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Mapping Sustainability: City of Fife Parks and Recreation

Tonya Elliott

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November 8, 2012
"Sustainability is based on a simple principle: Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment. Sustainability creates and maintains the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permits fulfilling the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future..."
Sustainability in Parks

- Parks provide opportunities for sustainability to the community through education, green spaces, health benefits, natural areas, and much more.

- Parks can measure their sustainability in the following ways: cultural (museums, art, and history), economic (green energy, event revenue, and good use of funds), environment (providing green spaces, clean streams, and open...
Areas of opportunity for sustainability

- Sustainable table.
- Sustainability education and green leadership.
- Waste reduction.
- Water conservation.
- Walkability.
- Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) reduction.
- Renewable energy.
Current Environment:
- No major grocery stores within a one mile buffer radius of COF.
- No Farmers’ market in COF.
- No Community Gardens.
- COF Census Tract is considered Food Desert.
- COF does offer a WIC program and senior lunches.

Analysis: Which parks could provide sustainable table options for the citizens of Fife?

Recommendations:
- Build community gardens in Dacca, Five Acre, and Wedge Park and rent plots out for small revenue fee.
- Start a Farmers’ market program in COF.
Sustainability education and green leadership

Current Environment:
- No outdoor education program.
- No sustainability education on water sense, gardening, composting, etc.
- No youth outdoor education programs.
- No current utilization of nature areas and outdoor education facilities.

Analysis: Which parks and facilities can be utilized to teach the community about sustainability? What is the asset management inventory on facilities to implement sustainability education?

Recommendations:
- Wayfinding signs. Wayfinding signs help citizens and visitors find their way to destinations.
- Utilize nature areas and picnic shelters for outdoor education rooms. Utilize performing arts, community center, parks, etc.
Sustainability education and green leadership - outdoor education sites
Sustainability education and green leadership. Indoor education sites.
Current Environment:
- One recycle container in all of the parks.
- Some parks and nature areas do not have trash cans or recycle containers.
- No composting facilities.
- COF does recycle scrap metal and energy efficient bulbs.

Analysis: Where are the existing features to reduce waste? Are there trash cans, recycling containers, composting facilities in the parks?

Recommendations:
- Install trash cans in parks that do not have them.
- Install recycle containers in parks to promote waste reduction.
- Install dog poop bag stations in parks that do not have them.
- Host education events on waste.
Waste Reduction.
Current Environment:
- New irrigation systems in parks with rain sensors and timers.
- No rainwater harvesting.
- No rain gardens built in parks.
- Low flow toilets and aerators in restroom facilities are installed.

Analysis: Where are there existing features to reduce water waste? Are there rainwater harvesting systems in place, cistern utilization, irrigation systems, rain gardens, and updated plumbing fixtures?

Recommendations:
- Install rainwater harvesting systems utilized with cisterns.
- Build rain gardens in parks to collect storm water runoff.
- GPS irrigation system for asset inventory purposes.
Water conservation.
Walkability.

Current Environment:
- Two walking routes exist within COF.
- Trails in nature areas and paths in parks.

Analysis: Where are the existing trails, paths, and routes that encourage walkability? How can these routes be improved? Where should emphasis of land acquisition be to expand green and blue spaces?

Recommendations:
- Re-route the blue walking path.
- Install pedestrian crossings and lights or re-route red walking path.
- Explore future green space land acquisition.
- Explore future blue space land acquisition.
Walkability. Walking routes.
Walkability: Future current use and vacant land acquisition.

Residential Parcels within a half mile service delivery area of parks

Residential Parcels Not Serviced by Parks or Current Use that could be serviced by Vacant Land Acquisition

Residential Parcels Not Serviced by Parks that could be serviced by Current Use Land Acquisition

Blue Space: Possible Future Acquisitions of Current Use and Vacant Parcels to Improve Walkability and Connectivity

Future Parcel Acquisitions

[Maps and diagrams showing different land use and service areas]
**Current Environment:**

- No Sounder (train) public transportation in COF, no express bus route stops in COF, and no park and ride lots.
- Two local bus routes are present in COF. These routes connect to mass transit in Tacoma and Federal Way.
- Employees participate in commute trip reduction program. No Pierce Transit bus passes are offered to employees as a benefit.
- COF and PRCS fleet does not have hybrid or electric vehicles.
- No Electric charging stations in parks.

**Analysis:** What type of multimodal options are available within COF? How is COF and PRCS providing multimodal options to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions when visiting parks?

**Recommendations:**

- Install a park and ride lot, that would allow for a bus stop for express buses.
- Install electric charging stations at parks or facilities.
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
Current Environment:
- No solar power in use at PRCS facilities or parks.
- No wind power in use at PRCS facilities or parks.
- Energy efficient bulbs in use.

Analysis: Which parks have the potential for solar and wind power?

Recommendations:
- Install solar panels on picnic shelter in Five Acre Park.
- Install solar panels on facilities in Dacca Park.
- Look into installing solar panels in the parking lot in Dacca Park.
Renewable energy.
Conclusion of measures of sustainability.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Type</th>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Nature Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Name</td>
<td>Centennial</td>
<td>Colburn</td>
<td>Five Acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Measure of Sustainability</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable Table</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Garden</td>
<td>NA - Tree Canopy</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
<td>Install</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sustainability Education and Green Leadership</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayfinding Signs</td>
<td>Install</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Waste Reduction</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dog Poop Bag Station</td>
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<td>Install</td>
<td>Install</td>
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<tr>
<td>Composting Site NA</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recycle Container</td>
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<td>Install</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Trash Can</strong></td>
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<td>Install</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Water Conservation</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rain Garden NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green Roof NA</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
<td>Not currently</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Walkability</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trails NA - Size</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
<td>NA - Size</td>
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<td><strong>Greenhouse Gas Emission</strong></td>
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<td>Bus Access to Park from bus stop yards</td>
<td>0.25 mile</td>
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<td>Bicycle Path to Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bicycle Rack</td>
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<td>Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Parking Lot</td>
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<td>Hybrid or Electric Vehicles in COF or Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Express Bus Access</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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