

Park Commission Chairperson: Krista Fleming

Members: Amy Pellegrini, Dicker Cahill, Carolyn Whittlesey, Robert Afzal, Nancy Daltas

Mayor: Katy Kinney Harris

Town Attorney: Emily Romanenko

Clerk-Treasurer: Bonnie Ritter

Deputy Clerk: Austen Wilcox

Meeting Participation

Members of the public may participate in person at Town Hall or by phone/online. Individuals wishing to call in remotely who wish to speak live should register their request with the Deputy Clerk at 425-454-6994 or email depclerk@yarrowpointwa.gov and leave a message before 3:30 PM on the day of the Park Commission meeting. Please wait for the Deputy Clerk to call on you before making your comment. If you dial in via telephone, please unmute yourself by dialing *6 when you are called on to speak. Speakers will be allotted 3 minutes for comments. Please state your name and whether you are a Yarrow Point resident (and address if you wish). You will be asked to conclude your remarks when you reach the 3-minute limit. Park Commission Members will not respond directly at the meeting or have a back-and-forth exchange during the Public Comment period, but they may ask staff to research and report back on an issue.

Join on computer, mobile app, or phone

1-253-205-0468

Meeting ID: 838 4136 2038#

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83841362038>

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Park Commission Chairperson, Krista Fleming

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:** Park Board Members, Amy Pellegrini, Dicker Cahill, Carolyn Whittlesey, Robert Afzal, Nancy Daltas

4. **APPROVAL OF/AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

5. **MINUTES**

- June 25, 2024 Regular Park Commission Meeting

6. **STAFF REPORTS**

7. **APPEARANCES/PUBLIC COMMENT**

If you call in via telephone, please unmute yourself by dialing *6 when you are called on to speak. Comments via email may be submitted to depclerk@yarrowpointwa.gov or regular mail to: Town of Yarrow Point, 4030 95th Ave NE, Yarrow Point, WA 98004. *Park Board Members will not respond directly at the meeting or have a back-and-forth exchange, but they may ask staff to research and report back on an issue.*

8. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

8.1 – Sally’s Alley Update

8.2 – Town Entry

8.3 – 2024, 2025 Park Commission Work Plan

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

**TOWN OF YARROW POINT
TOWN PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
June 25, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

The Town Park Commission of the Town of Yarrow Point, Washington met in special session on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall.

PARK BOARD PRESENT: Chair Krista Fleming, Park Board Members, Dicker Cahill, Nancy Daltas, Carolyn Whittlesey, Amy Pellegrini (absent), and Robert Afzal.

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy Clerk Austen Wilcox

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fleming called the Park Commission meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Motion by Park Commission Member Cahill, seconded by Park Commission Member Afzal to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE: 4 for, 0 against. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION: Motion by Park Commission Member Cahill, seconded by Park Commission Member Whittlesey to approve the May 28, 2024, regular minutes as presented.

VOTE: 4 for, 0 against. Motion carried.

6. STAFF REPORTS

Park Board Member Daltas joined at 7:04 pm.

7. APPEARANCES/PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS

8.1 – Park Board Work Plans 2024/2025

Town Planner Aleksandr Romanenko discussed the following plans:

2024 Work plan items:

Budgeted Items

- Sally Alley's East Side Trail Design – Approved Budget \$150,000
- Town Entry Planting Design/Installation – Approved Budget \$25,000
- Ongoing Park/Recreation Space Maintenance – Approved Budget \$10,000

Proposed Items

- Commemorative Garden/Park Bench Proposal – Community Donation Funded
- Evaluate Park Commission Power and Duties language in YPMC
- Climate Planning – Grant Funded

2025 Work plan items:

Budgeted Items:

- Develop PROS plan – Budget Request TBD
- Ongoing Park/Recreation Space Maintenance – Budget Request \$10,500

Proposed Items:

- Climate Planning – Grant Funded
- Commemorative Garden/Park Bench – Community Donation Funded

The Park Commission discussed the mission statement and code language clean up relating to the board.

8.2 – Town Entry

Park Commission Members Whittlesey and Daltas discussed the town entry proposal. The western portion of Points Drive has overgrown landscaping, the entry sign needs repainting and re-landscaping, and general maintenance needs to be more consistent.

Objectives:

1. Improve aesthetics to create a welcoming atmosphere.
2. Enhance visibility and identity of the town entries.
3. Ensure low maintenance and sustainable landscaping practices.

The Park Commission discussed:

Points Drive town sign and landscape revitalization;

Concerns regarding the ravine adjacent to the sidewalk along Points Drive NE and installing a railing;

Cleaning up St. John's-Wort;

Budgeting; and

Hiring a landscape architect to create a planting scheme, and a professional landscaping company to perform a professional cleanup of the entry.

The Park Commission will present a proposed plan to Council at the July 9 regular meeting.

8.3 – Commemorative Benches

The Park Commission discussed adding new benches and to offer commemorative plaques on all benches identified below which will enable the project to be funded through donations.

Road End Beach – New Park Bench

Along 92nd – New Park Bench

Istvan's Landing – New Park Bench

Morningside Park – Park Bench Plaque

Morningside Park – Park Bench Plaques

Morningside Park/Pickleball Court – Replace Park Bench

Product cost and funding source options.

8.4 – Maintenance

Park Commission Member Whittlesey discussed clippings along 92nd Ave NE that are left and not picked up.

Holes in Sally's Alley from plants that died need to be replaced.

Grass is growing into garden beds adjacent to the driveway on the west end of Sally's Alley needs to be removed.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Park Commission Member Cahill, seconded by Park Board Commission Member Daltas to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

VOTE: 5 for, 0 against. Motion carried.

Chair, Krista Fleming

Attest: Austen Wilcox, Deputy Clerk

From: [Yarrow Point Mayor](#)
To: [Krista Fleming](#); [K Michael Sekins](#); sekinskm@msn.com
Cc: [Austen Wilcox](#); [Joan](#)
Subject: Re: Points Drive Sign
Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 7:49:18 AM

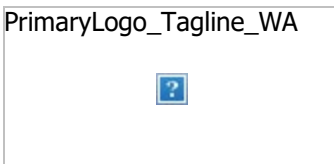
Good morning Mike and Krista,

Thank you for your input, Mike. And thank you for the heads up on that ravine drop off. We are addressing that safety issue. It is part of the 8830 short plat work that is being done in that area. It is a large project, but the Points Drive part should be worked on in the beginning. I saw the updated plans last week.

