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# Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ................................................................................................................. 1
  Core Considerations ................................................................................................................ 1
  Major Recommendations ....................................................................................................... 2

CHAPTER 1.  INTRODUCTION ............................................................................................... 3
  Setting .......................................................................................................................................... 3
  Park & Recreation District Overview .................................................................................... 3
  Community Profile ................................................................................................................... 4
  Review of Other Community Plans ....................................................................................... 7
  Contents of the Plan ................................................................................................................... 8

CHAPTER 2.  DEFINITIONS & INVENTORY .......................................................................... 9
  Definitions .................................................................................................................................. 9
  Inventory ................................................................................................................................... 12
  Other Recreation Providers ................................................................................................... 17

CHAPTER 3.  COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ....................................................................... 21
  Community Survey .................................................................................................................. 21
  Stakeholder Discussions ......................................................................................................... 22
  Community Open House Meeting ....................................................................................... 23
  Park & Recreation Commission Meetings ........................................................................... 23
  Other Outreach ........................................................................................................................ 23

CHAPTER 4.  NEEDS ASSESSMENT .................................................................................. 24
  Recreational Needs Overview ............................................................................................... 24
  Recreation Programming ........................................................................................................ 27
  Recreation Facilities ................................................................................................................ 30
  Park Facilities ........................................................................................................................... 31
  Trails .......................................................................................................................................... 34
  District Communications ......................................................................................................... 34

CHAPTER 5.  POLICIES & OBJECTIVES ............................................................................ 36
  Community Engagement ....................................................................................................... 36
  Recreation Programming ........................................................................................................ 36
  Parks .......................................................................................................................................... 37
  Trails .......................................................................................................................................... 38
  Management & Operations .................................................................................................... 38

CHAPTER 6.  ACTION PLAN & IMPLEMENTATION .......................................................... 40
  Capital Facilities Action Plan ................................................................................................... 40
  Implementation in Context ....................................................................................................... 43
  Volunteer & Community-Based Action ................................................................................... 43
  Interagency Coordination & Collaboration ............................................................................. 43
  Local Funding ........................................................................................................................... 44
  Grants ......................................................................................................................................... 45
APPENDIX A. REFERENCES........................................................................................................... 47
APPENDIX B. SURVEY RESULTS........................................................................................................49
APPENDIX C. STAKEHOLDER SUMMARIES.................................................................................. 81
APPENDIX D. COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE MEETING SUMMARY................................................. 93
APPENDIX E. FUNDING OPTIONS & INCENTIVES ....................................................................... 97
    Local Funding Options ........................................................................................................... 98
    Federal & State Grants and Conservation Programs ............................................................. 98
    Possible Sources in Coordination with the County & Town ................................................... 100
    Other Methods & Funding Sources ....................................................................................... 102
    Acquisition Tools & Methods .............................................................................................. 103
    Other Land Protection Options ............................................................................................. 104
APPENDIX F. PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS ..................................................................................105
Executive Summary

As a strategic road map for the future, this Parks and Recreation Plan envisions Island Rec as continuing to provide, and expanding, high-quality recreational opportunities for residents and visitors throughout this decade and beyond. In addition to renovating and developing existing parks, the Plan calls for enhancing recreation programming to serve the needs of the community and expanding coordination with other agencies and organizations in the pursuit of new trails and bikeway corridors, along with sport fields. To provide the planning and policy framework to support these efforts, the 2011 Island Rec Parks & Recreation Plan includes:

- Goals and objectives for providing and maintaining District services
- Summary of community outreach and feedback
- Assessment of the community’s recreational needs
- Review of the existing parks and programs
- Capital facilities plan with projects ranked by priority
- Recommended implementation and action strategies

Core Considerations

Access to recreational opportunities, both programmed and self-directed, is a hallmark of the quality of life on San Juan Island, as well as a defining element of Island Rec’s legacy. The planning process revealed a number of key issues that may impact the District’s parks and recreation offerings and provide a foundation for the overall focus and direction of this Plan. In moving the District forward, several existing considerations must be addressed.

- **Coordination with Community Partners.** The recreational interests of residents exceeds the services provided solely by the District, and several core community interests (i.e., trails, Carter Street fields, recreation center) will require coordinated, cooperative effort with and between multiple community partners for such projects to come to fruition.

- **Changing Demographics.** As illustrated by the new Census data, the island’s population continues to shift toward older adults, with the median age currently at 51 years of age. Although Island Rec’s programming is not specifically geared toward older adults, it may need to play a future role in providing additional programming for active adults and seniors, while also balancing how to meet the needs of youth and teens as a core focus.

- **On-going Funding & Staff Capacity.** Expectations for parks and recreation services remain high in the minds of residents, but operating and capital revenues are limited. The department must secure alternative or additional funding to develop the Lafarge property or expand recreation program opportunities to serve the needs of the community, while providing the necessary staffing to oversee and manage its programs and facilities.

- **Maintaining & Developing Facilities.** Island Rec’s current facilities footprint is small considering its developed sites; however, the future development of the Lafarge property will require a thoughtful approach to managing operating and capital requirements for the project.
As noted above, this project should be framed as one where interagency or intergovernmental agreements should be considered for the shared development of the site.

- **Identity & Information.** While residents and community partners expressed their support for Island Rec’s parks and recreation programs, some commented about not knowing what the District has to offer in terms of programs and places to play and broadly noted the issues of communications and visibility.

While these challenges exist, they also provide a context to a set of new opportunities for enhancing the District’s parks and for expanding its recreation programming.

**Major Recommendations**

The key recommendations applied to the overall park and recreation system include the following:

- Leverage District resources by forming and maintaining partnerships with other public, non-profit and private recreation providers to deliver recreation services and maintain access to existing facilities (e.g. schools) for field sports and other community recreation.

- Foster the development and capacity of local volunteer trail advocates to help with trails planning efforts, garner community support, leverage community resources.

- Explore the feasibility of developing a multi-purpose community center to include researching funding alternatives and assessing partnership opportunities with the County, Town of Friday Harbor and others.

- Explore partnership opportunities with regional healthcare providers and services to promote wellness activities, healthy lifestyles and communications about local facilities and the benefits of parks and recreation.

- Pursue alternative funding options and place priority on maximizing grants and other external sources of funding or interagency cooperative arrangements, to develop the District’s recreational resources.

This Plan establishes a clear vision and direction for Island Rec’s efforts for the next six years and beyond. It articulates the District’s road map for parks and recreation, provides tangible support through goals and policies and sets reasonable priorities for the coming years. The Plan is also a repository of critical community data and assessments that will serve as a valuable benchmark in future planning efforts. Continued collaboration, commitment and creativity by the Board and staff, and with the community, are essential for turning recommended actions into future success stories.
Chapter 1. Introduction

Setting

San Juan County is located in the northwestern portion of Washington State. It occupies that portion of what is officially known as Washington Sound but commonly referred to as Puget Sound, that lies between Skagit County, Washington and the southern end of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. The county has 375 miles of saltwater shoreline, the most of any county in the nation.

The islands of San Juan County represent the highest points of a submerged mountain range. This mountain range formerly connected Vancouver Island with the mainland. The surface of the islands is marked by abrupt differences in elevation. The islands have glacial plains, gently rolling hills and basin-like areas. There are only a few deeply entrenched drainage ways. The islands are drained mainly by short, intermittent streams. In the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains, the islands enjoy a temperate climate that supports a wide variety of habitats, species and rare plant communities. Combined with the unique marine environment of rocky intertidal areas, cliffs, sand dunes, estuaries and other priority habitats, San Juan County encompasses rich, diverse ecological systems despite having the smallest land area of Washington’s 39 counties.

In San Juan County, about 20 islands have year-round residents, but most live on the four ferry served islands of Lopez, Orcas, San Juan and Shaw, with about half of the county’s population living on San Juan Island. The Town of Friday Harbor on San Juan Island is the commercial center of the islands, as well as the County seat and only incorporated municipality in the County.

Park & Recreation District Overview

San Juan Island Park and Recreation District (locally known as Island Rec) was established in 1984 as a junior taxing district for San Juan Island, operates on a six-year, voter-approved levy and is authorized under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Section 36.69. It is governed by an elected board of five commissioners.

Island Rec offers a wide array of indoor and outdoor recreation classes, programs and activities throughout the year. It also operates three developed park sites: Family Park & Playground, the Skatepark at the fairgrounds and the Eddie & Friends Dog Park. Additionally Island Rec owns 55 acres of undeveloped land at the site of the former Lafarge gravel pit, which is used daily by walkers. Island Rec also houses the San Juan Island Trails Committee, which functions as a Board committee for the purpose of facilitating and participating actively in the creation, use and maintenance of a network of non-motorized trails on San Juan Island.

Island Rec’s adopted mission statement is to enhance the quality of life on San Juan Island by:

- Offering the widest variety of leisure and recreational activities to all island residents;
ISLAND REC

- Acquiring, developing, maintaining, preserving and protecting recreational resources;
- Ensuring that recreational activities and facilities are accessible and affordable to all residents.

The District has 2 full-time staff, which include the director and a recreation specialist. Island Rec also employs a part-time administrative assistant and a park maintenance custodian. The number of seasonal staff averages about 25 per year, who work Camp Eagle Rock, sailing classes, open gym and Fair building programs. Over 130 volunteers complemented the work of staff and contributed more than 2,300 hours in 2010 – providing park and recreation programs and services for San Juan Islanders.

Its current levy of 17 cents became effective in 2010. Ten cents of this levy supports Island Rec programs and parks, with the remaining seven cents going to the San Juan Island School District to support school sports. The 2010 operating budget totaled $746,145 of which $230,299 was earmarked for school sports. Island Rec's core budget totaled $515,846 of which $328,998 (64%) was generated by property taxes and $116,500 (23%) by program fees. Sponsorships, donations, grants and reserve funds contributed to the balance of the annual budget.

Community Profile

Population

San Juan Island has experienced modest growth in the past 10 years, with an 11.1% increase in population from 2000 to 2010 to a total of 7,662 residents. Similarly, the total population for San Juan County increased by approximately the same rate (12%) during the past decade. Growth in the local population is expected to continue at a double-digit rate through 2025. The 2010 Census counted 2,162 people within the Town of Friday Harbor, which represents one-third of the island’s population and a 8.6% increase since 2000. According to the San Juan County Comprehensive Plan, the County’s projected population in 2025 will approach 22,500 residents, which represents an additional 43% increase over the current population.

Table 1. Change in Key Population Characteristics on San Juan Island between 2000 - 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographics</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>6,894</td>
<td>7,662</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Age</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic / Latino</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>135.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Other than English*</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Characteristics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Income*</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$50,645</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons per Household</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>2.11</td>
<td>-5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families with Children under 18</td>
<td>39.5%</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
<td>-11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population &lt; 5 years of age</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>106.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population &lt; 18 years of age</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>-15.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population &gt; 65 years of age</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: 2000 Census; 2010 Census; 2005-9 ACS
Table 2. Population Characteristics: San Juan Island, San Juan County & Washington

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographics</th>
<th>San Juan Island</th>
<th>San Juan County</th>
<th>Washington State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population Characteristics</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>7,662</td>
<td>15,769</td>
<td>6,724,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Age</td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>37.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic / Latino</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Other than English*</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Household Characteristics</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Income*</td>
<td>$50,645</td>
<td>$51,392</td>
<td>$56,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons per Household</td>
<td>2.11</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>2.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families with Children under 18</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>48.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families below Poverty (w/ children &lt;18)*</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Ownership Rate</td>
<td>69.6%</td>
<td>70.4%</td>
<td>63.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Groups</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population &lt; 5 years of age</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population &lt; 18 years of age</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population &gt; 65 years of age</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: 2010 Census; 2005-9 American Community Survey (*)

**Age Group Distribution**

Compared with San Juan County, San Juan Island is very similar in percentages for all age cohorts; however, the median ages for the Island and the County are significantly higher than that of the state and country. The median age of San Juan Island residents is 51.1 – compared with the averages for San Juan County (52.7), the State of Washington (37.3) and the nation (37.2).

The following breakdown is used to separate the population into age-sensitive user groups.

- **Under 5 years**: This group represents users of preschool and tot programs and facilities, and as trail and open space users, are often in strollers. These individuals are the future participants in youth activities.
- **5 to 14 years**: This group represents current youth program participants.
- **15 to 24 years**: This group represents teen/young adult program participants moving out of the youth programs and into adult programs. Members of this age group are often seasonal employment seekers.
- **25 to 34 years**: This group represents involvement in adult programming with characteristics of beginning long-term relationships and establishing families.
- **35 to 54 years**: This group represents users of a wide range of adult programming and park facilities. Their characteristics extend from having children using preschool and youth programs to becoming empty nesters.
- **55 years plus**: This group represents users of older adult programming exhibiting the characteristics of approaching retirement or already retired and typically enjoying grandchildren. This group generally also ranges from very healthy, active seniors to more physically inactive seniors.

Table 3 illustrates the age distribution characteristics of these cohorts and provides a comparison between the 2000 and 2010 Census data.

**Table 3. Age Group Distributions: 2000 & 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 5 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 14 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 24 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 - 34 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 - 54 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 years +</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Household Characteristics**

The 2010 average household size on San Juan Island is 2.11 people. Nationally, the average size is 2.58 and in the State of Washington it is 2.51.

According to the 2005-09 American Community Survey developed by the US Census, the most current estimate of median household income for San Juan Island was $50,645. This figure is on par (-1.5%) with the median income for residents across the United States and $5,739 (10.2%) below the State of Washington’s median.

Newer Census data describing income, poverty and other household characteristics is not yet available for San Juan Island.
Review of Other Community Plans

To supplement community outreach, five community plans were reviewed for past policy direction and goals as they pertain to the provision and planning for parks, trail and recreation facilities on San Juan Island. The development of each involved public input and final adoption by their respective responsible legislative body.

2000 Island Rec Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan

Adopted in 2000, the previous Island Rec Parks and Recreation Plan evaluated the existing inventory of island-wide recreation facilities, summarized community needs and identified parkland service standards. A self-administered mail survey was distributed to 300 households, and several community meetings were held to gather input from residents. The Capital Improvements Plan listed approximately $91,000 in projects between 2000-2005, with most projects consisting of renovation of existing facilities or shared development of new amenities.

2006 San Juan Island Trails Plan

The San Juan Island Trails Committee completed a trails plan for San Juan Island in 2006 in partnership with Island Rec, San Juan County Parks and the National Park Service. The plan outlined a long-term vision and prioritized list of trail projects across the island.

2009 San Juan County Parks, Trails & Natural Areas Plan

The San Juan County Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan establishes a long-term vision, new goals and strategies, and a six-year action plan for the parks, trails and natural areas of San Juan County for 2011 to 2016. This Plan substantially updates the previous 2005-2010 Plan for Parks, Recreation and Preserved Lands for San Juan County. The plan introduces a collaborative mission statement for County Parks, Land Bank, and Public Works as well as a 20-year community vision for the parks system. The plan includes a detailed six-year action plan that identifies key partners, timelines, and geographic areas for implementation of actions and projects that align with the Plan’s goals and strategies. The plan recognizes Island Rec as a potential partner in providing recreation amenities and programs.

2009 San Juan County Comprehensive Plan

Amended in April 2010, the San Juan County Comprehensive Plan includes a land use element that establishes 16 discrete policies for recreation, natural resource conservation, open space and scenic resources and access to public lands and facilities. The plan does not include a separate parks and recreation element, but it relies on the specific, adopted long-range plan of the County Parks Department.

2002 Town of Friday Harbor Comprehensive Plan

Most recently updated in 2002, the Town of Friday Harbor Comprehensive Plan provides a framework for land use policies regarding the growth and development of the town. The plan establishes 6 general planning goals and 7 specific policies related to the provision of recreation
opportunities, trails and natural resource protection. Recreation-based policies heavily favor coordination and joint development with the county and Island Rec.

Contents of the Plan

The remainder of the Island Rec Park & Recreation Plan is organized as follows:

- **Chapter 2**: Definitions & Inventory, describes the existing park and recreation system in Island Rec and other nearby recreation opportunities.
- **Chapter 3**: Public Outreach, highlights the methods used to engage the San Juan Island community in the development of the Plan.
- **Chapter 4**: Needs Assessment, discusses survey results and other recreation trend data and provides context to the identification of potential system improvements.
- **Chapter 5**: Policies & Objectives, provides a policy framework for the parks and recreation system grouped by major facility type or program area.
- **Chapter 6**: Capital Facilities Plan, details a 6-year program for addressing park and recreation facility enhancement or expansion projects.
- **Chapter 7**: Implementation Strategies, describes a range of strategies and alternatives to consider in the implementation of the Plan.
- **Appendices**: Providing technical or supporting information to the planning effort and includes a summary of the community survey, stakeholder notes, funding options, among others.
Chapter 2. Definitions & Inventory

This chapter is segmented into two sections and describes the District’s existing inventory of public parklands. The first section defines the various facility classifications in use by Island Rec, and the second section is an inventory and assessment of existing facilities.

Definitions

There are four basic park and recreation facility types managed or coordinated by Island Rec:
- Pocket Parks
- Community Parks
- Special Facilities
- Trails & Pathways

Pocket Parks

Pocket parks are very small and provide passive and play-oriented recreational opportunities. Examples of pocket parks can include a tot lot with play equipment such as a climber, slide or swings; a viewpoint; or waterfront access areas such as at street ends. A small town plaza or civic recognition project may also be considered a pocket park. Parking generally is not provided at pocket parks, although lighting may be used for security and safety. Examples of a pocket park include Fairweather Park near the Friday Harbor.

Community Parks

Community parks are larger sites that contain a wider array of facilities and, as a result, appeal to a more diverse group of users. They are generally over 10 acres in size and serve residents within a 2-mile radius of the site. Access may be by vehicle, bicycle or on foot. The Lafarge property is the only site in the District’s current inventory that could become a community park based on its size and potential development program.

In general, community park facilities are designed for organized or intensive recreational activities and sports, although passive components such as pathways, picnic areas, dog parks and natural areas are highly encouraged and complementary to active-use facilities. Developed community parks typically include amenities such as soccer and baseball fields, picnic shelters and tables, bike and pedestrian pathways, restrooms, irrigation and parking. Community parks may also incorporate community facilities, such as recreation centers, senior centers or aquatic facilities. Table 4 outlines the minimum park amenities required for community parks, along with other typical or acceptable elements that may be developed.
Table 4. Amenities for Developed Community Parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Amenities Provided</th>
<th>Other Acceptable Amenities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playground (preferred size: 10,000 - 12,000 sq. ft.; serving ages 2-5 &amp; 6-12)</td>
<td>Community gardens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic shelters (minimum 1 small per park)</td>
<td>Natural areas and interpretive elements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic tables and benches</td>
<td>Shared-use bicycle/pedestrian trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports courts (i.e., basketball, volleyball, tennis)</td>
<td>Water play feature or Sprayground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic fields for practice and/or games (i.e., soccer, baseball, softball, football, lacrosse)</td>
<td>Sports complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open lawn area</td>
<td>Concessionnaire’s facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathways, paved or other ADA-compliant hard surface</td>
<td>Lighting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restrooms (minimum 4 stalls)</td>
<td>Stage or community performance area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Street or Dedicated Parking</td>
<td>Other active recreation elements (i.e., BMX, skateboard park or spots, horseshoe pits, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigation &amp; Landscaping</td>
<td>Dog Park or off-leash dog area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signage: park name, rules, wayfinding</td>
<td>Sports courts (i.e., basketball, volleyball, tennis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other site furnishings (i.e., trash receptacles, bike racks, etc.)</td>
<td>Athletic fields for practice and/or games (i.e., soccer, baseball, softball, football, lacrosse)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maintenance or storage facilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Facilities

Special facilities include single-purpose recreational areas such as dog parks, skate/BMX parks and display gardens, along with community centers, pools and public plazas. No standards are proposed concerning special facilities, since size and distribution are a function of the specific use. Family Park & Playground and the Skate Park at the Fairgrounds are examples of specialty facilities.

Trails

Although Island Rec does not directly own or manage any trail corridors on San Juan Island, the District houses the San Juan Island Trails Committee and supports their work to expand and improve trail opportunities across the Island. The following trail classifications are derived from the San Juan County Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan and encompass three subcategories: road right-of-way trail, rustic trail, and bike trail. The descriptions provided below were informed by a number of state and federal trail design manuals.

Road Right-of-Way Trail

Road right-of-way trails are located within the public road right-of-way. Trail surfaces within urban growth areas are typically concrete; all others may be concrete, stabilized gravel, or native material depending on adjacent roadway traffic volumes. Trail widths vary from 4 to 5 feet and shall be ADA compliant when possible.

