



Agenda
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting & Special Workshop
Thursday, September 11, 2025
Richland City Hall ~ Council Chambers
625 Swift Boulevard

Regular Meeting & Special Workshop - 6:00 p.m.

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order/Attendance:

Approval of Agenda: (Approved by Motion)

1. Approval of the September 11, 2025 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Agenda

Approval of Minutes: (Approved by Motion)

2. Approval of the Minutes for the August 14, 2025, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
 - Patty Roe, Administrative Assistant II

Council Liaison Report:

Recreation Report:

Parks & Public Facilities Report:

Public Comments: Public comments will be limited to 2 minutes per speaker.

Presentations:

3. Park Partnership 2026 Schedule
 - Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director
4. Bernard Hosey Sculpture Placement
 - Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director
5. Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
 - Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director

Commission Comments:

Regular Meeting Adjournment

Special Workshop

Call To Order/Attendance:

Discussion Items:

6. Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Goal Discussion
 - Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director

Special Workshop Adjournment:

Richland City Hall is ADA accessible. Requests for sign interpreters, audio equipment, and/or other special services must be received 48 hours prior to the meeting by calling the City Clerk's Office at 509-942-7389.



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVERSHEET

Meeting Date: 9/11/2025

Agenda Category: Approval of Minutes

Prepared By: Patty Roe, Administrative Assistant II

Subject

Approval of the Minutes for the August 14, 2025, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Department

Parks & Public Facilities

Recommended Motion

Motion to approve the minutes for the August 14, 2025, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Summary

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments

1. Draft 2025.08.14 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes



MINUTES
Richland Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, August 14, 2025
Richland City Hall ~ Council Chambers
625 Swift Boulevard

Parks & Recreation Commission Special Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Welcome and Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: Chair Mason	Absent
Vice-Chair Gutierrez	Present
Commissioner Buelt	Present
Commissioner Jones	Absent
Commissioner Hodges	Present
Commissioner Watrous	Absent
Commissioner Thompson	Present
Commissioner Thallapally	Present
Commissioner Kreis	Present

Also present were Council Liaison/Mayor Pro Tem Kent, Staff Liaison/Parks & Public Facilities Director Waite, Recreation Manager Piper, Parks and Facilities Supervisor Colvin, and Administrative Assistant Christian.

Approval of Agenda

COMMISSIONER KREIS MOVED AND COMMISSIONER BUELT SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 14, 2025, PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the July 9, 2025, Parks & Recreation Commission Special Meeting Minutes.

COMMISSIONER HODGES MOVED AND COMMISSIONER THOMPSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 9, 2025, PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Council Liaison Report

Council Liaison Report, presented by Mayor Pro Tem Kent, highlighted continued planning efforts for the 2025 Ironman Washington Tri-Cities, emphasizing the central role of Richland's parks, especially the waterfront at Howard Amon Park and Columbia

Point Marina Park, as key venues. Feedback about the favorable swimming course, current, and event logistics was noted. Kent also commented on the ongoing interagency coordination involving public safety and volunteers to ensure a smooth and festive event.

Recreation Report

Recreation Report, presented by Recreation Manager Piper, discussed preparations for the Ironman event, including the relocation of the transition area to improve spectator engagement, and adjustments to the bike route to enhance traffic flow near the new Costco.

Parks & Public Facilities Report

Director Waite presented the Parks & Public Facilities Report, which included infrastructure-related updates related to the Ironman event and reiterated the city's commitment to facility readiness, safety measures, and event support.

Public Comments

None.

New Business

2. Park Safety and Security Update Parks and Public Facilities Director Waite

Director Waite outlined collaborative safety protocols for large-scale events, including enhanced security presence, crowd management, and volunteer coordination. As part of the year-long pilot program, the city has deployed solar-powered mobile security units stationed at Claybell Park, Badger Mountain Community Park, and the Uptown Shopping Center parking area. These units offer real-time monitoring and deter problematic behaviors while providing valuable evidence when necessary. The pilot's success will determine whether the program will be expanded or if units will be permanently installed. The city is also installing speed bumps and parking barriers to improve pedestrian safety within park areas.

Discussion only.

