KIRKLAND 2044 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



Parks, Recreation and **Open Space (PROS) Plan**

ABOUT THE PROS PLAN

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan is a six-year guide and strategic plan for managing and enhancing park and recreation services. It provides a vision for Kirkland's park and recreation system and establishes a path forward for providing high quality, community-driven parks, trails, open spaces and recreational opportunities.

Kirkland enjoys and manages 53 public parks and 4 indoor recreational facilities!

DRIVEN BY COMMUNITY INPUT

The PROS Plan was guided by extensive community feedback. This included multiple opportunities for community engagement such as focus groups, community conversation meetings, a public hearing, and tabling at community events. At the center of the engagement was a community needs survey that helped the City understand the needs and opinions of both non-users and users of parks, recreation facilities, and programs in the community. This process included:

- 4,864 postcards mailed to Kirkland community members
- 656 statistically valid survey responses completed
- 2,345 completed responses from a follow-up "open link" survey to engage the rest of the community

The PROS Plan was adopted and updated by City Council in September 2022 and resulted in a plan that:

- Reflects the Kirkland community's needs and desires
- Creates a framework to ensure that parks, facilities and recreation programs meet the needs Kirkland's residents, employees and visitors now and in the future
- Reflects the substantial growth and changes in the community and to the park system

Scan for PROS Plan















Planning For The Future

Based on the community wants and needs expressed throughout the 2022 PROS Plan community engagement process, the City Council amended the City Work Program to include exploring potential comprehensive parks and recreation ballot measures for placement on the November 2023 ballot. As a result, City Council took the following actions:

- Adoption of <u>Resolution 5514</u> directing staff to explore potential comprehensive Parks ballot measure options
- Re-established a Parks Funding Exploratory Committee (PFEC) in the fall of 2022 consisting of over 40 representatives from across Kirkland

PFEC SPOTLIGHT

PFEC is leading the community input process and will provide recommendations for potential ballot measure(s) to City Council by spring 2023. Here are some key aspects of PFEC:

- Comprised of more than 40 diverse stakeholders from across Kirkland
- Held meetings approximately twice a month from September 2022 through early March 2023 to review potential ballot elements to find the right mix to fulfill the needs and wants identified by the PROS Plan
- Explored and deliberated ballot measure sizing, scope and funding alternatives in the process of making a recommendation to City Council regarding potential parks ballot measure elements and funding mechanism(s)

WHAT'S NEXT?

Based on PFEC and community input, City Council will make a final decision regarding parks and recreation ballot measure(s) in the summer of 2023 for the purpose of expanding parks, open spaces, aquatic and recreational facilities, and program opportunities to enhance the health and wellbeing of the Kirkland community.

