

Element 05 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space

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1. Introduction

This element covers issues related to Parks, Recreation and Open Space including an evaluation of existing facilities, future demand on existing facilities, the need for new facilities, and an evaluation of regional parks and open space opportunities. A Parks and Recreation Element is required under the State GMA. Specifically RCW 36.70A.070(8) requires:

“A park and recreation element that implements, and is consistent with, the capital facilities plan element as it relates to park and recreation facilities. The element shall include: (a) Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period; (b) an evaluation of facilities and service needs; and (c) an evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand.”

The parks and open spaces within the City provide areas for recreational and physical activity such as youth sports, walking, bicycling, picnics, play areas, and other outdoor activities. The space provided by these areas, along with various programs offered by the City, Fife School District and local and regional sports associations, help to promote healthy activities and opportunities for exercise.

The City of Milton created a Parks Board in 1956. The Parks Board is an appointed body responsible for park, open space, and trail planning. The Board reviews community needs for park and recreation facilities, and makes recommendations for improvements and changes. Citizen input is taken at the Board’s regularly scheduled meetings.

The Parks Board was responsible for the acquisition, conversion and development of the Interurban Trail and the Skate Park, has worked on the creation of a Milton Community Park Master Plan, and the adoption of the 2000 Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan. Part of the 2000 Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan includes a Park Vision, is incorporated into this Parks Recreation and Open Space Element.

PARKS VISION

Foster and support the stewardship of human and natural resources throughout our community, in the form of parks, trails, and open spaces, to serve the needs for residents of Milton.

2. Major Issues, Concerns, and Citizen Input

In creating the future plans and policies identified in this element, the following list of issues and projects were identified through a visioning process, online surveys, public participation events, and public meetings:

- How can the City increase accessibility to parks, recreation and open space?
- What is the proper balance between creating new parks, and maintaining or expanding existing parks?
- How to efficiently maintain and enhance the family friendly atmosphere.
- Milton Community Park is the centerpiece of the City's Parks. How should it be maintained and enhanced?
- How can the City encourage the development of the Interurban Trail as a regional recreational facility?
- Where is the most appropriate place to acquire new park property?
- At what level of service should the City provide parks, recreation and open space opportunities?

The City's adopted Comprehensive Park, Open Space and Trail Plan identifies a number of projects. Those projects, or potential projects, that have not been completed since the adoption of the Comprehensive Park, Open Space and Trail Plan, along with new projects based on City input, are identified below:

- Interurban Trail completion including pedestrian amenities and connection to adjacent cities.
- Hylebos Creek nature preserve and trail
- Acquisition of Surprise Lake frontage and access
- Expansion of and improvements to Milton Community Park
- Mini-amphitheater in Milton Community Park
- Youth recreation center
- Performing arts center
- Pea patch and agricultural interpretive center
- Gateway improvements along Meridian, Milton Way and Pacific Highway.

3. Parks, Recreation and Open Space Goals & Policies

Goal PRO 1 The City should provide a comprehensive system of parks and open spaces that respond to the current and future recreational, cultural, environmental, and aesthetic needs and desires of the City's residents. The City's parks and open spaces should strive to balance environmental protection, open space, wildlife habitat, and multi-use recreational opportunities.

Pol. PRO 1.1 Due to its central location, Milton Community Park (aka Triangle Park) should continue to be developed as a key community facility in the city's park and recreational planning efforts.

Pol. PRO 1.2 Parks and Open Spaces should be complementary of, and enhance the natural environment of their surroundings. Special consideration should be given to protecting the Hylebos Creek and its associated wetland and floodplain, as well as surrounding neighborhoods and residences, when considering the development, acquisition and maintenance of parks and open spaces.

Pol. PRO 1.3 Utilize citizen involvement and participation including the Fife School District, businesses, developers, user groups such as youth sports leagues, and neighborhood groups in planning for and developing, operating, and maintaining Milton's parks, trails and open spaces.

Pol. PRO 1.4 Maintain a combined level of service of 7.37 acres of developed neighborhood and community park land per 1,000 residents. The City should endeavor to raise the actual level of service to 9.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Additionally, the City shall strive to make a neighborhood park accessible within one-half mile of all residences in Milton and a community park accessible within 1.5 miles of all residences in Milton.

Goal PRO 2 The City should recognize the important recreational, health and transportation roles played by bicycle, walking and non-motorized trail systems; and support the continued development of the Interurban Trail as a benefit to the citizens of Milton and as a part of a regional trail system.

