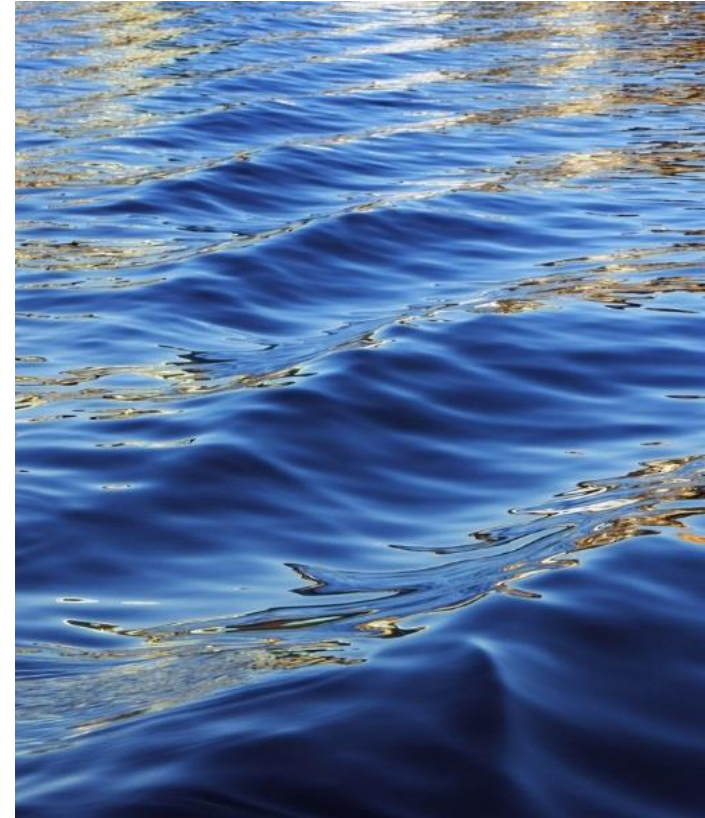




Whatcom County Parks & Recreation

November 18, 2025 Council Update



Presentation Outline

- Departmental Overview
- Mid-biennium Review (Parks)
- Mid-term Departmental Strategy
- Key Project Updates

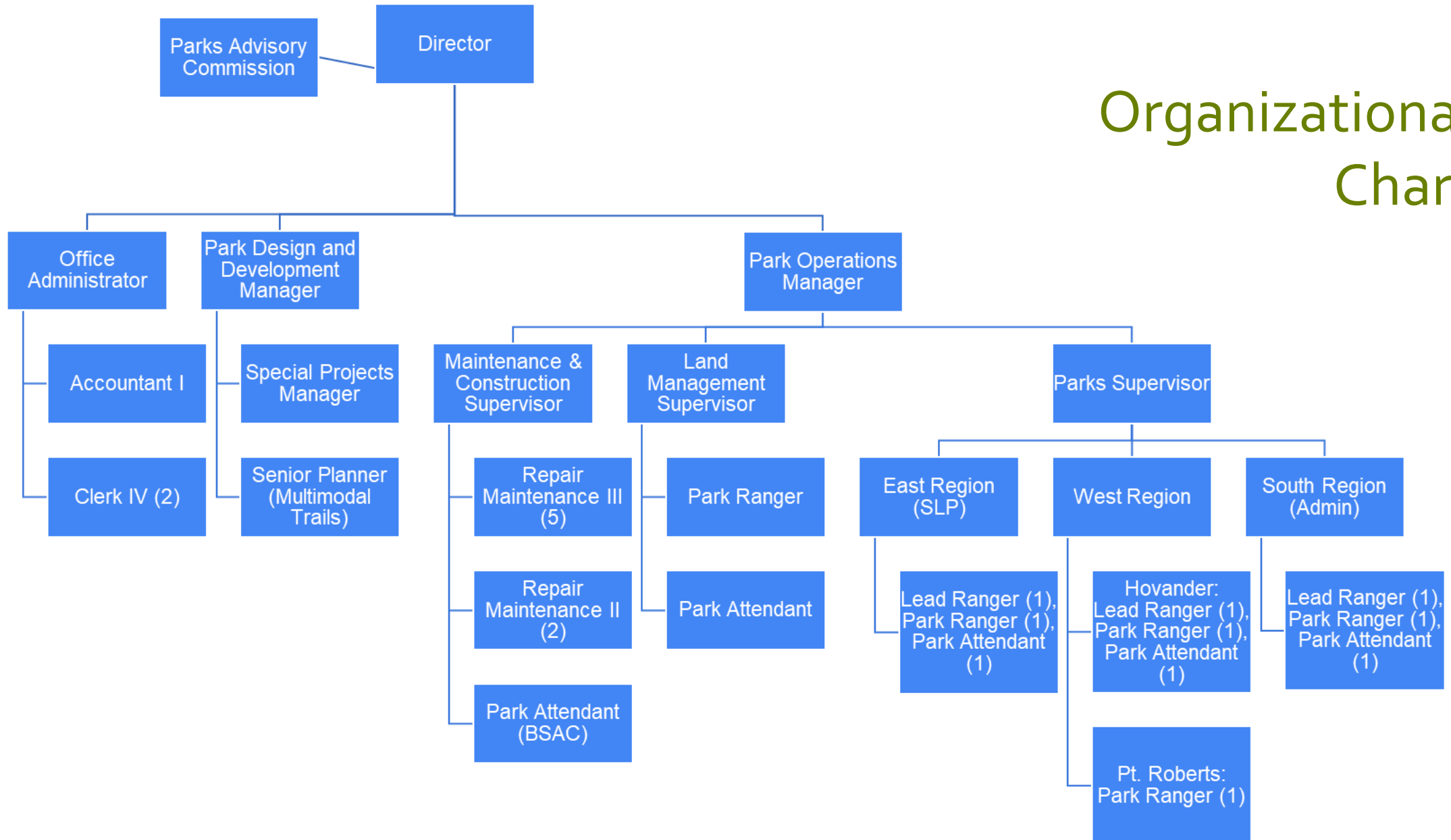
Whatcom County Parks & Recreation

DRAFT

Parks, Trails
and Centers



Organizational Chart





Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Department
2023 Total Visitations 2,284,702