Thanks so much! Have a great day!

Warmly,
Katy

Katy Kinney Harris
Mayor
Town of Yarrow Point
4030 95th Ave. NE
Yarrow Point, WA 98004
P: 425.786.6099
F: 425.454.7899
<http://www.yarrowpointwa.gov>



Office Hours:
M-Th: 8:30-4:30
F: 8:30-Noon
Closed Noon-1PM for lunch

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From: Krista Fleming <kfleming@yarrowpointwa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 5:12:41 PM
To: K Michael Sekins <mikesekins@msn.com>; sekinskm@msn.com <sekinskm@msn.com>
Cc: Austen Wilcox <depclerk@yarrowpointwa.gov>; Joan <sekinskm@msn.com>; Yarrow Point Mayor <mayor@yarrowpointwa.gov>
Subject: RE: Points Drive Sign

Hi Mike,

Thank you for your prompt & detailed response!

I'll bring up all your feedback below at our next Park Commissions meeting. Once we have a better idea of exactly what we will be planting, we'll also reach back out to you & Joan for further feedback.

Nancy Daltas has brought up the safety concerns about the ravine as well so we will pass along the safety concern to the town.

Best,
Krista

From: K Michael Sekins <mikesekins@msn.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 1:23 PM

To: Krista Fleming <kfleming@yarrowpointwa.gov>; sekinskm@msn.com

Cc: Austen Wilcox <depclerk@yarrowpointwa.gov>; Joan <sekinskm@msn.com>

Subject: RE: Points Drive Sign

Hello Krista,

Thanks for giving us a heads up regarding the Yarrow Point Park Commission plans to revitalize the Yarrow Point sign in front of our house. In principle, we don't object to most of what you described as the plan, but we do have some concerns, as mentioned below.

Your goal of creating "an appealing and thoughtful aesthetic" seems good, in principle, but "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." For example, we don't particularly mind the weathered and "rustic" appearance of the current Yarrow Point sign, including the moss on it. Plus, we don't exactly know what the new paint job will look like, being unfamiliar with the "Meecham sign" at Townhall. It is definitely advised to inspect the Yarrow Point sign's stone base for damage, and repair damaged areas.

Although you mentioned that some trees and shrubs will be added around the sign, the current "adjacent plant to the east next to the ravine" provides us with good privacy and we'd prefer that cutting it back be kept to a minimum (see first 2 attached pics).

We're not familiar with the grass varieties you listed, but planting ground cover around the sign seems reasonable. However, if it resembles ivy, the neighborhood has had significant "critter" problems with ivy ground covers (like mice and rats).

Regarding planting trees around the sign, small trees and shrubs don't seem to be a problem. However, we have had significant problems with tall trees (see 3rd pic).

For example, large tree limbs, in wind storms, have caused significant damage to our garage roof and gutters (thousands of dollars to repair). It is for this reason that we've cut down trees (permitted by the TYP) on the front of the house near the Yarrow Point sign (see 4th pic). We'd like to avoid really tall trees being close to the garage roof.

If we think of any other questions or issues, we'll let you know. Also, as you get closer to finalizing the plan, we're happy to provide you with more feedback.

Another point of which we'd like to make you aware. A few weeks ago some significantly tall trees on the Clyde Hill side of Points Drive fell across Points drive and created significant damage to the shrubs bordering the sidewalk on the Yarrow Point side of the Points Drive, pretty much centered on the ravine to the east of our house. **Ishtvan** was heavily involved in cleaning up the Yarrow Point side of the street and sidewalk area of damage. However, in doing so most of the shrubs next to the sidewalk were removed (those that provided a barrier between the sidewalk and the steep hill leading down to the stream in the middle of the ravine). We believe that this could be a pedestrian hazzard (e.g., young children, kids on bicycles etc.).

Best Regards,

Mike (and Joan).

From: Krista Fleming <kfleming@yarrowpointwa.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 11:09 AM

To: sekinskm@msn.com; mikesekins@msn.com

Cc: Austen Wilcox <depclerk@yarrowpointwa.gov>

Subject: Points Drive Sign

Hi Mike and Joan,

I'm Krista Fleming, Chair of the Yarrow Point Park Commission. Austen provided me with your contact information.

I wanted to reach out to you both as we just received a green light from Town Council to move forward with cleaning up the Yarrow Point sign on Points Drive that's in front of your home. I've enclosed a page from the proposal that was presented/approved by Town Council for you to review.

After reviewing the proposal, if you have any concerns/questions or additional items you'd like us to consider as we embark on this project, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. And if you want to meet with a Park Commission member to discuss this in person, we're happy to schedule a time to get together.

We're aiming to finalize the plan this summer so we can do the work and plant in the early Fall of this year.

Warmly,

Krista Fleming

206-890-0796



Town of Yarrow Point

2024 Park Commission Work Plan

The Park Commission's mission is to serve as advisor to the Town Council regarding the:

- *administration,*
- *acquisition,*
- *general supervision,*
- *control,*
- *development,*
- *personnel,*
- *conduct,*
- *planning,*
- *promotion,*
- *management,*
- *maintenance,*
- *operation,*
- *and any other matters concerning park and recreational facilities or programs.*

A. The primary duty of the board shall be to advise the mayor, town council and other town officials regarding the administration, acquisition, general supervision, control, development, personnel, conduct, planning, promotion, management, maintenance, operation, and any other matters concerning park and recreational facilities or programs. In furtherance of such duties, the board shall have power to conduct hearings and studies as the board shall deem necessary and to make recommendations regarding cooperating with or entering into written contracts with the United States, state or any county, city or town, park district, school district, or any other public organization for the purpose of obtaining moneys for park or recreational purposes, for the purpose of conducting joint recreational programs or for the purpose of jointly acquiring, operating or maintaining park land or facilities. Board members in their official capacity shall be entitled to contact officials of other government entities for the above purposes, and the board shall be entitled to consider the operation of programs of acquisition of facilities whether within or without the town limits. The board shall have power to recommend rules and regulations governing the management, supervision and control of town parks and recreational facilities and programs.

