



Parks & Recreation

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Physical Location:

None.

Virtual Location:

<Zoom.com>

Tuesday March 10, 2026, Meeting Start 3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

- The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM. The Chair asked the Secretary to call the roll.

2. Roll Call: – **Attachment A**

A. Voting Board Members; Staff; Guests/Presenters (2 minutes)

- a. There were 8 members of the board present, 3 absent.

B. Introduction of Guests (2 minutes)

- a. The Chair asked staff, guests and members of the public in attendance to introduce themselves.

3. Review & Approve of Meeting Minutes

A. Review of February 10, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes – **Attachment**

- a. The Chair asked members of the board for a verbal vote to approve the February minutes. Board members voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

4. Public Hearings/Public Meetings (2 minutes) – **Attachment C**

- Parks Division Director Sharon Walker reported on public meetings, hearings, and events of interest to the members of the board. See Attachment C.

5. Public Comments

- The Chair asked members of the public, guests and staff present if any wished to offer public comments. There was one member of the community present at the meeting. No comments were received.

6. Park Director's Time

Parks Division Director Sharon Walker commented on the work and accomplishments of the Parks and Recreation Division.

- Ms. Walker shared the tonight is Kick off Dinner for the Fair nearly 90 Superintendents that oversee the exhibits at the Fair. A huge group of people that oversee the submissions of a huge body of work, some of them work year-round bring their talent. Hope you all come out to the Fair.

- Status on Doc Hageman Park We have talked about this before, so this is just a reminder. This is a park in SW UGA. This is a park that Lynnwood has that is outside their city limits. Their leadership had change in direction about comfort level of developing a park outside their city limit. We have been in discussion with Lynnwood about taking over that property. It does serve an area we have identified as in need of parks. We do have development funding identified in the 6-year budget, not sure in which year. We recently talked with Lynnwood, we will be working toward that transfer, but it will not move right away. There are some questions about jurisdiction and staffing level to take on new things on. Still in the pipeline just not immediate timeline on that.
- Lots of budget conversations are going on right now. Today’s presentation will be an overview of the Countywide budget as a whole and what that means for parks. We will be coming back later to the board with strategies we plan to implement and what we plan to present to the Executive Office. No comments or questions
- General Business: Budget 101/Proposed Budget – **Attachment D**
 - i. Parks Division Director Sharon Walker and Fiscal Analyst Carol Peterson briefed the members of the board first on Snohomish County’s standard budget process.
 - ii. Presentation gave an overview of the structure of the funds available for use by the department, the General Fund is only one of many buckets of funds. All have rules and restrictions on how they may be used. Ms. Walker made an explanation about the difference between the “Budgeted” and Expenditures that both show up in the proposed budget. She also talked about how property taxes are collected and the confusion about where those funds go. The General Funds dollars come from many different sources. See chart slide 4 and 5. On the revenue side, Parks Division brings in 3.5 million per year that goes into the general Fund. Revenues do not directly pay for/cover expenses but do offset Parks’ cost. Fair Park revenue goes back to cover Fair Park expenses. The timeline of the budget process was presented and explained. (Slide 8). We expect there to be hard discussion to make in the in the coming budget cycle.
 - iii. The members of the board provided the following feedback and recommendations. Grant asks Tourist TPA and fund. David, how many budget amendments do parks submit 25 to 30. Kevin Cronk shared questions about the services parks provide for a fee, as an example camping. He wonders if the demand is tracked in a way that would give insight into where there might be unmet demand. Grant asked about if the county could access TPA funds to fund Events to raise revenue for specific projects? Dusty also sees the possibility of Party in the Parks to raise money. Holly asked for more clarity about Conservation Futures funds. State regulates how that money is collected and spent. It is part of the County property tax. How does new population impact what is collected as impact fees collected? This is currently under review.
- Park Levy Discussion – **Attachment E**
 - i. Parks Division Director Sharon Walker briefed the members of the board on plans to issue a DCNR Parks and Recreation Levy to fund the work of the Parks and Recreation Division. Ms. Walker also discussed how the members of the board would be involved in the upcoming process. Discussion followed.
 - ii. We are working through the idea of a countywide levy. There was an explanation about the difference between a levy and a bond and how the division would consider presenting to the public for a vote. The timeline is a bit behind, but a survey of the public would start soon. The other County jurisdictions are collaborating about the possibility of what that looks like.

iii. Holly ask about why the King County model was too complicated. Ms. Walker explained that there were just lots of pieces and a Snohomish County would be few pieces. Member Kevin asked about how changes in GMA could support more revenue for Paks as population grows.

