



KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2026

TIME: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

LOCATION: This is a hybrid meeting. It will be held in-person at the Eagle's Nest Community Center (1195 Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton) and on Zoom.

Zoom link will be posted on the [home page](#) of Kitsap County Parks website on the day of the meeting. The link is the bottom right-hand side under the heading: **Upcoming Parks Advisory Board Meeting**.

Pre-Meeting: Virtual meeting format, information, and instructions

- I. Welcome & Introductions**
- II. Adoption of the February 18, 2026 meeting minutes**
- III. Public Comment (3-minute limit/person)**

Public comments are welcome at this time. If you have questions or are seeking information from the Parks Department, please contact us at parks@kitsap.gov so that your inquiry may be directed to the appropriate Parks Department staff for a response.
- IV. Special Presentations/Reports**
 - a. New Board Member Introduction: Tom Coleman *Chair, Board*
- V. Parks Report**
 - a. Director's Report *Alex Wisniewski, Alex Hardy, Irene Weber, Carmen Smith, Bre Ganne*
- VI. Sub-Committee Meetings (since last PAB meeting)**
 - a. None
- VII. District Representative Reports**
- VIII. Public Comment (3-minute limit/person)**
- IX. Adjournment**



KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

2026 Sub Committee Assignments

Sub Committee	Type	Focus Area	PAB Members	Parks Staff <i>(may vary by topic)</i>
Finance & Budget	Standing (per by-laws)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operating Budget Funding Opportunities 	Larry Walker Jessica Rice Linda Berry-Maraist	Parks Director
Capital Projects & Parks	Standing (per by-laws)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital Projects Program M&O Program 	Linda Berry-Maraist Lisa Hurt Dawn Dockter Tom Coleman	Parks Planner M&O Supervisor
Community Outreach & Visitor Services	Ad Hoc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events and Rentals Program Marketing Volunteer Program Youth Engagement 	Jessica Rice Jen Skalbeck Tom Coleman	Admin & Events Supervisor Natural Resources Supervisor
Planning & Property	Ad Hoc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning Program Natural Resources Program Land Acquisition & Divestiture Park Code 	Larry Walker Linda Berry-Maraist Lisa Hurt Jen Skalbeck	Parks Planner Natural Resources Supervisor

2026 Agenda Items and Sub-Committee Meetings (updated monthly as needed)

Month	Task or Agenda Item	Board or Sub-Committee Assignment
January	Board Chair and Vice Chair Elections	Board (completed in November 2025)
	Sub-Committee Assignments	Board
	2026 Department Goals	Board
February	Events: Year in Review	Board
March	Rolling Hills Golf Course RFP	Board
	PAB Annual Workplan	Board
April	CIP Evaluation Tool Review	Capital Projects & Parks
May	CIP Plan Development	Capital Projects & Parks
	Draft CIP Development	Capital Projects & Parks
June	2027 Budget	Finance & Budget
July	Draft CIP Development	Board
	2027 Budget	Board
August		
September		
October	Nominating Sub-Committee (appointed by Chair)	Chair
November		
December	<i>No Meeting, written report only</i>	
	2026 Accomplishments	

KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

February 18, 2025

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Parks Advisory Board Chair, Dawn Dockter. Meeting guidelines of the hybrid Parks Advisory Board were read.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 21, 2025

Lisa had a correction for the minutes: Correction of spelling for April Ryan's name.

Linda sent email with corrections and clarifications to add to Public Comments and District Reports. Larry read them out loud.

Larry moved to accept minutes as corrected.

Seconded by Jessica Rice.

Discussion: Lisa asked for further discussion on Linda's emailed corrections, asking for clarification on whose Public Comment the corrections are applied to. Larry and Jen responded.

Vote to approve Minutes as corrected.

Motion is carried, Minutes Approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Casey Patton, with Kitsap Aircraft Radio Control Society: Young Eagle program is progressing really well, 7 kids in final stages of completing their airplanes, hoping to bring some to show at March meeting
- Katherine Ander, Lead Volunteer for Coulter Creek Heritage Park: Have a shared amenity (Big Pond Trail), partly Park property, partly McCormick Communities property. Met with McCormick Communities reps to go over shared responsibilities and plans to maintain conditions of trails. Some concerns over trail access were expressed from the Communities.
- Mark Schorn: Received "You Are Here" signs for PGFHP and will be installing them in the next week.
- Beverly Parsons: Two concerns regarding PGFHP- Mountain bike community growing in dominance outside of designated ride park; inadequate attention being given to the protection of nature and critical areas like wetlands and streams. On 2/6 a Ground Truthing Walk was organized with Commissioner Rolfes and Dawn Dockter. Walk focused on Ranger Corridor and made observation that rogue trails and confusing signage may lead people to believe the area is part of EMBA's ride park. Beverly restated KEC Working Group's call for closure of Ranger Corridor, and to put more focus on balancing needs of environment with accessibility to human visitors.
- Joe Lubischer: Following up on his public comment at the last meeting about necessity for complete assessments before park planning is done. Elaborated on that and gave examples of studies that found a number of wetlands that are not on any parks maps, but that are impacted by trails bisecting them that are causing erosion. Stated that those trails should be closed and

rehabilitation efforts started. For future planning, a full set of physical and ecological assessments should be done beforehand to take those factors into consideration.