3. 2025 Ironman Washington Tri-Cities Update Recreation Manager Piper

Recreation Manager Piper delivered an update on the upcoming IRONMAN 70.3 Washington Tri-Cities event, scheduled for Sunday, September 21, 2025. She highlighted the significant economic impact anticipated—approximately \$7 million—

driven by the onset of athletes and spectators. Key locations like Howard Amon Park and Columbia Point Marina Park were emphasized for their roles in hosting the event. activities and showcasing Richland's scenic appeal. The Commission was informed of planned road closures and related traffic adjustments beginning September 2, particularly affecting major thoroughfares such as George Washington Way and the Aaron/Columbia Point Drive corridor. Finally, Piper underscored the importance of inter-departmental coordination, volunteer support, and engagement with local businesses to ensure a well-executed and community-beneficial event.

Discussion only.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Gutierrez adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

APPROVED:

Samantha Mason, Parks & Recreation Commission Chair

PREPARED BY:

Patty Roe, Administrative Assistant II



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVERSHEET

Meeting Date: 9/11/2025

Agenda Category: Presentations

Prepared By: Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director

Subject

Park Partnership 2026 Schedule

Department

Parks & Public Facilities

Recommended Motion

None. Presentation only.

Summary

In 2026, staff is proposing a change to the Park Partnerships Program application schedule. Historically, the program has operated with a single annual grant window opening in January and closing in February. The City is moving all City-sponsored grant programs to the fall, which will include Park Partnerships. To align with that cycle, staff is proposing two grant windows in 2026:

- January 2026: first window, with \$20,000 available
- November 2026: second window, with \$20,000 available

Each cycle will have half of the total program funding allocated, allowing applicants the flexibility to pursue projects at different times of the year.

Beginning in 2027, the program will transition to a single fall application window, consistent with other City grant offerings.

The Park Partnerships Program provides up to \$8,000 in matching funds per project. The required match is one third of total project costs and may be satisfied through donations, volunteer labor, or in kind contributions.

This proposed adjustment in 2026 is designed to meet community demand while setting the program on a clear, consistent schedule moving forward.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVERSHEET

Meeting Date: 9/11/2025

Agenda Category: Presentations

Prepared By: Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director

Subject

Bernard Hosey Sculpture Placement

Department

Parks & Public Facilities

Recommended Motion

None. Presentation only.

Summary

In 2023, Judith Shulman donated three sculptures by Bernard Hosey to the City of Richland: *Round and Round*, *On the Threshold of Liberty*, and *On the Edge*. The first two pieces have been successfully placed at Howard Amon Park and the Richland Public Library. Planning for placement of the final piece, *On the Edge*, is ongoing.

Throughout 2024 and 2025, staff and the Arts Commission engaged with community partners and stakeholders, including Friends of Badger Mountain, to review Trailhead Park as a potential site. Initial concerns about habitat and native plant garden impacts were addressed, and a new proposed location in the developed portion of the park has reduced opposition. Public feedback was also gathered through a Friends of Badger Mountain board meeting, a community pop-up event, and multiple commission discussions.

As part of this process, the Arts Commission conducted a parks tour in south Richland to evaluate several locations for sculpture placement. After reviewing options at Badger Mountain Community Park, Trailhead Park, and West Village Park, the Commission identified Trailhead Park as the preferred site due to its visibility, accessibility, and direct connection to the Badger Mountain trail system.

Placement of *On the Edge* at Trailhead Park also carries symbolic significance. With *Round and Round* located along the Columbia River and *On the Threshold of Liberty* placed in the civic core, the addition of the third sculpture in South Richland creates a balanced collection. Together, the three pieces serve as cultural landmarks that unify north and south Richland, reinforcing the city's commitment to community identity through public art.

This presentation will review the proposed site and steps taken related to the art placement up to this point.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVERSHEET

Meeting Date: 9/11/2025

Agenda Category: Presentations

Prepared By: Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director

Subject

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update

Department

Parks & Public Facilities

Recommended Motion

None. Presentation only.

Summary

The City of Richland is updating its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan, a six-year planning document that shapes future investments in parks, recreation facilities, natural areas, programs, and services. The plan is a critical requirement for state grant eligibility and is one of three coordinated efforts under the City's *Future in Focus* initiative, alongside updates to the Comprehensive Plan and Transportation System Plan.

