

## Article 8: Recreational Needs

Goal 8 requires local governments to plan for the recreation needs of their residents and visitors. The goal places priority on non-motorized forms of recreation, and recreation areas that serve high-density populations with limited transportation options and limited financial resources. It also places priority on recreation areas that are free or available at a low cost to the public.

### Local Context

The City of Toledo offers a variety of parks, trails, open spaces, and recreation opportunities that contribute to the high quality of life for community members. The city aims to continue meeting the recreation needs of a growing and changing population through careful planning. The city does not have a recent Parks Master Plan or similar document. The 2000 Toledo Capital Facilities Plan contains information regarding the future needs of the park system, and the 1993 City of Toledo Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment assessed and mapped parks. The city plans to develop a Parks Master Plan when funding is available.

Toledo has an ideal location and is fortunate to have a diversity of recreational opportunities within the community and surrounding areas. The City of Toledo is currently in the process of upgrading Arcadia Park that will include a new bathroom, a new fence, lighting, refinished tennis courts, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible walkways. Since the last Comprehensive Plan update in 2000 the city has completed several projects including, skate park, memorial field improvements, partnership with the disc golf course and the dog park. Other significant changes since 2000 include the city transferring the Public Pool to the Greater Toledo Pool District who now maintains the facility and program. In addition, to those parks and recreational opportunities provided by the City of Toledo, several other public and private entities maintain recreational facilities open to the public including Lincoln County, the Port of Toledo, the Lincoln County School District, the State of Oregon, and Georgia Pacific.

The Toledo Comprehensive Plan Survey asked, “What are your top priorities for recreation in Toledo?” The top answers were overwhelmingly Maintaining and Improving Existing Parks, Trails/Paths, and Youth Programs. In addition, multiple respondents included water activities under “other”. The goals and policies below have been updated to reflect the answers in the survey.

### Recreation Facilities

Recreation facilities include a wide variety of indoor and outdoor sports and leisure facilities publicly owned and operated to promote health and well-being of the community. The City of Toledo maintains the Toledo Public Library and several parks (Figure XX). Recreation facilities in the area include baseball fields, softball fields, soccer fields, football fields, basketball courts, dog parks, picnic areas, boat ramps and docks, restrooms, trails, skate parks, tennis courts, bird watching platforms, bowling alleys, exercise course, playgrounds, public pool, disc golf course, museums and public art displays.

## Park Classifications

### **MINI-PARK**

These small parks focus on limited or isolated recreational needs. Mini-parks generally serve less than a quarter mile radius of residential areas. National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards call for 0.25 to 0.5 acres of mini parks per 1000 people.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD PARK**

Neighborhood parks are the foundation of the parks and recreation system, as they provide accessible recreation and social opportunities to nearby residents. They generally contain facilities like basketball courts and softball diamonds, informal areas like open fields and playground equipment. They often contain open areas for picnicking and undeveloped natural areas. When developed to meet neighborhood recreation needs, school sites may serve as neighborhood parks. NRPA calls for one to two acres of these parks per 1000 people. The 0.22-acre Yaquina View Park, south of SE 18<sup>th</sup> Street, would qualify as a neighborhood park.

### **COMMUNITY PARK**

These parks focus on serving community wide recreation needs and have facilities for organized sports, large group picnicking, and other events. Community parks often have large undeveloped natural areas served by trail systems. NRPA standards call for 5 to 10 acres of community parks per 1000 people. Community parks are the facilities that promote community identity, while also providing local park services to nearby residents. Community parks are desired because of their high capacity for use and multiple programs. City Parks including Memorial Field, Arcadia Park, and East Slope Park would qualify as a community parks.

### **URBAN SPACE**

These parks are usually made up of land set aside for preserving drainage corridors, wetlands, or significant natural resource areas. They are open to the public.

### **LINEAR PARK**

Linear parks offer opportunities for trail-oriented outdoor recreation along built or natural corridors, connect residences to major community destinations, and provide active and passive recreation facilities to meet neighborhood needs. This is especially important in areas not adequately served by traditional neighborhood parks. Linear Parks are becoming increasingly important for pedestrians, non-motorized travel and exercise. A trail system that connects the parks and school facilities throughout town might also be qualified as a linear park.