Pol. PRO 2.1 The City should support the development of new paths, sidewalks and marked roadways that link the Interurban Trail with the City's other resources such as schools, other parks, sidewalks and the commercial districts within the City and adjoining jurisdictions.

Pol. PRO 2.2 New connections to the Interurban Trail should be encouraged where existing right-of-way abuts the trail.

- Pol. PRO 2.3 The City should pursue funding for the continued development of the Interurban Trail through grant programs sponsored by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the other state and federal agency providing grant funding for parks, trails and open space.
- Pol. PRO 2.4 The City shall promote the Interurban Trail as a regional recreation resource during regional planning exercises occurring with King and Pierce counties and nearby cities.
- Pol. PRO 2.5 Provide access and education about Milton’s history and natural environment through the Interurban Trail.

Goal PRO 3 Milton’s parks, trails, and open spaces, as well as recreational programs, shall be accessible to as many user groups as possible.

- Pol. PRO 3.1 Ensure Milton’s parks, trails, and open spaces have a strong orientation towards providing for future generations by providing facilities for all ages and generations.
- Pol. PRO 3.2 Plan Milton’s park, trail, and open space needs through population projections and citizen advisory committees to determine needs and location for future facilities.
- Pol. PRO 3.3 Plan Milton’s recreational programs through population projections and citizen advisory committee to analyze needs and service offerings to respond to those needs.
- Pol. PRO 3.4 Give special consideration to people with limited financial resources, youth at risk, the elderly, the disabled, and others with special needs during park, trail, and open space planning.
- Pol. PRO 3.5 Offer a wide variety of parks and recreation programs to meet the community’s diverse needs.
- Pol. PRO 3.6 Provide adequate parking and access to parks trails and open space by encouraging shared parking facilities and on street parking where appropriate.
- Pol. PRO 3.7 Design, construct, and retrofit parks to be utilized by as many user groups as possible, where appropriate and feasible.

Goal PRO 4 Design and development of new parks and open space, along with maintenance and expansion of existing parks and open space, shall consider

the surrounding natural environment and the intended use of the park, in order to balance the need for parks and open space with environmental protection.

- Pol. PRO 4.1 Where appropriate maintain wildlife corridors to provide adequate linkage for animal movement.
 - Pol. PRO 4.2 Enhance wildlife habitat areas through the development of parks, trails, open spaces, and stream restoration.
 - Pol. PRO 4.3 Bring visual relief and tranquility to mitigate the impacts of the urban environment, including noise, traffic, concrete, and congestion through the use of street trees, native landscaping, gardens, lawns, woods, and water throughout Milton's parks, trails, and open spaces.
 - Pol. PRO 4.4 Promote the retention and replication of the area's natural beauty and ecology in City parks, trails, and open spaces.
 - Pol. PRO 4.5 The City shall provide and promote the development of pedestrian and bicycle paths to schools, parks, transit and activity centers, as well as linkages between these paths.
 - Pol. PRO 4.6 The City shall encourage the location of bicycle racks at appropriate destination points, such as outside of commercial businesses, the City Hall, parks, schools, and transit facilities.
 - Pol. PRO 4.7 The City shall encourage the continued use of private open space areas that exist within the City and PAA.
 - Pol. PRO 4.8 Consider things such as signage with regulations for behavior and appropriate times and ways to use parks, trails, and open spaces; regular maintenance; adequate lighting; appropriate landscaping; and regular police patrols in the design and maintenance of parks and open space.
 - Pol. PRO 4.9 Parks should be planned, developed and maintained in a manner that showcases and enhances Milton's history and culture.
- Goal PRO 5 Milton should acquire land for future parks, trails, and open spaces as appropriate and through various means when such lands are available, affordable, and serve to implement the park, trail, and open space planning efforts. This land along with existing parks and open spaces shall be well managed to provide a safe and family friendly park environment.**

