



City of Oregon City

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Staff Report

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Status: Agenda Ready

To: City Commission

Agenda #: 3a.

From: Community Services Director Phil Lewis

File Type: Report

SUBJECT:

Clackamette Park Master Plan

BACKGROUND:

Clackamette Park is a 24 acre charter park located at the confluence of the Willamette and Clackamas Rivers. It is Oregon City's only park designated as a regional park and due to the park location and types of facilities located on the property, it sees heavy use from residents of Oregon City and people throughout the region. Facilities at the site include an RV campground, playground area, shelter buildings, horseshoe pits, picnic areas, boat ramp, pathways, restroom building and parking facilities.

The current boat ramp received a 'short-term' repair in 2016 but with the Clackamas River continuing to shift, a long-term relocation is required. The long-term solution for the boat ramp was to place the ramp approximately 350 feet down river from the current boat ramp. The location of the boat ramp recommendation was determined through a hydrology study and is supported by Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Moving the boat ramp down river will impact the primary greenspace in Clackamette Park. Due to this impact, concern was voiced from members of the City Commission, members of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) as well as members of the public.

The City Commission recognized the need for a master plan of Clackamette Park during the FY2019-2021 goal setting process. Goal 3 identified revisiting a portion of the Waterfront Master Plan, including Clackamette Park, the boat ramp location, the RV Park, and the City-owned properties across from Clackamette Park. Staff presented the topic at a March 2019 Commission Work Session and were directed to find a solution that would not include moving the ramp so far down river and would minimize the impact on greenspace. Engineering firm WEST Consultants were hired to review the possibility of moving the ramp approximately 150 feet upstream of the originally recommended position for the boat ramp. The technical memo attached to this staff report identifies the revised boat ramp location as a possibility but would require additional study and design costing approximately \$35,000. Architectural firm Mackenzie was hired to look at greenspace mitigation strategies utilizing the revised boat ramp location and assisted staff in completing a conceptual plan for improving contiguous greenspace, adding more connectivity for pedestrians, creating more high water resiliency, and creating more revenue opportunities for the park.

Staff and our engineering consultant provided a presentation of materials at a joint City Commission/Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee work session on September 4, 2019 and were asked to bring the information back at a future joint work session for further discussion.