- **Maintenance Team Status Report – Attachment**

- i. Parks Division Maintenance Supervisor Jeremy Husby provided a report on the work, accomplishments, and needs of the Maintenance team with a focus on the status of the system of Parks facilities.
- ii. Mr. Husby started by saying it is sometimes hard to explain what we do because if we are doing right no one would notice all the work that happens behind the scenes. Most of what we do is prioritize the work that needs to be done. We prioritize 3 key issues: safety compliance, asset protection and third community experience. He shared the system they use to track over three hundred tasks over 70 parks, 25 People handling that workload. The work is becoming more proactive, getting things done before it breaks or the public tells. He showed how the work is tracked by asset, so it informs the staff of return on investment and O&M cost per park, per asset.
- iii. The Chair thanked Jeremy for the presentation and the work they do. Member Kevin asked about how people could report with a barcode and their phone. Jeremy said they do have that at Fair Park in the restrooms and drinking fountain and handwashing stations. Next places to roll out will be dugouts and playgrounds.

7. **Board Roundtable – Attachment G**

8. **Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn by Kevin Cronk, seconded, by David Green. Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 4 :35

ADA Notice: Snohomish County facilities are accessible. Accommodations for persons with disabilities, sign language interpreters and communications materials in alternate form will be provided upon advance request. Please make arrangements one week prior to the hearing by calling the Park Department office, 425-388-6602.

David McConnell is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: My Meeting

Time: Mar 10, 2026 12:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83454837412?pwd=myQBaLLKvrHeAAAd3UdbAFC5OSXnRr1.1>

Meeting ID: 834 5483 7412

Passcode: 230063

One tap mobile

+12063379723,,83454837412#,,,,*230063# US (Seattle)

+12532158782,,83454837412#,,,,*230063# US (Tacoma)

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Join by SIP

• 83454837412@zoomcrc.com

Passcode: 230063

Join instructions

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/83454837412/invitations?signature=MYRwGQcUnCj72IHx4JC1g6JLavPg_kGyur9W87XZJqM

DRAFT



Parks & Recreation

ATTACHMENT A:

Action Item - Attendance roll call by Recording Secretary

Voting Board Members

Board Member	District/Roll	Present/Absent
Yvonne Gallardo-Van Ornam	(Dist. 1)	A
Carolyn "Dode" Carlson	(Dist. 2)	A
Lindsey Haight	(Dist. 3)	P
David Green	(Dist. 4)	P
Stephen Heise	(Dist. 5)	P
Kevin Cronk	(At Large)	P
David Divoky	(At Large)	P
Grant Harrington	(At Large)	P
Jennifer Friess	(At Large) (Vice Chair)	A
Holly Hernandez	(At Large) (Secretary)	P
Dusty Dionne	(At Large) (Chair)	P

Staff

Staff Member	Title/Roll	Present/Absent
Dave McConnell	Associate Park Planner & Board Liaison	A
Sharon Walker	Parks & Recreation Division Director	P
Carol Peterson	Parks & Recreation Division Fiscal Analyst	P

Guest Presenters & Guests

Guest Name	Title, Organization/Roll/Public	Present/Absent
Jeremy Husby	Parks Maintenance Supervisor, Parks Division	P
Kara Underwood	Division Manager, Parks	P
JamieLynn Estell	Member of the public	P

ATTACHMENT B:

Action Item 1 - Review and approval of February 10, 2026, Parks Advisory Board regular meeting minutes.

See Parks Advisory Board [webpage](#) for meeting minutes. Link to meeting minutes will also be emailed to board members ahead of the meeting.

ATTACHMENT C:

Information Item - Upcoming Public Hearings/Meetings

A. Standalone Meetings, Hearings or Events:

(1) More information on current park projects can be found on the '[Current Park Projects](#)' webpage.

B. Reoccurring meetings:

(1) [Arts Commission](#), meets 6:30 PM, third Monday of each month

(2) [Conservation Futures Program Advisory Board](#), meets twice per year. Next meeting the spring 2026, date and time TBD.

(3) [Evergreen State Fair Advisory Board](#), meets 7:00 p.m. second Tuesday of each month

(4) [Historic Preservation Commission](#), meets 7:00 p.m., on the third Tuesday of the month

(5) [Planning Commission](#), meets 5:30 PM, the fourth Tuesday of each month

ATTACHMENT D:

Action – Budget 101/Proposed Budget

1. Parks Division Director Sharon Walker will provide an information summary on the Snohomish County budget process and then summarize the proposed budget for the Parks and Recreation Division of the DCNR. Presentation and discussion approximately 20 minutes including questions.
 2. The PA Board will review the proposed budget and provide leadership with feedback.
 3. Presentation documents to be posted when available.
-

ATTACHMENT E:

Action – Park Levy Discussion

4. Parks Division Director Sharon Walker will discuss plans for a proposed Parks Levy. Discussion also includes how PA Board members to be involved in promoting the proposed levy. Presentation and discussion a followed
 5. Presentation documents to be posted when available.
-

ATTACHMENT F:

Discussion – Maintenance Team Status Report

6. Parks Division Maintenance Supervisor Jeremy Husby provided an information summary on the work, accomplishments, challenges, proposed budget of the Maintenance Team and status of the parks system facilities. Presentation and discussion follows
 7. Presentation documents to be posted when available.
-

ATTACHMENT G:

Discussion Item - Messages from the Board, Roundtable

- A. NOTE: Each board member has 2 minutes to report on their top 3 observations. Observations may include: (a) Accessibility, (b) Equity and Inclusion, (c) Community Outreach & Engagement, (d) Other Observations, (e) Requests for Future Agenda Items
- Yvonne Gallardo-Van Ornam (Dist. 1)
 - Carolyn Carlson (Dist. 2)
 - Lindsey Haight (Dist. 3) Good to hear about the badges. Appreciate the presentation on the Budget
 - David Green (Dist. 4) WRPA awards coming out soon. Legislation committee working on State sustain funding ,support for youth athletics and a big discussion where do E-bike fit into the paks consideration
 - Stephen Heise (Dist. 5) Would like more information about the occupation rates for camping
 - David Divoky (At Large) Great meeting
 - Grant Harrington (At Large) No comment
 - Kevin Cronk (At Large) No comment
 - Jennifer Friess (At Large) (Vice-Chair)
 - Holly Hernandez (At Large) (Secretary) How are we going to get the park visits going? Dusty said badges are being made and then use the Snoco email to make an invitation
 - Dusty Dionne (At Large) (Chair)I really love the Party in the parks ideas. Bring people into the park. Would love to see Environmental Education Center – for overnight stays. Excited to go to Tulalip
 - Tammy Dunn (Ex Officio)
-

End of Board Packet

Attachments:

1. Budget Presentation
2. PAB Member Roles

Parks Budget 101

Why is this important?

- Recurring theme in feedback about what we can do better. More budget = we can do more
- Recurring question about the process – i.e. we don't just go to Council to ask for more money

Content:

- Parks Budget Basics
- Budget Development Process
- FAQs



Parks Budget 101

We work with different kinds of money, all of which have different uses and rules.