- Alan Marshall: active in Save Banner Forest efforts. Thank you to Alex Hardy and Aaron Bartleson for Lead Stewardship training, and thank you to PAB for all the work they've done. Question- What kind of public forums do PAB members (particularly in South Kitsap) create to gather input from public and gain awareness of public desires for parks? Request- to exchange contact information with Sout Kitsap members to share ideas and express interests for the parks.
- Alex Wisniewski (Parks Director) gave directions to where on the website members of the public can find contact information/email for PAB, as well as to Parks Department.
- Dawn Dockter (PAB): Mention that she went on 2/6 Ground Truthing Walk as an individual, not as a representative as of PAB. Reminded that PAB does not meet outside of official meetings, unless for specific sub-committee meetings with parks. All meetings to discuss business are open to the public to attend.
- Lynn Schorn: Co-chair of Our Forest Fund, which is looking to purchase remaining trees in PGFHP. Comment on restoration efforts, wildlife study & wetlands concerns – park is a changing environment due to ongoing clearcuts. Encourages people to donate through the Great Give to save the remaining 1,008 acres of trees in the park. It's the 2nd year of submitting Legislative Budget Request, this year will be asking for \$750K, with Our Forest Fund added that will bring it up to \$1 mil, and then Rayonier can be contacted about how many trees can be purchased.
- Mark Schorn: Clarification on previous comment – Mycelium Trail previously mentioned is not in the Ranger Corridor, and is not a bike only trail. It is multi-use. Regarding the decommissioning of trails- more approval from Parks needed to continue but there's plenty of willing volunteers ready to work on them.
- Larry Walker (PAB): Asked for bill number for budget bill previously mentioned for Our Forest Fund. Lynn will connect and share that.
- Alan Marshall: Ask for clarification on previous answer from Dawn regarding PAB not meeting with members of public outside of official meetings.
- Larry Walker (PAB): Clarified that PAB members are private citizens, so they do not set up formal scheduled meetings with the public, but are willing to talk if met out in at a Park.
- Alan Marshall: Asked for further clarification on what is the best way for members of public to have 2-way dialogue with local PAB members instead of being limited to Public Comment Period in official meetings
- Dawn Dockter (PAB). encouraged all comments and dialogue communicated through email and through Parks contact.

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS –

Alex Hardy, Marketing & Events Supervisor with Parks Department – 2025 Events Year in Review

- Events Program- 2023 was first full year of using RecDesk software for booking and retaining Event Data
- 5 Categories of Event Types: Athletic Fields, Community Buildings, Fairgrounds & Events Center, Picnic Shelters, and Special Park Events

- Athletic Field Rentals: Increase in hourly usage of many fields due to new user groups and accurate field usage reporting
- Community Buildings: Decrease in Eagles Nest usage for 2025 due to more accurate reporting and not counting Park usage as an event day. Small decrease in Island Lake usage due to loss of Dance School that was previously using it multiple days a week. Long Lake usage stays consistent.
 - Wide variety of event types, with largest number of events being Meetings, followed closely by Weddings
 - In 2025 started sending post-rental surveys to track satisfaction, likelihood to return, online accessibility, amenities used & desired (with most requested amenity being Internet)
- Fairgrounds & Event Center: Consistent usage, being booked almost every weekend of the year.
 - Increase in Van Zee usage from wrestling team practices, Cat and Dog Barns used to support 4H programs and their participants. Sheep Barn used by many user groups including Roller Derby.
 - Biggest User Group is Practices (4H, Roller Derby), followed by Expos
- Picnic Shelters: Silverdale Waterfront Park most popular and has most amenities. Supports other Park Events like Whaling Days.
 - Surveys started in 2025 to track online accessibility and overall customer satisfaction.
- Special Park Events: Parks with most usage: Gordon Park Parking Lot, due to Kitsap Transit using it for driver training; Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park, with small decrease due to adjacent airfield that events would use for parking and tents; Salsbury Point Park, with large increase due to new contract with Tender Leaves Outdoor Preschool.
 - Event Types- Parking is largest event type, followed by Camps
- Total Number of Event Days: Increase in each year, with goal being to get over 4,000 in 2026
- Event Revenue: 80% of revenue goes to the 9508 Annual Event Revenue Account, and 20% goes to the 1501 Special Revenue Account, which is what funds facility maintenance, new equipment, annual field ops.
- Questions:
 - From Lisa Hurt: asked for clarification on why revenue from Use Charges shown in presentation did not increase when costs have recently been increased. Alex H. explained that new policies and fees have been passed, but will not be implemented until 2026, so now impacts will be shown in 2025's data, but will be shown at end of this year for 2026 data.