Park/Trail Visitations
2,146,278

Senior Services Visitation
138,424

73 PROPERTIES
16,497 acres

20 Regional Parks
4 Community Parks
4 Neighborhood Parks
16 Natural Areas/Preserves/Forests
5 Greenways/Trails
12 Water Access Sites
12 Special Use Areas



79.4 MILES OF TRAIL



9 RESIDENTIAL RENTALS



8 SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTERS



4 HISTORICAL HOME
3 MUSEUMS (1 ACTIVE)
1 CEMETERY

4 CAMPGROUNDS



3 DISPLAY GARDENS



1 COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

1 RIFLE RANGE



4 PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS
25 ON-SITE SEPTIC SYSTEMS
2 LARGE ON-SITE SEPTIC SYSTEMS

1 SPORTS COMPLEX



www.whatcomcounty.us/parks

Additional Context:

4 Campgrounds – 121 individual campsites, 6 group camp sites, 4 human-power sites

Parking facilities – 75 separated facilities, 18 acres

Playgrounds – 11

Restrooms – 54 public restrooms, 218 toilets cleaned daily, 12 showers cleaned daily

Park roads – 30 miles

107 acres of turf mowed weekly

Maintenance Work Orders Completed in 2024 - 821

Mid-Biennium Review

Whatcom County
WASHINGTON

	<u>Supp'l No.</u>	<u>Add'l FTE</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Executive Recommended Revenue</u>	<u>Executive Recommended Expenditure</u>	<u>Executive Recommended Net Amount</u>
<u>PARKS & RECREATION</u>						
Administration						
Mid Biennium Reduction - Admin.	5099	No	1000	-	(30,190)	(30,190)
Capital						
Maple Falls Roof Replace. - Direct Billing	5237	No	3240	-	8,500	8,500
Van Zandt Hall Reno. - Direct Billing	5238	No	3240	-	7,500	7,500
Semiahmoo Sewer System Repair	5239	No	3240	-	348,000	348,000
EWRRC Building & Site Improvements	5240	No	3242	-	250,000	250,000
Samish Park Pedestrian Bridge Replace.	5241	No	3240	-	150,000	150,000
Maintenance & Operations						
Parks Holiday Pay Adjustment	5097	No	1000	-	-	-
Mid Bi Reduction - Park Facilities	5100	No	1000	(145,000)	(10,974)	(155,974)
Mid Bi Reduction Offset - comp to 5100	5103	No	1800	-	145,000	145,000
Mid Bi Reduction - Plantation Rifle Range	5104	No	1000	-	(11,756)	(11,756)
Parks Holiday Pay Adj Comp to #5097	5172	No	1000	-	9,081	9,081
<i>Parks & Recreation Total</i>				<i>(145,000)</i>	<i>865,161</i>	<i>720,161</i>

Mid-Term Departmental Strategy

- Contribute to addressing County's structural budget imbalance
- Developing and Implementing Systems to Improve Efficiency
- Continue to seek opportunities to leverage external funding/partnerships
 - WA RCO Grant cycle coming up (2026)
- Groundwork for early update to CPROS plan
 - Active strategic community engagement (2026)
 - Community-informed CPROS update (2027/2028)

Highlight of Recent Successes (External Funding)

- Birch Bay Beach Park
 - \$500,000 RCO Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account grant
 - \$1,800,000 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee grant
- Carrasco/Nesset Farm
 - \$884,434 Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program trails grant
 - Pending commitment from Nesset Foundation
 - \$150,000 towards demolition of structures at Carrasco Property
 - \$118,000 towards renovation of the Nesset Farm caretaker residence
 - \$30,674 towards permitting of pedestrian trail connecting Carrasco/Nesset Farm
- Bay to Baker Trail
 - \$424,360 WSDOT Sandy Williams Connecting Communities Grant (planning)
 - \$475,000 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee grant (Glacier Restroom renovation)
- Northwest Baseball Fields (indirect)
 - \$109,140 LTAC grant to Ferndale Youth Sports (County Lessee) for field upgrades

Ongoing Strategic Community Engagement

- Senior Programming Working Group
- Recreational Trails (Lake Whatcom watershed)
- Northwest Sports Complex
- Multi-modal trail partnership (COB Parks/Recreation Northwest)
- Stewart Mountain Community Forest
- Birch Bay Beach Park
- Point Roberts Economic Development Strategy
- Historic Properties

Key Project Updates

- Plantation Indoor Range Opening
 - Remaining Item: Staff training (Operations and Maintenance)
 - Pending in-motion Testing and Balance and Commissioning
 - Soft Opening – Law Enforcement: January 2026
 - Opening to general public: March 2026
- Projects near completion
 - Lake Whatcom Forest Management Plan
 - Van Zandt Community Hall Renovation
 - LM-2000 (partial)
 - Parks Administration HVAC/Tenant improvements
 - Governors Point feasibility analysis
 - East Region Regional Maintenance Facility design
 - Silver Lake Park utility improvements

Thank you and Questions

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