B. Upon request of the mayor or town council, the board shall submit an annual estimate of the amount required to carry on park and recreational activities for the ensuing year for the information and guidance of the town council preparing the budget for the tax levy, for the operation and maintenance of the town parks and recreational programs and necessary facilities and the acquisition of land, structures, or facilities needed therefor. (Ord. 599 § 1,

2009; Ord. 180 § 6, 1972)

The Park Commission forwards their draft and recommendation for action, with input from town residents, to the Town Council for discussion possible adoption.

2024 Work plan items:

Budgeted Items

- Sally Alley's East Side Trail Design – Approved Budget \$150,000
- Town Entry Planting Design/Installation – Approved Budget \$25,000
- Ongoing Park/Recreation Space Maintenance – Approved Budget \$10,000

Proposed Items

- Commemorative Garden/Park Bench Proposal – Community Donation Funded
- Evaluate Park Commission Power and Duties language in YPMC
- Climate Planning – Grant Funded

Future 2024 Planning Commission regular meeting dates:

June 25th

July 23rd

August 27th

September 24th

October 22nd

November 26th

*December 24th

**b/c of proximity to holiday, this may be rescheduled as a special meeting*



Town of Yarrow Point

2025 Park Commission Work Plan

Copy from 2024

2025 Work plan items:

Budgeted Items:

- Develop PROS plan – Budget Request TBD
- Ongoing Park/Recreation Space Maintenance – Budget Request \$10,500

Proposed Items:

- Climate Planning – Grant Funded
- Commemorative Garden/Park Bench – Community Donation Funded

2025 Planning Commission regular meeting dates:

January 28th
February 25th
March 25th
April 29th
May 27th
June 24th
July 22nd
August 26th
September 23rd
October 28th
November 25th
December 16th



Town of Yarrow Point

2025 Park Commission Work Plan

The Park Commission's mission is to serve as advisor to the Town Council in the review, recommendation, development and maintenance of town parks and recreational facilities and programs. To accomplish this, the Park Commission reviews issues facing the Town, the region, and the nation and then studies, develops proposals and programs in response to those issues. After holding public hearings to review these draft proposals and programs with citizens of the Town and obtain their comments, the Park Commission forwards their draft and recommendation for action to the Town Council for discussion and possible adoption.

2025 Work plan items:

Community Initiatives:

- Develop PROS plan – Budget Request TBD
 - Research Grant options
- Placeholder Project – Budget Request TBD
- Commemorative Garden/Park Bench – Community Donation Funded
- Ongoing Park/Recreation Space Maintenance – Budget Request \$10,500
 - Spring Clean Up Day
 - Tree City Application/Initiative Assistance

Mandatory Work Items:

- Climate Planning – Grant Funded

2025 Planning Commission regular meeting dates:

January 28th
February 25th
March 25th
April 29th
May 27th
June 24th
July 22nd
August 26th
September 23rd
October 28th
November 25th

December 16th

5. Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

5.1 Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of the Parks and Recreation element is to comprehensively outline the current state of Yarrow Point's parks, trails, open spaces, and recreational facilities. It aims to address the existing level of need, plan for future levels of need, and formulate a set of goals accompanied by corresponding policies. This section serves as a guiding framework for developing and managing park and open space lands while also considering the costs associated with trail upkeep, open spaces, and park facilities. It emphasizes the coordination

of community services and identifies potential opportunities for funding and partnerships.

Yarrow Point currently does not have a comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS). Recognizing this need, this chapter within the Comprehensive Plan serves as a starting point for pursuing a PROS Plan. It identifies future goals and objectives that may guide the development of the PROS Plan. It creates an inventory of the existing park facilities, providing



Figure 54. Morning Side Park Recreational Court (Smith, 2023)

a clear understanding of the current state and potential areas for improvement. Through these efforts, the chapter paves the way for the possible future development of a comprehensive PROS Plan, which will further enhance the management and utilization of parks, recreation, and open spaces in Yarrow Point.

This document builds upon previous plans, such as the Trails Master Plan completed in 2013, and takes into account the need for additional information to secure funding through Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) grants. By incorporating the necessary details and strategies, this document positions Yarrow Point to effectively pursue applications for competitive funding in the future, increasing the likelihood of success.

Planning Context

State Planning Goals

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) outlines specific goals and mandates concerning parks and open spaces. As outlined in the GMA, comprehensive plans have a set planning goal:

"Retain open space and green space, enhance recreational opportunities, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and develop parks and recreation facilities." - RCW 36.70A.020(9)

RCW 36.70A.070(8) details comprehensive plan requirements for a park and open space element.

This includes:

- A forecast of park and recreation demand for a minimum of ten years
- An assessment of facility and service needs
- An evaluation of tree canopy coverage within the urban growth area
- An exploration of opportunities for inter-governmental collaboration, focusing on regional solutions for park and recreation demands

Beyond its obligations under the Growth Management Act (GMA), Yarrow Point must also adhere to the standards set by the Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) for King County and the Multi-County Planning Policies (MPPs) formulated by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), as documented in "VISION 2050". These policies mandate that jurisdictions not only identify but also establish and safeguard areas designated

for recreation, open space, and environmental conservation. The CPPs specifically urge cities within King County, such as Yarrow Point, to create and implement policies and programs dedicated to conserving and managing open space lands and corridors, especially those within Urban Growth Areas.

Emphasizing the importance of regional collaboration, "VISION 2050" Policy MPP-En-12 directs local governments in the PSRC's four-county area to "Identify, preserve, and enhance significant regional open space networks and linkages across jurisdictional boundaries." This policy underscores the significance of a unified approach in managing and enhancing open spaces that extend beyond local municipal limits. The Town previously addressed this policy solely through its trail plan, which links the surrounding communities.

Benefits of Parks and Open Space

Surrounded by the shores of Lake Washington, Yarrow Point is a residential community, home to 1,135 residents as of 2023. The Town has a variety

of unique outdoor spaces, each offering a distinct experience. Among these are Morningside Park, Sally's Alley, Road End Beach, a non-motorized boat launch at the end of NE 42nd Street, and the Wetherill Preserve. These areas provide a blend of recreational activities, preserved lands, and open public spaces, contributing to the high quality of life Yarrow Point residents enjoy.