V. Parks Report

A couple things to highlight from the written report:

- Temporary staffing shortages- Admin support services operating slower due to shortages
 - Dee Tuttle no longer with Parks, took a promotional position with Public Works)
 - Hoping to have that position filled within 3 weeks to the next month
 - Budget Analyst on maternity leave, out for 3 months, but will be back in time for Budget Development for the department

- At the middle mark for interviews for the new Wildlife Ecologist position
- Planning: Currently have RFP posted for Park Impact Fee Study (last time a Park Impact Study was done in 2003)
- Community Engagement Meetings in past few weeks: visited Kingston Parks Trails & Open Space sub-Committee to discuss and ask questions about engaging with Kingston Community about desired improvements they want to see at Kola Kola Park.
- Public Meeting with Commissioner Walters at Rolling Hills Golf Course: shared with public about upcoming RFP for golf course operations; over 100 members of the community in attendance.
 - Goals: to keep the golf course as a golf course, and to keep it affordable
 - Process will last a year and a half
 - More details to come in March PAB meeting
- Questions: None

VI. Sub-Committee Reports

None

VII. District Representative Reports

North

- Lisa and Marion had a walk & talk with Aaron Bartleson and Jason Boddy today (2/18) to walk trails at PGFHP
 - Discussed Springs Trail- brought up fixes to keep bikes/walkers/horses from going through the spring, and think about funding to get a bridge built
 - Discussed decommissioning trails
 - Discussed getting Ewok Walking Trail back open
- Linda Berry Maraist- Wondering about background of recent KEC meeting for the walk at PGFHP with Dawn and Commissioner Rolfes and what context it was in
 - Dawn: was invited but reminded them that her attendance would not be on the behalf of PAB. Had written comments to give Parks and distribute to those on the walk. They had concerns over Ranger Corridor and Springs Trail
 - Lisa: KEC organized the walk and invited the Commissioner due to their concerns over conditions of park and wetlands

South-

- Jessica Rice: New barriers put up at SKRP in grassy area; members of public commented that they were very happy about that because it helps protect the grass area

VIII. Public Comment

- None

IX. Adjournment

Larry Walker motioned to adjourn the meeting. Linda Berry-Maraist Seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

Motioned carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Parks Advisory Board Meeting Attendance

PAB MEMBERS	STAFF	PUBLIC (IN PERSON)
Lisa Hurt - North	Alex Wisniewski – Director	
Linda Berry- Maraist - North	Alex Hardy – Admin and Event Supervisor	
Larry Walker - South	Chuck Cuzzetto – PR & Communications Coordinator	
Dawn Dockter - South		
Jessic Rice - South		
Jen Skalbeck - North		



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Alex Wisniewski, Director

Director's Report

Date: 3/18/2026
To: Parks Advisory Board
From: Alex Wisniewski, Parks Director

Administration Program

South Kitsap Parks Update

On February 25, 2026 the Parks department held a public meeting at the Community Building at Long Lake Park to share information and provide updates related to park projects and happenings in south Kitsap County. The discussion topics included:

- Department Overview
- Road Construction & Park Impacts
- Forest Stewardship & Restoration
- Events & Facility Rentals
- Athletic Fields
- Vandalism & Thefts
- Park Planning

Approximately 40 community members attended the meeting, which concluded with an open Q&A opportunity with Parks staff and Commissioner Root.

Office Support Specialist Hire

The department recently lost an Office Support Specialist to a career advancing opportunity in Public Works/Capital Facilities Division. That position for Parks focuses on processing contracts and public disclosure requests for the department, as well as providing other support needs to all program areas. Following interviews in February, the hiring offer was accepted, and the position has been filled since March 9, 2026.

Communications

In 2025, Parks communications staff created a “fun” calendar to promote events in Kitsap County Parks on social media in honor of National Park and Recreation Month. Due to the overwhelmingly positive response, the team has decided to continue creating and sharing the calendars each month. The April calendar is attached. Please see *Attachment A*.

- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-4, Objective 4.1 (Action 4.1.3)*

Volunteer Program

Lead Steward Training

Staff held a Lead Steward training on February 12, 2026 with 13 attendees from across the County. The training included a briefing about the Parks department and operations, how the Volunteer program and Lead Stewards fit into the department, and expectations and requirements. Lead Stewards help facilitate volunteer work parties in the parks, including events that are open to the public and others that are steward-only. See *Attachment B* for photos.