General Fund



Conservation Futures



Real Estate Excise Tax



Park Impact Mitigation Fees



Interfund



Historic



Sponsorship



Donations










Grants

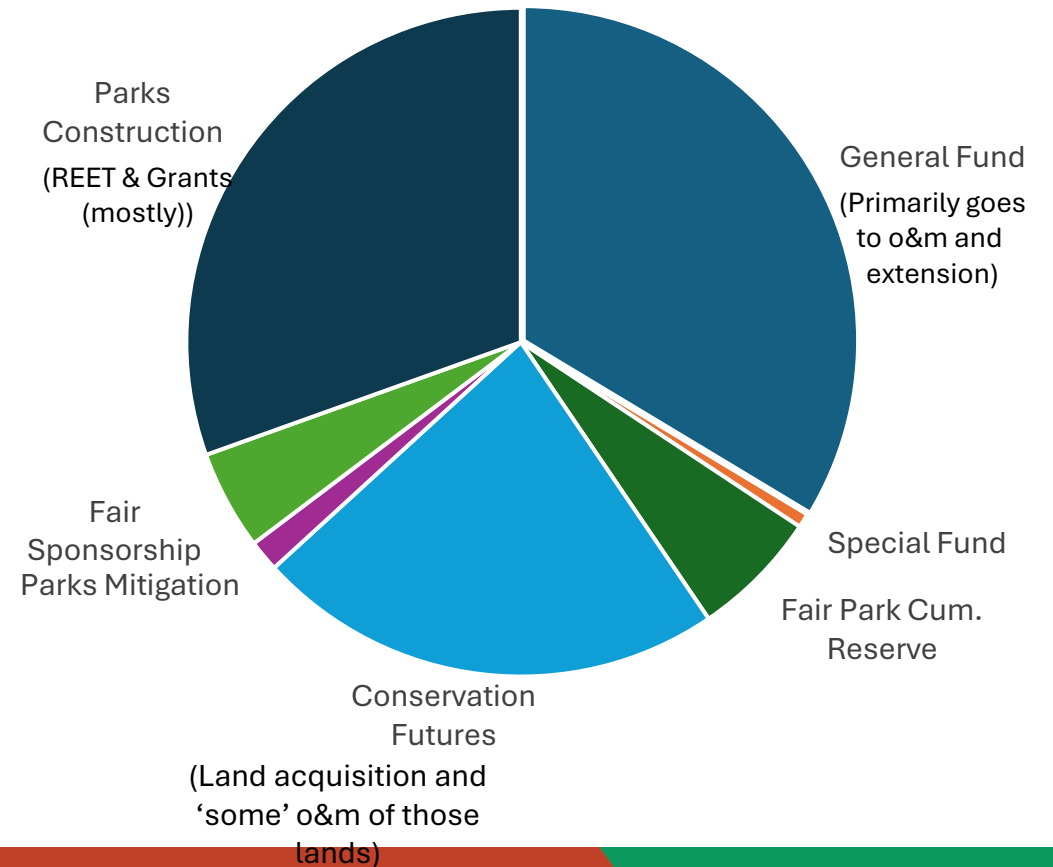
Parks Budget 101

There is a difference between ‘budgeted’ and expenditure

-  Will Spend
-  Aspirational/
Partial Expenditure

2025/2026 Proposed Council Budget – Projected Expenditures

FUND	DIVISION/PROGRAM	2025-2026 PROPOSED
002	Parks General Fund 	\$34,108,037
100	Parks Special Revenue 	\$694,331
180	Fair Park Cum. Reserve 	\$6,289,033
185	Conservation Futures 	\$23,033,147
196	Parks Mitigation 	\$1,534,367
197	Fair Sponsorship 	\$4,876,896
199	Arts Commission	\$0
309	Parks Construction 	\$30,913,332
TOTAL		\$101,449,143

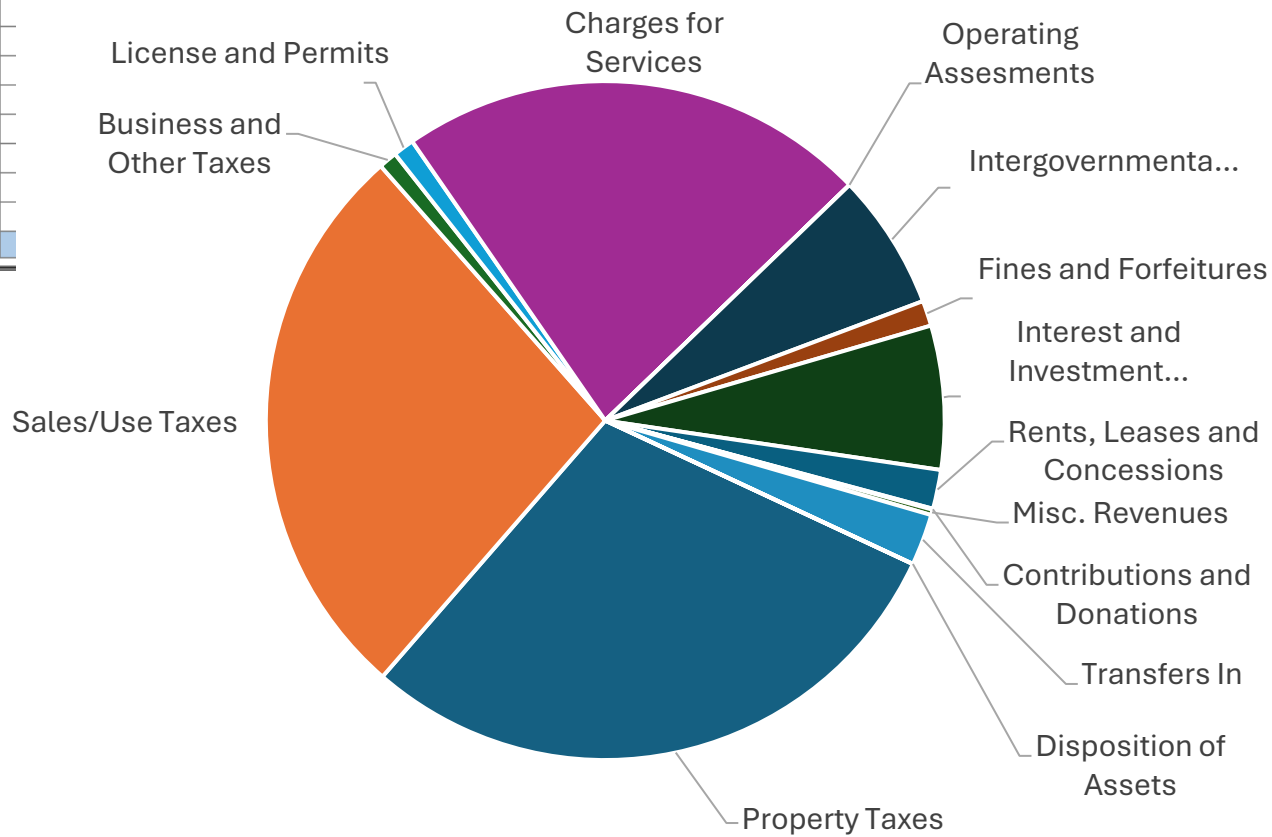


Parks Budget 101



Distribution of Current Taxes

District	Rate	Amount
PUB HOSP #1	0.16	\$140.45
SNO-ISLE INTERCOUNTY RURAL LIBRARY	0.30	\$272.61
SNOHOMISH COUNTY - ROAD	0.75	\$671.12
SNOHOMISH COUNTY-CNT	0.48	\$433.24
SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE	1.63	\$1,465.13
SNOHOMISH SCHOOL DIST NO 201	4.09	\$3,668.76
STATE	2.24	\$2,013.61
SNO COUNTY SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT		\$143.99
SNOHOMISH CONSERVATION DISTRICT		\$10.10
TOTAL	9.66	\$8,819.01