- Pol. PRO 5.1 Where feasible, acquire land adjacent to existing parks, trails, and open spaces to enhance the potential uses of those facilities and to improve linkages between the facilities.
- Pol. PRO 5.2 Pursue partnerships with the Fife School District, Tribal governments, state agencies, businesses, developers, user groups such as youth sports leagues, and neighborhood groups in order to provide and manage parks, trails, and open spaces.
- Pol. PRO 5.3 In recognition of the important open space and environmental values related to the wetland areas associated with Hylebos Creek, the City shall investigate and pursue appropriate public grants and private methods of financing the acquisition of these areas including repair and enhancement of riparian habitat.
- Pol. PRO 5.4 Developers shall mitigate impacts of their development by providing parks, trails, and open spaces, or fees in lieu of such, through the SEPA Environmental Review process and/or through development fees.
- Pol. PRO 5.5 In commercial areas of the City, developers shall mitigate the impacts of their developments by providing public spaces and facilities such as plazas, courtyards, and pedestrian connections, through the SEPA Environmental Review process and/or design standards, as appropriate.
- Pol. PRO 5.6 The City should participate in regional park, trail, and open space planning to ensure that Milton residents benefit from tax revenues intended to fund regional open space needs.
- Pol. PRO 5.7 The City should identify and pursue grant opportunities to further the City's parks, trails, recreational and open space planning efforts.
- Pol. PRO 5.8 Ensure that Milton's parks, trails, and open spaces are safe, well managed, and provide a family friendly atmosphere.
- Pol. PRO 5.9 Promote the opportunity for use and minimize user conflict through safe and well-managed parks, trails, and open space facilities. Anticipate the safety needs of users and design parks and parks programs with these concerns in mind.
- Pol. PRO 5.10 The City should promote the use of property tax reductions and encourage and support the participation of community-based non-profit organizations, offering options and alternatives to development, in the interest of preserving desirable lands as a public benefit.

- Pol. PRO 5.11 The City should acquire and develop waterfront property on Surprise Lake to provide public access to the shoreline. Acquisition of said park should be dependent on availability of land and funding and should be an appropriate site for a park. The future use of such a park should be compatible with adjacent uses. Development of such a park should retain and enhance native vegetation while preserving the natural characteristics of the shoreline. The design and location of the public access point should minimize disruption to current residents.
- Pol. PRO 5.12 The City should strive to maintain an updated Comprehensive Park, Open Space and Trail Plan.

4. Analysis

Background and Inventory

As a method for classifying parks, open space, and recreational facilities within the City and its urban growth area, the City employs the Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines established in 1983 by the National Recreation and Park Association. The following are the categorization of facilities used by the City of Milton.

- **Neighborhood Parks** – generally no more than 5 acres in size, depending on a variety of factors including need, location and opportunity. These active-use parks are intended to serve residential areas within a ½-mile radius, and typically include amenities such as pedestrian paths and trails, picnic tables, play fields, equipment and sports courts, landscaping and irrigation. The Hilltower and West Milton Parks are good examples of a Neighborhood Park.
- **Community Parks** – generally 10-50 acres designed for organized activities and sports. These active-use parks may include athletic complexes, skate parks, wildlife-observation areas, picnic shelters, restrooms, trails, landscaping, irrigation and parking areas. Milton Community Park is a good example of a Community Park.
- **Natural Areas and Greenspace Corridors** – much variety exists for parks of this nature. Intended to provide visual and psychological relief from man-made development, provisions are made for passive recreation, such as walking trails, benches and environmental interpretive panels. This includes the various nature preserves in Milton as well as the large flood plain areas associated with the Hylebos Creek.
- **Trails** – may be developed in conjunction with other park types or independently. A trail may be a stand-alone feature, or it may serve to connect two or more destinations. Classifications include:
 - **Regional Trail** - Paved, shared-use, long-distance linear trail corridors for the exclusive use of pedestrians, bicycles and other approved trail users. Regional trails are typically 12'-14' wide with a 2' wide gravel shoulder on both sides. The Interurban Trail is an example of a regional trail.
 - **Community Trail** - Paved, shared-use trails typically found within community parks or linking park facilities. Community trails are typically 8'-10' wide. The path through Milton Community Park is a good example of a community trail.
 - **Rustic Trail** - Earthen or soft-surface trails with limited horizontal clearances and challenging grades and obstacles. Providing accessibility and regular facility maintenance are issues typical of this type of trail, since they vary in width and

surfacing. There are various unmapped and unmaintained trails connecting to the Interurban Trail; these are examples of Rustic Trails.

- **Bike Routes and Sidewalks** - Typically associated with the transportation system, these linear paths are heavily used within urban areas and should be included in trail planning efforts in coordination with the Public Works Department.
- **Special Facilities** – include single-purpose recreational centers. Included in this type are golf courses, display gardens, pools, museums, historical landmarks and public plazas. The size, location and programming of these facilities are dependent upon community demand. The Skate Park is an example of a Special Facility.