Rustic Trail

A rustic trail is a soft-surface trail appropriate for pedestrian, equestrian, or off-road bicycle use that provides connection through or between neighborhoods or within natural areas or parks.
Depending on use, location, and underlying conditions, the surface material may be native soil, forest duff, wood chips, or crushed rock and width ranges from 1-½ to 4 feet.

**Shared-Use Path**

A paved trail separated from motorized vehicular traffic within the highway right of way or on an exclusive right of way with minimal cross flow by motor vehicles. Primarily used by pedestrians and bicyclists, shared-use paths are also used by joggers, skaters, wheelchair users (both non-motorized and motorized), equestrians, and other non-motorized users.
Inventory

The following pages highlight the park facilities managed by Island Rec and include notation of existing amenities and discussion of considerations for future enhancements, upgrades or renovations to those properties. The table below identifies these parks by type and size.

Table 5. Island Rec Park Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Park &amp; Playground</td>
<td>Special Facility</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skatepark</td>
<td>Special Facility</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddie &amp; Friends Dog Park</td>
<td>Special Facility</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafarge Property</td>
<td>Community Park</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total Acreage 57.65*
Family Park & Playground

*Special Facility :: 0.35 acres*

Island Rec’s Family Park & Playground is located at the intersection of Argyle Avenue and Dougherty Lane at San Juan County Fairgrounds. The park (and the adjacent skatepark) is on land owned by San Juan County and provided via an interagency agreement. It is open dawn to dusk. It features a playground designed for children ages 2 to 12 and offers a covered shelter with two picnic tables and a barbecue.

**Inventory**
- Playground
- Picnic shelter with barbeque
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Concrete pathway
- Drinking Fountain
- Trash receptacle
- Portable restroom
- Unpaved parking lot

**Management Considerations**
- Consider installing additional pre-K (ages 2-5) play equipment elements
- Remove approximately 6”- 8” of wood chips from central play area near the equipment. The chips are packed too high and interfere with certain play pieces
- Replace the portable toilet with a wider, ADA-accessible unit
- Relocate or extend pavement around at least one of the park benches to comply with ADA guidelines
- Improve the route from the gravel parking to the main entrance to meet ADA guidelines; Work with the County to pave at least one ADA parking stall
Skatepark

Special Facility :: 0.3 acres

The San Juan Island Skatepark is located on Argyle Avenue at the main entrance to the San Juan County Fairgrounds and is adjacent to the Family Park & Playground. The Skatepark accommodates both skaters and bikers, and the park hours are from 8:00 a.m. until dusk. The concrete bowl offers a fairly deep platform with both small and large transitions. The skatepark is the home of the annual Skateboard & BMX Exposition, which is held during county fair. The use of helmets and pads are recommended.

Inventory

- Concrete skatepark (bowl)
- Unpaved parking lot
- Water fountain/spout
- Portable restroom

Management Considerations

- Consider upgrading a water fountain
- Consider adding seating/viewing area(s)
Eddie & Friends Dog Park

*Special Facility :: 2 acres*

San Juan Island’s only official dog park, the Eddie & Friends Dog Park, is located on Mullis Street south of Browne’s Home Center and opposite the airport. This park sits on borrowed land, which was made available by Rob and Terry Browne of Browne’s Home Center. Improvements to this park were made as a cooperative project of Island Rec, the San Juan Rotary Club and the Dog Park Steering Committee. Restrooms and running water are not available.

**Inventory**
- Double-gated entry
- Optional-use fenced area just for small and/or older dogs
- Gazebo
- Benches
- Unpaved parking lot
- Trash receptacle

**Management Considerations**
- Consider adding a wood chip path around the perimeter of the fence interior for walkers
Lafarge Property (Undeveloped)

Community Park :: 55 acres

In 2006, Island Rec received a gift of donated land from the Lafarge North America corporation, via a land transfer agreement between San Juan County and Island Rec. At approximately 55 acres in size, the upland portion of the former gravel pit is intended for use as a community park. Significant site reclamation work was completed by Lafarge prior to the transfer, and the property is considered a primitive area with grasses and small trees emerging. Two public entrances are located along Pear Point Road.

Inventory

- Unpaved parking lot
- Perimeter walking path (earthen)

Management Considerations

- Prepare a conceptual site design to guide and layout future improvements
- Pursue a Conditional Use permit process to formalize the future use of the property
- Phase future improvements according to the conceptual design
- Minimize or avoid interim tree plantings or site improvements until completion of the master plan
Other Recreation Providers

In addition to the District-owned properties previously described, San Juan Island residents also have access to a variety of public and private recreation facilities including lands owned by the county, state and federal agencies, along with privately run recreation facilities, school sites and others. An overview of the major providers of parks, trails and natural areas throughout the Island is provided below.

San Juan Island School District

The school district’s facilities include 4 tennis courts, two gymnasiums, a football field with track, a practice field at the high school and a gymnasium and community fields at the elementary school that include a multi-use field space used for soccer and football, along with little league baseball and softball fields. The district has partnered with Island Rec, whereby Island Rec levy funds finance all costs associated with the 17 inter-scholastic sports and the school district pays all cost for facilities.

Town of Friday Harbor

The Town of Friday Harbor operates five small parks serving residents of the Town, along with other Island residents and visitors. Their parks include two small plazas near the marina and three neighborhood parks with open lawn areas and basketball courts. Town rights-of-way also accommodate walkers in the commercial district and cyclists seeking cross-island transportation routes via sidewalks and roads.

Port of Friday Harbor

The mission of the Port of Friday Harbor is to maintain a healthy economy with family-wage jobs, and to improve the social, economic and natural environments of the island. The Port operates a 500-slip marina, providing significant water access. The Port manages Jackson’s Beach Park located across Pear Point Road from the Lafarge property and 2 miles from the ferry landing; it includes a paved boat launch and restrooms and offers trail connection opportunities to Lafarge. The Port’s Fairweather Park on the waterfront is a great place to take a break or have a picnic. Also a network of trails along the west side of the airport was built by the Port, with some assistance by the Trails Committee and Boy Scout Troop #90. It was later extended in June of 2005. The airport trails offer a 3-mile loop from Spring Street and are the most convenient hiking trails close-in to the Town.

San Juan County

County Parks

San Juan County Parks provides 4 parks plus the Fairgrounds, totaling 51 acres, for the public to enjoy on San Juan Island. These parks provide visitors with the opportunity to experience the natural environment and outdoors with opportunities for camping, boat launching, building rental and special facility usage.
San Juan County Land Bank

Established by San Juan County voters in 1990, San Juan County Land Bank preserves areas with environmental, agricultural, aesthetic, cultural, scientific, historic, scenic or low-intensity recreation value. The Land Bank provides 5,286 acres of preserved and protected land throughout the County and 1,276 acres on San Juan Island. Many of these acres are open to the public, providing unique recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. The Land Bank works closely with the Trails Committee to provide trail easements on private properties.

San Juan County Public Works

San Juan County Public Works is responsible for the design, construction, and maintenance of all County roads, docks, boat ramps, marine floats, and other marine access facilities. Public Works also plays a role in the stewardship of shoreline access road ends and development of walking paths and biking amenities in the public right-of-way. Public Works currently provides or has jurisdiction over 4 miles of public right-of-way trails, 2 marine access facilities, and 7 shoreline access road ends across San Juan Island.

San Juan County Health & Community Services

Senior Services programs are offered under contract with Northwest Regional Council through the San Juan County Health and Community Services Department with significant support from the Senior Services Council of San Juan County. Senior Services of San Juan County provides staff support and services to senior citizens (over 60) and other adults through Senior Centers on San Juan, Orcas, and Lopez islands. The Mullis Center on San Juan Island serves hot lunches twice weekly asking for a modest donation to cover the cost. The center also provides a focus for organized social activities which provide opportunities for seniors to remain active.

State Agencies

State Parks

Washington State Parks owns and manages approximately 40 acres on San Juan Island at Lime Kiln. Most of State Parks’ holdings are on other islands, with Moran State Park on Orcas Island being the largest and most visited of all. Overall, these parks play a key role in providing camping and shoreline access opportunities and include other sites such as Spencer Spit, Obstruction Pass and Jones Island.

Washington Department of Natural Resources

While Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) oversees millions of acres of forestland, agricultural land, and aquatic resources across the state, the state agency has gradually transferred or is the process of transferring much of its land in San Juan County to other public agencies. The recent transfer of 312 acres of Mitchell Hill has been added to the San Juan Island National Historic Park (English Camp). DNR currently holds approximately 103 acres on San Juan Island mostly located adjacent to or near American Camp, and they will continue to own and oversee a patchwork of aquatic lands throughout the county.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) owns little land (less than five acres) in San Juan County, but does oversee fish and wildlife management of state resources and operates some recreational facilities - mainly water access sites - on some of the county’s freshwater lakes. WDFW plays a key role in partnership with other federal agencies in enforcement of state and federal marine laws and fisheries management.

Federal Agencies

National Park Service

The National Park Service operates the San Juan Island National Historic Park, totaling 1,992 acres, on San Juan Island. The park is composed of two major areas, American Camp and English Camp. These lands provide ample recreational opportunities for residents and visitors, including long-time access for horseback riding and mountain biking.

U.S. Bureau of Land Management

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) owns approximately 27 acres of land on San Juan Island, which is comprised of a single parcel adjacent to American Camp. All of BLM’s lands in San Juan County are designated as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, which emphasizes the conservation of the natural character of the land, with a minor recreational component.

Private Recreation Providers

With tourism (specifically, outdoor recreation) as San Juan Island’s major contributor to the local economy, numerous recreation outfitters offer services, tours and activities. The following private recreation providers represent the traditional, non-outfitter-based organizations that either work with or complement with the offerings of Island Rec.

San Juan Island Soccer

San Juan Island Soccer is the local non-profit youth soccer organization and offers Island-only youth coed teams as well as boys and girls traveling teams. http://islandsoccer.org

Friday Harbor Athletic Association

The Friday Harbor Athletic Association is a non-profit organization operating programs and sports teams for youth between the ages of 6 and 15 in football, flag football, arena football, boys and girls basketball, lacrosse and cheerleading. http://fridayharbortigers.blogware.com
**San Juan Island Fitness**

San Juan Island Fitness is a membership-based, private fitness club that offers aerobics and strength fitness classes, including spinning, pilates, yoga. It is home to a 25-yard indoor heated pool where they offer swim lessons, lap swim and master swim times, along with water aerobics and water walking. San Juan Island Fitness has a long history of contractual agreements with Island Rec for swim lessons and Camp Eagle Rock. [http://www.sanjuanislandfitness.com](http://www.sanjuanislandfitness.com)

**Xtreme Fitness San Juan Island**

Xtreme Fitness is a membership-based, private fitness club and offers circuit training, group fitness, cardio entertainment space and over 5,000 lbs. of free weights in a 4,000 s.f. facility. The club is located on Saltsprings Road in Friday Harbor. [http://www.xtremefitnesssji.com](http://www.xtremefitnesssji.com)

**Roche Harbor Resort**

The Roche Harbor Resort offers recreational amenities for guests and Island residents, including bocce, tennis, a disc golf course, the Westcott Bay Sculpture Park and a heated, outdoor swimming pool. The pool is open between June and August and accommodates free swim and adult lap swim. The Resort is also building an off-leash dog park. Additionally, the Trails Committee volunteers have worked with the Resort to create miles of beautiful, rustic trails through the woods. [http://www.rocheharbor.com/Home.html](http://www.rocheharbor.com/Home.html)
Chapter 3. Community Engagement

Community engagement and involvement played a vital role in establishing a clear framework for park and recreation planning that reflects upon the current priorities of the community. Most residents care deeply about the future of Island Rec and appreciated the opportunity to offer feedback in the development of this Plan. Public outreach methods were varied and extensive, including:

- A web-based and print community survey
- 1 community meeting
- 6 stakeholder meetings
- 3 Parks and Recreation Commission meetings
- Website content

The public provided information and expressed opinions about their needs and priorities for parks, trails and recreation facilities and programs on San Juan Island. The response from citizens of all ages and interests areas was passionate, and this feedback played an important role in preparing and organizing policy statements and prioritizing the capital improvements plan contained within this Plan.

Community Survey

In close collaboration with staff and Parks Commissioners, project team designed a 28-question community survey to assess residents’ recreational needs, preferences and priorities. The survey was available online via Island Rec’s website on April 28, 2011 and took approximately 5-7 minutes to complete. Information about the survey was provided in the Summer edition of the Island Rec program guide that was mailed to all residences during the first week of May. Additionally, advertisements were purchased in the San Juan Islander newspaper. Program users, stakeholders and civic groups were notified about the survey in person and via email. Print versions of the survey were available at the San Juan Island library, the Mullis Center and the Island Rec office. The survey was closed on May 21st, and preliminary data were compiled in advance of a community open house meeting hosted by Island Rec on May 25, 2011.

A total of 280 completed surveys were recorded, which is a sufficient sample size to assess community opinions generally and to review findings by subgroups including gender and age. Since the survey was open to the general public, and respondents were not selected through statistical sampling methods, the results are not necessarily representative of all San Juan Island residents.

The following table compares the 2010 Census demographic information for San Juan Island to the community survey. The responses generated from this survey generally are similar in demographics to that of the census data, yet certain distinctions exist. This web-based survey did not accommodate a controlled collection protocol, and response quotas by age or gender were not included. As a
result, responses on this survey are skewed to slightly younger, more women and those with children under 18 years of age.

Table 6. Comparison of Survey Demographics to US Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-34</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-54</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 and above</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Household Information</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with children under age 18</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residency Type</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Own</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A detailed discussion of community survey results appear in the Needs Assessment chapter of this Plan (starting on page 24). The survey instrument and a summary of the response data are provided in Appendix B.

**Stakeholder Discussions**

To more broadly assess the opportunities for partnership and coordination, along with the challenges of program implementation, a series of external stakeholder interviews was conducted. The following local organizations provided insight to the planning process:

- San Juan Island Family Resource Center
- San Juan Island Trails Committee
- Friday Harbor Athletic Association
- San Juan Senior Services
- San Juan Island School District
- San Juan County Fair

Comments were often specific to the particular program area or perspective of the stakeholder group. Overall, comments were favorable toward the District, its staff and its quality of service and facilities offered. Stakeholders recognized the limited financial capacity of the District and were often quick to offer suggestions for partnerships or other means to accomplish specific projects. Suggested projects or program enhancements ranged from participating in the completion of the Carter Street Fields, senior programming, multi-purpose recreation center development to summer youth programs and scholarships. Specific recommendations are also reflected in the Needs Assessment chapter, and stakeholder discussion summaries are provided in Appendix C.
Community Open House Meeting

A community open house meeting was held at the San Juan Island Grange on May 25, 2010. This session included an overview of the planning process and project purpose. The intent was to elicit feedback from residents on the future vision for the District, explore program and facility opportunities and identify local recreation needs critical to plan development. Newspaper ads, newspaper articles and e-mail announcements were used to publicize the events.

Approximately 20 people attended the Island Rec Parks and Recreation Plan community open house. Display stations provided eleven graphic and narrative information boards for residents to review, comment and discuss. The stations covered the following topic areas: Island Rec overview and mission, summary results of community survey, recreation programs & events, parks, trails and facility priorities. Comments were recorded at display stations and on comment forms, which were provided at the sign-in table. The meeting lasted approximately two hours, and summary responses from the meeting are provided in Appendix D.

Park & Recreation Commission Meetings

The Park and Recreation Commission met three times in open public sessions to discuss various elements of the planning project. The Commission provided insight and guidance on the community survey, community needs and core issues. Additionally, the Commission reviewed and discussed the draft plan and provided direction on policy statements and proposed capital improvements.

Other Outreach

A project webpage for the plan update was prepared and posted on the District’s website for residents to learn about the planning process and also including access to the community survey, notice of public meetings and a draft version of the plan. The page was updated periodically to keep residents informed of progress and alerted to opportunities for involvement during the process. Additionally, the planning project was highlighted in the Island Rec summer program guide and in the San Juan Islander with advertisements leading up to the community open house meeting. News articles and sample promotional material are located in Appendix F.
Chapter 4. Needs Assessment

The public participation process culminated in the identification of the community’s needs for, and vision of, the Island Rec parks and recreation system. This assessment relies heavily on public input from the survey and site inventories, along with stakeholder discussions and the public meeting.

Recreational Needs Overview

The following summarizes some of the core recreation interests noted in the survey, along with state and national recreational trend information, to provide a context for programming and facility recommendations and priorities.

Community Survey

As was noted in the previous chapter, a community survey of island residents was conducted in May 2011, and overall findings are noted below. Survey results specific to facility types (parks, recreation center, etc) and programming are discussed later in this chapter and organized by topic areas.

With regard to general interest in outdoor activities, residents were asked how frequently over the past year they or a member of their household had participated in outdoor recreation opportunities on San Juan Island. The results are ranked by frequency, and the top five activities are as follows.

1. Hiking or walking
2. Picnicking
3. Wildlife observation
4. Swimming
5. Bicycling

The table on the following page illustrates the complete set of activities by participation.
Survey respondents were also offered an “other” choice in the selection to accommodate write-in responses. Approximately 20% of respondents identified activities other than those from the provided list. The following are the most frequently identified activities.

1. Dog Walking / Dog Park
2. Roller Hockey / Rollerblading
3. Football
4. Horseback Riding
5. Badminton
6. Climbing
7. Pickleball

**Washington SCORP**

The 2008 Washington State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning (SCORP) document guides decision-makers in better understanding statewide recreation issues and is required to help maintain Washington’s eligibility for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars, which are administered through the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) grant programs. The SCORP included a listing of outdoor activities by frequency, as shown below in Table 7. Broad similarities exist between the most popular statewide activities and those documented in the community survey, such as the popularity of walking/hiking, nature activity and picnicking.
Other National Recreation Data

Additionally, three recent recreation studies were reviewed to compare to the local, community data and gain an understanding of participation trends occurring at the national level. These studies included:

- 2010 Sports Participation Survey; National Sporting Goods Association
- 2011 Outdoor Recreation Participation Report; The Outdoor Foundation
- 2010 State of the Managed Recreation Industry Report; Recreation Management Magazine
- Outdoor Recreation Participation in 2003; The Recreation Roundtable

These sources also supported hiking and walking as the most popular form of outdoor recreation. Additionally, bicycling, swimming, fishing and camping consistently appeared in the list of top ten activities.

Recreation Management magazine’s 2011 State of the Industry Report listed the top 10 program options most commonly planned for addition over the next three years, along with their positions in last year's top 10 programs:

1. Fitness programs, including cardio, strength, aerobics, etc. (2)
2. Teen programs (6)
3. Educational programs (1)
4. Mind-body/balance programs like yoga, tai chi, pilates and martial arts (3)
5. Active older adults programming (7)
6. Day camps and summer camps (3)
7. Environmental education (10)
8. Individual sports activities like running clubs, swim club, etc.
9. Adults sports teams (7)
10. Sports tournaments and races (10)

Highlights from the 2010 National Sporting Goods Association participation survey include:

- Yoga participation led the overall growth in recreation participation with a 28% increase to 20.1 million participants.
- Exercise walking was the number one recreation activity with 95.8 million participants and grew 2.6% in 2010.
- Among fitness activities, weight lifting, work out at club and exercising with equipment witnessed participation declines (8.8%, 5.3% & 3.4%, respectively).
- Among team sports, several saw significant declines between 2006 and 2010, including baseball (-14%), tackle football (-22%), Softball (-13%) and volleyball (-5%). Soccer and basketball participation have remained relatively unchanged.
- Female participation in team sports has also been decreasing since 2006. In each of the major team sports, overall female participation and the relative percentage of female players by sport have decreased – baseball (-19%), basketball (-24%), soccer (-16%), softball (-32%) and volleyball (-14%).
- Other sports and recreation activities showing less than 3% growth in 2010 include target shooting (+0.3% to 19.8 million participants); exercise walking (+2.6% to 95.8 million participants); and fishing (+2.8% to 33.8 million participants).

Team sports continue to experience an overall trend of declining participation.

