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*Building on  
Kenmore's  
Comprehensive  
Plan, this plan  
establishes a  
**vision** and  
direction for  
future park,  
recreation and  
natural systems  
in Kenmore  
through the year  
2020.*

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## **Section 2. Approach**

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## Overall Concept.

Many Kenmore residents describe their city in the context of its natural surroundings. Natural systems, including wildlife habitat and corridors, shorelines, sensitive areas (wetlands, steep slopes, floodplain, etc.), woodlands, ravines, stream corridors, and streetscapes are a dominant visual element throughout the city. These natural systems become the central element in the overall Parks & Recreation Master Plan, creating a framework for parks and recreation development and connecting the residents of Kenmore to the water. Neighborhood parks, recreation facilities, and other community facilities are linked to the natural systems through a network of trails for a variety of users, creating a transition between the natural systems and recreational users.

The different plan elements in this document are presented in the context of this overall concept and should guide the general approach to all future decisions regarding parks, recreation and natural systems in Kenmore.

## Comprehensive Plan.

The city of Kenmore adopted its first Comprehensive Plan in March 2001. The plan included a Parks, Recreation & Open Space Element that described existing park facilities within the city of Kenmore (including potential park enhancements), Northshore School District facilities, King County and state regional park facilities, and adjacent city parks. The plan also listed other existing facilities in Kenmore, such as the Boys & Girls Club and private recreational facilities. The plan noted some general existing level-of-service ratios per population and recommended a geographic service radius for general types of recreation facilities, but also notes that additional consideration should be given to adequately address future level-of-service standards.

The Comprehensive Plan sets an overall vision for development of the city over the next 17 years. In addition, the Goals, Objectives, and Policies listed in the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Element gives specific policy direction for the future of parks and recreation in Kenmore. This Parks & Recreation Master Plan builds upon those policies and begins to implement the overall direction provided by the Comprehensive Plan.

## Process.

The general approach taken in the overall development of this plan includes:

- **Defining the setting** within which park, recreation and natural system facilities should be provided in Kenmore, including environmental conditions, historic/cultural implications, and population projections.
- **Inventory all types of existing recreation opportunities** within Kenmore and the surrounding communities, including public and private facilities, organizations and user groups.
- **Forecast demand for future park, recreation and natural system needs** that may be provided by the city, county, state, school district or other public or private agencies and organizations.
- **Identify appropriate roles and responsibilities** that should be undertaken by the city of Kenmore to meet critical park, recreation and natural system facility and/or programming needs.
- **Identify general approach and vision for each park, recreation or natural system element**, as well as, specific existing and proposed facilities that may be considered as the overall parks system develops over the next 17 years to adequately meet the needs of Kenmore residents.

- **Survey public opinion** to determine which elements are most important to Kenmore residents and preferred financing options for realizing the plan's development over time.
- **Define an implementation program** outlining the actions necessary to realize the plan's development, including a near-term 6-year financial strategy, as well as long-term funding opportunities over the next 17 years.

The proposed development plan elements and implementation strategies outlined in this document are based on a comprehensive analysis of existing conditions and opportunities as a result of this detailed approach to parks, recreation and natural system planning. Generally, the proposed strategies recommend that the city focus its resources where park, recreation and natural system needs are most critical.

### **Public Involvement.**

An extensive public involvement process was undertaken during the course of this planning process. The design team worked with a Planning Commission Subcommittee throughout the process to make sure proposed projects, approach, vision and strategies met the general direction and goals outlined in the Comprehensive Plan and were representative of the community's interests. In addition, a number of surveys and public workshops were conducted as outlined below. Results from the public involvement process were integrated into the overall plan to reinforce the priorities, needs and interests of the residents who will benefit most from the development of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. Detailed results from the public involvement process are included in the Appendix.

#### *Summary of Public Involvement Process*

	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
<b>Surveys</b>		
1. Provider/User Survey	Mail-out survey detailing recreation provider's and user's programs, facilities and needs.	November 2001
2. Community Survey	Survey included in city newsletter relating to general facility and program needs in Kenmore.	January 2002
3. Telephone Survey	Survey of registered voter households prioritizing general facility and program needs, as well as specific projects and funding options for the overall plan.	May 2002
4. Teen Survey	Survey of junior and high school students relating to general facility and program needs, as well as, specific project priorities for teens.	June 2002
5. Intercept Survey	Survey of users at Tracy Owen Station during both weekend and weekday use.	June 2002
<b>Workshops/Open Houses</b>		
1. Provider/User Forum	Design charrette to provide input on existing facilities and specific ideas for new or enhanced facilities in Kenmore.	December 2001
2. Open House #1 & 2	Comments to inventory, draft plan proposals and proposed conceptual city park master plans.	March – April 2002
3. Open House #3	Comments to draft overall Parks & Recreation Master Plan	July 2002
<b>Public Hearings</b>		
1. City Council	Public hearing and comments on final Parks & Recreation Master Plan	September – December 2002