The network of parks and trails in Yarrow Point plays a fundamental role in enriching the community's lifestyle and health. These trails are integral in connecting the Town, facilitating easy access to various parks, and enhancing mobility for residents. Beyond convenience, they foster community engagement by providing spaces where neighbors can meet and interact. The well-maintained parks are not just venues for exercise and leisure but also serve as havens for relaxation and mental well-being. These green spaces are pivotal in preserving natural habitats, nurturing the local ecosystem, and benefiting all inhabitants of Yarrow Point.

5.2 Existing Facilities and Needs

As required by the State of Washington, this chapter must identify existing park facilities, anticipate future needs, and plan for the needs of current and future residents. Without a comprehensive PROS, this document serves a key role as a guiding policy framework for parks, recreation, and open space planning in Yarrow Point. By incorporating the perspectives of the community and taking into account anticipated changes and requirements, this document ensures that the parks and recreation system in Yarrow Point is planned and developed in a manner that meets the evolving needs of the Town's residents. It lays the groundwork for sustainable and inclusive parks and recreation infrastructure that will benefit present and future generations.

Park Classifications

The following terms and their definitions serve to better assess park facilities and their level of service. While they don't comprise formal levels of service standards, they support a thoughtful analysis of existing conditions and what future development may be considered. The following classifications only cover those parks currently found in Yarrow Point, while others that refer to

larger and more broad-reaching parks are not suitable for the current land use conditions of the Town. These terms are derived from the National Recreation and Park Association and are considered standard in PROS planning.

Neighborhood Park:

Neighborhood Parks are designed to offer convenient access to basic recreational activities and opportunities for nearby residents. They are typically located within a half-mile walking distance. These parks provide passive, multi-use spaces that accommodate various recreational activities based on site conditions and compatibility. Amenities found in neighborhood parks may include multi-use fields and courts, play equipment, trails, picnic areas, and open spaces. They emphasize the value of open space and are not primarily intended for extended stays, highly programmed activities, or large rental or permit-required spaces. Neighborhood parks prioritize open space over parking and encourage visitation through pedestrian and bike networks. Restroom facilities are typically not available in these parks as they primarily serve the immediate neighborhood.

Mini-Park:

Mini-parks, typically less than one acre in size, are designed for passive recreation or to house specialized facilities catering to a specific segment of the population, such as children or senior citizens. Often referred to as "pocket parks," these small recreational areas aim to serve the local community, ideally positioned to be accessible to residents within a quarter-mile radius. The design and location of mini-parks, particularly those offering amenities for young children, place a significant emphasis on ensuring safe access and acknowledging the importance of safety in areas frequented by vulnerable groups.

Paths:

Paths within a park are designated routes for pedestrians or bicyclists. The surfaces of these paths can vary based on environmental sensitivity and usage levels. They may be constructed using soft or pervious materials, such as gravel or natural surfaces, to minimize environmental impact.

Alternatively, paths can be made of hard or impervious materials, such as asphalt or concrete, for increased durability and accessibility. In some cases, boardwalks may be used to traverse wet or sensitive areas. The selection of path surfaces depends on factors like park design, visitor needs, and environmental considerations.

Multipurpose Trails:

Multipurpose trails are paths that accommodate various modes of transportation and recreational activities. These shared-use paths are typically located within a right-of-way or a linear park. To ensure safety, multipurpose trails are often separated from vehicular traffic by open spaces or physical barriers. They allow for two-way travel, accommodating bicyclists, pedestrians, skaters, wheelchair users, joggers, and other users in compliance with Town regulations.

See the following page for a map of these park facilities and classifications.