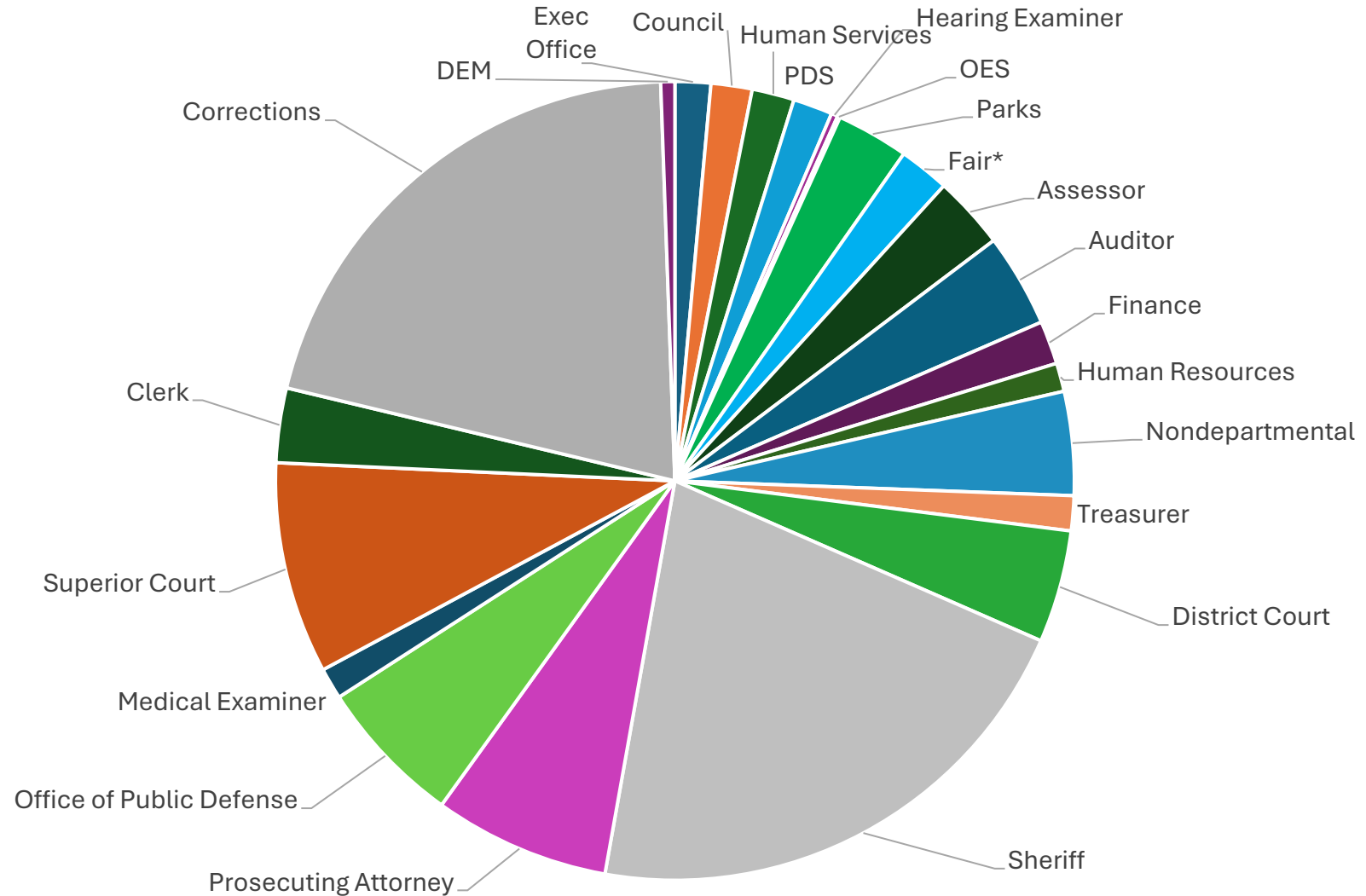
Sales & Use	Motor Vehicle Sales/Rentals	Lodging
Retail Sales/Use Tax		
Effective dates	1/1/26 - 3/31/26	
Location code (view map)	3131	
City		
County	Snohomish	
State Sales and Use Tax	.065	
Local City/County Sales and Use Tax	.040	
Total tax rate	.105	