MIG, the City's consultant, has been working with staff since spring 2025 to evaluate the state of the system, assess community priorities, and gather data through technical analysis and engagement activities. Their process has included stakeholder interviews, site tours, and development of a baseline inventory of Richland's parks, facilities, and recreation programs.

As part of this agenda item, MIG will present the results from the recently conducted community survey, which measured public perceptions, needs, and priorities related to parks, recreation, trails, and open space. The survey is one component of a broader engagement strategy that also includes community events, stakeholder conversations, and Commission and Council workshops.

The presentation will provide the Commission with an overview of survey results and other information gathered so far in the planning process. This briefing is intended to inform upcoming phases of the PROS Plan, including identification of key needs, opportunities, and systemwide priorities that will guide recommendations in 2026.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments

1. 1. Richland PROS Plan_Brief #1_FINAL_082025
2. 2. Brief #1_Appendix A Inventory
3. 3. Brief #1_Appendix B Recreation Program Service Area Summary
4. 4. Richland PROS Plan_Community Survey Summary
5. 5. Richland PROS Plan_Community Survey Summary Attachment A
6. 6. Richland PROS Plan_Focus Group Interview Summaries



PARKS, RECREATION, & OPEN SPACE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

BRIEF #1: STATE OF THE SYSTEM

I. OBJECTIVES & PLANNING PROCESS

The City of Richland is developing its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan) to shape the next six years of citywide park and recreation services. In response to continued growth and evolving community priorities, the PROS Plan will address system-wide needs, identify specific improvements to park and recreation facilities, natural open spaces, and activities, and redefine goals and objectives to guide future investments, projects, programs, and maintenance.

Part of three citywide planning initiatives referred to as “Future in Focus”, the PROS Plan will help develop a unified vision for Richland’s future in conjunction with the City’s Comprehensive Plan and Transportation System Plan updates.

This document presents information about the local community, the planning process, and the physical infrastructure and services that support the City’s existing parks and recreation system. This document is the first of multiple summaries that will form the foundation of the PROS Plan.

There are **six sections** included in this summary:

1. Objectives & Planning Process
2. Planning Background
3. Parks & Recreation Context
4. Community Composition
5. Existing System
6. Key Opportunities, Challenges, & Next Steps

Appendices

- A. Parks and Facility Inventory
- B. Recreation Program Service Area Summary

“This is about more than just planning, Future in Focus is an opportunity for every resident to have a voice in building a city that works better for everyone—today and tomorrow.”

- Joe Schiessl, Richland Deputy City Manager



Process Overview

Initiated in March 2025, the PROS Plan will be developed over the course of 2025 to identify community priorities and recommendations to improve and enhance the City's parks, recreation facilities, natural open spaces, trails, programs, events and services over the six-year planning horizon. Grounded in an inclusive engagement process combined with technical analysis and research, the PROS Plan will allow City staff and leaders to incorporate Richland's community vision and priorities into an action plan that supports vibrant parks and recreation experiences for residents and visitors. Engagement will take place throughout the planning process.

FIGURE I: PLANNING PROCESS



2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

Richland’s park, recreation, and open-space system is guided by a hierarchy of policies and plans that range from state mandates and funding agency requirements to locally adopted plans and site-specific studies.

State Planning and Funding

Growth Management Act (GMA)

Adopted in 1990, the Washington State Growth Management Act requires fast-growing jurisdictions to plan for population and employment increases while protecting critical areas and conserving natural resource lands. Comprehensive plans must include land use, capital facilities, and parks-and-recreation elements and must be reviewed and, if necessary, revised every ten years. Richland is now updating its 2017-2038 Comprehensive Plan as part of the “Future in Focus” tri-plan effort, which also includes a Transportation System Plan update and this PROS Plan update.