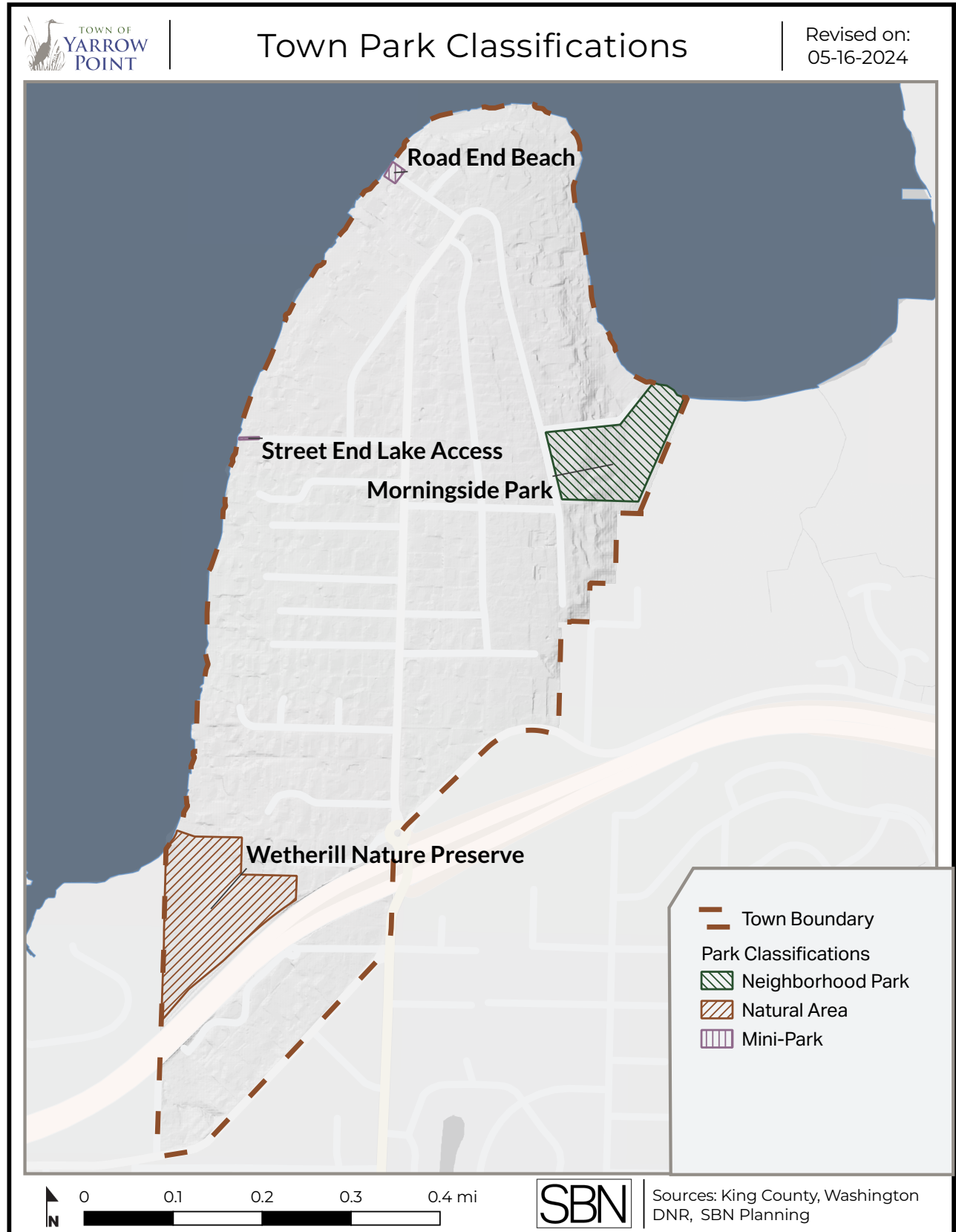


Figure 55. Map of Park Classifications (SBN, 2024)

5.3 Parks and Preserves

Morningside Park

- Location: 4030 95th Ave NE, Yarrow Point, WA
- Classification: Neighborhood Park
- Size: 7.85 Acres
- Features & Facilities: Town hall, pickleball court, playground, lawn, 9 parking spaces, wetlands

In 1913, George F. Meacham set aside around two acres of land for a park in Yarrow Point. Over time, the Town acquired an additional five and a half acres adjacent to the park's southern side with state participation. Another acre was purchased on the northside five years later. The Town Hall was subsequently built within the original Meacham Park on 95th Avenue NE. These three parcels collectively form Morningside Park, situated on the east side of the

Town, offering a view of the morning sun. The park comprises two distinct zones: an original hillside area with trees and vegetation, and a three and a half-acre section of exposed lake bottom resulting from the 1916 lowering of Lake Washington.

In addition to Town Hall, the park offers some recreation facilities including a pickleball court, playground, and open lawn that can be used for events or recreation.

In 2012, the Town partnered with Friends of the Cedar River Watershed (FCRW) to develop and implement a vegetation management plan to better control invasive plants and support native flora. Since then, the Town and its community have worked diligently to eradicate invasive species and plant native plants.



Figure 56. Morning Side Park Playground (Smith, 2023)

Road End Beach

- Location: NE 47th St, Yarrow Point, WA
- Classification: Mini-Park
- Size: 0.23 Acres
- Features & Facilities: Dock

The street end of NE 47th, which was once used as part of the mosquito fleet ferry service, encompasses an area of approximately 10,000 square feet. This space serves as a public access point to the shoreline and waters of Lake Washington. Since the Town's incorporation, this area has been maintained as a swimming beach

and can be easily reached from the street via a stairway and ramp. Residents can enjoy a grassy area and the Town dock that are provided for their use.



Figure 57. Road End Beach (Smith, 2023)

Street End - NE 42nd Street Lake Access

- Location: Western terminus of NE 42nd St
- Classification: Mini-Park
- Size: 0.06 Acres
- Features & Facilities: Boat launch

The end of NE 42nd Street marks the location where a pier for the early-day mosquito fleet used to stand. This area serves as a public right-of-way and offers access to the lake, primarily for launching hand-carried watercraft.



Figure 59. Street End Park (Ellis, n.d.)



Figure 58. View of Lake Washington from Street End Park (Ellis, n.d.)

Wetherill Nature Preserve

- Location: Points Loop Trail, SW Yarrow Point
- Classification: Natural Area
- Size: 16 Acres in Yarrow Point
- Features & Facilities: Trails, wetlands

The Wetherill Nature Preserve is located at the southwest end of Yarrow Point, situated between Cozy Cove and State Route 520. This 16-acre preserve was generously gifted to the Towns of Yarrow Point and Hunts Point in 1988 by Sidonia Wetherill Foley and Marjorie Wetherill Baird, descendants of a pioneer Seattle family. The preserve is dedicated to serving as a nature retreat, allowing humans to connect with nature and appreciate the undisturbed lives of birds,

small animals, and native flora. The legal documents establishing the Nature Preserve also created a five-person commission responsible for administering the preserve in accordance with the donors' intentions. The commission consists of two residents from each town and one representative from the surrounding community. In recent years, the preserve has seen the addition of new trails and a diverse range of native plantings. Dedicated volunteers continue to oversee and maintain this precious gem along Lake Washington. It is worth noting that a portion of the preserve contains a wetland. The Preserve trails offer a walk through the wetland, access to a meadow, and views of Cozy Cove, facilities and features more typical among neighborhood parks in the area.



Figure 60. Wetherill Nature Preserve (Smith, 2023)