The City of Milton’s park and open space resources include: the Fife School District Complex, Hill Tower Park, Interurban Trail, Milton Community Center, Milton Activity Center, Olympic View Park, West Milton Nature Preserve, Milton Community Park, the Skate Park and West Milton Park.

Existing and future parks, trails and other community recreational facilities are shown on Map PRO-1. Five Mile Lake Park in the City of Federal Way and Edgemont Park in the City of Edgewood are also located in close proximity to Milton residents. The following narratives describe existing park and open space amenities for each facility.

Fife School District Complex

Discovery Primary, Endeavor Intermediate and Surprise Lake Middle schools form a joint primary/middle school complex that was first constructed in 1951 on a 32-acre site immediately south of Milton Way. These are the only Fife School District facilities within the Milton city limits, and the only school facilities included in Milton’s parks inventory. Access to the schools is by way of 19th Avenue or Oak St. Parking for the school’s recreational facilities are located onsite.

Both Discovery Primary and Endeavor Intermediate Schools have their own large playground area with youth play equipment. Both of these schools also have a large play field which contains baseball backstops and can accommodate soccer fields. Surprise Lake Middle School maintains a large baseball field which is used for little league baseball and by the school’s baseball team. The middle school also has a newly renovated turf field with a rubber composite running track, which is heavily used by local sporting leagues and the School District. This field is lighted and provides the ability for local sports leagues and citizens to utilize the track and field during evening hours.

Use of the facilities is scheduled through the Fife School District. During the summer months, the Fife School District administers a youth program offering educational and recreational activities. These facilities have not been included within the City’s Level of Service calculation.

After the school day, on weekends, and during the summer, various clubs and organizations make use of the school's recreational facilities. The Fife-Milton-Edgewood Soccer League uses the school facilities between the months of October and February. The Fife-Milton Youth Football League uses the school facilities between the months of July and November.

Hill Tower Park

Hill Tower Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located at approximately 700 19th Avenue. The park gets its name from the City of Milton's water tower that is situated immediately adjacent to the site. This park also contains a pump house associated with the City Water System and is a good example of joint use of parks and utilities. Hill Tower Park has 12 parking spaces, one of which is designated handicapped. The park also contains accessible portable restroom facilities. A paved area for basketball and other court sports exists within the park, as well as children's play equipment and sledding opportunities in the winter.

The Interurban Trail

The Interurban Trail is a notable scenic route that originates in King County, meanders through the City of Milton, and continues through Pierce County. The right-of-way property is 100 feet wide and includes significant stands of coniferous trees and several areas of distinctive natural features. Long range planning efforts by the Parks Board, Planning Commission, and City Council have resulted in the acquisition and development of the Interurban Trail. The City's intended use of the Interurban Trail is to provide significant active recreational opportunities for pedestrians and cyclists as well as passive recreational activities with interpretive viewpoints and picnic areas. The trail section through Milton and the UGA is 3.4 miles.

Continued development of the Interurban Trail will provide a valuable community asset not only for the residents of the City of Milton, but also the surrounding region. "Rail to trail" conversion projects, such as the Burke-Gilman Trail in Seattle, the Interurban Trail in the Kent Valley and the Foothills Trail that runs south of Sumner through Orting, are well-used resources that contribute much to the quality of life in the cities where they are located.

The City of Fife recently installed a parking lot and trail head at the far west end of Milton's portion of the Interurban Trail. The City of Milton is continuing to pursue funding for the continued development of the undeveloped portion of the Interurban Trail right-of-way. The trail is planned to extend east through the City of Edgewood and continue on, to connect to the Pacific- Sumner Trail System. This connection will provide future connection to three other major regional trails: the Foothills Trail, the Puyallup River Trail, and the White River Trail.

West Milton Nature Preserve

Milton recently acquired 4.5 acres for open space where the Hylebos Creek intersects 5th

Avenue. The City restored and enhanced the property in order to protect the habitat and ecological value provided by this area. The West Milton Nature Preserve is largely undeveloped and inaccessible. Together, these parcels will be a valuable nature reserve and an asset to the City and its citizens and visitors.

Milton Community Building

The Milton Community Center is a 1,900 square-foot structure situated on a site of approximately 16,000 square-feet located immediately east of Milton Community Park and south of Milton Way on the east side of 15th Avenue. The facility was constructed in 1999 at a cost of approximately \$125,000.