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Requirements

The Washington State RCO administers state and federal grant programs that fund park development, habitat conservation, and outdoor recreation. To remain eligible for most RCO grants, local governments must maintain an adopted parks, recreation, and open-space plan that is updated every six years. Richland’s current eligibility expires in July 2025, making this PROS Plan update essential for continued grant funding eligibility. RCO evaluates plans on six required elements:

- **Element 1.** Goals and Objectives
- **Element 2.** Inventory
- **Element 3.** Public Involvement
- **Element 4.** Demand and Need Analysis
- **Element 5.** Capital Improvement Program (of at least a 6-year period)
- **Element 6.** Adoption

Citywide Planning

City of Richland Comprehensive Plan

A Comprehensive Plan is a road map for both short-and long-term strategic policy, decision-making, and investments relating to housing and development, jobs, transportation, parks, environmental resources, climate resiliency, and other important topics that impact daily life. The City of Richland is embarking on an update to its Comprehensive Plan to accommodate 20-year population and employment growth targets and to incorporate new state legislative requirements related to housing, transportation, and climate.

Richland 2024-2026 Strategic Plan

Completed in July 2023, the Richland 2024-2026 Strategic Plan outlines five strategic priorities with desired outcomes, key outcome indicators, and performance targets to achieve the City’s targeted outcomes. The Strategic Plan’s strategic priorities include high-performance government; financial sustainability; focused development; quality of life; and engaged workforce. Parks, recreation, and open space will play an integral role in achieving numerous outcomes identified in the Strategic Plan and will need to be considered in development of the PROS Plan. Relevant outcomes include:

- Enhanced community engagement;
- Strengthened partnerships;
- Increased feeling of safety in the community;
- Improved pedestrian and bicycle mobility;
- Enhanced recreational opportunities (Community Event and Entertainment program); and
- Staff capacity to meet service demands.

RICHLAND STRATEGIC PLAN VISION

“Richland, a dynamic city built on a foundation of leading technology, extensive natural resources, diverse recreational amenities, and a supportive business climate. The City is safe, vibrant, and family-friendly. The community you’ll want to call home.”

Parks and Recreation Planning History

City of Richland Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2019)

In 2019, the City of Richland adopted the 2019-2025 Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2019 Plan) through Resolution 94-19. The 2019 Plan establishes a framework for park and recreation services that balances community needs and the financial realities of Richland’s Parks and Public Facilities Department. Central to this framework is a six-year Capital Improvement Program that outlines specific recommendations and projects guided by community input. Notably, the 2019 Plan has resulted in numerous parks and facility upgrades, such as the construction of 6 acres of West Village Community Park. Additional accomplishments are outlined in Table I below.

TABLE I: 2019 PLAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TYPE	ACCOMPLISHMENT
New Parks and Facilities	West Village Community Park (6 acres constructed) (2024)
Major Improvements	Sturgeon Cove Playground renovation at Howard Amon Park (2025)
Land Acquisitions	17 Acres – Little Badger Trail System

Park-Specific Master Plans and Studies

In addition to the citywide plans above, there are numerous site-specific master plans, studies, and assessments that provide more detailed guidance and recommendations for individual parks, facilities, trails, and natural open spaces areas, some of which are identified below:

- Little Badger Mountain Trail Master Plan (2023) focused on the development and improvement of trails on Little Badger Mountain.
- Badger Mountain Sub Area Plan (2010) planned for the future growth of the Badger Mountain South area, incorporating dedicated space for parks and recreational uses.
- North Horn Rapids Area Master Plan envisioned the long-term development of the North Horn Rapids area, including park and recreation spaces.

3. PARKS & RECREATION CONTEXT

Richland has a special history and unique setting that helps shape its future. The following provides an overview of the city's current form and structure.