Figure XX – Toledo Existing Recreational Opportunities Table

Park Name	Acres	Address	Ownership
<b>Mini-Parks and Neighborhood Parks</b>			
Viewing Platform	0.01	NW 1st Street	Port of Toledo
Maple Street Park	0.17	1231 SE Maple Street	City of Toledo
Deer Park	0.21	1323 NW Deer Drive	City of Toledo
Yaquina View Park	0.21	1901 SE Donelle Drive	City of Toledo
Branstiter Park	0.23	609 SE 6TH Street	City of Toledo
Fort Nye Park	0.30	1410 N NYE Street	City of Toledo
<b>Community Parks</b>			
Toledo Skate Park	0.46	737 NW A Street	City of Toledo
Julie Rockwell Memorial Dog Park	0.49	1071 SE Fir Street	City of Toledo
East Slope Park	1.83	1100 SE East Slope Road	City of Toledo
Arcadia Park	0.94	840 NW A Street	City of Toledo
Port of Toledo Waterfront Park	2.96	127 NW A Street	Port of Toledo
Memorial Field	3.94	385 NW A ST	City of Toledo
Georgia Pacific Baseball Fields	4.42	SE 10th Street	Georgia Pacific
<b>Community Facilities</b>			
Lincoln County Veterans Memorial	0.04	233 Main Street	City of Toledo
Toledo Pool	0.47	174 NW 7th Street	Pool District
Toledo Library	1.06	173 NW 7th Street	City of Toledo
Toledo Elementary	23.00	600 SE Sturdevant	School District
Toledo High School	20.00	1800 SE Sturdevant	School District
<b>Natural Areas</b>			
Glen Lyons Lyons Natural Area	10.97	SE Sturdevant Road	City of Toledo

## Toledo Recreation Photos



Toledo Library – 173 NW 7th



Toledo Skate Park – 721 NW A Street



Arcadia Park – 840 NW A Street



Port of Toledo Waterfront Park – 127 NW A Street



Branstiter Park – 690 SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street



East Slope Park – 936 SE 10<sup>th</sup> Street





## Planning, Design, and Maintenance – Goal 1

Provide, ~~and~~ maintain and plan for a diversified system of safe and attractive parks, open spaces, recreation programs and facilities for the use and enjoyment by all of Toledo's citizens and visitors.

### Planning Policies

**Policy 1 Update Recreation Plans.** Continue to revise and update recreation plans in response to changing conditions and emerging trends to ensure that the needs of a growing community and diverse population are met.

**Policy 2 Capital Facilities Planning.** Establish and adopt a parks and recreation capital facilities and program plan. Adopt standards for the location and designs of new and existing recreational areas as neighborhoods develop. When possible, identify and acquire park sites in advance of urban development to avoid future acquisition costs.

**Policy 3 Educational Institution Coordination.** Coordinate with school districts and other educational institutions in the acquisition, development, and maintenance of combined park and school sites wherever desired, feasible, and mutually agreeable to both parties. School grounds and playfields should be readily available to the public during non-school hours.

**Policy 4 Coordination with Other Agencies.** As the City develops recreational facilities and programs, these developments will be coordinated with other recreational agencies (state, county, and school districts) to avoid duplication of effort.

**Policy 5 New Development.** Ensure that new construction such as subdivisions and planned unit developments allow for a suitable amount of open space and/or recreation facilities within City Limits.

### Design and Maintenance Policies

**Policy 6 Multi-purpose Parks and Facilities.** Continue to provide and maintain a system of multi-purpose parks and facilities for people of all ages, mobilities, and income levels.

- a. Provide and maintain a mixture of mini, neighborhood, school, playfield, linear (walking facilities, biking facilities, boardwalks, etc.), and community parks to serve all of the areas of Toledo.
- b. Provide and maintain linkages and opportunities for Toledo residents to use the regional parks located in nearby communities.

**Policy 7 Passive and Active Recreation.** Provide opportunities for both passive (bird watching, painting, leisure, remote control vehicles, drones, etc.) and active recreation (running, biking, recreation equipment, etc.).

**Policy 8 Utilizing Natural Assets.** Protect and enhance the natural environmental qualities and values by incorporating into the community's recreational and open space plans the existing natural resources such as, drainageways, rivers, woodland areas, wetlands, and other scenic and open space features.

**Policy 9 Compatibility with Surrounding Land Uses.** Locate, design and develop parks to be compatible with the surrounding land uses. Ensure that access, parking, lighting, landscape designs, and use schedules consider the specific location and characteristics of the neighborhoods adjacent to the parks.