Volunteer Activity Log: February 2026

Date	Event Type	Location	Group/Partner	Activity Description
2/2/2026	Steward	Buck Lake Park – Native Plant Garden	—	Maintenance and upkeep of the Native Plant Garden including plant care and site cleanup.
2/3/2026	Public	Coulter Creek Heritage Park	—	Big Pond Loop trail maintenance and Scotch broom removal.
2/4/2026	Steward	Banner Forest Heritage Park	—	Trail corridor brushing and vegetation clearing.
2/4/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.
2/4/2026	Steward	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.
2/6/2026	Steward	Illahee Forest Preserve	USS Helena	Trail brushing and corridor clearing.
2/7/2026	Steward	Silverdale Dog Park	—	General Park maintenance and grounds upkeep.
2/7/2026	Public	Chico Salmon Park	—	Removal of invasive vegetation within park habitat areas.
2/7/2026	Steward	Wildcat Lake	Washington Youth Academy	General Park cleanup and litter removal.
2/11/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.
2/12/2026	Steward	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.
2/12/2026	Steward	Illahee Forest Preserve	USS Ronald Reagan	Trail brushing and vegetation management.
2/14/2026	Steward	Kitsap County Fairgrounds	Washington Youth Academy	Site support and cleanup assistance with WYA participants.
2/15/2026	Steward	Disc Golf Course	—	General Park and course maintenance.
2/16/2026	Steward	Disc Golf Course	—	General Park and course maintenance.
2/16/2026	Steward	Buck Lake Native Plant Garden	Native Plant Garden	Ongoing Native Plant Garden maintenance and care.
2/18/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.



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Alex Wisniewski, Director

2/19/2026	Steward	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.
2/19/2026	Steward	Illahee Forest Preserve	USS Ronald Reagan	Trail brushing and vegetation management.
2/21/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.
2/21/2026	Public	Coulter Creek Heritage Park	—	Trail maintenance and Scotch broom removal.
2/21/2026	Steward	Nick's Lagoon	—	Trail brushing and vegetation clearing.
2/21/2026	Steward	Lobe Fields	Washington Youth Academy	Athletic field cleanup and grounds maintenance.
2/25/2026	Public	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.
2/26/2026	Steward	Newberry Hill Heritage Park	—	Scotch broom removal and storm debris cleanup.
2/27/2026	Steward	Wynn Jones Park	—	Eagle's Nest Trail – hazardous tree removal and trail clearing.
2/27/2026	Steward	Illahee Forest Preserve	Washington Youth Academy	Trail work and general park cleanup.
2/28/2026	Steward	Norwegian Point Park	Friends of Norwegian Point	Blackberry removal and general park cleanup.
2/28/2026	Steward	Lobe Fields	Washington Youth Academy	Athletic field cleanup and grounds maintenance.

March Public Events

Date	Access	Location	Event	Activity Description
3/21/2026	Public	Banner Forest Heritage Park	Celebration of International Day of Forests	Public work party at Banner Forest Heritage Park.
3/28/2026	Public	North Kitsap Heritage Park	Discover Kitsap Park	Native Plants and Park Ecology, presented by the Kitsap Native Plant Group.

- Supports PROS: Goal PR-2, Objectives, 2.2 (Action 2.2.2), Goal PR-4, Objective 4.2 (Actions 4.2.1, 4.2.2), Objective 4.4 (Actions 4.4.1, 4.4.2, 4.4.3, 4.4.5, 4.4.6, 4.4.7), Goal 6.3, Objective 6.3 (Action 6.3.2)

Events Program

Events By the Numbers and Events Calendar (see Attachment B for photos)

- Outward-facing events calendar: [Kitsap County Parks Event Calendar \(kitsapgov.com\)](https://www.kitsapgov.com)
- Online reservations and payment portal: [Kitsap County Parks > Home \(recdesk.com\)](https://www.kitsapgov.com)

April Public Events		
Event	Date	Location
Greater Hansville Community Center Easter Egg Hunt	April 4	Buck Lake Park
Coastal Conservation Association Fundraiser Banquet	April 11	Presidents Hall @Fairgrounds and Event Center
Just Between Friends	April 15-18	Pavilion @ Fairgrounds and Event Center
Craft Mania Show	April 17-19	Presidents Hall @Fairgrounds and Event Center
5th Annual Tax Day Run – Run From the IRS	April 25	Fairgrounds and Event Center
Young Life Daddy Daughter Dance	April 25	Pavilion Fairgrounds and Event Center
Kitsap Fair & Stampede – Boots, Buckles, and Bling	April 25	Presidents Hall @Fairgrounds and Event Center

Olympic College Partnership

The Kitsap County Parks Department is partnering with the Olympic College Baseball program to designate Lobe Field 1 as the team’s home field. As part of this partnership, Olympic College Baseball will assist with field maintenance and utilize the field between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., a period when the field typically sees lower public use. With the current season already underway, Parks staff are working with Olympic College to develop a longer-term agreement that will formalize this partnership and support ongoing field maintenance and use.

Maintenance & Operations Program

Team Structure Update

Staff began cross-training and rotating crews in spring 2025 and have now transitioned into permanent teams aligned with their skills, training, and experience. Previously organized by commissioner district, the department now operates with three dedicated teams.