5.4 Trails and Paths

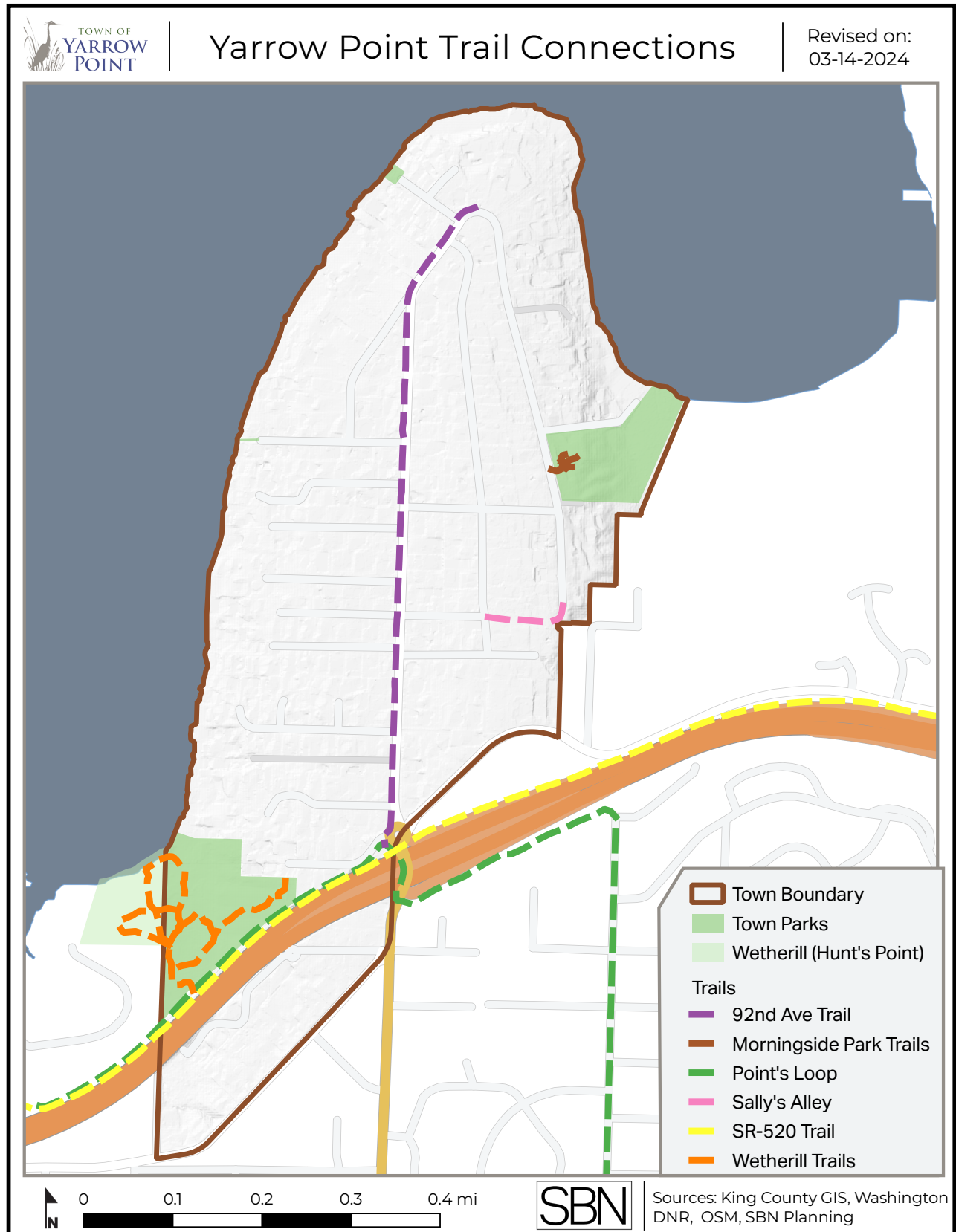


Figure 61. Map of Trail Connections (SBN, 2024)

SR-520 Trail

The State Route 520 Trail passes through Yarrow Point via the State highway, connecting the Town to Montlake to the west and Kirkland to the east. A paved and multi-use urban trail, the SR-520 Trail offers high regional connectivity into and out of Yarrow Point. The trail runs alongside part of the Points Loop Trail, and users will find connections to the Wetherill Nature Preserve and the 92nd Avenue Trail.



Figure 63. SR-520 Trail (Smith, 2023)



Figure 62. Entrance to SR-520 Trail (Smith, 2023)

Sally's Alley

Sally's Alley is a local gem in Yarrow Point that remains largely unknown to residents outside of the Town.¹ A new entrance on the west, (and soon to be completed new entrance on the east end) invites people into the natural landscape of Sally's Alley. At both ends of the alley and trail, private driveways dominate the landscape, making it less noticeable to passersby.

The alley features an existing trail, providing a unique pathway for pedestrians.

Along the trail, several significant trees add to the natural beauty of the area. It's important to note that Sally's Alley does not provide facilities or equipment for active recreation. In 2023, parking was prohibited in Sally's Alley and efforts are ongoing to improve the open space.

1 Berger Partnership. (2013). Yarrow Point Trails Master Plan. Town of Yarrow Point. <https://yarrowpointwa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Yarrow-Point-Trails-MP-2.pdf>



Figure 64. Sally's Alley (Smith, 2023)

Points Loop Trail

The Points Loop Trail is an officially marked and mostly paved urban trail connecting Yarrow Point, Clyde Hill, Medina, and Hunts Point. The trail makes use of many existing trail facilities in those jurisdictions, including the SR-520 Trail in Yarrow Point, for example. Its route brings it close to connections with Seattle, Kirkland, and Bellevue. The trail also offers connections to other outdoor facilities including the Wetherill Nature Preserve, Fairweather Nature Preserve in Medina, and Medina Park.



Figure 65. Points Loop Trail (Smith, 2023)

92nd Avenue Trail

The extension of the trail along 92nd Avenue NE is connected with NE Haddin Way. The trail is on the west side of the street. The width of the trail is 6 feet, with an accompanying 3-foot planting strip. Once the trail reaches NE Haddin Way, it transitions into shared space on 95th Avenue NE, which serves as a connection to Morningside Park and Sally's Alley.



Figure 66. 92nd Avenue Trail (Trails Master Plan, 2013)

5.5 Parks Needs Assessment

Levels of Service

The parks system levels of service concept is to invest in the park system at a rate that current residents enjoy. The “base” LOS is the minimum standard the system is designed to meet, and the “target” LOS is an aspirational figure to strive to meet if resources allow. The Town does not currently have an adopted Parks LOS, but may choose to pursue one as part of a comprehensive PROS planning process or as an implementation goal of this Comprehensive Plan.

The capital improvement program in the Capital Facilities Chapter is designed to achieve Developed Park Acres. Developed Park Acres refers to improving the capacity of Yarrow Point parkland for public use to achieve intended park standards, whether for active, passive, or conservation purposes. The parkland classification or service area may be regional, community, neighborhood, urban, natural area/ greenway, linear park/trail, garden/gateway, or special use. Examples of development include but are not limited to, expanding the size of a playground, adding a restroom to a park, adding paths or picnic facilities to an undeveloped property, providing a community garden or dog park on an unimproved portion of a park, and other similar efforts.

