

Community Vision Survey Questionnaire #3 of 5* — PARKS, TRAILS, AND RECREATION

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires cities to develop a comprehensive land use plan and associated capital facilities plan which provide for 20-years of city growth and development. La Center anticipates that it will double its population to nearly 8,000 residents, that builders will need to create nearly 1,800 new housing units, and that business will add approximately 1,200 new jobs between today and 2035.

La Center is revising its plans, including plans for parks, recreation and open space, for the period of 2016 – 2035. The Planning Commission is evaluating whether the City’s existing park and recreation plans are adequate to serve the expected growth and is considering how to provide services without increasing costs to the taxpayer.

In 2007 the City adopted a new Park, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan. (Web link at the end of this survey.) The Planning Commission would like to know whether community priorities have changed over the past 8 years. Your response is important and greatly appreciated.

Survey:

1. Which ONE of the following 3 statements comes closest to the way you feel about park and recreation services in La Center. Members of my household use La Center parks or recreation facilities or programs: (circle one)
- a. On a regular basis;
 - b. A few times a year;
 - c. Hardly at all.

On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the highest and 5 being the lowest, please prioritize your agreement with each of the following statements (for example, if you strongly agree with the statement, mark it “1”:

2. Parks and recreation services and facilities are important in maintaining and improving La Center’s quality of life.

1 2 3 4 5
(strongly agree) (strongly disagree)

3. La Center’s population is projected to grow to nearly 8,000 persons by 2035. Within the short term La Center should use existing and future Park Impact Fees, collected from new home development, or donations to purchase land for future parks and trails.

1 2 3 4 5
(strongly agree) (strongly disagree)

4. **Trails.** One trail connection not proposed in the 2007 Park and Recreation Plan is a link between the High School and Stonecreek or Southview Heights neighborhoods which could reduce the student commute by 1/3 of a mile or more. If the City could acquire and build the link at little or no cost to the taxpayer, how important is this connection to you.

1 2 3 4 5
(very important) (not very important)

5. On a scale of 1 (very important) to 5 (not very important) please prioritize the following activity/facility:

	(very important)			(not very important)		
	1	2	3	4	5	
Trail corridors (walking, biking, or electric carts)	1	2	3	4	5	
Outdoor sports complex for tournaments (soccer, softball, football)	1	2	3	4	5	
Small sports fields for tournaments (basketball, undeveloped fields)	1	2	3	4	5	
Small neighborhood parks (playgrounds for small children)	1	2	3	4	5	
Dog parks	1	2	3	4	5	
River access (unmotorized boats, picnicking, trails)	1	2	3	4	5	
Other (specify) _____	1	2	3	4	5	

6. Recognizing budget limitations, La Center should prioritize park and recreation services and facilities as follows: (Please rank 1-5, with 1 being most important and 5 being least important.)
- a. Building or expanding recreation programs and facilities _____,
 - b. Building trails and walking paths _____,
 - c. Purchasing and/or preserving open space or natural areas _____,
 - d. Acquiring and/or developing new parks _____,
 - e. Renovating existing parks _____, or
 - f. Other _____.
8. **Sports Fields.** The 2007 Park and Recreation Plan envisioned a regional sports complex north of Tri-Mountain Golf Course. If a regional facility does not develop there, is there a location in La Center where a large sports complex might work, such as, as Timmen Road, the I-5 Junction, Lockwood Creek Road, Pacific Highway?
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9. **Waterfront.** Are there programs, facilities or services the City should consider to better connect the community to the East Fork of the Lewis River?
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**Prior survey results for #1 Housing, #2 Economy, and Marijuana are posted on the City web site.*

<http://www.ci.lacenter.wa.us/pdfs/Housing-EconomicSurveys.pdf>

http://www.ci.lacenter.wa.us/pdfs/Marijuana_Feedback.pdf

The 2007 La Center Park, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan is available:

<http://www.ci.lacenter.wa.us/pdfs/ParksMasterPlan.pdf>

Please provide your email address if you would like be added to the City's comprehensive plan update email distribution list.

_____@_____

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 214 East 4th Street
 La Center, Washington 98629

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Community Vision Survey # 3

Parks, Trails & Recreation Survey Data Analysis

Question 1	#	Percent
Totals use on a regular basis	53	45%
Total use a few times a year	32	27%
Total use hardly at all	32	27%
Total responses received	117	
Total # of surveys received	118	

	Quality of Life Q 2	Purchase Land Q 3	School Trail Q 4
Questions 2 - 4			
Total 1s and 2s (support)	86	67	63
Total 4s and 5s (do not support)	10	18	39
Total 1s and 5s (extremes)	69	42	58
Total response received	118	116	118
Total # of surveys received	118	118	118
Percent support	73%	57%	53%
Percent do not support	8%	15%	33%
Percent extreme	58%	36%	49%
No answer	0%	2%	0%
Average (Mean)	1.86	2.35	2.71

Please prioritize the following activity/facility.

	Trails 5 - A	Outdoor Sports 5 - B	Small Fields 5 - C	Small Parks 5 - D	Dog Parks 5 - E	River Access 5 - F	Other 5 - G
Questions 5							
Total 1s and 2s (support)	85	56	45	61	35	63	17
Total 4s and 5s (do not support)	13	38	38	16	50	23	47
Total 1s and 5s (extremes)	61	45	31	42	56	43	14
Total response received	117	117	113	114	115	117	77
Total # of surveys received	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
Percent support	72%	47%	38%	52%	30%	53%	14%
Percent do not support	11%	32%	32%	14%	42%	19%	40%
Percent extreme	52%	38%	26%	36%	47%	36%	12%
No answer	1%	1%	4%	3%	3%	1%	35%
Average (Mean)	1.95	2.77	2.98	2.39	3.30	2.46	0.53

Recognizing budget limitations, La Center should prioritize park & recreation services and facilities as follows.

	Building Facilities 6 - A	Building Trails 6 - B	Purchase Preserve 6 - C	New Parks 6 - D	Renovate 6 - E	Other 6 - F
Questions 6						
Total 1s and 2s (support)	34	72	47	31	33	6
Total 4s and 5s (do not support)	47	20	40	50	42	1
Total 1s and 5s (extremes)	41	57	45	38	40	4
Total response received	106	108	107	108	102	9
Total # of surveys received	118	118	118	118	118	118
Percent support	29%	61%	40%	26%	28%	5%
Percent do not support	40%	17%	34%	42%	36%	1%
Percent extreme	35%	48%	38%	32%	34%	3%
No answer	10%	8%	9%	8%	14%	92%
Average (Mean)	3.19	2.19	3.00	3.31	3.24	2.22

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Parks, Trails & Recreation Survey Data Analysis

- * Approximately 1,100 surveys were mailed out in January. As of 2/5/2014 118 surveys were received, resulting in an 11% return rate.
- * Overall residents support our community's parks and recreation facilities. Of the 118 responses received, 72% percent of the community use our parks and/or trail facilities throughout the year.
- * 73% believe our parks and recreation facilities are important for maintaining and improving our quality of life.
- * When asked to prioritize six different activities/facilities an overwhelming 72% found trail corridors for walking, biking or with electric carts to be most important. When asked specifically about a trail to the school property 53% were in support and 33% were opposed.
- * Residents showed a great level of support for small parks and access to the river. 52% favored small parks with only 14% opposing them. 53% of the residents favored river access with only 19% opposing it.
- * When asked about prioritizing future parks and recreation activities/facilities, residents favored trails with 61% supporting and 17% opposed. Their next priority was purchasing and/or preserving land for future parks, 40% supported it while 34% were opposed.