Parks Budget 101 – General Fund



2024 Total (Actual) =
 \$321,945,833
 Parks = \$9,433,996 (2.9%)
 Fair = \$6,581,361 (2%)

What's Not Included:
 PW
 SWM
 Facilities?
 IT
 Large Part of DEM



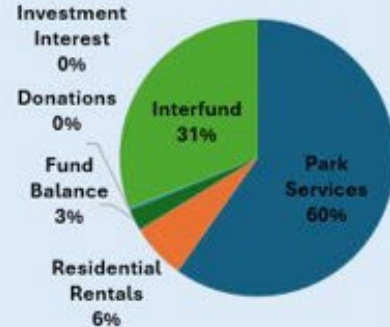
Parks Budget 101

Revenues do not directly pay for/cover expenses, but do offset Parks' costs

Budgeted Sources of Revenue to Support Programs – 2025/2026

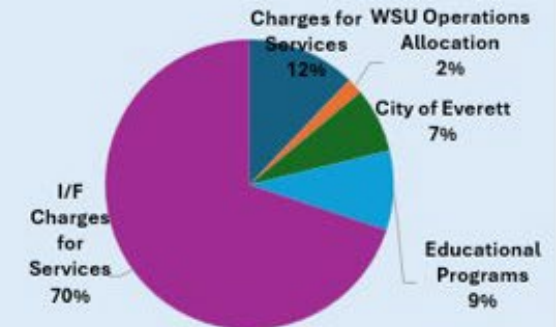
Parks Operation and Maintenance

100 – Donation Fund
411 – Administration
430 – Maintenance
680 – Operations
Total Revenue = \$6,881,081
Expenses = \$17,986,177



WSU Extension

122 – Agriculture
123 – Youth and Family
124 – Natural Resources
125 – Administration
Total Revenue = \$830,720
Expenses = \$2,557,085



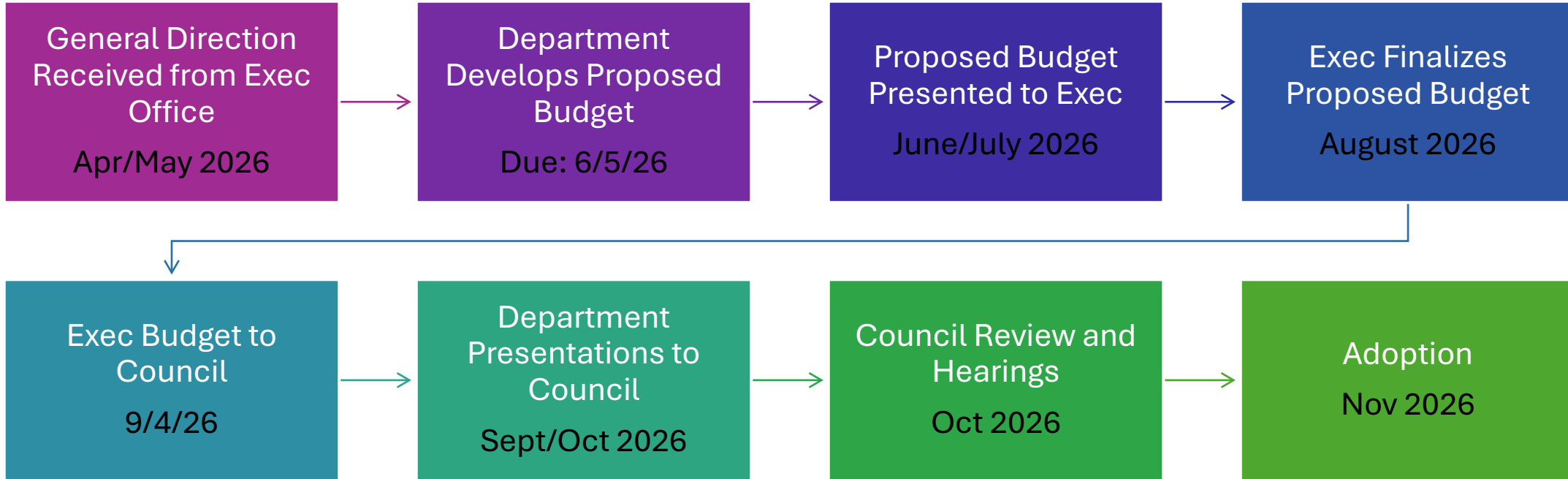
Parks Budget 101

Fair Park revenue does go back to cover Fair Park expenses

2.32.030 Revenue regulations.



All receipts in connection with the operation of the fairgrounds shall belong to Snohomish county and shall be deposited with the county treasurer as provided by law in the current expense fund, and all expenditures for the operation and maintenance of the fair shall be on proper voucher and payable from such fund. (Added by § 3 of Res. adopted July 29, 1968; Amended by Ord. 89-029 § 6, May 17, 1989).



Parks Budget 101 - FAQs

Why don't we just ask Council for more money?

Why do we keep building new when we can't take care of what we currently have?

Why are we always talking about revenue?