- The **Green Team** manages daily and routine maintenance across parks, including custodial work, landscaping, and upkeep of athletic fields, community centers, and shelters.
- The **Orange Team** focuses on projects and repairs within parks and Parks facilities.
- The **Red Team** responds to emergent needs, such as SeeClickFix requests or incidents of vandalism and is lead on trail maintenance and projects.

This new structure has improved staff efficiency and effectiveness as we continue enhancing service delivery to the public.



Playground Safety Training

One staff member attended training for Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) certification through Washington Recreation and Parks Association (WRPA). There are now four CPSI-trained staff.

Cartegraph System Preparation

Staff participated in workshops and onboarding sessions with OpenGov to prepare for implementation of the Cartegraph enterprise asset management and work order system. The build-out of the system and staff training is on-going.

Park and Facility Maintenance

Staff have shifted their efforts toward preparing parks and facilities for the busy visitation season, which begins on April 1. Work this month focused on restoring site amenities, completing indoor maintenance projects, and addressing essential winter cleanup needs across the system. Highlights include:

- **Fairgrounds & Events Center**
 - **Facility Security Repairs:** Multiple doors and locks at the Eagle's Nest and Parks Office were repaired.
 - **Roof Leak Mitigation:** Roof leaks at the Pavilion and President's Hall were identified and sealed.
 - **Wildcat Lake Park**
 - **Cleanup:** Washington Youth Academy partnered with staff to clear winter storm debris.
 - **Playground Repair:** The suspension bridge at the Wildcat Lake Park playground was repaired.
 - **Point No Point Park Beach Access:** An improved entrance to the East Beach was completed to reduce impacts on beach vegetation and prevent dune erosion in sensitive areas. See *Attachment B* for photos.
 - **Island Lake Park Cleaning:** The building exterior and sidewalks at Island Lake Community Center were pressure washed.
 - **Salsbury Point Park Shelter Lighting Upgrade:** Lighting at the Salsbury Picnic Shelter was upgraded to LED bulbs.
 - **Keyport Saltwater Park Moss Removal:** Walkways at Keyport Saltwater Park and Wildcat Lake were cleared of moss to improve traction.
 - **Anderson Point Park Drainage Work:** Staff inspected drainage, cleaned drains and culverts, cut back blackberries in the swale, and rebuilt check dams along the steep downhill access to the beachfront.
 - **Long Lake Park Window Repairs:** A broken front-door window and an interior window damaged during a recent break-in at Long Lake Community Center were repaired.
- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-6, Objective 6.1 (Action 6.1.2, 6.1.3), Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.2)*

Ballfield Maintenance

- **Lobe Fields**
 - Staff hosted Washington Youth Academy platoons at the Lobe Athletic Complex. Cadets weeded the infields and warning track and prepared the field for spring use.
 - A new safety netting pole was installed to replace an older pole that was failing. See *Attachment B* for photos.
- **Chafer Beetle Treatment:** Grubs at Bloomquist Field were treated. Pre- and post-treatment counts showed a 30% reduction in grub activity.
- **Bloomquist Infield Renovation:** Renovation of the Field 1 infield is complete. Staff installed bases, a pitching rubber, and batter's boxes, and added multiple pallets of Turface, an infield conditioner that improves moisture management and playability during light rain. The Field 2 infield will be finished when a new batch of infield mix has been processed; Parks has already placed an order for this and is on the wait-list.
- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-6, Objective 6.1 (Action 6.1.2, 6.1.3), Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.2)*

Trail Maintenance

- **South Kitsap Regional Park:** Staff and volunteers worked together to lay nearly 100 yards of ¼" minus crushed rock on the perimeter trail at SKRP improving accessibility for pedestrians and wheels.
- **Tree Clearing:** Trees were addressed at Port Gamble Heritage Park and Newberry Hill Heritage Park
- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-6, Objectives 6.3 (Action 6.3.1, 6.3.2), Objective 6.4 (Action 6.4.1)*

Unplanned Maintenance: Vandalism and HEART Response

Throughout February, staff responded to multiple incidents of vandalism, illegal dumping, and encampment cleanup across the park system:

- **Coulter Creek Heritage Park:** The RC airfield gate was vandalized from the interior, suggesting unauthorized vehicles were attempting to exit the site. This gate has been vandalized three times in the past year. Staff are seeking design options and quotes for a more secure gate replacement, as the current gate has reached the end of its lifecycle.
- **Homeless Encampment Cleanups:** Staff completed cleanups at Erlands Point, Illahee Preserve Heritage Park, and Veterans Memorial Park.
- **Fairgrounds Break-In:** The maintenance shop at the Lobe Fields was broken into, and several items were stolen. The garage door was the access point where the break-in occurred. It was already scheduled for replacement due to recurring issues and was replaced the following week with a more secure model.
- **Island Lake Park Restroom Damage:** The men's restroom was broken into, damaging the locking mechanism. Staff secured the door with a temporary hasp until a locksmith can complete repairs.