Needs Assessment

A full 100% of Yarrow Point parcels are within a half-mile buffer of either Morningside Park or the Wetherill Nature Preserve, both evaluated as Neighborhood Parks in this context. Given that the town is split by SR-520, buffers may overrepresent the walkable proximity of parks. In this case, a walkshed, which measures distance along the pedestrian network, can offer more accurate results of park access.

When analyzing the walkshed, given that the Town is split by SR-520, five parcels fall outside of a half-mile walk to a neighborhood park in Yarrow Point. A further 92% of parcels are within a quarter-mile buffer of the Mini-Parks, but just 63% live within a quarter-mile walk of a mini-park.

Without a formal LOS Standard, these numbers only serve as a coarse picture of Yarrow Point’s parks service levels. Future LOS Standards may want to consider the number of households within each park’s catchment or acres per capita as measures of service levels.

Yarrow Point is a largely residential community where the landscape has been thoughtfully developed to its current capacity. While there is capacity to add more

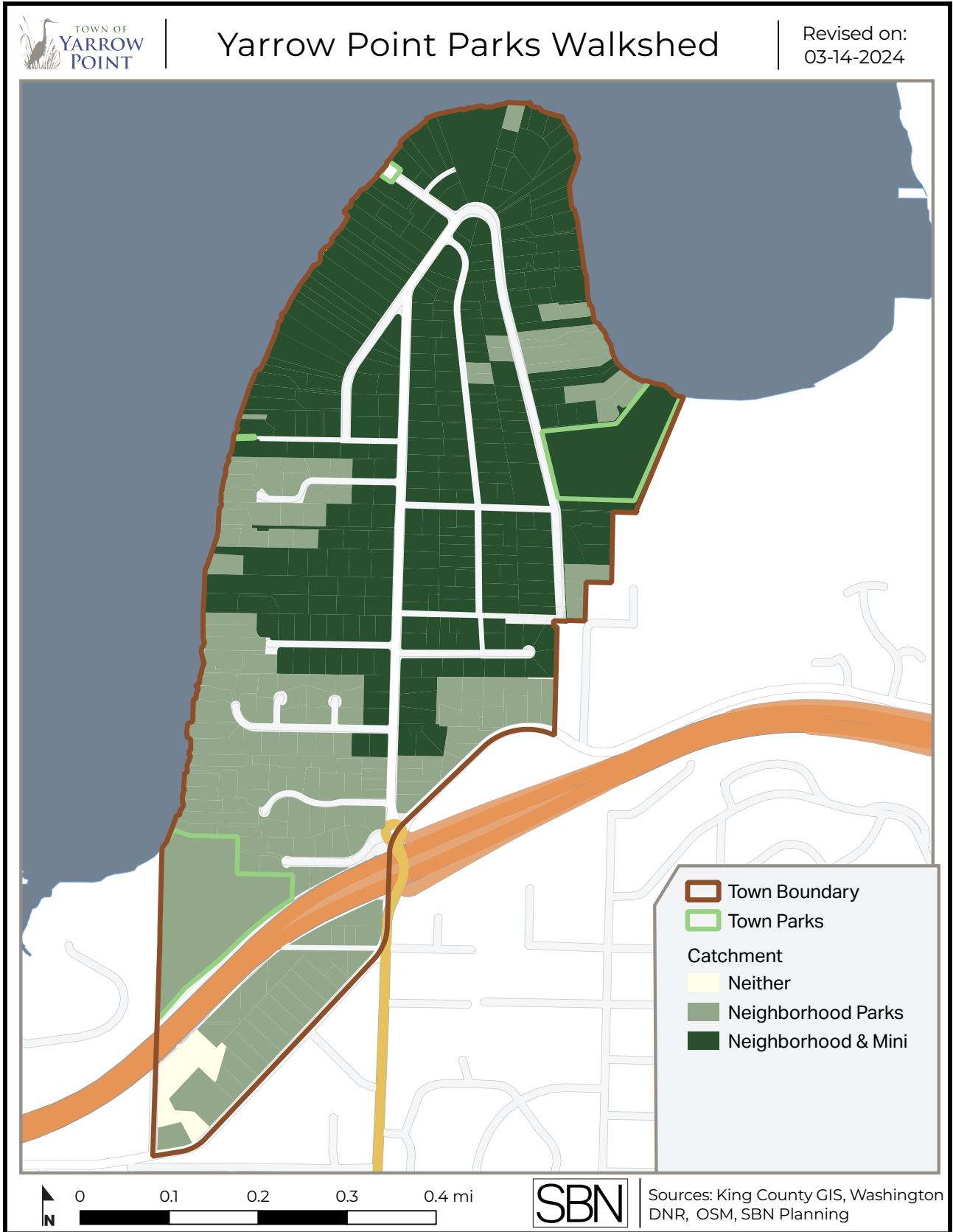


Figure 67. Map of Walkability and Catchment (SBN, 2024)

units, in line with recent state housing legislation, there is little vacant land on which to develop new parks. Future park development will likely have to focus on any possible partnerships, easements, or dedications of land to expand the parks system. In the meantime, this presents an opportunity to focus on enriching the quality and diversity of the existing open spaces and recreational facilities.

Other Measures of Quality

A future PROS Plan can help identify additional measures to establish an effective and efficient park and recreation system. This includes defining minimum standards for park classifications, establishing maintenance standards, and implementing operational guidelines. By developing these standards, the PROS Plan can ensure the smooth functioning of the park and recreation

facilities, enhance user experiences, and promote the system's long-term sustainability.

Public Engagement

As part of the comprehensive plan update, the public engagement phase included gathering feedback from residents about their views on the Town's parks, recreation, and open spaces. The survey focused on evaluating the community's perception of the quality and accessibility of local parks as well as an open-ended question for more detailed responses on parks and recreation planning.

The results of the survey revealed a strong community interest in the Town's parks and public spaces, a positive indication of the residents' engagement with their local environment. This interest is especially notable among families with children under 18, who express appreciation for the accessibility of these spaces. Feedback from these families highlighted areas for potential enhancement in Yarrow Point's parks and recreation facilities, including opportunities for more playgrounds, additional public water access points, expanded sports facilities, and increased ADA-compliant amenities. The survey responses suggest that families with children are particularly attuned to the benefits of well-equipped and accessible recreational spaces.