The City of Milton reserves the facility for club, organization, and non-profit group meetings and events. Private parties and other events are planned to allow the facility to generate a revenue stream to fund other park and open space activities.

Milton Activity Center

The Milton Activity Center is a 2,250 square-foot facility constructed in 1984 and located within the Milton City Hall complex. The Activity Center is part of the structure that houses the Milton Police Department. Parking facilities are shared with the City Hall complex.

The Activity Center contains a large room that is commonly used for dancing, aerobics, kickboxing, yoga, and other indoor recreational activities. The facility also includes kitchen facilities, two offices, and an adjacent room where meetings occur.

The Activity Center is reserved at City Hall for senior, adult, and youth groups. The activity center may also be rented out for private use.

Olympic View Park

Olympic View Park is a half-acre mini-park located at 30 Hylebos Avenue in the King County portion of the City. Milton acquired Olympic View Park in 1998. During 2000, the City expended \$25,000 for the installation of children's playground equipment and restroom facilities.

Milton Community Park

Milton Community Park (aka Triangle Parks) is a 10-acre community park bounded to the north by Milton Way, the east by 15th Avenue, the south by Oak Street, and the west by private property. The site slopes down, from east to west, and is wooded in the middle portion of the park. The park is served by two paved parking facilities. One parking facility, situated along 15th Avenue, can accommodate 15 automobiles. Another parking facility, situated along Oak Street, can accommodate 10 automobiles. The City recently completed a renovation of the restroom facilities to ensure they are consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This project

also included connecting the newly renovated restroom to the Tennis court and parking areas via an ADA accessible trail.

The eastern portion of the park contains three (3) tee-ball/softball fields, picnic areas, and a lighted tennis and field hockey court. Kemper Playground is located in the western portion of the park and has a large youth playground facility.

The park hosts the City of Milton's annual summer picnic as well as various other annual community events.

The Parks Board has recently completed the Milton Community Park Comprehensive Plan, which identifies future improvements and additions to existing facilities.

Skate Park

The Skate Park is a 1.3 acre site located at the intersection of Milton Way and 23rd. The Parks Board along with volunteer nonprofit organizations acquired the property and funding to construct the skate park in 2003. The skate park contains a 7,000 sq. ft. U-shaped, 9ft deep bowl, and a 3,000 square foot street course with ledges, banks, stairs, rails, manual pad and even a taco. The park also contains off street parking spots, picnic benches and a children's play area.

West Milton Park

West Milton Park is a three-acre neighborhood park located at the northeast intersection of Porter Way and Kent Street. The park is situated immediately west of the City of Milton's maintenance facilities thereby representing another good example of joint use of public facilities.

West Milton Park was developed in 1992 for recreation use. It is currently improved with a baseball backstop, bleachers, and outdoor lighting for evening sporting events. Recently a second baseball field was added to the northwest portion of the park.

The park facilities are reserved for use at City Hall. The ball fields are routinely used by various youth and adult sports associations during most seasons of the year.

Table 1 below shows the current parks and open spaces in the City, their park type and characteristics.

Table 1 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Inventory			
<i>Facilities Within the City</i>			
Park Facility	Area	Improvements	Park Type
Olympic View Park *	0.5 acres	Picnic Grounds, Children’s Play Area	Mini-Park
Hill Tower Park * (LOS)	2 acres	Basketball Court, Children’s Play Area	Neighborhood Park
West Milton Park * (LOS)	3 acres	Baseball/Softball Field	Neighborhood Park
Milton Community Park * (LOS)	10 acres	Ball Field, Picnic Grounds, Tennis Courts, Children’s Play Area	Community Park
Discovery/Endeavor/Surprise Lake Schools	14 acres	Jogging Track, Baseball Field, 2 Play Fields, Basketball Courts, and lighted soccer/football field.	Community Park
Interurban Trail * (LOS)	38 acres	Walking & cycling path, Picnic grounds, Scenic Viewing, Open Space, Education	Community Park
West Milton Nature Preserve *	2.5 acres	Open Space/Education	Open Space Special
Milton Community Building *	0.36 acres	Kitchen and Meeting Rooms	Special Use Facility
Milton Activity Center *	2,350 sq.	Kitchen, Meeting and Indoor Recreation Areas, Offices	Special Use Facility
Skate Park *	1.3 acres	Children’s Play Area, Concrete Skate Park	Mini Park and Special Use Facility
<i>Regional Facilities</i>			
Edgemont Park (City of Edgewood)	3 acres	Children’s Play Equipment, Basketball Courts, Picnic area	Neighborhood Park
Five Mile Lake Park (King County)	20 acres	Swimming, Tennis Courts, Basketball Courts, Outdoor Barbecue/Kitchen Facilities	Community Park
Fife Community Pool	N/A	Swimming	Special Use Facility

(LOS) – Indicates the park is included in the Level of Service standard.