Meadowdale Park



SNOHOMISH COUNTY
Conservation & Natural Resources



A County Wide Parks Levy



- Bond vs. Levy

	Levy	Bond
Purpose	Fund ongoing operations (salaries, programs, maintenance)	Fund one-time capital projects (buildings, infrastructure)
Type of Funding	Property tax	Borrowed money (repaid with interest)
Voter Approval	Usually yes	Usually yes
Duration	Short term /recurring	Long term
Repayment	N/A	Must repay principal + interest over time

A County Wide Parks Levy



- Special Taxing Districts

Distribution of Current Taxes				
District	Rate	Amount	Voted Amount	Non-Voted Amount
CITY OF MARYSVILLE	0.76	\$243.44	\$0.00	\$243.44
MARYSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT RFA	1.91	\$610.12	\$147.69	\$462.43
SNO-ISLE INTERCOUNTY RURAL LIBRARY	0.30	\$96.92	\$0.00	\$96.92
SNOHOMISH COUNTY-CNT	0.48	\$154.03	\$0.00	\$154.03
STATE	1.46	\$465.26	\$0.00	\$465.26
SNOHOMISH CONSERVATION DISTRICT		\$10.06	\$0.00	\$10.06
TOTAL	4.92	\$1,579.83	\$147.69	\$1,432.14

Levy Development Timeline

**NOW –
MAY 2024**

Input from Tribes, the public, cities/ towns, and others

▶ **SUMMER
2024**

Summary report from community feedback

Draft levy proposal will be created based on public, tribal, partner, and King County leadership feedback

▶ **FALL
2024**

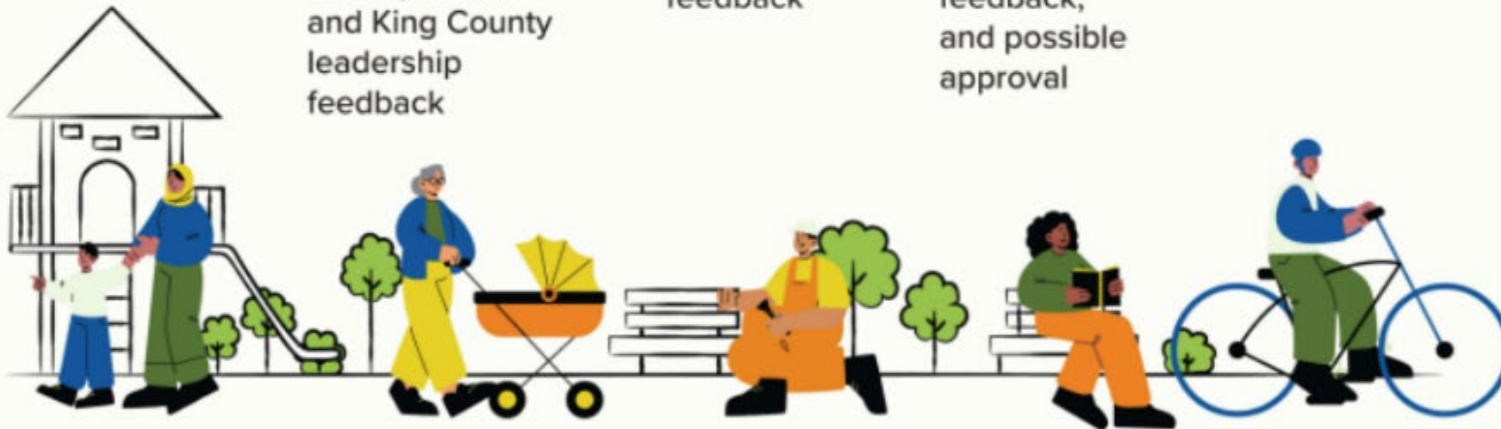
Draft proposal shared with the King County Executive for review and feedback

▶ **EARLY
2025**

King County Executive brings levy proposal to King County Council for review, feedback, and possible approval

