenter/citytopicsinfo.cfm?id=70&topic=System%20Development%20Charges>>

³² League of Oregon Cities website accessed on November 3, 2003
<<http://www.orcities.org/citycenter/citytopicsinfo.cfm?id=70&topic=System%20Development%20Charges>>

³³ Ibid

³⁴ Personal communication with Brownsville staff, November 4, 2003

³⁵ Personal communication with League of Oregon Cities personnel, November 4, 2003

Appendix A

Funding Information

Appendix A provides brief descriptions and contacts for the funding strategies presented in Chapter 5.

Partnerships

Federal

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 Brownsville to provide additional parks and recreation facilities and services. This method may be a good way to build cooperation among public and private partners in the Brownsville area. A list of potential partners besides police and fire departments, utility providers, and the school district include:

- The Garden Club of Brownsville
- Brownsville's Historic Review Board
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts
- Kiwanis Club
- Lions Club
- The Audubon Society
- 4-H

Local businesses may also be willing to partner with the city to provide park services. The Chamber of Commerce would be a good place to begin to form such partnerships.

Contact:

Brownsville Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 278, Brownsville OR 97327
Tel: (541) 466-5311
FAX: (541) 466-5312
Email: president@brownsvilleoregon.com

Not-for-Profit Organizations

American Farmland Trust

(For agricultural lands only)

Contact:

American Farmland Trust
1200 18th 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. 14th 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.

- To nurture children, strengthen families and foster the self-sufficiency of Oregonians (40-50% of OCF Grants);
- To enhance the educational experience of Oregonians (15-20% of OCF grants);
- To increase cultural opportunities for Oregonians (15-20% of OCF grants);
- 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: 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
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

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

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.³⁶ 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/transpor.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/transpor.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 15th 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/transpor.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 Lands's Wetlands Program staff implement 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:

Senior Grants Project Coordinator
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 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
Website: www.sdao.com

Land Trusts

There are local and national land trusts that may be interested in helping to protect land in the Brownsville area.

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

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
Website: 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

Northwest Land Conservation Trust

Contact:

Northwest Land Conservation Trust
P O Box 18302
Salem, Oregon 97305-8302
Email: 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
Website: www.greenbeltlandtrust.org