**Recreation Programming**

Recreation programming makes up the core of Island Rec’s services, and they include the activities most recognized by residents, such as Music on the Lawn, Children’s Festival and Father Daughter Dance. A strong majority (84%) of community survey respondents indicated that they or a family member participated in at least one Island Rec program over the past year. Family programs and events had the highest participation (69%) of the programs listed. The following table ranks in descending order the noted participation by activity.
Table 9. Participation in Recreation Programs Offered by Island Rec

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Type</th>
<th>Participation Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Programs &amp; Events</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Programs for Youth and Teens</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult and Teen Sports</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swim Lessons</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Basketball, Roller Hockey, Tumbling</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Programs</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult and Teen Enrichment Classes</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Programs</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult / Senior Fitness</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall, the frequency of participation in Island Rec programs is good. Approximately 89% of survey respondents indicated participation in at least one Island Rec program or activity over the past year, with almost 50% participating 6 or more times during the year.

“I think there is a wonderful variety of programs available. I wish there were some longer teen summer programs. The 12-15 (not able to work a summer job yet) age group is overlooked. Love the father-daughter idea. Would be fun to have a grandparents activity—maybe a picnic.”

“In a way, Island Rec is a ‘community binding program’ and very important to quality of life for all ages. Your growth and expansion is to be commended. Thank you!”

“Island Rec plans wonderful activities and events. Great organization and leaders. Excellent use of volunteers that allows the biggest bang for the bucks spent!”

“I think that Island Rec plays a major part in our community as they are the ones that give our children most if not all of our activities to do, and indoor and outdoors classes that keep us learning and having fun.”

-- sample quotes from survey respondents

Respondents were asked to rate the importance of various recreation program types in an effort to assess an overall priority for future recreation program planning. After school programs for youth and for teens rated highest (89% and 83%, respectively) in terms of being important or very important, followed by family programs and events (83%). Preschool and senior programs were rated lowest in comparison to other recreation program offerings. Respondents between 24 and 34
more strongly supported preschool programs than the average, and seniors over 65 were more strongly in favor of teen after school recreation programs.

Table 10. Importance of Recreation Programming by Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Somewhat Important</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Somewhat Unimportant</th>
<th>Not at all Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>After School Youth Programs</td>
<td>57.7%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen After School Recreation</td>
<td>52.7%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Programs &amp; Events</td>
<td>48.2%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails Committee, Trail Building &amp; Advocacy</td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult and Teen Classes</td>
<td>36.3%</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen and Adult Drop-in Sports</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Programs</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Programs</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Residents also offered a range of ideas for the continued improvement to Island Rec’s program offerings, as noted below:

- More “Do as a family” kid-targeted events
- Have kid friendly activities during Music on the Lawn – if kids are engaged, it’s more family friendly event (i.e., equipment to climb on)
- Provide more intergenerational events, like Father Daughter & Mother Son (i.e., bowling or camping with scavenger hunt, mystery hunt where you learn something)
- Maintain and continue after-school kids programming
- Extend gymnastics programming
- Offer youth wilderness programs, vision quests
- Offer fishing derbies, hunter safety classes, skeet/pistol experiences
- Sponsor and organize activities that links island communities from Orcas & Lopez

With the popularity of and recognition associated with family events and activities, Island Rec should consider expanding its role in this arena, and it should continue to seek to share costs with sponsors and local businesses. Additionally, the District should consider incremental growth in recreation services to focus on programs and activities for youth and teens.
Recreation Facilities

The development of a community recreation center was previously identified in the 2000 Parks and Recreation Plan as a facility to provide a gym, a youth center and a place to host dances. Recent discussions by the Island Rec board indicate continued interest in the concept of a multi-use recreation center for the island. Island Rec does not own or operate a recreation facility of its own, although it does have access to a classroom at the Tech building via an interlocal agreement with the school district. At the present, Island Rec utilizes school district facilities for indoor gymnasium needs, San Juan Island Fitness for swim lessons and open swim time for its summer day camp and the Fair building for indoor soccer, roller hockey, family open skate and special events. Island Rec also uses the Mullis Center for annual special events, along with the Dance Workshop and Village at the Harbour for senior fitness classes. Based on the current demand for school-based and Island Rec-based indoor sports, activities and programs, additional gymnasium space is needed on San Juan Island. School district facilities cannot accommodate an expansion in use at this time or in the foreseeable future.

As was noted in the community survey and during the community meeting, residents are interested in a multi-use recreation center. This was the 2nd highest ranking facility when compared against a range of other park facilities and amenities. With this degree of community interest, the implications for capital and operating funding, along with the overall feasibility of such a facility, should be considered further.

Former guidelines from the National Recreation and Parks Association suggested a service standard of 1 community center per 15,000-25,000 people, and although that standard is no longer in use, it suggests that a certain population density is required to support such a recreation facility. While public sentiment is strong for a multi-use recreation center, a cautious approach should be taken and consideration given to the development of a new facility versus the purchase (or lease) and renovation of an existing building on the island.

New or retrofitted facilities not only add to maintenance and operating costs, but they must be conceived with consideration given to the flexibility of programming, intended uses and services, along with cost recovery goals. Furthermore, voters are generally more supportive of paying for expanded services when the shared use of facilities can be demonstrated; it is generally more difficult to secure voter support for single-purpose facilities. Given the interest in recreation facility space for expanded programming, this Plan recommends a feasibility study to address the initial financial considerations, understand and model user demand and analyze options for facility and program cost recovery.
Park Facilities

As shown in the survey, island residents strongly value (96.7%) parks as an element of local quality of life. Also, survey respondents are generally satisfied with the operation of Island Rec parks and indicated a combined satisfaction rate of 78%.

Table 11. Satisfaction with operation of Island Rec parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very satisfied</td>
<td>52.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat satisfied</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat dissatisfied</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very dissatisfied</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey respondents were asked to rank in priority a set of park projects or amenities to try to assess the relative importance of the range of facilities against each other. The priority ranking follows:

1. Sport fields development at Carter Street
2. Multi-use recreation center or teen center
3. Walking paths
4. Multi-use, paved trails
5. Playgrounds
6. Lafarge property (former gravel pit) development into a park
7. Picnic shelters for gatherings
8. Land acquisition for future parks

Approximately 25% of survey respondents identified the Carter Street fields as their top priority project, and the interest in a multi-use recreation center was nearly identical. This ranked list is informative and provides some guidance regarding the current levels of interest for park facilities. Additional discussion of specific projects and project types follows.

Lafarge Property

At approximately 55 acres in size, the Lafarge property is Island Rec’s single largest site, and it is also larger than any single park property on the island managed by either the Town of Friday Harbor or the County. As a result, significant attention and interest exists regarding the future of this property, especially given the site’s condition and the likely costs required for partial development.

In the community survey, residents were asked about the future development of the Lafarge property. They were predominantly in favor of passive recreation opportunities, such as walking and picnicking, with only a few distinctions between different age groups. Respondents aged 25 to 34 more strongly favored the development of a recreation center on site. Respondents between 35 and 44 more strongly favored the installation of playground equipment, and those aged 55 to 64 more strongly favored walking pathways. The following table illustrates the level of interest in various park amenities for consideration for site development.
The development of this property was not noted as a strong priority – ranking 6th of 8 other potential park facility improvements. Trails and the completion of the Carter Street fields were ranked higher. Regardless, there is community interest in seeing what might become of that site, so Island Rec should commission a community-based, site master plan to explore the park design constraints, layout options and a development phasing and funding assessment. Once a master plan is completed and approved by the Island Rec board, then specific considerations of funding, partnerships and maintenance impacts should be addressed. The future, physical development of the Lafarge property will require significant capital funds, along with a significant, on-going operations and maintenance burden. As part of the site master plan, community support should be gauged for the construction of this site, given that it will likely require voter approval to increase the levy rate.

**Carter Street Fields**

Although the Carter Street fields are not owned or operated by Island Rec, the community was asked their opinions about the completion of that project. Nearly half of the respondents (49.8%) felt it important for Island Rec to participate in both the development and maintenance of the project. Almost even percentages wanted to use levy funds for either project completion or on-going maintenance (13% and 15%, respectively), not both. Male respondents and those ages 45 to 55 were more in favor of the District being fully involved in this project. Nearly one-quarter (22.2%) were not in favor of Island Rec utilizing levy funds to assist this project, additionally, women and those ages 55 and older were more strongly against the project than the average. Although responses were mixed regarding a specific approach for Island Rec’s potential involvement, a majority (78%) of respondents favored some level of funding support toward this project. This sentiment is consistent with the ranking of this project against other potential
park facilities as noted above. If Island Rec decides to become engaged in the completion and or on-going maintenance of this sports complex, it will require significant capital and operating outlays, voter approval for a levy increase and modifications to the contract between the school district and FHAA prior to funding authorization.

"Island Rec is in a unique position to define and support major opportunities for sports and recreation in our community for years to come. This needs to be a progressive vision to accommodate the range of demographics represented on San Juan Island. Perpetual support for fields is essential to this mission."

"We are a little worried that if Island Rec takes on responsibility for the ball fields on Carter Ave., they’ll become just another sports organization... Seems like an inordinate amount of funding gets funneled into athletics already. We’d rather see Island Rec stick with promoting recreation and fun."

"Taking on the School Athletics Programs benefits our Teens and Pre-Teens. This effort should not overshadow the younger children’s need for affordable activities. Remember, quantity does not foster quality. Carter Fields needs your guidance, oversight and control."

"The question about funding for the Carter Ave ball fields is a difficult one. The School District needs to share in the responsibility if they are going to use them."

-- sample quotes from survey respondents

Repair, Renovation & Maintenance

Public sentiment is strong for the maintenance and upkeep of existing park facilities, even though survey respondents ranked Island Rec park sites with A’ and B’ (on an A - F scale). The data is useful anecdotal information, and it is consistent with the generally favorable impressions of the quality of Island Rec park facilities. Although some concerns exist regarding the quality of maintenance, this issue may erode community support for any expansions or additions to the park system in the future if left unchecked. Many of the survey comments pertaining to maintenance were linked to the notion of maintenance as a priority function over park development and new facility obligations.

Design Continuity & Standards

Upon review of the existing developed parks, it was noted that a general lack of design continuity exists between District properties. As Island Rec expands its park development portfolio, the adoption and implementation of updated design standards will benefit the District in several ways. By providing continuity in furnishings, signage and construction materials, there will be consistency in the methods used to maintain, repair and replace them as they become worn or are vandalized. Parks will be more efficiently maintained, more distinguishable as Island Rec facilities and more aesthetically appealing.
Trails

In 2009, Washington State was named the nation’s number one “Bicycle Friendly State” by the League of American Bicyclists for the second year in a row. Statewide, walking and hiking have become the most popular outdoor recreation activity with almost 74% of residents participating. Similarly on San Juan Island, the interest in walking, hiking and cycling has grown. Although Island Rec does not own or manage any trails on its own, it holds a unique opportunity as the agency sponsor of the San Juan Island Trails Committee to advocate for and promote interagency development of trails on the island.

The community interest in trails is very high, with walking paths and multi-use, paved trails as the 3rd and 4th highest rated park facilities, respectively. Additionally, feedback from the community suggested several specific actions related to trails and the trail network, including:

- Preparing an updated, comprehensive trails plan
- Providing pathways that link the ferry terminal with trails and parks on the island
- Building a walking path on south side of Pear Point Road to the Lafarge property from Argyle Avenue
- Completing the Cattle Point trail connection

The updated County Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan includes a listing of critical trail segments and cross-island connectors that would form the foundation of a strong trail network on the island. The Island Rec board and the Trails Committee should continue to foster and expand partnerships with local agencies and property owners to facilitate the expansion of the trail system. Additionally, the District should engage in discussions with health care providers for the potential to sponsor marketing material and maps to promote existing trails and the benefits of outdoor recreation on health and wellness.

“Trails Committee is impressive, maps are very useful. Mitchell Hill site is a great opportunity to expand hiking trails. Volunteers on Committee are very dedicated and productive.”

“I know budgets are tight. Keep what is the most popular and serves the most people in a good range of ages. Keep the trails and if you need more help to maintain, advertise, advertise, advertise.”

-- sample quotes from survey respondents

District Communications

Island Rec is well known and recognizable in the community. Approximately 96% of survey respondents were either very familiar or somewhat familiar with the District and its offerings. However, over 14% also stated that they were not aware of the recreation programs provided by Island Rec. While this percentage is within a normal range for strong recreation programs (typically 10%-15%), residents broadly noted the issues of communications and visibility, and they suggested that Island Rec gain greater exposure via the newspaper.
The District should continue to prepare visually attractive materials (print and electronic) that have a consistent graphic style to reinforce brand recognition and distinguish it from other providers. Additionally, the website should be updated to facilitate quick links to popular activities and expanded to accommodate mobile internet users (Android and iPhone). This includes posting photos and graphic layouts of its parks online, along with stronger links to the trail maps provided on the San Juan Island Trails Committee website.

“*We need to be careful with increasing levies during these difficult economic times. Property owners can only withstand so much. Just need to be sure we are getting the best bang for the buck spent. Cannot do everything so prioritizing is important.*”

“*One of the things that is great about living here is that in the summer you can go outside and do things - so I could see how there might not be a need to a “Rec Center” like there might be in the City (where there are few public outdoor spaces). Winters can be more difficult (not as easy to play outside) - but in my opinion, affordability of programs/ public access to the spaces & natural areas is more important than creating new things, like a rec center, school sports fields, or a bmx park.*”

“*More cooking and craft classes for adults would be great. A facility to use during the wet and cold months would be very helpful to families. Most towns have an indoor playground inside a mall or somewhere, but we have nothing. Only the arcade at the bowling alley which is not good for young children. At a minimum place a sun shade over the existing family park to keep out the rain and decrease weathering of the facility.*”

--- sample quotes from survey respondents
Chapter 5. Policies & Objectives

Goals and objectives provide the policy framework for the Parks and Recreation Plan. The following goals have been derived by assessing the strengths and capacity of Island Rec as it exists today and identifying opportunities for strategic progress during the next 5 to 10 years.

The following goals are also influenced by the San Juan County and Town of Friday Harbor Comprehensive Plans, which address recreation provisions, natural resources, public facilities and transportation, among others. These two agencies offer complementary facilities and services to those of Island Rec, and their roles in providing recreational opportunities for all islanders are relevant and important as the District considers the future direction of its services.

Community Engagement

Goal 1: Continue meaningful public involvement in park and recreation planning and engage residents through District communications.

1.1 Involve residents and stakeholders in recreation planning, park site facility design and recreation program development to solicit community input, facilitate project understanding and engender public support.

1.2 Continue to use a variety of methods and media to increase resident awareness about Island Rec activities; Continue to improve and update the District’s web site to enhance communications, expand access to information and improve public outreach and marketing.

1.3 Conduct periodic joint sessions between the San Juan Island Parks and Recreation Commission, San Juan County Commissioners and the Friday Harbor Town Council, among others, to improve coordination and discuss policy matters of mutual interest pertaining to recreational resources, amenities and funding.

Recreation Programming

Goal 2: Maintain a varied and inclusive suite of recreation programs that accommodate a spectrum of ages, interests and abilities.

2.1 Leverage District resources by forming and maintaining partnerships with other public, non-profit and private recreation providers to deliver recreation services and maintain access to existing facilities (e.g. schools) for field sports and other community recreation.

2.2 Emphasize recreation program offerings for youth, teens and seniors and that are responsive to the unique needs and interests of Island residents.
2.3 Continue to promote and expand family-oriented programming, special events, festivals and concerts, such as Music on the Lawn and the Children’s Festival, to enhance community identity, activity and education.

2.4 Continue to foster the partnership with the San Juan Island School District to utilize school sites to provide active recreation facilities. Explore additional opportunities to co-develop facilities on school property or property adjacent to schools.

2.5 Explore partnership opportunities with regional healthcare providers and services, such as PeaceHealth, Island Hospital and the San Juan County Health & Community Services Department, to promote wellness activities, healthy lifestyles and communications about local facilities and the benefits of parks and recreation.

2.6 Periodically undertake a comprehensive evaluation of existing recreation program offerings in terms of persons served, customer satisfaction, cost/subsidy and availability of similar programs via other providers.

2.7 Implement and assess the outcomes of the District’s Fees & Charges Policy to review cost recovery goals for existing and planned recreation programs and services.

2.8 Explore the feasibility of developing a multi-purpose community center to include researching funding alternatives, assessing partnership opportunities with the County, Town of Friday Harbor and others, and understanding the operational requirements.

2.9 Coordinate with the San Juan Island arts community to encourage participation in, appreciation of and education in the arts and to improve the capacity of the local art community in providing art programs that benefit residents.

Parks

Goal 3: Provide a high-quality, diversified system of parks and recreation facilities that is attractive, functional, accessible and safe and complements the facilities offered by the Town of Friday Harbor and the County.

3.1 Provide parklands and recreational amenities that address specific community needs and are distinct from Town- and County-provided facilities and services.

3.2 Actively plan and coordinate with San Juan County, the San Juan County Land Bank and the Town of Friday Harbor for the acquisition of parks and natural areas within or in close proximity to urban centers.

3.3 Support the protection of recreational areas of local significance and the expansion of public access to shoreline and water access areas.
Trails

Goal 4: Support and promote the efforts of the San Juan Island Trails Committee to create a network of interconnected trail opportunities including hard- and soft-surfaced trails and right-of-way trails and bikeways.

4.1 Maintain fiscal and operational support to the Trails Committee.

4.2 Foster stronger and improved communications with the Trails Committee to enhance the working relationship and accountability between the Board and the Committee, including joint retreats, trainings and orientation sessions.

4.3 Foster the development and capacity of local volunteer trail advocates to help with trails planning efforts, garner community support, leverage community resources and play a role in stewardship and maintenance of trail facilities.

4.4 Acknowledge and support the trail planning policies of San Juan County as outlined in the San Juan County Parks, Trails & Natural Areas Plan.

4.5 Assist and support the work of local agencies to secure trail easements and access to greenspace for trail connections from utilities and private landholders.

4.6 Encourage San Juan County and the Town of Friday Harbor to integrate the siting of proposed trail segments into the development review process, such that designated trail routes are incorporated into future site development projects.

4.7 Encourage the provision of trailhead accommodations, as appropriate, to include parking, wayfinding signage, restrooms and other amenities.

Management & Operations

Goal 5: Provide a parks and recreation system that is efficient to administer and operate, while providing a high level of user comfort, safety, aesthetic quality and protection of capital investment.

5.1 Provide sufficient financial and staff resources to maintain the overall parks and recreation system to high standards.

5.2 Maintain all parks and facilities in a manner that keeps them in safe and attractive condition; repair or remove damaged components immediately upon identification.

5.3 When developing new facilities or redeveloping existing facilities, review and consider the projected maintenance and operations costs prior to initiating design development. Emphasize the maintenance, enhancement and renovation of existing parks prior to the development of new facilities.

5.4 Formulate illustrative master plans for the development or redevelopment of each park, as appropriate, to take maximum advantage of grant or other funding opportunities.

5.5 Provide for and maintain parks and facilities to offer universal accessibility in compliance with the newly adopted ADA Standards for Accessible Design (effective March 15, 2012).

5.6 Consider sustainable development and low impact design practices in the design, planning and rehabilitation of new and existing facilities. Consider the use of non-invasive, native
vegetation for landscaping in parks to minimize maintenance requirements and promote wildlife habitat.

5.7 Standardize the use of graphics and signage to establish a consistent identity at all parks and facilities.

5.8 Standardize park furniture (trash cans, tables, benches, fencing) to reduce inventory costs and improve appearance of, and maintenance consistency within, parks.

5.9 Encourage and promote volunteer park improvement and maintenance projects from a variety of individuals, service clubs, churches and businesses.

5.10 Consider hiring a volunteer coordinator to sponsor periodic beautification, planting and enhancement projects at its facilities.

5.11 Periodically evaluate user satisfaction and numerical use of parks, facilities and programs; share this information with the Board as part of the decision making process to revise program offerings or renovate facilities.

5.12 Seek partnerships with other public agencies, such as San Juan County, the Town of Friday Harbor, the Port and school district, and the private sector to meet the demand for recreational facilities on the Island.

5.13 Pursue alternative funding options for the acquisition and development of parks and facilities, such as through private donation, sponsorships, partnerships, county, state and federal grant sources, among others. Place priority on maximizing grants and other external sources of funding, or inter-agency cooperative arrangements, to develop the District’s recreational resources.

5.14 Support and promote the efforts of Families and Neighbors Support Island Rec (FANS).

5.15 Promote professional development opportunities that strengthen the core skills and engender greater commitment from staff, Board members and key volunteers, to include trainings, materials and/or affiliation with the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA), Washington Recreation & Park Association (WRPA) and/or the Washington Trails Association (WTA).
Chapter 6. Action Plan & Implementation

Capital Facilities Action Plan

The following Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) lists all park and facility projects considered for the next six years. The majority of these projects entail the renovation of existing parks and planning for future recreational facilities. Based on survey results and other feedback, San Juan Island residents have indicated an interest in park facility upgrades and maintenance as short-term priorities, along with consideration for the development of the Lafarge property and completion of Carter Street fields. The proposed CFP is reflective of these interests.