Natural Resources Program

Wildlife Ecologist Program Coordinator Hiring

The wildlife ecologist program coordinator position was posted on December 31st and closed January 19th. Over 200 applications were received for this position. Two rounds of interviews were conducted in late February/early March.



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Alex Wisniewski, Director

Education and Outreach

In February Natural Resource (NR) staff participated in or led several education and outreach events:

- STEM Like Me Career Presentation: Ecology careers educational event for 6th graders at Fairview Middle School
 - Loyal Heights Elementary School Career Day: Forest management presentation to 3-5th graders.
 - South Kitsap Parks Update: Parks department staff provided updates on various parks issues including forest stewardship and restoration.
 - Listen Up Collaborative Field Tour: Parks NR staff lead a tour of 20 conservation land managers from DNR Forest Resiliency, DNR Natural Areas, Great Peninsula Conservancy, Jefferson Land Trust, Bainbridge Island Land Trust, Bainbridge Island Metro Parks and Recreation, Suquamish Tribe, Point No Point Treaty Council, Pierce County Parks, and Northwest Natural Resources Group to Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park to share our recent forest restoration thinning project. Many of these land managers are performing similar work on their landscapes and want to learn from county staff about our methodologies and share ideas as well as lessons learned.
 - Bandit Theater Mad Science: This event is a combination of education and improv comedy where scientists are invited to give a short presentation which then inspires the improv comedy performance. Kitsap Parks and Great Peninsula Conservancy presented together on the topic of forest restoration and acoustic monitoring.
 - WSU Extension Stream Stewards Training: Parks NR staff provided the Forest ecology component of the stream stewards volunteer training. This included a presentation on the ecology and management of Kitsap County forests followed by a field tour at Illahee Preserve.
 - Great Peninsula Conservancy Newberry Woods and The Divide Community Forest Advisory Teams: Parks NR staff participate on two advisory teams for community forests managed by GPC. Staff provide neighboring landowner perspectives and land management expertise to these groups.
- *Supports PROS plan goals PR-2, Objectives, 2.1, 2.2 (Actions 2.2.2, 2.2.3)*

Planning Program

Planning

Gordon Park Master Plan

County staff and the consultant team held a project kick off meeting in February. Early project work includes site inventory and assessment and community engagement. Staff and the consultant design team will participate in a 'barriers' workshop, led by Empowering Access, an accessibility subconsultant, to build an understanding of how people with different disabilities may experience the park and identify barriers to help inform an accessible design. Staff and the consultant team will also host the project's first public open house on March

28th from 3-5pm in the President's Hall at the Fairgrounds to share information and collect community input (see Attachment C). Parks will keep the Park Projects webpage updated with important information on this project.

- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-1, Objective 1.3 (Action 1.3.2), Objective 3.2 (Action 3.2.1)*

Park Impact Fee Study

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on February 10th and closed on March 10th. Five submissions were received and staff are under review. Staff will bring this topic back to BoCC once more information is known.

- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-1, Objective 1.3 (Action 1.3.2), Objective 1.6 (Action 1.6.1)*

Kola Kola Park Community Engagement

Parks is engaging with the Kingston community around future use(s) for Kola Kola Park to help inform capital planning. A community survey was released on March 2nd and will remain open through March 31st. Parks staff will also be connecting with a variety of stakeholder groups in March. Data analysis will occur in April.

- *Supports PROS Plan Goal PR-1, PR-4, Objective 4.1*

Rolling Hills Golf Course

Kitsap County Parks intends to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for operations of Rolling Hills Golf Course. Parks staff and Commissioner Walters held a community meeting on February 17th to share information and answer questions about the RFP process and engage the golf community with flip chart activities. The meeting was well attended, with approximately 120 people attending. The presentation and meeting summary are posted to the Parks Project webpage.

- *Supports PROS Plan Goal PR-4, PR-6, Objective 4-1, Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.1)*

Capital Projects

Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park – North Gateway Trailhead

Public Works issued substantial completion on this project in February. Carver Drive, the entrance road, has not yet been transferred to Public Works. This is anticipated to be complete by March, at which point the parking lot can open to the public. Parks will plan a ribbon cutting to celebrate the Phase 1 Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park projects, which includes North Gateway parking lot, Stottlemeyer parking lot, the mountain bike ride park, and the forest restoration.

- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-4, Objective 4.1 (Action 4.1.2)*

Eagle's Nest Deck Replacement

Construction faced a slowdown due to the closure of the asphalt plant but is nearing completion.

- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-5, Objective 5.3 (Action 5.3.2), Goal PR-6, Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.1)*

Roof Replacement Projects

- **Village Greens Golf Course.** Public Works – Capital Facilities Division is reviewing proposals submitted to replace the roof on the clubhouse building. Contracting is anticipated to occur in April, with construction to follow (anticipated one month construction period).
- **Point No Point Lighthouse.** Due to the Department of Homeland Security funding issues in the federal government, the US Coast Guard is currently only prioritizing life-



Parks Department

1195 NW Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton, WA 98311
Mailing address: 614 Division, MS-1, Port Orchard, WA 98366
Phone (360) 337-5350 • Fax (360) 337-5385
www.kitsapgov.com/parks

Alex Wisniewski, Director

safety projects, and the roof replacement on the Point No Point Lighthouse does not meet this standard. As such, the roof replacement project is on hold until federal funding for the US Coast Guard has been restored.

- *Supports PROS: Goal PR-6, Objective 6.5 (Action 6.5.1)*

Attachments:

- A. Events Calendar
- B. Photos
- C. Gordon Park Flyer

2026 April

FIND YOUR PARK: WWW.KITSAP.GOV/PARKS



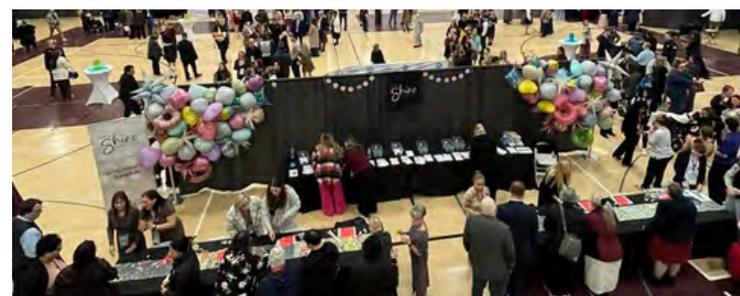
KitsapCounty
Parks

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PUBLIC EVENTS ● HOLIDAYS & ACTIVITY IDEAS 	APRIL IS: EARTH MONTH		1 APRIL FOOL'S DAY <u>PICNIC SHELTERS OPEN FOR RESERVATIONS</u>	2	3 GOOD FRIDAY	4 <u>GHCC EASTER EGG HUNT</u> 10:30am Buck Lake Park
5 EASTER SUNDAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK	6	7 WORLD HEALTH DAY	8	9 SPRING SCAVENGER HUNT Create a scavenger hunt for your kids and see what plants and wildlife they can find	10 NATIONAL SIBLING DAY The great outdoors is better with company, so take your sibling on a scenic bike ride or hike	11 <u>CCA FUNDRAISER BANQUET</u> 5pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds
12 NBA REGULAR SEASON STARTS	13 INTERNATIONAL PLANT APPRECIATION DAY	14	15 <u>JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS SALE</u> 10am-8pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds	16 <u>JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS SALE</u> 10am-8pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds	17 <u>JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS SALE</u> 10am-8pm <u>CRAFT MANIA SHOW</u> 10am-6pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds	18 <u>JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS SALE</u> 10am-8pm <u>CRAFT MANIA SHOW</u> 10am-6pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds
19 <u>CRAFT MANIA SHOW</u> 10am-6pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds	20 <u>STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS START</u>	21 APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS Take a rainy walk in the park to see what flowers are starting to grow	22 EARTH DAY	23 NATIONAL PICNIC DAY Rent one of our awesome picnic shelters and enjoy the park, rain or shine	24 DROP A LINE Check out the fishing pier at Buck Lake or Long Lake, and see what you can catch	25 <u>DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE</u> 5pm-8pm Kitsap County Fairgrounds
26 <u>CELEBRATE TRAILS DAY</u>	27	28 TIDEPOOL TUESDAY Visit Salsbury Point at low tide and say hi to all the critters in the tidepools	29	30		JOIN US FOR A DISCOVER KITSAP WALK! On April 25 10am-12pm At Illahee Preserve Heritage Park





2026 EVENTS





Listen Up Collaborative Group Tour



Bandit Theatre Mad Science

Lobe Fields

- Installation of new safety netting pole





Point No Point Park
East beach dune fencing and entrance

We Want to Hear From You!

Your input will directly shape the priorities for Gordon Park and design outcomes. Scan the QR code to visit our website, sign up for project updates, and learn about upcoming meetings, surveys, and other ways to participate!

