



# memo portland

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to **Tigard Park and Recreation Advisory Board;  
Dan Plaza, Steve Martin**

from **Ryan Mottau, Project Manager**

re **Park System Master Plan Update**

date **8/1/08**

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This memo is intended to keep the Park and Recreation Advisory Board up to date on the progress of the Park System Master Plan. As of the end of July, the following tasks have been completed, or are substantially complete, in the first three phases of the six-phase plan update process:

- Community tour;
- Planning context memo;
- First Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting;
- Recreation service providers matrix;
- Two Technical Advisory Committee meetings;
- Recreation provider focus group;
- Seven stakeholder interviews;
- Community questionnaire (online and on paper);
- Community intercept event at the Tigard Balloon Festival; and
- Telephone survey retesting 2004 questions about parks, recreation, open space, and funding measures.

For each of the above tasks a summary is available from either the website or from staff.

The current task is the park and facility analysis memo. This memo will summarize the existing park system, existing recreation programs provided in and around Tigard, and current department operations including the budget. This memo will also note changes in the park system since the 1999 plan was completed. Your review of this information will be important to ensure that the needs analysis update will be working from accurate information.

The Final major piece of public involvement prior to the draft plan will be the Public Visioning Workshop scheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup>, in place of the regular PRAB meeting. This event will include a variety of exercises to help finalize the vision for the future of parks and recreation in Tigard.

Following the public visioning workshop, the planning team will be returning to the regularly scheduled PRAB meeting to review the needs assessment results and working with staff and the public to set the direction of the final plan.

Some of the findings, gathered from multiple forms of input, from one-on-one interviews to scientific surveys, are beginning to form themes that will guide our recommendations.

**Parks, open space, trails and recreation services are important to Tigard residents.**

- On a five-point scale, 83% of questionnaire respondents indicated that these services are “Very Important.”
- Intercept participants selected a wide variety of additional recreation facilities and activities that they would like to see offered in Tigard.
- Additional developed parks and natural areas are desired. Lack of convenient facilities
- Phone survey results indicated a high willingness to pay for additional services.
- The benefits of parks and recreation most indicated by questionnaire respondents were providing opportunities to enjoy the outdoors/nature and youth development
- Small and large developed parks (supporting a variety of activities) are the most needed park type indicated in the questionnaire.

**Recreation programming is a highly desired service.**

- Every public involvement activity has raised this point.
- The scientific telephone survey results indicate a very high interest in City-provided recreation programs (71% in favor) and maintained support when a potential cost was included.
- Special events, aquatics programs and outdoor/environmental programming were most interesting to participants.
- The questionnaire results show support for large facilities (pool, recreation or community center) to support programming.
- When asked about other funding measures, respondents to the telephone survey continued to emphasize their priority of creating new recreation opportunities.

**Open space and trails are important resources.**

- The primary reasons people indicated that they use parks are to enjoy nature and to get exercise.
- Most people think that some access to natural areas (appropriate to the site) is important.