▶ **SUMMER/
FALL 2025**

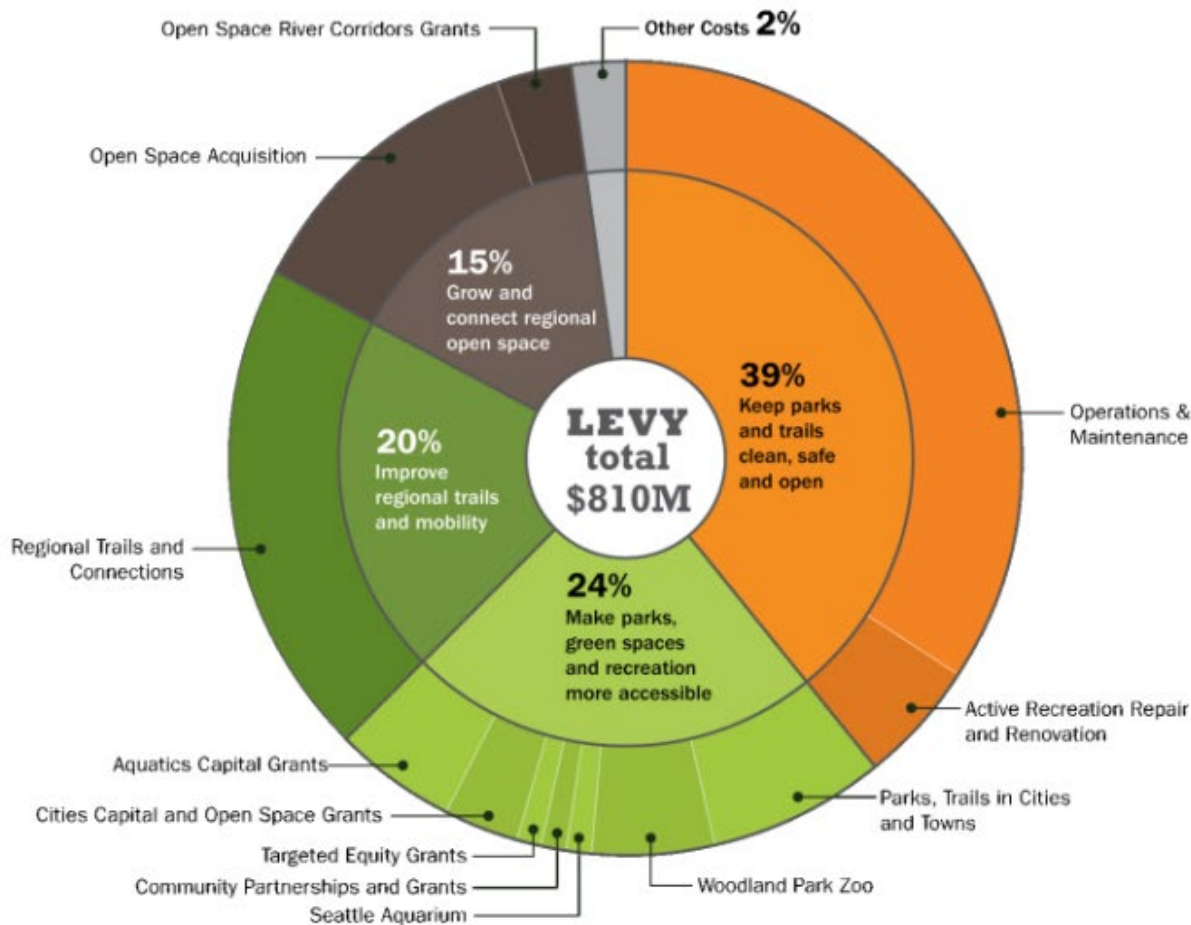
Finalized 2026-2031 King County Parks Levy proposal on ballot for King County voter approval



King County

2020-2025 Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space

LEVY Measure



Investments Summary

Existing Parks & Trails: Keep parks and trails clean, safe and open	\$318.5 M
Operations & Maintenance	\$277 M
Active Recreation Repair	\$41.5 M
Increase Access: Make parks, green spaces & recreation more accessible	\$192.6 M
Aquatics Facilities	\$44 M
Parks Capital and Open Space	\$25 M
Healthy Communities and Parks Fund (Targeted Equity Grants)	\$10 M
Community Partnerships and Grants	\$9.6 M
Parks in Cities/Towns (pass thru)	\$60 M
Woodland Park Zoo	\$36 M
Seattle Aquarium	\$8 M
Regional Trails: Improve regional trails & mobility	\$165.6 M
Open Space: Grow and connect regional open space	\$120.5 M
Open Space Acquisition	\$98.5 M
Open Space - River Corridors	\$22 M
Other costs	\$13 M
TOTAL	\$810.2 M

- **Community Representation**

Each board member is appointed from a County Council district and resides there, ensuring they represent the interests and voices of their local community.

- **Policy Influence**

They assist the Parks and Recreation Director by reviewing and recommending policies, acting as a bridge between public needs and county decision-making.

- **Advocacy for Parks**

Members actively promote parks facilities, events, and programs, encouraging community engagement and participation.

- **Public Engagement**

By participating in parks events, they interact directly with residents, fostering trust and awareness about parks initiatives.

- **Information Sharing**

They help communicate updates, opportunities, and improvements to neighbors and friends, making parks resources more accessible.

- **Role Model for Stewardship**

Their involvement demonstrates the importance of preserving and enjoying public spaces, inspiring others to value parks.

- **Community Connector**

They link local concerns and feedback to county leadership, ensuring parks services reflect community priorities.

- **Volunteer Leadership**

Serving on the board shows commitment to civic engagement, encouraging others to volunteer and support public spaces.