The need to assess the feasibility of a multiple use recreation center was identified in the Needs chapter. The CFP does not specifically include at this time either the acquisition of a new property or redevelopment of an existing facility to accommodate associated programming needs, since this Plan recommends a more detailed review and study to assess and explore partnership opportunities for a flexible and cost-effective facility that meets operational cost considerations and to determine the most appropriate course of action to serve island residents for the long term.

The following CFP project list provides brief project descriptions and priority ranking to assist staff in preparing future capital budget submittals.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Site</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Park Type</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lafarge Property</td>
<td>Prepare Conceptual Site Design for CUP</td>
<td>Community Park</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Develop phase-1 improvements</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF, G, D</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Develop phase-2 improvements</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF, G, D</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Install perimeter tree plantings &amp; other landscaping</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF, G, D</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Develop phase-3 improvements</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF, G, D</td>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Park &amp; Playground</td>
<td>Re-surface playground to remove 6&quot;-8&quot; of wood chips from central play area</td>
<td>Special Facility</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Repair/Replace signage, tables and benches</td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Install ADA-compliant pad and approach to at least one bench</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Install additional pre-K (ages 2-5) play equipment elements</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF, D</td>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improve ADA access from parking area to park: Add ADA-compliant parking stall</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Install playground equipment on North side of Town (possibly at Carter St)</td>
<td>Pocket Park</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skatepark</td>
<td>Replace/Upgrade entry and operational signage</td>
<td>Special Facility</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Replace &amp; upgrade water fountain</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Repair/Replace damaged coping and concrete</td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Install additional seating/viewing area(s)</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddie &amp; Friends Dog Park</td>
<td>Install a wood chip path around the perimeter of the fence interior</td>
<td>Special Facility</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF, D</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Use Recreation Center</td>
<td>Conduct feasibility study to include capital, operational and maintenance proforma</td>
<td>Special Facility</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal: $12,000 $11,000 $33,000 $18,000 $11,000 $885,000

Cumulative 6-Yr Total: $970,000

**NOTES:**
This Capital Facilities Plan is **not an official budget** for Island Rec nor does it establish expenditure commitments. It is a budget tool and guide for planning future expenditures.

The implementation of projects noted may be dependent upon the successful receipt of grants, donations or other funding contributions.
Implementation in Context

A few strategies exist to expand service delivery for Island Rec; however, clear decisions must be made in an environment of competing interests and limited resources. A strong community will is necessary to bring the larger projects listed in this Plan to life. The following considerations are presented to offer near-term direction on implementation and as a means to continue dialogue between the District and its stakeholders.

Given that the operating and capital budgets for the District are limited, the implementation measures identified below focus on options other than the internal re-prioritization of existing General Fund (levy) dollars. Additionally, a review of likely funding options is attached as Appendix E and includes local financing, federal and state grant programs, and others.

Volunteer & Community-Based Action

The community engagement process for this Plan has demonstrated that many residents currently are and want to be involved in supporting Island Rec programs and projects. The District should continue to sponsored periodic beautification, planting and enhancement projects at its facilities to engage residents and reinforce a sense of identity and ownership. In an effort to guide the energy of potential volunteers, Island Rec should prepare a revolving list of potential small works or volunteer-appropriate projects to post on its website or in the recreation guide, while also continuing to connect with the high school to encourage student projects, such as continued upkeep and management of the skatepark.

Interagency Coordination & Collaboration

Specific projects and goals identified in this Plan will demand a high degree of coordination and collaboration with outside agencies and organizations to more fully expand park and trail facilities and recreation programs for the benefit of island residents. The Lafarge property development and the completion of the Carter Street fields are examples of two major potential projects requiring community-wide collaboration.

Regarding the Lafarge property, Island Rec should discuss and potentially pursue intergovernmental agreements with the Town of Friday Harbor and San Juan County for the shared development of the site. As mentioned in the Needs chapter, the Lafarge property represents the largest parkland holding of any of these three organizations, and the benefits of its development extend to the constituents of each, given the overlapping political boundaries. Such discussions should occur prior to conceptual site design and planning and should include items such as capital development cost sharing, maintenance and operations, site surveillance and patrol, road system and trail improvements, among others. If a cooperative arrangement can be made, a detailed proforma of capital and operating costs to expenses should be compiled as part of the master planning process to better understand the anticipated costs of the project, so strategies can be discussed for phasing the development of the property. Also, Island Rec should coordinate with the County on the submittal of a Conditional Use permit to facilitate the future development and use of the site as a park. The conceptual site design will identify and define the likely, future park improvement elements.
The phased development and/or completion of the Carter Street fields, while more straightforward in terms of scope than Lafarge, is more complex when considering the existing relationships involved in the project, as well as the political and financial liabilities at risk. Based on community feedback, there is a strong interest in seeing this project completed. The potential of financial aid by Island Rec toward either continued site development or involvement with the long-term operation and programming of the site will necessitate voter approval, since Island Rec does not possess the resources to significantly engage in this project without additional levy funds. However, a significant obstacle is the existing contractual arrangement between the school district and FHAA, which sunsets in 2017, precludes the involvement of Island Rec in the project. In an effort to re-invigorate the project, Island Rec may be a willing participant in a community discussion about how to proceed with field development and address specific field needs, use arrangements and site design. Since community feedback was mixed on financing, the District also should participate in discussions with the school district and FHAA to consider potential funding alternatives for field development phasing and completion, along with on-going field maintenance and operations responsibilities. See Local Funding section below.

In addition to these two capital projects, Island Rec should engage and expand its relationships with local health care service providers, such as PeaceHealth, Island Hospital and the San Juan County Health & Community Services Department, along with the private fitness clubs and others for support and funding to promote active and healthy lifestyles. For example, working collaboratively this group could more directly cross-market services and programs and help expand resident understanding of local wellness and fitness options. A clearinghouse-type effort could help reduce any confusion or lack of awareness about the programs offered and which agency is sponsoring them. Other communities from the Puget Sound region offer examples of how to promote health and wellness. Some municipalities have invested in recreation “passport” programs where users obtain stamps from different classes and activities as a means to increase enrollment and encourage residents to stay fit. The printing and promotion of the passport can be sponsored by local health care providers. Separately, other agencies have partnered with regional hospitals or clinics to fund walking guides and trail maps highlighting the health benefits of these activities. Tacoma-Pierce County and Clark County are examples.

Local Funding

Although a variety of approaches exist to support small projects or individual programs, the broader assessment of community needs suggests that additional, dedicated funding will be required to finance the noted major improvements in this Plan. A short-term bond or levy increase could be structured to maximize voter support to include the completion of Carter Street fields, phase 1 improvements for the Lafarge property and general park element upgrades. This will require additional review for the compilation of a specific funding package, along with an assessment of potential tax revenue, political willingness and potential voter support. A voter approved levy increase or a general obligation bond may be suitable for this purpose. In either case, a 60% majority of voters will be required to approved the measure.

Considering the Carter Street fields as an example, a 6-year property tax based bond in an amount of at least $2 million (includes working capital, bond interest, bond fees, attorney fees and election fees) will be required. At the current assessed value, the annual bond payments will require an additional $0.17 per $1,000 assessed value for each of the six years – in effect doubling the existing combined
levy rate supporting Island Rec and the school district. Depending on arrangements for on-going site maintenance and operations, an additional levy increase will be likely to support the maintenance and programming of the new fields and facilities. Although Island Rec is interested in improvements to Carter Street, the District cannot pursue the completion of this project or assume the full financial burden of capital and operating costs for the project. With this project, resources will need to be secured from other sources, and access to state-based grants will be highly challenging for a number of reasons. One major hurdle in pursuing state-based grants is that the property is not owned by Island Rec; the RCO requires long-term tenure (fee-simple ownership or long-term lease) of successful grant applicants. Also, with a priority toward school district usage of the fields, the grant review committees will perceive this project as one benefiting the school district, not the broader recreational needs of the community, and will score it poorly relative to other competing projects with wider benefits.

The potential expansion of the Island Rec service boundary offers another opportunity to increase revenues from local funding. From conversations with staff, the District may consider the benefits of enlarging the boundary to include at least Brown Island. While this expansion would only encompass approximately 45 existing, developed lots, it could provide a small increase in the District’s overall budget going forward.

Another local funding option that may be considered is the conversion of Island Rec into a Metropolitan Parks District, per WA RCW 35.61. The primary benefit of an MPD over that of a Parks & Recreation Service District is that of assessing a permanent property tax to support the needs of Island Rec; the 6-year periodic levy renewals would cease. The MPD offers a similar structure as that of a Service District, and it has the authority to assess levies, bonds, incur debt, own and receive property, among others. However, the state statutes require approval of the ballot measure by the County Board of Commissioners and suggests the potential for a higher degree of coordination with the County than presently exists. For example, the county legislative authority may be designated to serve in an ex officio capacity as the board of metropolitan park commissioners.

**Grants**

Several state and federal grant programs are available on a competitive basis, including WWRP, ALEA, LWCF and SAFETEA-LU. Pursuing grants is not a panacea for parks capital finance, since grants are both competitive and often require a significant percentage of local funds to match the request to the granting agency, which depending on the grant program can be as much as 50% of the total project budget. Island Rec should continue to leverage its local resources to the greatest extent by pursuing grants independently and in cooperation with other municipal agencies, such as the county, town and school district.
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Appendix A. References
References


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http://www.ada.gov/2010ADAstandards_index.htm


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Appendix B. Survey Results

The following report provides an overview of the community survey conducted as part of this Plan.
I. METHODOLOGY

Conservation Technix is pleased to present the results of the survey of the general population of San Juan Island assessing residents’ recreational needs, preferences and priorities. In close collaboration with staff and Parks Commissioners, Conservation Technix developed the 28-question survey which was estimated to take approximately 5.7 minutes to complete.

The survey was posted online via Island Rec’s website on April 28, 2011. Information about the survey was provided in the Summer edition of the Island Rec program catalog that was mailed to all residences during the first week of May. Additionally, advertisements were purchased in the San Juan Islander newspaper. Program users, stakeholders and civic groups were notified about the survey in person and via email. Paper versions of the survey were available at the San Juan Island library, the Mullis Center and the Island Rec office. The survey was closed on May 21st, and preliminary data were compiled in advance of a community open house meeting hosted by Island Rec on May 25, 2011.

A total of 280 completed surveys were recorded, which is a sufficient sample size to assess community opinions generally and to review findings by subgroups including gender and age. Since the survey was open to the general public, and respondents were not selected through statistical sampling methods, the results are not necessarily representative of all San Juan Island residents. Percentages in the report may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
II. KEY FINDINGS

A. AWARENESS AND PERCEPTIONS OF ISLAND REC

i. Familiarity & Satisfaction

Residents were asked about their familiarity with Island Rec, its recreation programs, events and parks. A majority (55%) were very familiar, and a plurality (41%) noted being somewhat familiar. Combined, a high degree of awareness (96%) about Island Rec exists among respondents. No significant gender or age differences were noted in the results.

Concerning the level of satisfaction about recreation programs, a strong majority (84%) indicated satisfaction. The following table illustrates the degree of satisfaction for recreation programs. Also, a strong majority (98.6%) valued recreation programs as an element of the Island's quality of life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction with operation of recreation programs (Q2)</th>
<th>62.5%</th>
<th>83.6%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very satisfied</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat satisfied</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat dissatisfied</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very dissatisfied</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A majority of residents (79%) noted general satisfaction with the operation of Island Rec parks, and respondents strongly valued (96.7%) parks as an element of local quality of life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction with operation of Island Rec parks (Q4)</th>
<th>78.5%</th>
<th>52.1%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very satisfied</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat satisfied</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat dissatisfied</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very dissatisfied</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The survey also asked respondents to grade the maintenance and operation of specific parks. Responses to this question were somewhat limited with approximately two-thirds of respondents answering the question. As such, the data is useful as anecdotal information, and they were consistent with the general impressions noted above. Overall, respondents ranked Island Rec park sites with A’ and B’ (on an A – F scale). The following table illustrates park maintenance responses.
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Level of satisfaction with the maintenance and upkeep of specific parks (Q20)

Family Park & Playground

Eddie & Friends Dog Park

Skatepark

Lounge property

ii. Community Value of Parks and Recreation

Nearly all respondents (99.3%) noted that Island Rec’s parks and recreation services were important to the community’s quality of life, regardless of their use of the services. No gender or age based differences in the results were noted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member of my household frequently use Island Rec’s parks and recreation services, and I believe these are important to my community’s quality of life.</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Although members of my household do not frequently use Island Rec’s parks and recreation services, I believe these are important to my community’s quality of life.</td>
<td>54.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and recreation services are not important to my community’s quality of life.</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. PUBLIC USE OF RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

i. Participation In Outdoor Recreation

Residents were asked how frequently over the past year they or a member of their household had participated in outdoor recreation opportunities on San Juan Island. The results are ranked in popularity, and the top three activities are as follows:

1. Hiking or walking
2. Picnicking
3. Wildlife observation
4. Swimming
5. Bicycling

Respondents were also offered an “other” choice in the selection to accommodate write-in responses. Approximately 20% of respondents identified activities other than those from the provided list. The following are the most frequently identified activities:

1. Dog Walking / Dog Park
2. Roller Hockey / Rollerblading
3. Football
APPENDIX C.

Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

4. Horseback Riding
5. Badminton
6. Climbing
7. Pickleball

ii. Participation In Recreation Programs

A strong majority (84%) of respondents indicated that they or a family member participated in at least one Island Rec program over the past year. Family programs and events had the highest participation (89%) of the recreation programs listed. The following table ranks in descending order the noted participation by activity.

Participation in Recreation Programs Offered by Island Rec (Q8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Programs &amp; Events</td>
<td>88.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Programs for Youth and Teens</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult and Teen Sports</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swim Lessons</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Basketball, Roller Hockey, Tumbling</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Programs</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult and Teen Enrichment Classes</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Programs</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult / Senior Fitness</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When asked about the frequency of participation in Island Rec programs, approximately two-thirds of respondents offered feedback, and half (49.5%) of the respondents cited participation of 6 or more times in the past year. The results are summarized as follows:

Frequency of Participation in Island Rec programs (Q10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>0 times</th>
<th>1-2 times</th>
<th>3-5 times</th>
<th>6-10 times</th>
<th>&gt;10 times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 5 of 31
iii. Program Accessibility and Affordability

When asked about the general impression of program affordability, 14% of respondents classified program costs as either expensive or very expensive. A strong plurality (41%) were neutral, and a plurality (30%) felt programs were inexpensive. No age or gender differences were noted in the responses.

Perception of Program Affordability (Q14)

Respondents were asked to identify potential barriers to participation in Island Rec programs. The following list identifies the top five responses in descending order, with the frequency of the response noted in parentheses.

1. Busy/no time (54%)
2. Not interested in available activities (40%)
3. Cost/expensive (31%)
4. Not aware of programs (14%)
5. Times are inconvenient (14%)

Respondents were also asked to rate the quality of their experiences for each recreation program area. Only about half of the respondents provided input on this question, and responses were limited to those that they or their family participated in or were familiar with. As a result, this data does not provide a clear indication of program quality. The use of class evaluation forms at the end of each program or class is a more direct way to assess the perceived quality of participants.
C. PROGRAM AND FACILITY PRIORITIES

i. Recreation Programs

Respondents were asked to rate the importance of recreation programs in an effort to assess an overall priority for future recreation program planning. After school programs for youth and for teens rated highest (89% and 83%, respectively) in terms of being important or very important, followed by family programs and events (83%). Preschool and senior programs were rated lowest in comparison to other recreation program offerings. Respondents between 24 and 34 more strongly supported preschool programs than the average, and seniors over 65 were more strongly in favor of teen after school recreation programs. No significant gender differences were noted in the responses.
ii. Park Facilities

Respondents were asked to rank in priority a set of park projects or amenities using a forced ranking method. The intent of the question was to try to assess the relative importance of a range of park facilities against each other. The priority ranking follows:

1. Sport fields development at Carter Street
2. Multi-use recreation center or teen center
3. Walking paths
4. Multi-use, paved trails
5. Playgrounds
6. Lafarge property (former gravel pit) development into a park
7. Picnic shelters for gatherings
8. Land acquisition for future parks

Approximately 29% of respondents identified the Carter Street fields as their top priority project, and their interest in a multi-use recreation center was nearly identical. Support for the Carter Street project was reinforced by open-ended responses to Question 21, along with responses regarding funding support in Question 18. The following chart illustrates the overall strength of response by selected ranking.

Page 8 of 31
APPENDIX C.

Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Priority Ranking of Park Facilities (Q15)

With regard to the role of Island Rec in purchasing additional lands for active recreation use, the results were mixed. Only slightly more respondents valued land acquisition as important. No age or gender differences were noted in the responses.

Importance of Acquiring New Active Use Park Lands (Q17)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very important</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat important</td>
<td>26.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat unimportant</td>
<td>18.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all important</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

iii. Carter Street Fields

Respondent opinions were mixed about the role of Island Rec in the completion and maintenance of the Carter Street fields project. Nearly half (49.8%) felt it important for the District to participate in both the development and maintenance of the project. Almost even percentages wanted to use levy funds for either project completion or on-going maintenance (13% and 15%, respectively). Male respondents and those ages 45 to 55 were more in favor of the District being fully involved in this project. Nearly one-quarter (22.2%) were not in favor of Island Rec utilizing levy funds to assist
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011

Summary Results

this project, women and those ages 55 and older were more strongly against the project than the average.

Although responses were mixed regarding a specific approach for Island Rec’s potential involvement, a majority (78%) of respondents favored some level of funding support toward this project. Additionally, this sentiment is consistent with the ranking of this project against other potential projects or park facilities, as noted in the above results from Question 15.

Preferred Participation Approach to Carter Street Fields (Q18)

![Pie chart showing preferred participation approaches]

iv. Lafarge Property Development

When asked about the future development of the Lafarge property, respondents were predominantly in favor of passive recreation opportunities, such as walking and picnicking. A few distinctions existed between age groups. Respondents aged 25 to 34 more strongly favored the development of a recreation center on site. Seniors aged 55 to 64 favored more strongly walking pathways. Respondents between 35 and 44 more strongly favored the installation of playground equipment. No significant gender differences were apparent between the amenity choices.
APPENDIX C.

Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Importance of Park Element Types for Development of the Lafarge Property (Q19)

v. Overall Priorities (Open-Ended)

Residents were asked what they believed were the three most important improvements, programs or facilities for Island Rec (Q21). Approximately one-half of survey respondents completed this question, and fewer provided responses for each of the three priorities. Gender and age subgroup analysis were not available for this (or other) open-ended question.

Representative Comments:

“Carter Street Fields developed for general and school use”

“More widely distributed funding for scholarships, sliding fee scale or volunteer hours trade for fees”

“Continuation of seasonal sports and other activities for kids of all ages”

“Carefully manage and maintain the programs and facilities, go easy and carefully into new opportunities.”

“Develop Lafarge property into a beautiful multi purpose park”

“Multi-use paved trails around more of the island, let’s promote hiking & walking by providing safe routes”

“Activities for all ages of kids-- especially for after school”

Responses were grouped by type and tallied. The most frequently cited improvements are noted below.

1. Completion of Carter Street fields
2. Trail development
3. Continued and expanded programs for youth and teens
II. DEMOGRAPHICS

The following table compares the Census 2000 San Juan County demographic information to the community survey. Revised figures from the 2010 Census are not yet available at this level of detail. The responses generated from this survey generally are similar in demographics to that of the census data, but certain distinctions exist. This web-based survey did not accommodate a controlled collection protocol, and response rates by age or gender were not included. As a result, responses on this survey are skewed to slightly younger, male respondents and those with children under 18 years of age.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-34</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-54</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 and above</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Information</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with children under 10</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residency Type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Own</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Census figures represent the entirety of San Juan County.*

The following tables detail the demographic profile of survey respondents by type.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. What is your gender</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

answered question 249
stopped question 24
### Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
#### Community Survey 2011
#### Summary Results

#### 2. What is your age?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 to 24</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answered Question**: 251
**Skipped Question**: 78

#### 3. Are you a full-time resident of San Juan Island?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>96.0%</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answered Question**: 249
**Skipped Question**: 31

#### 4. Do you own or rent your home?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Own</td>
<td>83.0%</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answered Question**: 247
**Skipped Question**: 33
## Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
### Community Survey 2011

**Summary Results**

5. How many children under age 18 currently live in your home?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>40.6%</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 or more</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered question: 248

### 6. In what age ranges are the children? (Select all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 and younger</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 10</td>
<td>48.5%</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 to 15</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 and older</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered question: 144

### IV. OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES

The following represent the written comments received for the open-ended questions of the survey. Responses have not been sorted or arranged in any manner.