* - Indicates City owned facilities.

The City of Milton has excluded mini-parks from the level of service standard. Given the large-lot, single family composition of most of Milton’s neighborhoods, mini-parks are not viewed as a particularly critical element of the City’s parks strategy. Therefore, the City has opted not to adopt a separate level of service standard for mini-parks or to include their recommended park area in the aggregate level of service standard. Where mini-parks have their highest value, in large-scale, higher-density multi-family development, the City can require the inclusion of small- scale recreational facilities to serve those residents in proposed developments.

Included in the city’s inventory of existing recreational opportunities are several facilities that are located outside of the city. These include Five Mile Lake Park in unincorporated King County, Edgemont Park in the City of Edgewood, and Fife Community Pool in the City of Fife. While these facilities are used by Milton residents and provide additional recreational opportunities, they are not financed by or a result of partnerships with the city. Therefore, they are not included in park lands that are used to satisfy Milton’s level of service standard.

The recreational opportunities located at Surprise Lake Middle school are also excluded from the City’s level of service standards.

Recommended Level Service Standards

Service standards for parks are commonly used to evaluate whether the existing supply of recreational land is adequate to meet the demands of the current and future residents of Milton. One option for determining park needs is to base the future requirements on current levels of service, or acres of existing parks per resident. Another option is to recommended service standards for each particular type of park. Standards recommended by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) are shown in Table 2, below.

Table 2 Parks Recommended Level of Service Standards (NRPA)		
Park Type	Recommended Service Standard	
	<i>Area per population</i>	<i>Radius of service area</i>
Mini-park	Approximately 0.3 acres per 1,000	¼ mile
Neighborhood Park	1-2 acres per 1,000 population	¼ to ½ mile
Community Park	5-8 acres per 1,000 population	1 to 2 miles
Special Use Park	No applicable standard	No applicable standard

*Standards recommended by NPRA

Needs Assessment

The City has determined that the appropriate level of service is 7.37 acres of developed land per

thousand residents for a combination of neighborhood and community parks. This level of service standard approximates the ratio of residents to acres of park land in the year 2015. The standard is regarded as a minimum service level and benchmark to ensure that current residents do not see their recreational opportunities eroded by growth in the City. Further, adopting these standards as policy provides the City with a nexus for requiring new development to contribute to maintaining this level of service.

Table 3 below shows the City’s amount of community and neighborhood parks. This is converted into acres of park, per 1,000 in population, for comparison to the adopted and projected future Level of Service standards.

Table 3 Current Level Of Service (LOS)*					
Park Type	Current Acres	2014 LOS	Adopted LOS Standard	2035 Projected LOS***	2035 Projected deficit/surplus (in acres)****
Neighborhood Park	5	0.69	1-2	0.84	0.94 - 6.87 acres deficit
Community Park **	48	6.6	5-8	5.40	3.55 acre surplus -23 acre deficit
Combined Neighborhood & Community Park	53	7.37	7.37	5.96	11.81 acre deficit
Special Use Park	2	0.27	N/A	0.22	N/A

*Level of Service (LOS) = acres of park per 1,000 residents

** Includes property dedicated to the Interurban Trail

*** Based on 2035 PRSC Population of 8,884 identified in the Land Use Element

**** Based on current park inventory, adopted level of service, and projected 2035 population

As shown above, the City of Milton currently has a projected 2035 deficit of 11.81 acres in combined neighborhood/community park space, compared to the adopted LOS standard of 7.37 acres per 1,000 residents. Over the next 20 years, the City’s population is expected to increase, according to the Puget Sound Regional Council and the adopted population and housing targets identified in the Land Use Element.

As mentioned in the Goals and Policies, the City is striving to achieve 9.5 acres or greater of combined neighborhood/community park space per 1,000 residents. In order to achieve this level of service, the City will need to acquire additional park space, or require it of new development.