How Important is Access to Parks/Public Spaces?

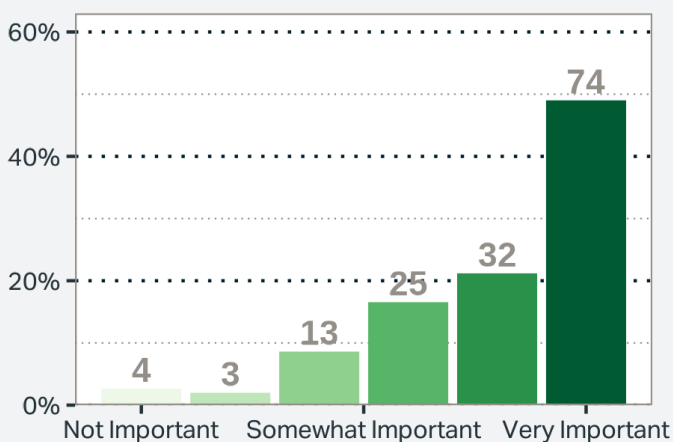


Figure 68. Importance of Access to Parks (SBN, 2023)

5.6 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Goals and Policies

Goal P-1: Foster a vibrant and inclusive community through thoughtfully designed public spaces and programs.

- **Policy P-1.1:** Provide a park system that allows for residents to be active year-round and supports public health in the community.
- **Policy P-1.2:** Make parks, including playgrounds and restrooms, ADA accessible and inclusive where possible.
- **Policy P-1.3:** Encourage universal design of parks and trail facilities. Universal design intends to design environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.
- **Policy 1.4:** Consider environmental supports and practices to foster inclusivity for all community members to ensure that everyone can fully participate and enjoy the Town's facilities.
- **Policy P-1.5:** Recognize that Yarrow Point parks are the main provider of community event spaces and activities. Increase special events in the Town's surroundings and districts to bring the community together and celebrate.

Goal P-2: Sustainably fund the Parks and Recreation System through the effective use of all available revenue resources and prioritize spending in accordance with this Plan.

- **Policy P-2.1:** Develop strategies for increasing park funds and access through fundraising, estate gifting, contracts, interlocal agreements, organizational partnerships, and community sponsors.
- **Policy P-2.2:** Prioritize capital facility investments that support the preservation, stewardship, and maintenance of existing PROS facilities.
- **Policy P-2.3:** Create and implement new funding sources needed to meet the needs of the parks and recreation services, and to maintain a quality park and recreation system in a sustainable manner.
- **Policy P-2.4:** Seek committed partners and volunteers to support the operations of the Parks.
- **Policy P-2.5:** Explore additional funding opportunities to support annual maintenance and operations improvements.
- **Policy P-2.6:** Establish service standards to share clear expectations regarding maintenance and operation of facilities.

Goals and policies continued on next page

Goal P-3: Enhance and sustain high-quality, accessible, and environmentally responsible parks and trails system in response to community growth and needs.

- **Policy P-3.1:** Adopt a level of service addressing park and trail quantity, park distribution, and investment levels to meet the needs of Yarrow Point's growing community.
- **Policy P-3.2:** Maintain and develop recreation facilities that support the existing land use and respond to any changes in land use when they arise.
- **Policy P-3.3:** Prioritize investments that improve accessibility and promote an active lifestyle for its residents.
- **Policy P-3.4:** Within park sites, provide for active and passive park elements consistent with park classifications, site conditions, master plans, and community engagement results.
- **Policy P-3.5:** Evaluate each park site to continually update long-term maintenance needs and include capital improvements for each site that will enhance the use and value to the community, the neighborhood, and customers of the park.

Goal P-4: Conserve open space and protect critical areas in the park system.

- **Policy P-4.1:** Create design and maintenance standards that include environmental stewardship and sustainability. Prioritize strategies that conserve resources including water (e.g., drought tolerant plants, native plants).
- **Policy P-4.2:** Manage park lands to protect the functions and values of ecosystems, protect wildlife corridors, and maintain compatibility with adjacent land uses.
- **Policy P-4.3:** Support water enjoyment opportunities that provide for recreational use or visual access to the shoreline for the general public.
- **Policy P-4.4:** Adopt and enforce a Critical Areas Ordinance to preserve and maintain critical areas in the Town. Apply the best available science to ensure a high-quality ordinance.

Goals and policies continued on next page

Goal P-5: Establish, replace, and maintain trees in parkland and rights of way recognizing clean air, shade, and habitat benefits.

- **Policy P-5.1:** Ensure the Town's public property tree code reflects changes in the community over time.
- **Policy P-5.2:** Endeavor to Develop a plan for the maintenance of street trees planted by the Town and tree canopy in Town parks.
- **Policy P-5.3:** Maintain or improve tree canopy in Yarrow Point's parklands and streetscapes. Prioritize canopy enhancement projects in areas that have the lowest canopy cover. Strategically and equitably implement tree canopy in areas with higher heat island effects.
- **Policy P-5.4:** On parklands and streetscapes, treat or remove diseased trees, trees posing safety hazards, or trees that are at the end of their lifespan consistent with professional standards and environmental regulations. Provide for tree replacement or establishment in suitable locations.

Goal P-6: Improve access to recreational amenities throughout the community by adding more amenities, and creating better connections through trails, sidewalks and bike lanes.

- **Policy P-6.1:** Develop trails and greenways in the Town to connect the community to parks, waterways and other attractions and that allows residents to move safely in areas with traffic.
- **Policy P-6.2:** Improve the signage to parks and trails in the Town to encourage greater use and access to parks, recreation facilities, and attractions.

Goal P-7 Encourage public participation and communication in the development of programs, parks, facilities, and trails.

- **Policy P-7.1:** Encourage public participation in the planning and design of parks, facilities, and trails.
- **Policy P-7.2:** Inform the community and news media of events, and opportunities to participate meaningfully in planning for parks.
- **Policy P-7.3:** Promote volunteerism to enhance community ownership and stewardship of the Yarrow Point park system.