**Comments about how to make programs more accessible (Q49):**

- More notices in the newspaper/internet
- Add more active programs
- More programs target age 5-7 and under
- The programs are great, I'm just not a groupie
- Reduced fees
APPENDIX C.

Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Join the Bike Paths Subcommittee of the Trails Committee to actively promote biking education and safety on the island. Advocate for cycling as a method of transportation.

More affordable scholarships based on real need of families at the time of services, job loss and other factors play into the need for more comprehensive scholarship coverage.

Think you do a good job, just a different reason in my life now but will be back doing Island Rec in the future.

We are quite happy with the accessibility of programs with II. Maybe offering the same class or service more than once?

See previous comments for last question. Additionally, it would be nice if you offered more programs for children under four.

Look at scheduling conflicts. Offer more activities. Summer baseball for kids.

Styg affordable good locations factor in working people's hours

We believe some activities used to be "pick up." These activities became "co-opted" by Island Rec and then people had to pay to participate in something that had been free and open because the facilities were no longer available for "pick up." I also used to enjoy certain activities with my family until additional rules were applied and my children were no longer allowed to participate. Only people without children are allowed to use the dog park, too. So I believe making your activities more "child friendly" would be an appropriate approach for your organization. I definitely feel alienated and much less enthusiastic about your organization as the fees have gone up. Being more flexible would be helpful. I also believe your organization has missed out on donations and more participation because of this lack of flexibility.

I am unable physically to participate in most adult programs. You might think of more activities suitable for those with limited mobility.

Age groups are too broad. Older kids would go if the age ranges were smaller. They show up and there are just too few age range kids there. TIP:

Maintaining, expanding and supporting creative partnerships, even "out of the box" partnerships with organizations not normally thought of as recreation. I think you are doing a fantastic job by the way

Friendly stuff

N/A. We participate in many of the programs that are available to our children. There are many more programs that they are interested in, but they aren't old enough for them (they are currently elementary school age). Something to look forward to!

I don't have any children at home. Occasionally grandchild take part in activities. You are doing a great job. I take part in as many activities that fit my time schedule.

Money is a concern

Island Rec is very effective in including as many interested people as possible. Well organized and very responsive to needs/interests

The programs are great. We do as much as we can do on our free time.

I've read the flyer. Somehow, I don't fit in many of the offered activities because of targeted age / health or interest requirements.

I don't have kids

Create more programs for children ages 3 and 4

If we had more venues and fields, program options could be more varied and program time scheduling more available.

If I had an outdoor quality skatepark, the skating tourists from all over the world (myself included) who love "skateboarding" on Orcas would likely travel to F.H. first because eastbound ferry traffic is free, and the draw of TWO world class island skateparks would bring more tourist dollars to both islands. I grew up getting tickets for skateboarding in F.H., but always visit Orcas instead of F.H. because of their skate park's superiority. (which is 8 miles from the ferry terminal... LAME)

Island Rec does a great job of promoting their programs. We take advantage of what fits our schedule.

Age 0-4 programs should not be scheduled between 1-4, that is nap time.

I think teaming up with the FRC would be good, and doing sibling friendly activities like barn walks etc could be more of a family affair at times.

How about a program where parents/teens could volunteer to receive a scholarship or discount on island rec programs.

Note:3 years to 8 years programs that are low cost for dollar stressed low income families.
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Can IR facilitate other league activities (e.g. Volleyball, hockey)? Is it possible to have family-oriented leagues (e.g. Kickball)?
Friends and families would enjoy these activities. I feel they are completely accessible.
No. I'm sure you're doing a fine job, but it presently have no need of your services. I'm very glad we have a dog park...
Every time I get the brochure for island rec I look hoping to find anything at all interesting for ADULTS but I never find anything new after year. It seems way too geared for school aged children.
Make badminton, ping pong open at 7-pm. during winter
Note ball fields. My kids can't play games or practice due to lack of fields
My children are younger, there is not a wide lot of available activities for my youngest child. Would like to see more, like a Camp Eagle Rock for smaller kids. Lets go Eagles!
Some programs might benefit from using more volunteers. For example, having roller hockey and skating only 1 day per week is too infrequent.
Its me, not you... Get to get out more
I think they good a great job right now. Not all activities are appropriate for me though.
Would love to see more day trip nature type programs for kids...maybe in conjunction with the SJ nature institute.
Somewhere I just didn't think Rec earned seniors. I'll be looking for those programs in the future.
We will grow into many programs as our family grows up.
Need better facilities and more facilities for sports programs such as baseball, soccer, summer programs.
Have more programs that target active seniors and their interests. Do not export young old people to go to Munis Center for activities because it has the stigma of being for the old and we are trying to avoid that as long as we can.
Programs are needed that the physically disabled, i.e. Kids/adults in wheelchairs, etc. can participate in.
Programs should be free. We already pay for them, each family that pays taxes should receive a pass. Lower middle class families cannot afford to pay more even if it's only a few bucks per head, yet lower middle class families are expected to pay. Offer fewer programs if that's what it takes.
Island Rec does a great job.
I would like to see more adult enrichment programs and adult outdoor excursions. Often the teen programs sound interesting, but I am 64.
I think they are very accessible. I have two kids involved in a sport at school every season, so we just don't have the time and in the summer they are working.
I believe that Island Rec does an excellent job and I have observed the expansion of programs and offerings over the years.
My family participated in more programs when my kids were younger.
Our kids are now teens so they are less interested. Maybe increased teen involvement early on in the planning and creation stages would encourage more teens to come.
 Seems like all the adult classes are very expensive.
It's disappointing to have great programs like roller hockey and family skate night end so early in the year.
Do you put flyers around town?
What about email alerts that people could sign up for? E.g. I want to be notified about upcoming senior events, outdoor events, preschool events etc.?

Comments about the highest ranked priority from Question #15 (Q16).
There are no existing sport fields other than school facilities
It would be nice to have a place for teens to go that would have positive activities for them
It would be nice to have a place for teens to go that would have positive activities for them
There are no existing sport fields other than school facilities
Multi use of gravel path would serve all ages
That could be a great sport field if managed correctly.
There is plenty already without more tax dollars being spent on recreation activities
A nice waterfront park with a view
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Our children need to be occupied and provided for
not enough for young people to do
I think we have to provide activities and a place for teens
there is a need for fields or pickleball courts
that particular site has great potential for the public, both residents and tourists
new location, could be a great park
family outdoor time
it’s an exercise and waste time right now - time for the community to do it right
important to have facilities for youth and personally enjoy taking area
provide multiple options for future as land cost and availability will be limited
after school programs for kids very important
I think it is important or young adults to have a safe place to be
Exercise available to greatest number, being in nature, fresh air, conserving open space
Age of my children & recognizing there aren’t many playgrounds on the island (1 at Fair Grounds Park & 1 at Roche Harbor... Does Sunken Park count? 1/2 a Park?)
getting the new sport fields done so there are not so changed using the ones we have, the ones we have now are being tapped out.
I am invested in working with the Trails Committee to build trails which can be used for walking and biking
Biking on San Juan is very dangerous on many roads which have no shoulders or bike lanes.
It is something that the community has been wanting for years, a facility to be home base for many of the programs is essential. A real sense of ownership and belonging will take place that is lacking with Island Rec now.
beautiful property could be used for outdoor concerts
We used the one at the Fairground playground when our kids were little. Easy to access, kids had plenty to do, covered area for eating.
It is a good opportunity for the community to be involved in our community with sports tournaments.
I feel RR should be the lead agency in charge of the Carter Street site and the design modifications should be made properly locate/sizes ballfields, playgrounds, picnic shelters, paths and multi-use trails and the possible future multi-use rec center. Unfortunately this did not happen at the LaFage property, however, it could still happen at the Carter property through proper planning and community involvement.
My male, age children play baseball & soccer. We are in urgent need of more field space.
walking is the best activity for most people to do—we have two legs and can be done at any time without special equipment.
With all of the bicycles on the island, and some of the roads with narrow shoulders, it makes sense to me to have places that are safe to ride and walk.
Everyone knows bikes and uses them.
Hands down, a multi-use recreation facility. You should contact the City of Monterey, which built an amazing sports facility with hotel tax revenue. When I lived there, they the rec program partnered with the local community college to offer incentive programs for residents working out at the center. This center built community, encouraged healthy living, and created a sense of pride for residents. Additionally, it creates many jobs for community members.
A safe place to gather and play outside.
It’s important that we have more safe places for our families and children to use. It will allow us to keep our tight niche community.
It’s what I and most of my friends do most often.
More people need more space, and the island will continue to grow
I play a lot of softball and we do not have enough fields.
I think that the more the community can offer to troops for structured recreation the better for everyone.
The impact of Carter fields would be huge.
youths need activities
We need more fields for adults and children. How can we have more activities when we don’t have the field space now?
It will benefit the most people for our island.
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

A covered or indoor playground. I would even pay a daily use fee to take my kids to a covered or indoor playground. I can’t believe we live in the rainy Northwest with nowhere but the bowling alley for young children to play when it’s raining or cold outside. You could even rent the space out for birthday parties since we lack any facilities for holding kids parties. I have brought this up to many families and they all have said they’d pay daily use fees and would love a rentable space for kid gatherings. Please Please Please!

Kids come 1st

Things needed in the island setting

Sports fields can be used for many activities by many children

No parent in their right mind lets their kids ride their bikes to school because the roads are a dangerous place for vehicles and bikes—especially on my stretch of road. I believe this is the highest of priorities and all money should go to this project. Most kids would ride bikes to school if it was a safe option and parents didn’t feel worried so much for letting their kids occasionally ride. We need bike paths!!! Keep the trails coming. I just ran on one last night and had a nice relaxing exercise time because I was safe and off the road.

Don’t use any of these

Lakefront property offers excellent multi-use recreational opportunities, has beach access, is close to town, and is already publicly owned thanks to the previous BOCC.

Its potential for the good of ALL residents goes at highest priority for me.

Carter fields (park) would serve the needs of many groups and a good portion of the infrastructure is in place to complete the park. A community pool could also be added to the complex on school reserved site. The multi-use center could be used by pre-school thru adults for a variety of indoor activities. It provides needed options.

As for what I do...

It’s important to keep everyone physically active, especially kids.

This is a great area for a new multi-use park—it could have a frisbee golf course, a playground, a walking path around the border, a picnic shelter—it could serve many functions and many segments of our community!

We desperately need bike/walking trails here. Pea Point/Turn Point is downright dangerous for cyclists/bikers/rollers, but hardly used, none the less. Every wet coast island and town needs it’s trails for a HEALTHIER community. GIVE OUR KIDS A PLACE TO RIDE THEIR BIKES, please.

I go on walks for my health, to visit with friends, and soon to exercise with a baby. I would do this even more if there were more options.

lace of in our community

It seems most appropriate for expenditure of tax dollars

I think teens really need a place to express themselves, we need to keep them off the streets, and occupied with purposeful activities.

more paved trails to bike or snow blades

Cannot depend on Fitness Club’s survival walking trails

Lake need right now serves young through old. Project is planned and ready to complete. It can provide the place and a space for most of these options to fill in around the field. It would be huge plus in helping families decide to call Friday Harbor home.

Our current facilities at PHHS are in poor shape (sprained ankles for soccer) and not adequate (not enough fields for softball/baseball for the use they get). I also LOVE the idea of a rec. center for our teens and families - could it include a climbing wall?

We really, really need sports fields for school sports program.

It seems like a great place for the whole community to gather and have fun. It would be used by a wider segment of the community than another playground, a teen center, or the Carter Ave. sports fields.

I feel these could be used year round if available and complete. Let’s finish what’s already here.

Because once the paths/trails are set up it is free to everyone and you don’t have to schedule it.

Bigger kids need a safe place to be, schools are overused and too much of the same place for those at risk.

Biking on the island is not safe because of no shoulders on most roads. Biking is a wonderful form of fitness. I have lived in other areas where I greatly appreciated multi use paved trails — bikes, standers, walkers, kids on scooters — people on the move and healthy.

My whole family could utilize walking paths - for fun!
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Carter Fields
I think it would be great to have a community recreation center, not necessarily just for teens, though they could certainly have their own space within the center. This town needs a public place to be active in rainy weather.

It would be great to have a centralized location for kids and teens after school, as well as on weekends, that can offer a variety of activities, resources, etc. all in one place.

summer programs for children and families
open areas of beach/trail/fields that invite everyone to enjoy/preserve our island’s natural beauty
The most troubled group on this island are the teens. A center that will welcome/without hidden agendas, the teens on this island will give them a safe place to socialize and explore interests.

I see the biggest limitation of my son’s sports life being available fields to play on. We use it at least once a week or more.

L hạ high potential for a regionally exemplary facility and park for multi-use activities and recreation because so many kids want to play sports and there is just not enough space for all the activities and teams.

The island’s desperate for fields, for all ages and all uses. We lag behind every like-sized community I have visited to an appalling degree.

We need ball fields. Lots of islanders use sports fields year after year. High Demand, keeps kids busy. Very good long term investment.

IT RAINS A LOT AND GETS DARK AT 4PM IN THE WINTER. NEED INDOOR OPTIONS.

The elementary school sports fields are over used. We need quality alternatives, especially as we encourage more off island teams to participate with our island programs.

"Don’t know.
Like hiking horseback riding, not sure any available."

This type of space is so desperately needed in addition to the Carter fields. Both spaces promote healthy living and community gatherings.

I think the more walking we can do the better. If we could actually connect paths that would help too.

"1=Highest priority.
Keeping teens in positive activities helpful for community and future. A multi-use facility would serve a wide variety of groups, building relations among community members is what makes our island cooperative and integrated."

Teams sports are so important for the island kids/teams. Current ball fields are inadequate location.

because our islands beauty needs to be protected from rampant development.

Carter Street Fields for community.

Our school resources are already over-used, leaving little time leftover for pick-up games and organized court activities for all ages.

Sports Fields for children.

These need to be an area where teams can play in better conditions, and more teams at once and more space available.

transportation, exercise for all, connections

A rec center could provide a safe environment for youth.

To slow down the use of land to build NEW houses.

Walking paths. Programs for hiking or kayak for ADULTS. Other boating classes for Adults.

Travel program off island activities for a day.

multi use unpaved trails, winter drop in sports all ages.

Walking paths serve all age groups as well as tourists.

Need to have off street transportation between major destinations on island.

Kids activities are very important. Without a facilities there would be no activities.

I use and enjoy parks and believe they are essential to good quality of life.

To have more fields in better condition for a wider variety of sports to be played. Availability to all, especially teens.

To promote, develop and enhance pedestrian access and mobility within the community as well as encouraging walking for fitness. This ought to qualify as a national priority as well. Leave the car home, walk instead of ride. Think about it.
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

I feel it is absolutely of highest importance to support kids in the athletic dept. and create areas where they can

because the investment already and the work is already mostly done

my kids have used the fields

need more space and better facilities.

Seems like the quickest way to add more outside enjoyment time and something everyone could enjoy

take kids to the field would benefit the most people. There aren't many fields for sports on the island

and most kids love to play sports, it would help out a great deal. A multi use are center would be great

too, especially if you had a "sport court" that allowed for indoor soccer, hockey and indoor soccer. A

facility I used to play at in South Carolina would be a good blueprint -

http://www.suppergoose.com/suppergoose_10589.html scroll down to see the picture of the sport

court - I realize this will never happen, but what the heck....

everyone can do it and enjoy it even tourists.

This has been a need in our community for as long as we have lived on the island. A permanent place with

good fields would be great

is land that is already available, it would provide a multitude of recreational opportunities for a wide range of

people from small children, teens to adults.

more ball fields on kids don't have to cancel games or practices

reduce dry use in kids with more activity involvement

WE NEED FIELD2!

"Bike paths would make riding a bicycle a much safer and more enjoyable experience. I do not like riding on

the roads here due to traffic and the way cars drive too close to sides.

Property on San Juan will continue to be developed and more people will move here. We need open space for

people's quality of life and to maintain the unique qualities of the island.

"Personally, family programs, paths, open space

But strong belief in need for kids, teens, seniors"

because it is already started and so much money has been put into it, is it a shame to see it just sitting there. It

can also be a gathering place with picnic tables, and a playground. could at some point a soccer field be put

there as well?

We need more fields for adult softball. Sharing with baseball delays our season, we need to be able to host

tournaments and need more fields

Safe walking & biking trails for all ages from toddlers to seniors

More protected open space

Walking paths - encourages people to leave their cars at home, more of the community can use walking paths,

even the disabled w/o worry of bikes, etc.

Would love a YMCA type facility with a pool and skate rink. With all the rain, an indoor recreation facility that

is accessible and affordable would be a godsend on this island

I believe that car roadway biking and pedestrian access is dangerous. Aside from our own residents, thousands

of tourists come to ride their bikes on very hazardous roads. I think it would be good to sell the gravel pit

rather than try to develop it. Use the revenue for bike paths

I would like to bike and walk safely. I have heard many others express this wish. I feel we should finish what

was started the sports field. This benefits everyone.

We could use a teen rec center that could send as a multi use like the Millis only larger. Maybe the old Frontier

Lumber building and site on Spring Street?

They enhance get togethers for everyone

They would serve the maximum number of people

Although my personal choice would be the paved paths or walking paths. I think the teens on the island are the

next priority, they need more safe places to hang

We have the potential to develop a first class multi use sports complex. Our existing sports facilities are in

poor condition and inadequate to support the level of usage

Pine Center Ave Field for use by both youth and adult soccer, baseball, softball, football, walking trails and

create a Island Rec facility on spare land

more exercise classes

Parks would meet the needs of more people & therefore further support
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

All other issues aside from the Carter Street fields, it is space going to wasted and has potential to serve the largest number of groups and people.

There is a lot of space available for another multi-use facility or a community park. The need for a multi-use facility is not new. There is a growing community of families and single parents. They need a place to play in comfortable and accessible. The community is already distributed around various fields and playgrounds. Lackle property is too small for the needs of the community. The fields are not well-maintained and need to be improved.

There is a shortage of sports fields to meet the community needs.

Our current baseball/softball and soccer fields are inadequate to support the demand for youth sports. There are not enough fields and the spaces we have are in various states of disrepair.

Getting outside to compete is the highlight of my day. It is a great way to stay healthy and active. One of the highlights of the year is the annual baseball tournament. The tournament takes place on various dates and locations. The tournament is open to all ages and skill levels. It is a great way to promote healthy living and sportsmanship. The tournament is sponsored by Island Rec and is a great way to support the community. The tournament is held on various dates and locations. It is a great way to promote healthy living and sportsmanship. The tournament is sponsored by Island Rec and is a great way to support the community.

Stay away from the Carter Road fields. The fields are not maintained and should not be used. The fields are not maintained and should not be used. The fields are not maintained and should not be used.

The fields at Carter Avenue cover a variety of uses for adults, kids, and our schools. They expand the town’s ability to host major sports events and take advantage of property that is already paid for and planned into the future.

These fields are great for kids and parents. They keep kids focused. No good places for bike riding on island kids need something to do. Because it both protects land and makes it accessible and usable for the community. Versatile multipurpose building would be a community asset and serve the full spectrum of your programs and participants.

Our kids need it. Plus, economically it makes the most sense to finish the project. Our current fields are overbooked and overcrowded. How can you have activities development without adequate facilities?

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Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Multi-use, paved trails can contribute to a better quality of life for everyone on the island by increasing transportation options, recreational opportunities, and connectivity between neighborhoods. The long-term cost/benefit ratio would be very low.

Desperate need for sports fields, project already started, could be a place for several of your other needs (paved trails, playgrounds, teen centers).

Location and access
In many communities, rec centers can pay for themselves if they are built in a fashion that attracts special events where a portion or part of the center can be rented out for parties, weddings, anniversaries etc.

We need to finish what has been started. These fields would be used by a great number of people. Over the years I have experienced the difficulty in finding available sports fields to meet the demand. Our sports programs are essential to healthy children, and help the youth of our island learn many skills and keep them occupied in a healthy and constructive manner. It was hard to decide between the Sport field development and a Multi-use recreation center or teen center. There is a crucial need for both.

I am an avid walker/hiker.

Island Rec is the right community organization to complete and manage the Carter St sports fields complex.

