

Displayed on-screen by Commissioner Landt:

I have had the pleasure of seeing Ashland's Parks and Open Space plan evolve from its inception in the early 90's, helping write the original chapter and being involved in the subsequent updates. Back in the 80's and early 90's, Ashland had less parks per capita than Klamath Falls, Roseburg and Medford. Ashland had Lithia Park but not a lot more with a total of around 240 acres. Thanks to the Comprehensive Plan for a clear vision and the Food and Beverage Tax for funding, the parks system has grown to over 800 acres currently.

This new reality of a robust parks system that is the envy of most Cities in Oregon and beyond, begs for a different vision. That is where the overdue update of the Parks and Open Space chapter of the Comprehensive Plan comes in. APRC will initiate the process and the City's Community Development Department will shepherd APRC's recommendations through the state mandated process for revising the Comp Plan.

Goals of the Process:

1. Determine if there are properties on the Plan Map that given today's realities could/should be removed from the Plan.
2. Get the Plan Map to align with acquisition realities
3. Provide a full opportunity for the general public and stakeholders to provide input
4. Review Plan goals to determine if they are met and therefore can be celebrated
5. Review plan goal to see if they need to be modified to meet current financial and system realities

The steps that I am proposing that APRC take to accomplish these goals are as follows:

1. Notify stakeholders like Ashland Soccer Club, RVMBA, Ashland Woodland Trails Association, golf community and others of our intent and invite them to participate.
2. Form a working group to consider input and write recommendations
3. Present the recommendations before at least two APRC public meetings
4. Commissioners to vote on finalized recommendations
5. Forward recommendations to the Community Development Department and City Council