Website Link: <http://kcowa.us/ParksProjects>

Direct link to email list sign up: <http://kcowa.us/SubscribeParks>



Kitsap County
Parks presents:

Gordon Park Master Plan

*We see Gordon Park as a living landscape — **co-created with you** to bring people together, celebrate inclusion, and strengthen the ecological and recreational fabric of Kitsap County for generations to come.*



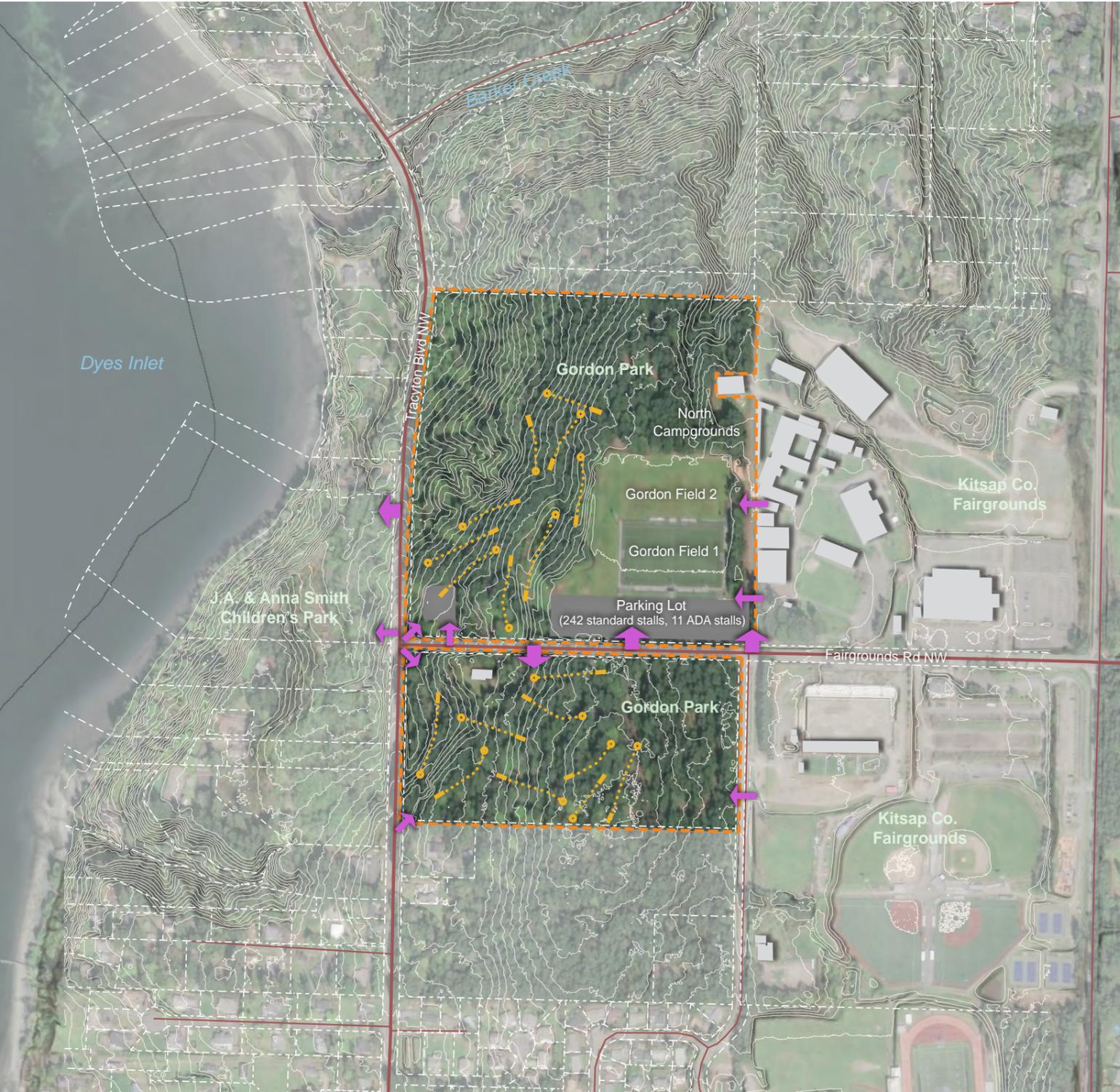
Powered by:
Environmental Science Associates
in partnership with Empowering Access,
CAST Architecture, LPD Engineering,
Heffron Transportation, and
Contract Land Services



About Gordon Park

Gordon Park is a 55-acre, County-owned park in East Bremerton, just west of the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. The park is mostly wooded and currently includes:

- Two soccer fields
- An 18-hole disc golf course
- Walking trails
- Parking
- Camping areas



What is a Master Plan?

A park master plan is a long-term roadmap that looks at what exists today and what could be improved in the future. It helps the County:

- Understand community needs
- Identify desired amenities
- Protect natural resources
- Plan improvements in stages so the park can grow and change over time

Overview

Kitsap County is developing a parks master plan to identify improvements to Gordon Park to meet the needs and vision of the Kitsap County community. Potential improvements include:

- Restrooms
- Picnic areas
- Disc golf course
- Gordon soccer field improvements
- Parking and park access during Fairgrounds closures
- Improved connections to the adjacent Fairgrounds & Events Center and Anna Smith Children's Park
- Replacing the aging playground at the Fairgrounds with a new all-abilities, inclusive playground at Gordon Park
- Additional ideas from community members like you!

Schedule

The Gordon Park Master Plan will be developed throughout 2026, community input, research, and design exploration to shape a shared vision for the park.