These facilities would be of benefit to the largest sector of the community, available to all school sports and recreation, community programs and festivals, and provide a showcase for island visitors. San Juan island lacks sports venues which forces programs to make sacrifices (all field based) sports where for field time, girls high school softball is forced onto underused fields at the elementary school, soccer and football have conflicts over field time, the lacrosse team practices on farm (swamp land donated by community members), and the list goes on . . .

I think we should finish one project before we start any others. Many groups would use it. Put a playground or tennis court there, don't spread everything out.

My family is very much into sports. The Carter fields should be used. Youth sports are very important to all families and our island has inadequate facilities and a great opportunity at The Carter St. Rec.

The gravel pit has the ability to be many things to many people, even limited motorized use i.e. youth motocrossing.

these aren't many multi-purpose trails on island

With facilities limited on the island, I believe that a recreation center with gym, pool, gathering place, etc. would be well used, enjoyable and a wonderful addition to our community - but expensive.

The activity I do the most for recreation is walk on trails throughout the island

The area need improvement and has potential to serve the broadest demographic.

Biking, skating, jogging paths.

Island Rec is already the owner of Lafage property and should concentrate on using it to its best advantage.

Teen/recreation center, more sports and event facilities

Useful to all ages. Biking can be dangerous on this island.

To give our youth an option other than parking at Jackson's and somewhere to go in during the long winter months.

I think it is an important age group that needs to stay active in positive ways.

Sports fields benefit all age groups whether you are player or fan.

Limited fields now on the island.

I have seen multi-use rec centers in other towns, and they are an incredible hub for community activities of all ages.

Responses to Open-Ended Question about Top Three Programs or Services (Q21).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carter St Fields</td>
<td>dog park</td>
<td>family events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Street Fields developed for general and school use</td>
<td>we have enough</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
### Community Survey 2011
#### Summary Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Swimming program - we live on an island</th>
<th>Summer Programs</th>
<th>Sports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of properties</td>
<td>Family Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickleball courts</td>
<td>Gravel Pit</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Carter St Fields programs for children</td>
<td>adults-only skate time at fairground building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carter St Fields</td>
<td></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recreation</th>
<th>Music on the town</th>
<th>Preventative health</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking areas, trails</td>
<td>Programs that kids really like and use, but you need to ask the kids!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making programs more affordable for all</td>
<td>More playgrounds</td>
<td>Land preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Teen rec center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paved trails for biking and walking</td>
<td>Walking paths/tails</td>
<td>Promotion of cycling on islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>More widely distributed funding for scholarships</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sliding fee scale or volunteer hours trade for fees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lafarge property</th>
<th>Trails</th>
<th>Parks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carter Avenue</td>
<td>Lafarge Completion</td>
<td>Fairgrounds Improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase momentum for the support of Island Rec</td>
<td>Continue to operate top quality programs, quality must not be compromised when increasing quantity of programs</td>
<td>Start preparing yourself (IR) to be the lead agency for the Carter Street proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Covered shelter for activities during rain</td>
<td>Keep up the great work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping the good selection of classes</td>
<td>Trail building and maintenance</td>
<td>Recreation center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational Center</td>
<td>Developing swimming competency for all island children for safety</td>
<td>Provide programming for young children who are not yet served by schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carter Street Fields</td>
<td>Continuation of Teen after school programs</td>
<td>Youth sports</td>
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<td>More places for families and kids to go</td>
<td>Sports fields</td>
<td>More parks</td>
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<td>Teen Sports</td>
<td>Eagle Rock Camp</td>
<td>Picnic facilities</td>
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<td>an after school program to replace ASK</td>
<td>Stuff for teens</td>
<td>Swimming lessons</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding baseball fields</th>
<th>Finishing baseball fields</th>
<th>Maintaining fields</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All ages fitness/sports programs</td>
<td>Trails for walking, running, biking</td>
<td>Lafayette property improvements</td>
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<tr>
<td>offer a gymnastics class</td>
<td>as many camps as possible</td>
<td>Expand the swim team</td>
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<td>Carter fields completion for soccer</td>
<td>Carter fields completion for baseball and softball</td>
<td>Carter fields completion for lacrosse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Walking paths</td>
<td>Biking paths</td>
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<td>Develop Carter Fields</td>
<td>Teen Center</td>
<td>Walking Path</td>
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<tr>
<td>keep things affordable &amp; maybe free</td>
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<tr>
<th>Covered Ray Area</th>
<th>Paved Multi-Use trails where kids can ride bikes, scooters and roller skate</th>
<th>More programs for 4 and 5 year olds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>classes</td>
<td>Repair relationship damages with community members,</td>
<td>Music events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Focus your efforts on safe walking trails (trails committee is awesome) and PLEASE help with bike paths so people can ride safely,</td>
<td>Don't spread yourselves too thin or try to rescue the sports fields,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior fitness classes</td>
<td>Children's Festival</td>
<td>Music on the Lawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better job of advertising activities</td>
<td>Finish projects before buying more land</td>
<td>Don't be shy about asking for a tax levy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Rec: Parks &amp; Rec Plan Update</td>
<td>Community Survey 2011</td>
<td>Summary Results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Avenue fields</td>
<td>A recreational facility for youth and teens</td>
<td>A community pool at Carter Ave site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-use center</td>
<td>Completion &amp; support for Carter Fields</td>
<td>Latringer maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>Family areas</td>
<td>Parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor facilities (parks and playgrounds)</td>
<td>Activities during the winter</td>
<td>Scholarships so everyone can participate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more programs for seniors</td>
<td>more or very low cost programs for children and youth</td>
<td>Development of the Latringer property as a multi use park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinking/Walking/Running paved trails</td>
<td>TEEN activity programs for SUMMER</td>
<td>Programs for preschool kids and with mentors that attend to help new moms and answer questions in a relaxed atmosphere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>teen programs</td>
<td>developing Latringer sailing group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children's festival</td>
<td>senior classes</td>
<td>working together with existing resources for better use of facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paved rollerblade and other use trail</td>
<td>friendly staff leading all programs and overall program</td>
<td>Focus on Teens needs and programs since without programs of interest, everyone in the community suffers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to choose among them</td>
<td>Continue to offer the current programs and add programs when demand dictates</td>
<td>Teen youth programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtain more fields for youth and adult programs: Fund Carter fields completion and maintenance</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anything that gets people outdoors and moving.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields rec center for teens</td>
<td>Rec Center</td>
<td>Keep the parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Latringer into a community park: (Wouldn’t be the first one on GIU?)</td>
<td>More trails (Although we think the Trails Comm. has done a great job already.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable activities for people of all ages</td>
<td>Keeps the trails committee program. This is a great service to the island because one it’s set up, it’s free, everyone can use them and there isn’t a schedule to worry about.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More teen programs that are not just sports</td>
<td>Community dances; music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paved trails</td>
<td>exercise classes at various times maintenance of Carter Fields, should FHAA be able to complete them.</td>
<td>play structures and climbing wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more walking and hiking trails</td>
<td>recreation center</td>
<td>keep the current programs going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields Recreation Center</td>
<td>Latringer property kept mainly for walking- primitive</td>
<td>teen facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>summer programs</td>
<td>more trails for public use</td>
<td>need teen center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner to finish carter streets</td>
<td>summer programs</td>
<td>winter indoor programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields - before my son grows all the way up</td>
<td>public pool</td>
<td>more walking trails, better info about them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latringer property</td>
<td>implementing a larger visioning plan for Latringer</td>
<td>Conducting a national design competition for Latringer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening discussion in Latringer.</td>
<td>old gravel pit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>try to help finish sports fields on carter avenue</td>
<td>More fields-Carter street</td>
<td>Integration continuity of some currently separate programs (Sen Juan soccer, F H baseball/softball, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current and like Rec programs</td>
<td>Similar rec offerings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Ball Fields</td>
<td>more teen activities</td>
<td>carter street rec area ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The skatepark is about a 2 or a 3 on a scale of 1-10. Please refer to my previous comment.</td>
<td>completion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update

## Community Survey 2011

### Summary Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carter fields</th>
<th>Carter field</th>
<th>LaFarge</th>
<th>Supervised off-leash dog area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potential Rec center</td>
<td>Family oriented activities</td>
<td>first ball fields</td>
<td>Community swimming pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>LaFarge gravel pit to be improved</td>
<td>year-round organized league and drop-in sports for all ages</td>
<td>walking trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>develop LaFarge youth programs; swimming, sailing</td>
<td>Community events like music on the lawn, father-daughter dance, farmer's market activities</td>
<td>addition of senior exercise program</td>
<td>Eddie &amp; Friends climbing wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter / Battlefield</td>
<td>Community swimming pool</td>
<td>paved trails - safe place for kids to learn to ride bikes</td>
<td>bicycle trails to get them off the roads, way too dangerous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>land preservation</td>
<td>walking trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Street fields multi-use center</td>
<td>LaFarge gravel pit to be improved</td>
<td>year-round organized league and drop-in sports for all ages</td>
<td>Eddie &amp; Friends climbing wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Avenue projects</td>
<td>Activities for all ages of kids—especially for after school</td>
<td>outdoor sports for all ages groups</td>
<td>indoor sport activity center during the winter months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball Fields</td>
<td>Small parks</td>
<td>Family activities</td>
<td>Animal facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails Committee</td>
<td>Maintenance of ball fields</td>
<td>outdoor sports for all ages groups</td>
<td>indoor sport activity center during the winter months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth activities</td>
<td>Family activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>youth after school sport</td>
<td>Continued support of Trails Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paths</td>
<td>playgrounds</td>
<td>Sports-related activities</td>
<td>Teen programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop uses for LaFarge property</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire land</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking paths</td>
<td></td>
<td>Day off island recreation for adults</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>multiuse unpaved trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>land for recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maintenance of existing properties given the limited resources rather than new properties/facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Multi use trails | | Lafortuna property | DMX facility and picnic area at Lafortuna |
| trails | | | |
| Push for multipurpose trails with other partners | adult fitness programs | | |
| Carter Field | | | |
| Carter Street field | Park areas | | |
| Teen Services | | | |
| You've set an admirable high standard of facilities and programs | | | |
| Carter fields | | | |
| Carter st. fields | | | |
| Carter fields | | | |
| ball fields | | | |
| teen rec center | | | |
| Carter Ave fields — would benefit the most people I think | | | |
| swimming | | | |
| swimming Fields on Carter Avenue | | | |
| Preschool through Kindergarten age programs | | | |
| develop conferences | | | |
| Fields | | | |
| activity programs | | | |

Page 25 of 31
## Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
### Community Survey 2011
#### Summary Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trails -- more need to be developed</th>
<th>Teen sports -- the programs should be comprehensive and include more intramural activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programs and facilities for kids and teens, including summers</td>
<td>Support for trails/paths/connections/open space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter fields</td>
<td>more bike paths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Carter Ave Fields</td>
<td>Develop an Island Rec rec center. Island Rec programs conflict with other programs during basketball season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue of seasonal sports and other activities for kids of all ages.</td>
<td>Vault toilets at gravel pit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafarge Property</td>
<td>Ball Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor recreation facility</td>
<td>Carter ball fields. These need to be completed. We have high school lacrosse practice in the crowded elementary school field... dangerous for the little kids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking paths</td>
<td>maintain ongoing youth programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of safe biking path along Beaverton Valley and Riche Harbor Roads</td>
<td>Off Island overnight camping for kids.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finish sports field</td>
<td>sports fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Development of no cost or low cost recreation for kids in the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Avenue Fields Complex</td>
<td>Teens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help develop Carter Ave Fields</td>
<td>Carter Avenue Fields Complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise</td>
<td>Take over maintenance of Carter Ave Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable youth summer programs</td>
<td>Expand youth programs -- in both sports and other after school activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating a recreation center, which could lead to more programs for kids</td>
<td>Year round public programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-use trails and walking trails at different points around the island's neighborhoods</td>
<td>Doing something more with gravel pit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at Lafarge?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop increasing sailing class costs</td>
<td>Increase accessibility for all income levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More stuff for high schoolers. Like a painting class</td>
<td>More Island specific classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More affordable teen activities.</td>
<td>More improvements to the Gravel Pit -- see note below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous and expanded programs for kids</td>
<td>Not the dog park -- it is odd that you are invested in this park for a limited population of canines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>Carters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children programs</td>
<td>Adult and senior programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen center</td>
<td>Lafarge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter fields</td>
<td>Programs with access for the disabled -- think about access for wheelchairs!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Field development and Maintenance</td>
<td>Additional indoor facilities for our 9 month wet season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball fields</td>
<td>Programs that create adventure for the kids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Rec center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi use paths</td>
<td>Gravel pit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids/teen summer programs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
### Community Survey 2011
#### Summary Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Suggestions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Summer activities for kids and families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Continue good maintenance and upkeep of current dog park, skate park and playground...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of Carter Avenue</td>
<td>Implement a fee-free or nearly fee-free model... We pay the taxes already.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports programs for youth</td>
<td>Sports fields (Carter Fields)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expanded Mainstream Summer Sports Programs (baseball, softball)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longer time on the court</td>
<td>More facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen and children's activities</td>
<td>A community swimming pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A dedicated supervised space &amp; activities for children &amp; teens</td>
<td>More programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Street Fields</td>
<td>Lafarge as a Recreation Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent plans for kids</td>
<td>More teen programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports fields</td>
<td>Lafarge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do good with what you have - Lafarge</td>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Lafarge property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do something about the Carter Ave ball fields before they become an eyesore</td>
<td>Develop Lafarge property into a beautiful multi purpose park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball fields</td>
<td>Family programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rec center for all</td>
<td>Walking paths and trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Adult programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of Carter St sports fields</td>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support the multi-use fields on Carter St</td>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(development and maintenance)</td>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Ave ball fields not enough fields for games and practices now</td>
<td>Continue wonderful summer programs for teens and kids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Street Fields</td>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Fields</td>
<td>The new indoor pool... just wishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Fields at Carter St</td>
<td>Improve playgrounds and parking at Fairground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Fields</td>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel Pit</td>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open skate and hockey programs</td>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe place for teens to hang out (ping pong table and music? free popcorn?)</td>
<td>Be more supportive of non-island rec activity groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation facility/sports center</td>
<td>Sports fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Center / Community Center</td>
<td>Teen center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
<td>Finsh the Lafarge property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Eagle Rock</td>
<td>Music on the Lawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel Pit</td>
<td>Carter Street Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Skate park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dog Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 27 of 31
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Additional comments about Island Rec programs and services (CQ22).

I like music on the lawn
I like the area
I keep doing a great job overall
I read about your activities and think they are very valuable
I used to go to outdoor and indoor soccer regularly and I wish that there were soccer games I could play in that weren't the high skill that currently exist
One of the things that is great about living here in that in the summer you can go outside and do things - so it could be how those might not be a need to a "Rec Center" like there might be in the City (where there are few public outdoor spaces). Winter can be more difficult (not as easy to play outside) - but in my opinion, accessibility of programs/public access to the spaces & natural areas is more important than creating new things, like a rec center, school sports fields, or a park
Please discourage giving away candy as a reward or prize at the Children's Fest. It sets a bad example on many levels and for many reasons.
IR does a fantastic job with it programs. I believe that IR, as a tax funded entity, should become in charge of the Carter Street Project. The Athletic Assoc. is a donation funded, privately run entity and has proved not to be the correct agency for the development and operation of the Carter Street Project.
Unfortunately, the Lafayette site did not win as the chosen site for such a project but we are now faced with needing to complete a comprehensive active/passive park environment and as a community the plate has been set that it will be at Carter Street. IR should not duplicate a half size building effort at Lafayette, this would be counterproductive, rather IR should become the lead at Carter Street and modify the park design/layout along with a community outreach program so this program can properly move ahead. The athletic assoc. can be complemented for getting the project started but I don't see this project moving ahead in the proper direction under the leadership of the AA.
Please get in touch with the Monterey Sports Center. http://www.monterey.org/sportscenter/ Thanks for the work you do for the community.

Thank you for everything!
We are so fortunate to have you and you are doing a super job and we are so pleased with all that you offer.
If we had the Carter fields we could host tournaments which would help the local economy.
keep up the good work!
More cooking and craft classes for adults would be great. A facility to use during the wet and cold months would be very helpful to families. Most towns have an indoor playground inside a mall or somewhere, but we have nothing. Only the arcade at the bowling alley which is not good for young children. A minimum place a sun shade over the existing family park to keep out the rain and decrease wear and tear of the facility. We need something quickly and I am positive people would donate money for this facility.
I have definitely hesitated to participate very much in any programs because of my hurt feelings and am glad not to give money to you guys because of how I was treated when trying to participate with my family. I would hope that would change but so far I still feel unhappy.
Thank you for the great work you do for our community!
Thank you for your support for pre-school through senior programs and for your presence in enriching the quality of life for our community.

DOG PARK IS A GREAT ASSET. MAYBE SPONSOR DOG TRAINING CLASSES

Thank you

WE LOVE SALLY and most of her crew. We are very happy with Island Rec. The office and summer activities staff are THE BEST and YYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

Football, FHAA, Purple and Gold, and on and on. What about kids who don’t play sports? Seems like an
inordinate amount of funding gets funneled into athletics already. We’d rather see Island Rec stick with
promoting recreation and fun, instead of competitive sports, which only serves those families whose kids
are good enough to make the teams. Just a thought.

I know budgets are tight. Keep what is the most popular and serve the most people in a good range of ages.
Keep the trails and if you need more help to maintain, advertise, advertise advertise. Maybe the schools
could pick up a trail. At Music on the Lawn, have a donation bucket or pass a bucket. Maybe you do this
but I haven’t been aware when I attend this program. People would put in money for this kind of
entertainment.

Keep up the great job We appreciate island rec!
The programs are outstanding we have enjoyed so many events and activities with our children as they have
grown up on the island. We are pleased with the way our contributions are spent and are willing to offer
support with more money. Our thanks go to this organization of caring and service to all of us.

There is a possibility that I have missed activities because I didn’t understand what was being offered. I don’t
know where state park is. The offering is mostly for the young and the old. There doesn’t seem to be
much for those who don’t need health assessment. I didn’t realize what the family Park was. Don’t know
what Skatepark is. Don’t know, but have guessed that teens are high school and you have Jr. High. More
complete explanations for what you are offering as placed in the flyer would be helpful to increase
involvement. Maybe?

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

I think the Lafarge property would be an ideal space for an amphitheater type venue for concerts.
Island Rec is in a unique position to define and support major opportunities for sports and recreation in our
community for years to come. This needs to be a progressive vision to accommodate the range of
demographics represented on San Juan Island. Perpetual support for fields is essential to this mission.

Keep up the great job! Your efforts are very much appreciated.

I think there is a wonderful variety of programs available. I wish there were some longer teen summer
programs. The 12-15 (not able to work a summer job yet age group) are overlooked. Love the father-
daughter idea. Would be fun to have a grandparents activity—maybe a picnic (something that would not
involve it to a certain age group).

Island Rec is extremely important for Island Kids!!!

PRESERVE LAND FOR EVERYONE...GET IT OUT OF THE HANDS OF DEVELOPERS

You guys do an amazing job! Thank you for your consideration “my” priorities. I worry about trying to pitch
a multi-use center on this island...do you have tangible evidence of how similar centers have impacted
these communities, especially communities of similar size? We could all use an education on the topic.

Best of luck!

 Trails Committee is impressive, maps are very useful. Mitchell Hill site is a great opportunity to expand walking
trails. Volunteers on Committee are very dedicated and productive.
Island Rec plays a major part in our community as they are the ones that give our children most if
not all of our activities to do, and indoor and outdoor classes that keep us learning and having fun.
My spouse has very much profited from the in. Fitness program, physically and socially.

One of these days I’ll get around to attending Senior activities.

Wish you would broaden your scope to include adults who pay taxes for island rec but don’t get anything for
that year after year.
You are the best but don’t let it go to your head, times are getting tough and it calls for sensitive management to
keep the excellent programs you’ve developed.
consider turning the gravel pit behind into an aquatic interpretive center with a wading tide pool.
Thank you for all you do.

We need to be careful with increasing fees during these difficult economic times. Property owners can only
withstand so much. Just need to be sure we are getting the best bang for the buck spent. Cannot do
everything so prioritizing is important.

develop soccer fields
thank you soccer moms!!!
WE NEED FIELD!!!

Someday would like to see a softball league for adults 40+...
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011
Summary Results

I look forward to Island Rec expanding its efforts as funding permits. I am willing to pay more for additional programs.