**Policy 10 Integrated Park System.** Provide an integrated system of parks which are designed, located and managed to encourage the maximum use of the facilities and choices for Toledo's residents.

- a. Provide for and maintain a wide variety of activities in the Toledo parks including but not limited to: ballfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, play yards and equipment, skateboarding and rollerskating/blading, picnicking, hiking, and casual sports.
- b. Provide parks which feature the water resources and natural areas for picnicking, birdwatching, painting, boating and fishing opportunities for Toledo's residents and visitors.
- c. Incorporate design features, such as gazebos, sheds, and covers, to allow parks to be used year-round.
- d. Park facilities shall be designed, maintained, and operated to ensure public safety.

**Policy 11 Construct Recreation to City Standards.** Require that recreation opportunities are constructed to current City standards.

**Policy 12 Maintenance.** Encourage the improvement of existing park and recreation facilities in Toledo through equipment replacement, maintenance, landscaping, access improvements, visibility and safety measures, and expansion.

## **Promote Parks and Recreation Programs – Goal 2**

Promote the parks and recreation programs as cornerstones of Toledo's attractiveness as a place to visit, live and conduct business.

**Policy 1 Promote Youth Programs.** Support and promote Youth Programs in the Toledo area that provide safe spaces for youth to learn and play. Youth programs may include: community service, mentoring programs, neighborhood youth centers, outdoor programs, etc.

**Policy 2 Public Library.** Continue to maintain and support the Public Library and Library Programs. The library serves as an essential service to the community. Ensure adequate space to serve the community. Continue partnership with the Library District and sharing services.

**Policy 3 History Program/Project.** Create and maintain a program/project to feature Toledo's history and historic structures and artifacts.

**Policy 4 Leisure Opportunities.** Promote/provide a variety of public and private recreation and leisure opportunities for Toledo's citizens.

**Policy 5 Private Recreation Events.** Encourage the location of privately sponsored recreational activities and events within Toledo such as bowling alleys, theaters, festivals and other events.

**Policy 6 Large Community Event Space.** Develop and maintain at least one area to be used for large community events and festivals. This area should be a multi-purpose area capable of being used seasonally for non-festival events.

**Policy 7 Promote and Support the Public Pool.** Continue to promote and support the public pool programs and events.

~~Provide continued recreational opportunities such as the public pool and the associated services at the pool and library complex. [Deleted See above]~~

**Policy 8 Cultural Events.** Promote, support and enhance cultural events within Toledo such as the art walks, art shows and recreational programs for visual and performing arts and crafts activities.

### **Connectivity – Goal 3**

Create a citywide network of safe, interconnected recreation opportunities.

**Policy 1 Active Transportation Network.** Provide linear parks and connections which incorporate hiking, jogging, walking, roller blading and bicycle trails or provide buffers between incompatible land uses. Pursue the expansion of greenways, trails, and waterway recreation through and around the city to serve both as recreation resources and viable transportation alternatives.

**Policy 2 Waterfront Parks, Waterway Recreation, and Public Access.** Identify, develop and maintain Toledo's waterfront parks and public access areas as a major recreational focus through the development of walkways/bicycle paths, boat launching and moorage facilities, nature trails, and day use opportunities along Olalla Slough, Depot Slough, and Yaquina River areas. As new development, redevelopment, or other opportunities occur, pursue the creation of public access easements.

~~Policy 3 School Facilities. Wherever possible, locate and/or use school facilities and parks for the most effective and efficient joint use of the recreational opportunities they present. [See Goal 1]~~

**Policy 3 Public Safety and Emergency Access.** Incorporate public safety and emergency access measures in the planning, design, and management of greenways, open space, and trails.



## **Funding – Goal 4**

Facilitate funding for land acquisition, recreation development, operations, and maintenance.

**Policy 1 Grants.** Pursue grant opportunities to support recreation projects.

**Policy 2 Creative Funding Strategies.** Pursue creative and flexible funding strategies for the operations and maintenance of existing and new recreation resources.

**Policy 3 Funding Methodologies.** Adopt additional funding methodologies, as needed for new development and redevelopment to adequately fund the expansion of recreation opportunities.

**Policy 4 Development Contributions.** Pursue proportional contributions from new development and redevelopment for the expansion of public recreation opportunities. When possible, identify and acquire park sites in advance of urban development to avoid future acquisition costs.