We love Island Rec.
Don’t waste money on Lafage - get Carter fields done!
The question about funding for the Carter Ave ball fields is a difficult one. The School District needs to share in the responsibility if they are going to use them.

Island Rec is VITAL! Thanks for all you do!!!

I think Island Rec does a very good job overall. My family members especially enjoy the summer music on the lawn programs and recreational opportunities for pre-teens and teens. I wish something could be done to obtain money from the gravel pit. If necessary, develop it at the lowest cost possible but it would be preferable to sell it. It is curious to me that Island Rec ever ended up with it. Should there come a time when the Island Rec levy is not extended by voters, what happens to the gravel pit?

Island Rec is an organization our community can feel proud of. We have confidence in Sally and she represents professionalism and caring.

I feel the dog park safety is not adhered to by some participants. I will not take my dog there ever again after two incidents with other dog owners that were unkind or unsafe. Regarding the Lafage property vs. acquiring a building for a teen center (like the Frontier Lumber site), I would approve building a teen center (complete with rock wall) on the Lafage so that Island Rec owned the building and did not lease or go to the huge expense of purchasing another site. The Carter street ballfields could be completed and maintained for daytime use but not for a teen center building.

Thank you!
Please become a real Park and Recreation organization. This island needs more youth & adult sports fields and Island Rec should have a facility to run programs out of that could be located at Carter Ave.

Island Rec serves the young families and children of the Island very well. Do not stop any of that. There is a need to target the newcomers to the Island who are mainly active seniors. Expand walking/biking/beach and natural history options to begin to serve this population.

more classes that celebrate the uniqueness of our environment: adult sailing classes, marine habitat classes for adults and kids, etc.

Island Rec does a great job providing activities for our island. Regardless of what people think or what information you get from this survey, do not forget that you provide a wonderful service to our community.

The single amenity to consider adding to the Gravel Pit that is not on your list: bathrooms!
I put the Carter Fields as a priority because they are there and half completed and a huge need but a major void that is overlooked are facilities that provide indoor programs during our 9 month wet and cold seasons. More gym or general use buildings that would relieve pressure on our current schools’ gym would also provide more flexible times and options for participants to make use.

In these tough times I think you guys are amazing! Just like the schools...constantly trying to find a way to meet all the needs with less funding...can’t wait for it to rain money! Keep up the innovative ideas and ways to fund your projects. Finishing the Carter Fields is the next miracle that needs to be done. If we build it they will come!

Taking on the School Athletics Programs benefits our Teens and Pre-Teens. This effort should not overshadow the younger children’s need for affordable activities. Remember, quantity does not foster quality. Carter Fields needs your guidance, oversight and control. Make this facility a multi-use facility, the school has no choice but to follow your lead. PHA has lost public trust to continue with their grand plan.

I think Island Rec is a key stone of our community.

There are lots of traveling baseball and softball summer programs that we could bring to the island as part of your Summer youth activities programs. We have over 500 kids participating in baseball/softball and a great many of them would participate in a local summer program.

I loved the idea of an amphitheater in Lafage, but Muse on the Lawn works at the Historical Museum for now...Rice was a great idea, and should be expanded upon... Love what you guys do, and appreciate all your hard work. We’re a lucky community!

I think they’re doing a great job and I trust that any programs they offer/sponsor are being evaluated as to their importance and relevance. If something is not well attended, it probably isn’t needed.
Island Rec: Parks & Rec Plan Update
Community Survey 2011

Summary Results

Try not to duplicate. Don't build another gym. The high school and fairgrounds work.
We love Island Rec. Keep up the good work!
Island Rec plans wonderful activities and events. Great organization and leaders. Excellent use of volunteers that allows the biggest bang for the bucks spent.
Since I rarely use any of the park areas, it is difficult for me to grade them as requested above. As previously stated, I believe the sports fields and teen programs are at the top of the list mainly because I have observed and experienced the importance of having healthy, constructive activities for our island youth. I have seen the benefits of these activities, as well as observed the trouble our youth can get into if they are not involved in healthy activities. I believe that having a safe and fun place for our teens to visit and spend time at would help tremendously.
Thank you for all your great programs and especially for taking on the funding of PHHS sports!!
I think the basics are the most important. The rest makes life more interesting, but the island offers a lot of opportunities that many people already don't take advantage of.
A great community resource with capable leaders and staff.
Good Job For A Small Community
I have found the director to be unhelpful on suggested projects/activities unless she came up with the idea. I think there should be places to roller blade outdoors or bike somewhere other than on the shoulder of a main road.
I would like to see a series of classes for beginning adult sailing that could be completed within one summer, if possible.
Appendix C. Stakeholder Summaries

The following memoranda provide summaries of stakeholder discussions conducted as part of this Plan.
Island Rec Parks & Recreation Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
San Juan Island Trails Committee - May 5, 2011

Attending: Dave Zerstake
Location: coffee shop
Time: 1:30 - 2:30p.

Trails Committee does planning and trail system coordination with local agencies and landowners. They will help maintain trails on either public or private lands, so long as the trails are for public use. The Trails Committee wants to emphasize advocacy and partnerships and does not want to own land.

Trails Committee started at Island Rec in 1999, but the Board became a bottleneck after a period — wanting to have information vetted and renewed in advance of circulation. Island Rec provided funding to support administrative costs for Trails Committee. When the Committee moved to the County, Island Rec continued supporting the Trails Committee with funding. The Trails Committee transitioned back to Island Rec in 08/09.

Island Rec has been a great help to the Trails Committee over the years. The administrative funding has been a god send. Additional help could be in the form of bookkeeping, logistics and paperwork, but they need additional staff time and enhanced skills to aid. The discussion to set up a separate 501(c)3 Friends of Island Rec is smart. As a major public landowner, the Committee also works with the Land Bank; it has sophistication as an organization, along with the tools, expertise and land to facilitate strong ties with the Trails Committee. The future renewal of the Conservation REBT will be critical to their sustained operations.

Priority projects:
- Cattle Point Trail – Friday Harbor to American Camp
- Hospital trail – recreational
- Cross island trails – separate from roadways is preferred

Also, there is a need to establish a path from the Village of Friday Harbor to Jackson Beach and Lafarge. There is a developer who intends to develop, and Dave sees the potential for a trail segment to be part of that development project.

Regarding the County's Parks, Trails and Natural Area Plan, the idea for a trails liaison/Coordinator is critical. The County needs staffing resources to get trail projects done. County Public Works has been looking at paver off-road trails and those that could parallel the roadways, but additional right of way is required. Public Works sees itself as serving urban centers and trails adjacent to urban centers within the right of way, but their standard is for ADA compliance, which is too high a standard, expensive and too wide to work within the road profiles.

The Trails Committee needs to host more events and offer opportunities for education (i.e., summer walks). They need to be strategic about how to interact with the various agencies, staff and the public. Dave mentioned the breakfast sessions that the Trails Committee hosts to bring staff from the different

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Stakeholder Interview Summary
Trails Committee
Page 2 of 2

agencies together to talk about trail projects and how to work together. He also wants host a session to
bring the Chamber, economic development interests and tourism interests together to talk about trails as
an economic driver.

Island Rec has a good reputation in the community. They have kept their overhead low and offer a lot of
bang for the buck. Yet, the needs of community exceed their capacity (especially when considering
projects such as a rec center, Lafarge, and Carter Street fields). With too many projects, their ability to
manage will be challenged. They need to learn to say ‘no’ in some cases. Also, it would be useful to get
their board more grounded in the Trails Committee via training sessions or board member orientations
as a way to work to better embed trails and advocacy into their mission.
Island Rec Parks & Recreation Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Friday Harbor School District :: June 10, 2011

Attending: Rod Turnbull
Location: via phone
Time: 2:30p

Friday Harbor School District's relationship with Island Rec has grown and evolved over the years. They have a unique partnership considering their use of Island Rec levy funds and that they share facilities to the community's benefit.

With regard to school facilities, FHSD maintains a priority use approach, whereby school programs have first priority, followed by Island Rec and then followed by other community groups. Gymnasium space is especially difficult to program and expand in usage. In general, the gyms are scheduled from 8am to 10pm during most times of the year. In the winter, usage is higher. Basketball, wrestling and other sports access the gym starting at 6am. Additional indoor gymnasium or multi-purpose space is needed on the Island to meet the demand of existing programs.

Rod would like to see how a capital levy campaign can be put in motion to add a multi-purpose facility on the Island. Such a facility could contain indoor tennis, basketball, a track and stage and that it would be designed for flexibility of use and accommodate multiple user groups. The potential is that the facility would be broad-based and could help fulfill the indoor programming needs of not only Island Rec but other community groups.

With regard to sport fields, the existing demand for field space is very high. The use of the church fields has helped with field seeds, but the future of these fields is still somewhat uncertain. The completion of the Carter Street fields is necessary to relieve the demand for fields. The elementary school field is a community asset, which accommodates ultimate frisbee and football.

Overall, additional space (e.g., fields and a multi-use facility) is needed to meet the existing, latent capacity. Rod suggested that if additional space were made available, that it would likely help grow existing programs rather than accommodating the addition of new programs.

In the recent past, the various sport groups have grown more appreciative of Island Rec. There is a recognition that there is a need for competitive sports and recreational play. There is a notion that it is OK to have different groups lead sport programs, and it is OK to have recreational leagues for fun.

Island Rec has a good reputation on the Island, and more people are aware of them and what they are doing. The broad-based programming offered is a benefit to the community.

Rod and FHSD are thankful to have Island Rec's support and partnership.
Island Rec Parks & Recreation Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Friday Harbor Athletic Association - May 22, 2011

Attending: Donny Galt
Location: via phone call
Time: 8:30 – 9:00a.

The Carter Street Fields project is an outgrowth of a decision by the Friday Harbor School District to develop additional fields on the Island. The FHSD included the land acquisition and field development in a ’94 bond package. As the school district proceeded with other priority improvements of the bond package, funds were short to develop the fields. Friday Harbor Athletic Association partnered with the school district for field development and agreed to a long-term lease on the property. FHAA raised funds and found donated labor and material to install the site’s infrastructure (parking, driveway, utilities, clubhouse). These improvements are estimated at approximately $1.8 million. Donny estimates that approximately $1 million more will be needed to finish the completion of the fields; this amount does not include the annual, on-going maintenance and operations costs.

Concerning the future operation of the site, Donny suggested an idea to establish a users group made up of all the sport non-profits who would utilize the fields (softball, little league, FHAA, FHSD) to discuss and arrange for scheduling and maintenance funding. He mentioned that FHSD would have first right to the fields, with use by the other groups as can be accommodated.

He sees Island Rec assisting in two ways: funding and operations. Donny thinks it would be a natural extension of Island Rec to finance the on-going maintenance through its levy, especially since the District is now financing the school district’s sport programs. He also sees Island Rec coordinating field usage and holding the master field schedule. It can be the clearinghouse for field activities on the Island, while not directly providing those services.

Overall, Donny thinks the relationship with Island Rec is good. He noted past tensions between FHAA and Island Rec regarding participation in Carter Street Fields and in the acquisition of Lafarge. One concern about the Lafarge transfer is that the Lafarge Corporation was a past donor of gravel to the field project. When the transfer occurred, the field project lost its source of donated material.

Donny has been coaching for 16 years and sees over-programming and overuse of the existing fields on the Island. There is a need for more field capacity, and Carter Street will help meet that need.

He recognized youth athletics benefits a small percentage of the population, since there is a small number of families with children on the Island. However, he does believe there is community support for completing Carter Street Fields and in providing sporting opportunities for youth.
Island Rec Parks & Recreation Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
San Juan Family Resource Center • April 14, 2011

Attending: Joyce Sobel
Location: Family Resource Center
Time: 1:00p

The San Juan Family Resource Center (FRC) has been a local non-profit serving early childhood development since 1998. At its start, their focus was on the birth to age four group, but this has expanded in recent years to consider assistance through all school ages. The FRC gives parents the tools to improve their social networks, provides parenting skill development and offers home visitation services for young or at-risk mothers.

The FRC has partnered with Island Rec to host a summer program at their facility, with programs serving pre-school aged kids. Also the FRC works with Island Rec to provide scholarship support for Camp Eagle Rock. The FRC also hosts the arts and crafts activities at the Children's Festival, along with the mom's milkshack and play area.

The FRC has had a good relationship with Island Rec, which offers quality programming and does not turn people away. They are responsive and always return calls.

Joyce mentioned that they could possibly do more in the summer with parent and kids (messy play and creepy crawly) and offer more scheduled times. She also noted that attendance has been somewhat unreliable, in that people sign up for activities but then do not attend. She noted that more activities and programs for preschoolers (aged 3.5) would be good and suggested gymnastics.

As for other needs, the Island could use a children's museum or another permanent indoor space. There are opportunities to connect existing community resources. She mentioned the Spring Street School as an example that utilizes a recording studio.

Overall, Joyce likes seeing programs for adults offered by Island Rec and likes that the Trails Committee has found a home there. Island Rec is highly respected on the island, and it has good board members who are active and visible. Island Rec does a good job of providing what their constituents ask for — staying fluid and responsive to client needs. As a side note on scholarships, some families are too proud to ask for, seek out or accept scholarships, even though there are many families on the island that have kids in the free and reduced lunch program.
APPENDIX C.

Island Rec Parks & Recreation Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
San Juan County Fair: April 14, 2011

Attending: Rev Shannon & Donna Wuthnow
Location: Fairgrounds Office
Time: 11:30a – 12:30p.

The Fairgrounds is a 14-acre facility with 25 structures, stalls for RV camping and hook-ups, and two large multi-use spaces. The Fair currently is undertaking a master planning effort to assess what else to do with the site and facilities for the rest of the year. Rev mentioned that the fair goes for four days a year, and the buildings and grounds are underutilized much of the time. It could be a potential site for a community center or gathering place.

As an agency, the Fair needs to become more financially self-sufficient and will use the master planning effort to look at potential opportunities for use and revenue generation. Island Rec has been a long time user of the facilities, and Rev wants them to have a strong voice during the master planning process.

Rev referenced the San Juan Island Community Foundation’s Critical Needs Task Force and the arts and recreation subgroup, and he mentioned how the fairgrounds with the family park can become the roots of a community center. Middle school and high school teens need more support and more positive activities, and they need a place to be to do them.

Rev sees the fairgrounds as the logical and easiest site to accommodate a community center that focuses on teen activities, especially in comparison to finding and developing a raw site. It has good infrastructure, and the land is owned by the County. Also, the fairgrounds are adjacent to the elementary school and is walkable from the village and ferry. His recreation center concept is one where teens could be part of programmed and ad hoc activities. For example, the site could be used for teen bands to play after school; the space is large enough and there are few neighbors. Island Rec could partner with the Fair to sponsor and fund activities.

The Fair can become a community activity node, and Island Rec can become a stronger partner. They could bring music on the Lawn here or offer other outdoor performances. They could host additional dances, concerts or other activities throughout the year. If they have enough activity on site, they could consider moving their offices to the fairgrounds as well.

The skatepark and the Family Park bring different uses and activities to the fairgrounds. There has been some vandalism on site, and it could have been caused by skatepark users. Rev thinks the skatepark could be enhanced with better management, to add a level of supervision and watch for helmets and safety gear. Maybe a group of volunteers can be organized to focus on the skatepark and provide care, act as stewards or advocate for the safe use of the facility with teens. A couple other management issues from the skatepark have been addressed. A porta potty was once tipped over and burned. Also, new fencing has helped control egress and has reduced the occurrence of people driving across the fields.
Overall, the relationship with Island Rec is friendly and working well. Rebecca has good organizational skills and initiative, and she is prompt with responses to issues. They could benefit from more focus on community gaps in service, especially for teens and youth. Possibly consider ways to link kids with cultural arts (theater, arts, music) after school and in the summer. Local artists or musicians can be retained with a stipend to work with kids.

With regard to Island Rec's role in providing parks, some concern was voiced about the viability of a sports complex (Carter Street) given the Island’s population and the development/maintenance costs. Lefarge will be a big investment in capital and ongoing maintenance. While Family Park is popular and used, it is hardly overflowing with users, and playgrounds are also available at the elementary schools.
Island Rec Parks & Recreation Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
San Juan Senior Services - April 14, 2011

Attending: Curt VanHyning
Location: Mullis Center
Time: 2:30p

Approximately 30 to 40 programs occur at the Mullis Center, and Curt is responsible for growing senior programming overall. The Center has 575 members who pay $15 per year, and approximately 100 people attend lunch twice per week. They also rent rooms for events and meetings as a means to offset operating costs, and they offer health insurance counseling. Nearly 30% of the Island’s population is over 60 years of age, yet the Center tends to attract older seniors for meals and activities.

The Center does not have a very close relationship with Island Rec. They have made two attempts at co-hosting programs with senior in the past. Unfortunately, neither was well attended, but Curt would be willing to make future attempts. One program involved planned walks to interesting destinations, which cost $2 for bus expenses and attracted older seniors (75-85 years old). The other program involved summer-time lawn activities, but only 6 to 8 participants regularly attended.

The Center has two active exercise programs at the present. One involves chair/seat exercises led by seniors and occurring 15 minutes before lunches. The other is a seniors balance group, which is led by a local physical therapist. This program costs $5 per class, and seniors like it because the exercises are customized to each participant, and they get individual attention from the professionals.

The Center also received a flat screen TV and Wii console via donation. Curt mentioned his interest in setting up tournaments and games (Wii bowling, tennis, golf, etc.) as a means to get seniors active. He also thinks this is one way to attract new people to the Center. This could possibly be a way to engage local youth with the Center and seniors.

With regard to senior needs, Curt does not think that the specific needs for seniors have changed much in the past 20 years, but the Island simply has more seniors. In the past, there were craft and knitting groups, now there is a quilters group that is mostly social.

Curt would like to see more use made of their lawn area. He would also like to find ways to sponsor other activities, such as films, speakers and travel talks by and for seniors. Maybe Island Rec could partner by promoting and paying the room rental fees. Another idea is to sponsor computer training for seniors by youth (Wood, Excel, email).

Regarding the Prevention Coalition Board, it would be helpful to find ways to entice local middle school and high school students into interactions with seniors. One way is to further promote the Dollars for Scholars program, which offers a $1000 scholarship for 80 hours of community volunteer time. Many students accessing this program now are volunteering with animal and pet related groups, but Curt sees much more community benefit from students interacting through social programs. Intergeneration programming can improve contacts with elders and potentially lower social risks for teens.
Overall, Curt is somewhat surprised that Island Rec does not offer more services for seniors, and he thinks they have been successful at providing for kids. He voiced only one concern about the District, and it is related to the Lafarge property. He feels that an option should have been left open for site development and keep at least some of the property on the county tax rolls.
Appendix D. Community Open House Meeting Summary
Island Rec Parks & Recreation Plan
Community Open House
Summary Notes
San Juan Island Grange
May 25, 2011; 6:00-8:00PM

Overview:
Approximately 20 people attended the Island Rec Parks and Recreation Plan community open house. Display stations provided eleven graphic and narrative information boards for residents to review, comment and discuss. The stations covered the following topic areas:
- Island Rec overview and mission
- Summary results of community survey
- Recreation Programs & Events
- Parks
- Trails
- Facility Priorities

Comment forms were provided at the sign-in table. Remarks made by participants were both written and verbal. The information below is a summary of comments recorded during the open house.

Community Survey Feedback and Comments
After reviewing the survey results, several attendees commented that the responses were consistent to what they submitted or were reflective of their impressions of general community sentiment. Specific comments offered were as follows:
- Rec Center for teens & can serve families who visit
- Provide a place for teens & activities- something like Boys & Girls Club, a place to blow off steam, recreate get tutoring
- How will Island Rec view its role with survey data (i.e., land acquisition)? Is this a partnership item?
- Use a planning consultant in 2013 and after to implement the plans and to assist as necessary to detail stages, steps, retreats, etc.
- Find way to find consensus with land acquisition & involvement with Carter St fields
- Island Rec should take lead role in completing Carter St. & managing it (* noted 4 times)
- Reduce scope of Carter St. to fewer fields (i.e., 1st phase of 3-4 fields)
- Off-leash dog areas tend to facilitate more pet owners not cleaning up their pets waste, which is a huge environmental on-off problem

Recreation & Events Comments
Attendees commented on specific program and event enhancements or additions, as noted below:
- Having kid friendly activities during Music on the Lawn — if kids are engaged, it’s more family friendly event (i.e., equipment to climb on)
Community Open House Summary
Page 2 of 2

- Youth wilderness programs, vision quests?
- More intergenerational events like Father Daughter & Mother Son (i.e., bowling or camping with scavenger hunt, mystery hunt where you learn something)
- More “Do as a family” kid-targeted events
- Adult archery with competitions & training opportunities for all ages with a hunter event at the end that is viewable by the public
- Hunter safety, fishing derbies, skeet/pistol experiences to enrich this daycare as a unique opportunity as well as ensure venue for more participants
- Youth bass fishing derby
- Gymnastic programming extended!
- Insure continuation of after-school kids program; utilize local talents
- Sponsor/organize events that work/play with Orcas & Lopez island (i.e., the Stressless Fest needs an organization)
- Island Rec Rocks! Keep on keeping on!
- Any activity that links island communities, with exposure to any context this brings out community cleverness, relatedness, sense of connection and just goofy fun with a prize
- Gardening for kids

Parks & Trails Feedback and Comments
Several residents suggested specific projects, springing from the development of the LaFarge property to expanding safe trail opportunities. Specific comments offered were as follows:
- Need for comprehensive trail plan – pathways to link ferry/town with island trails/parks
- Increase ferry walk ons to potentially decrease vehicle off island traffic
- Include multi-use trails
- Need to develop partnerships with land managers to facilitate planning efforts
- Partner with scenic byways shuttle project
- Walking paths on south side of Pear Point Road to LaFarge (collaborate with County) from Angle would be good
- Cattle Point trail connection – an important project trail committee is working to complete

Additional Comments
- Keep up the good work
- Great summer camps
- Love the variety you offer!
- We are lucky!

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Local Funding Options

Island Rec possesses some local funding tools that may be accessed for the benefit of growing, developing and maintaining its park and recreation programs. Island Rec operates as a Park and Recreation Districts formed under RCW 36.69 for the purposes of providing leisure-time activities and recreation facilities. The District has the authority to propose a regular property tax levy, annual excess property tax levies and general obligation bonds. All three require 60% percent voter approval and 40% percent voter turnout.

6-Year Regular Property Tax Levy

With voter approval, the district may levy a regular property tax not to exceed $0.60 per $1,000 of assessed value in each year for six consecutive years.

Excess Levy

http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=84.52.052

Washington law allows cities and counties, along with other specified junior taxing districts, to levy property taxes in excess of limitations imposed by statute when authorized by the voters. Levy approval requires 60 percent majority vote at a general or special election.

General Obligation Bond

http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=84.52.056

For the purposes of funding capital projects, such as land acquisitions or facility construction, the District has the authority to borrow money by selling bonds. Voter-approved general obligation bonds may be sold only after receiving a 60 percent majority vote at a general or special election. If approved, an excess property tax is levied each year for the life of the bond to pay both principal and interest.

Other potential sources are listed below, but some also may be dedicated for numerous other local purposes which limit applicability and usage. Therefore, discussions with County and Town leadership is critical to assess the political landscape to modify or expand the use of existing, non-District revenue sources in favor of park and recreation programs.

Federal & State Grants and Conservation Programs

Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

National Park Service

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, also known as the Rivers & Trails Program or RTCA, is a community resource administered by the National Park Service and federal government agencies so they can conserve rivers, preserve open space and develop trails and
FUNDING OPTIONS

Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Grants

National Park Service

The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program was established in November 1978 to provide matching grants and technical assistance to economically distressed urban communities for rehabilitation of critically needed recreation facilities. Only cities and urban counties meeting established criteria are eligible for assistance. Three grant categories are available: rehabilitation (30% local match requirement), innovation (30% local match requirement), and planning (50% local match requirement). This grant program has been unfunded by Congress since 2002, but recent deliberations by Congress may facilitate renewed program funding in the near future.

Recreation and Conservation Office Grant Programs

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

The Recreation and Conservation Office (formerly the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC)) was created in 1964 as part of the Marine Recreation Land Act. The RCO grants money to state and local agencies, generally on a matching basis, to acquire, develop, and enhance wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation properties. Some money is also distributed for planning grants. RCO grant programs utilize funds from various sources. Historically, these have included the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, state bonds, Initiative-215 monies (derived from unreclaimed marine fuel taxes), off-road vehicle funds, Youth Athletic Facilities Account and the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)

This program, managed through the RCO, provides matching grants to state and local agencies to protect and enhance salmon habitat and to provide public access and recreation opportunities on aquatic lands. In 1998, DNR refocused the ALEA program to emphasize salmon habitat preservation and enhancement. However, the program is still open to traditional water access proposals. Any project must be located on navigable portions of waterways. ALEA funds are derived from the leasing of state-owned aquatic lands and from the sale of harvest rights for shellfish and other aquatic resources.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)

The RCO allocates funds to local and state agencies for the acquisition and development of wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation properties, in part, with funds from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. The WWRP is divided into Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Accounts; these are further divided into several project categories. Cities, counties and other local sponsors may apply for funding in urban wildlife habitat, local parks, trails and water access categories. Funds for local agencies are awarded on a matching basis. Grant applications are evaluated once every other year (even-numbered), and the State Legislature must authorize funding for the WWRP project lists.
Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provides grants to buy land and develop public outdoor facilities, including parks, trails and wildlife lands. Grant recipients must provide at least 50% matching funds in either cash or in-kind contributions. Grant program revenue is from a portion of Federal revenue derived from sale or lease of off-shore oil and gas resources.

National Recreational Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provides funds to maintain trails and facilities that provide a backcountry experience for a range of activities including hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, motorcycling and snowmobiling. Eligible projects include the maintenance and re-routing of recreational trails, development of trail-side and trail-head facilities and operation of environmental education and trail safety programs. A local match of 20% is required. This program is funded through Federal gasoline taxes attributed to recreational non-highway uses.

Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) Program

The YAF provides grants to develop, equip, maintain, and improve youth and community athletic facilities. Cities, counties and qualified non-profit organizations may apply for funding, and grant recipients must provide at least 50% matching funds in either cash or in-kind contributions.

Possible Sources in Coordination with the County & Town

Sales Tax

http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=82.14

Washington law authorizes the governing bodies of cities and counties to impose sales and use taxes at a rate set by the statute to help "carry out essential county and municipal purposes." The authority is divided into two parts. Counties may impose by resolution or ordinance a sales and use tax at a rate of 1/2% on any taxable event within their jurisdiction. Counties may also impose an additional sales tax at a rate up to 1/2% on any taxable event within the city or county. In this case, the statute provides an electoral process for repealing the tax or altering the rate.

Real Estate Excise Tax

http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=82.46.010

Counties may impose three types of real estate excise tax (REET) to fund capital projects, conservation areas and affordable housing. San Juan County currently imposes two of the three increments of the REET: the first 0.25 percent REET and the third 1.0 percent Conservation Area REET. While these funds are under the jurisdiction of the County, coordination with the County
may facilitate a comprehensive approach to addressing island-wide recreational needs that access available REET funds for capital improvements.

The funds generated by the first 1/4% REET may be used only for construction of capital projects as identified in the capital facilities plan element of the comprehensive plan and includes acquisition of parks, recreational facilities, and trails. This first increment of REET is paid by the seller.

The County does not currently assess the additional (or second) 1/4% REET, and this presents a potential funding opportunity to facilitate the planning and development of many projects listed in the CFP. While the second REET increment is similar to the first increment inasmuch as the tax is paid by the seller, its uses are more restrictive than the first increment of REET. The second REET increment may not be used for the acquisition of parks, recreation facilities, and trails, but eligible capital projects include the “planning, construction, reconstruction, repair, rehabilitation, or improvement of parks” among others listed in the state code.

Funds generated by the third REET increment, the Conservation Area REET, are used exclusively for the acquisition and maintenance of conservation areas and, unlike the first two increments of REET, are paid by the buyer. San Juan County is the only county in Washington that has exercised its authority to levy this conservation area REET. Currently, the County assesses the maximum statutory limit of 1.0 percent. The current Conservation REET assessment supports the operations of the San Juan County Land Bank and is pending renewal in 2014 by county voters and the County Council. At or before that time, the Council may choose to renew the tax at the current rate or a revised lower rate.

**Conservation Futures**

http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=84.34

The Conservation Futures levy is provided for in Chapter 84.34 of the Revised Code of Washington. San Juan County currently levies this property tax at $0.0331, which is less than the maximum allowable rate of $0.0625 per $1,000 of assessed value (or $6.25 per $100,000 value). Revenues generated from the Conservation Futures Tax may be expended for the acquisition of development rights and other real property rights and interests of any open space, farm and agricultural and timber land and the operation and maintenance of such lands. Implementing this tax at the full $0.0625 levy (an increase of 0.0295) would generate roughly $235,000 annually and cost the average homeowner $13 per year. The future design, development and maintenance of the Lafarge property could be articulated as provided a significant, county-wide benefit, in which case a partnership with the County on this project may provide access to potential funding.

**Metropolitan Park District**

http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=35.61

Metropolitan park districts may be formed for the purposes of management, control, improvement, maintenance and acquisition of parks, parkways and boulevards. In addition to acquiring and managing their own lands, metropolitan districts may accept and manage park and recreation lands and equipment turned over by any city within the district or by the county. Formation of a metropolitan park district may be initiated in cities of five thousand population or more by city council ordinance, or by petition, and requires majority approval by voters for creation.
Community Development Block Grants

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

These funds are intended to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. San Juan County administers CDBG funds through the Community Development and Planning Department. While CDBG funds are typically allocated toward our human services programs, park and pedestrian improvements projects have been funded in other jurisdictions through this program.

Regulatory Measures

A variety of regulatory measures are available to local agencies and jurisdictions that can be used to protect and preserve recreational opportunities identified through a development review process. Through coordination with the Town and the County, the following measures may be used in concert with policy recommendations from adopted planning documents to enable resource protection. Available programs and regulations include: Critical Areas Ordinance, San Juan County; State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA); Shorelines Management Program; and Hydraulic Code, Washington State Department of Fisheries and Department of Wildlife.

Other Methods & Funding Sources

Business Sponsorships/Donations

Business sponsorships for programs may be available throughout the year. In-kind contributions are often received, including food, door prizes and equipment/material.

Interagency Agreements

State law provides for interagency cooperative efforts between units of government. Joint acquisition, development and/or use of park and open space facilities may be provided between County Parks, County Public Works, the Town of Friday Harbor and utility providers.

Private Grants, Donations & Gifts

Many trusts and private foundations provide funding for park, recreation and open space projects. Grants from these sources are typically allocated through a competitive application process and vary dramatically in size based on the financial resources and funding criteria of the organization. Philanthropic giving is another source of project funding. Efforts in this area may involve cash gifts and include donations through other mechanisms such as wills or insurance policies. Community fund raising efforts can also support park, recreation or open space facilities and projects.
Acquisition Tools & Methods

Direct Purchase Methods

Market Value Purchase

Through a written purchase and sale agreement, the District purchases land at the present market value based on an independent appraisal. Timing, payment of real estate taxes and other contingencies are negotiable.

Partial Value Purchase (or Bargain Sale)

In a bargain sale, the landowner agrees to sell for less than the property’s fair market value. A landowner's decision to proceed with a bargain sale is unique and personal; landowners with a strong sense of civic pride, long community history or concerns about capital gains are possible candidates for this approach. In addition to cash proceeds upon closing, the landowner may be entitled to a charitable income tax deduction based on the difference between the land's fair market value and its sale price.

Life Estates & Bequests

In the event a landowner wishes to remain on the property for a long period of time or until death, several variations on a sale agreement exist. In a life estate agreement, the landowner may continue to live on the land by donating a remainder interest and retaining a “reserved life estate.” Specifically, the landowner donates or sells the property to the District, but reserves the right for the seller or any other named person to continue to live on and use the property. When the owner or other specified person dies or releases his/her life interest, full title and control over the property will be transferred to the District. By donating a remainder interest, the landowner may be eligible for a tax deduction when the gift is made. In a bequest, the landowner designates in a will or trust document that the property is to be transferred to the District upon death. While a life estate offers the District some degree of title control during the life of the landowner, a bequest does not. Unless the intent to bequest is disclosed to and known by the District in advance, no guarantees exist with regard to the condition of the property upon transfer or to any liabilities that may exist.

Option to Purchase Agreement

This is a binding contract between a landowner and the District that would only apply according to the conditions of the option and limits the seller's power to revoke an offer. Once in place and signed, the Option Agreement may be triggered at a future, specified date or upon the completion of designated conditions. Option Agreements can be made for any time duration and can include all of the language pertinent to closing a property sale.

Right of First Refusal

In this agreement, the landowner grants the District the first chance to purchase the property once the landowner wishes to sell. The agreement does not establish the sale price for the
property, and the landowner is free to refuse to sell it for the price offered by the District. This is the weakest form of agreement between an owner and a prospective buyer.

**Landowner Incentive Measures**

**IRC 1031 Exchange**

If the landowner owns business or investment property, an IRC Section 1031 Exchange can facilitate the exchange of like-kind property solely for business or investment purposes. No capital gain or loss is recognized under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 (see [www.irc.gov](http://www.irc.gov) for more details).

**Other Land Protection Options**

**Land Trusts & Conservancies**

Land trusts are private non-profit organizations that acquire and protect special open spaces and are traditionally not associated with any government agency. The San Juan County Land Bank is the local land trust serving the Islands, and their efforts have led to the conservation of more than 5,200 acres of forests, farms, shorelines and natural areas within the county ([http://www.sjclandbank.org](http://www.sjclandbank.org)). Other national organizations with local representation include the Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land and the Wetlands Conservancy.

**Public/Private Utility Corridors**

Utility corridors can be managed to maximize protection or enhancement of open space lands. Utility companies maintain corridors for provision of services such as electricity, gas, oil and rail travel. Some utility companies have cooperated with local governments for development of public programs such as parks and trails within utility corridors.
Appendix F. Promotional Materials
SAN JUAN CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 24th, 2011
Movies: Captain America: The First Avenger & Crazy Stupid Love @ Village Cinemas
12:30 AM Food Bank: Open
04:00 PM Meeting: SJL Rotary Club
12:30 PM Songsmiths Meeting
02:30 PM Hike with Mike (Young) @ Royal Marine Cemetery
04:00 PM Meeting: Sewnart Quilting Group
04:30 PM SJL German Conversation Group
07:00 PM Blues Night at the Rumor Mill
09:00 PM Karaoke at Herb's

Thursday, August 25th, 2011
Movies: Captain America: The First Avenger & Crazy Stupid Love & Winning the Pool
Music: T-Flour Live Karaoke @ The Rumor Mill
10:00 AM Class: Tai Chi
11:45 AM Senior Lunch at The Mulk Center
12:00 PM Meeting: Friday Harbor Kiwanis Club
01:00 PM Class: Balance Class
05:00 PM Art Nook of Brickworks
06:30 PM Make a your own Dreamcatcher with Alice Hibbard
07:00 PM Luna Kih Lighthouse Tour

Friday, August 26th, 2011
10:30 AM preschool Storytime
11:45 AM Meeting: Veterans' Advisory Board
01:30 PM The Trains of San Juan Island
01:30 PM Land-based Tour with The Whale Museum
02:00 PM Hike with Mike (Franke Homestead)
03:00 PM Live Piano Music at Rumor and Wine Tasting Room
05:00 PM The Terry Coke Benefit Fundraiser

Brought to you by Design.

See the entire Calendar here.

Help out with Island Rec's survey...

I took Island Rec's survey & let me tell you, it's not that hard (only takes a few minutes) and it will give you a good idea of the incredibly broad array of projects & activities they're involved with in our community.

Today is the last day to do it — please please please take the five minutes it'll take to do it!

Here's more from Sally:

Have you become Part of the Plan yet? You have until Friday May 20 to complete an online survey at www.islandrec.org and it will take only about five minutes of your time!

Island Rec is in the process of updating its 2000 Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan. Participation from San Juan Islanders is critical in developing a plan that reflects the needs of Island residents and that is supported by the community.

Islanders can Be Part of the Plan by completing a survey now available online at www.islandrec.org.

Island Rec will then present the results of the survey at an Open House on Wednesday May 25 from 4 to 6:30pm at the Grange giving the public more opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas about Island Rec and its future.

Once developed the new plan will establish goals and priorities for Island Rec and recommended specific improvements for the next 6 years.

For more information contact Sally Thomsen, Recreation Director at 378-4953.

Posted on May 17, 2011 at 3:40 pm by Jan Irvington

No comments yet. Be the first!
Help plan Island Rec’s future

Take an online survey, attend the Open House or a board meeting

Island Rec is updating its 2000 Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan. The new plan will establish goals and priorities for Island Rec and improvements for the next six years. Community participation is crucial in ensuring the needs of island residents will be included in the plan. You can find an online survey at www.islandrec.org or complete a printed survey available from Island Rec and the library.

Come to the Open House on May 25 from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Grange Hall to share thoughts and ideas about the future of Island Rec.

You can also attend Island Rec’s board meeting held the first Thursday of every month, at 5 p.m., at the Island Rec’s office on Guard Street.

For more info contact Sally Thomsen, recreation director, at 378-4953.

Future of Island Rec is now

Nothing binds this community together quite like Island Rec.

Evidence of that was in full display at the Children’s Festival this past weekend.

The annual springtime carnival, the seventh sponsored by Island Rec, features a wide variety of activities and entertainment that the whole family can enjoy; this last one may have been the best to date (Mother Nature gets an assist for providing some sunshine for a change).

While Island Rec creates and manages a whole host of recreational programs for all ages — with just two full-time and several part-time staff, and about 20 seasonal employees — it has relied on the goodwill of volunteers and on community support, meaning sponsors and donors, to help accomplish its mission since it was formed some 26 years ago.

In fact, more than 130 islanders contributed over 2,300 hours of combined volunteer work in assisting Island Rec to run its many programs just this past year alone.

Now, you have an opportunity to help shape the future of Island Rec.

We encourage islanders to join in as Island Rec updates and refines its decade-old Comprehensive Plan. That plan establishes the priorities the agency will follow over the next half-dozen years. It will guide Island Rec and its elected board of directors in determining whether improvements should be made.

Take time out to fill Island Rec’s online survey, www.islandrec.org, or pick up a copy at the agency’s Guard Street office, or at the library. It consists of 28 questions about current programs, preferred activities and future improvements. It’s confidential and takes about five minutes to complete.

You can also share ideas about the future of Island Rec at an Island Rec Open House May 25 at the Grange Hall in Friday Harbor, beginning at 4 p.m.

And, Island Rec’s board of directors meet the first Thursday of every month at its Guard Street headquarters and meetings are open to the public.

Much has changed since 2000, and let’s ensure recreation has a place in the island’s future.
27 April 2011
For Immediate Release

Contact Sally Thomsen, Recreation Director
(360) 378-4953
www.islandrec.org

Be Part of the Plan!
Island Rec is in the process of updating its 2000 Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan. Participation from San Juan Islanders is critical in developing a plan that reflects the needs of Island residents and that is supported by the community.

Islanders can Be Part of the Plan by completing a survey now available online at www.islandrec.org or completing a printed survey available from Island Rec, the Library and Mullis Center. The public is encouraged to drop by an Open House on Wednesday May 25 from 4 to 6:30pm at the Grange to share their thoughts and ideas about Island Rec and its future.

Once developed the new plan will establish goals and priorities for Island Rec and recommended specific improvements for the next 6 years. Be Part of the Plan and participate in the survey, the open house and or by attending Island Rec’s Board meeting held the 1st Thursday of every month at 5pm in Island Rec’s office.

For more information contact Sally Thomsen, Recreation Director at 378-4953.
PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

Island Rec
San Juan Island Park and Recreation District

Be Part of the PLAN!

Pick up a Survey Here!
Or go online to www.islandrec.org
Island Rec is updating its 2000 Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan. The new plan will establish a road map for providing high quality, community-driven parks and recreation programs for San Juan Island. It will also establish goals and priorities for Island Rec and recommend specific improvements for the next six years.

**Be Part of the Plan!** Input from San Juan Islanders is critical to developing a plan reflective of community needs. You can participate by taking a survey and/or attending an Open House. We hope you will do both!

**The survey** consists of 28 questions regarding current use of programs and parks, preferred activities, and support for future improvements. It takes on average 5 minutes to complete and citizens of all ages are encouraged to participate.

**Click here to take the Survey**

The online survey closes 5pm on May 20!

Printed surveys are available from Island Rec M-F, 1-5pm at 580 Guard Street, San Juan Island Library and Mullis Center. Printed surveys must be received by Island Rec by 5pm Wednesday, May 17.

Thank you for participating.

The Open House takes place Wednesday May 25 from 4-6:30pm at the Grange. Stop by anytime to share your thoughts and ideas about Island Rec, its programs, parks and future. It will be great to see you there! Refreshments will be served.