Location and Setting

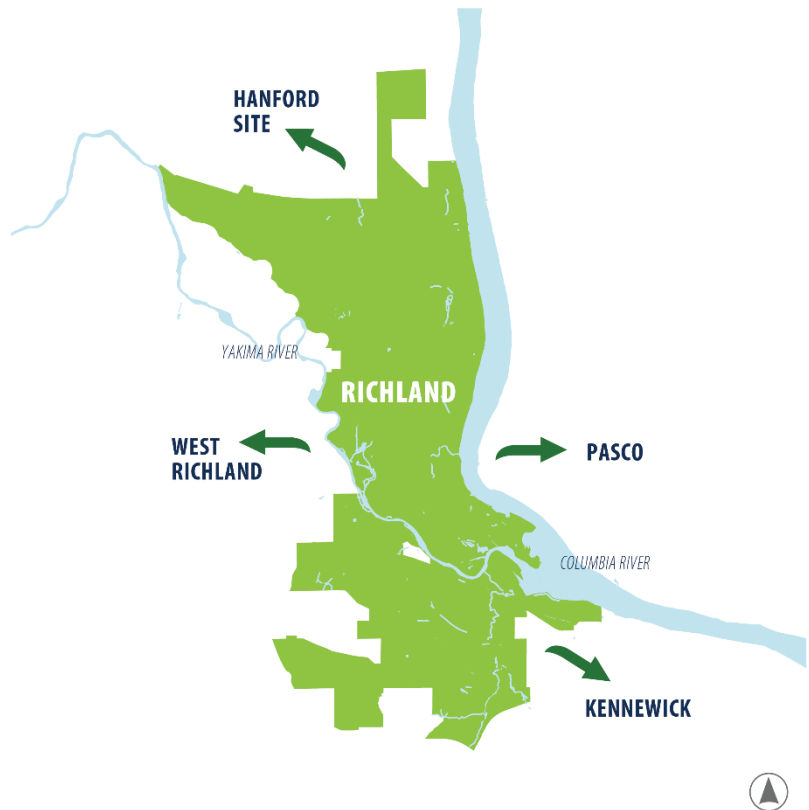
Richland is on the land of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), which encompasses the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla tribes. The confluence of the Columbia, Snake, and Yakima rivers have been home to the Indigenous Peoples of the Columbia River Plateau for over 10,000 years.

Spanning 46 square miles, the City of Richland is nestled along the Columbia and Yakima rivers upstream from the Snake River in the geographic region known as the Mid-Columbia Basin. Richland is located in Benton County, bordered by the Columbia River to the east and the neighboring cities of West Richland to the west, Pasco to the east across the Columbia River, and Kennewick to the southeast (Figure 2). Richland, Pasco, and Kennewick are collectively referred to as the Tri-Cities.

Today, the Tri-Cities area is known for its sunny climate, diverse outdoor activities, river recreation, rich cultural history, and abundant open spaces. The local economy is dominated by agriculture and particularly wine production, and its growing science and technology sectors due to the presence of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Richland is also known for its role in the historic Hanford Site, where plutonium was produced for the first atomic bombs as part of the Manhattan Project during World War II. The Hanford Site is located to the north of Richland and is undergoing environmental cleanup by the United States federal government to this day.

This historical context is visible within the Richland park and recreation system, in particular the REACH Museum which shares the history of the Hanford Reach National Monument and local ecology.

FIGURE 2: REGIONAL CONTEXT



Land Use and Development Patterns

Much of Richland's city limits follow the Columbia River, north to south. The Yakima River Delta and associated open space, along with Interstate 182 (I-182), nearly bisect the city and have shaped Richland's growth and development into two areas organized around a traditional central commercial core.

Richland is primarily a residential community, composed mostly of single-family homes with smaller amounts of medium- and high-density housing types. Residential development is concentrated in three major areas: Central Richland between the Columbia River and State Route 240 (SR 240), land south of the Yakima River in South Richland, and the Horn Rapids area to the south of SR 240 in North Richland. Industrial and open space land are the other most predominant land uses in the city. Most industrial and research uses are located in the northern part of the city to the north of the Richland Airport. Commercial uses are distributed throughout the city with major concentrations found along SR 240 and I-182, and in the Central Business District along the Columbia River shoreline.

Richland has annexed most of the land within its Urban Growth Area (UGA), which is the area designated to accommodate future city expansion and development. Because Richland has already incorporated much of this land, future city development will largely occur within existing city limits or through targeted infill and redevelopment. However, Richland continues to see a large amount of development to accommodate rapid and significant population growth. Areas in the north of Richland have experienced notable growth in manufacturing, industrial operations, and clean energy employment, driven by new facilities and expanding business investments. Meanwhile, the area south of the Yakima River has seen a surge in housing development, with new residential subdivisions and supporting infrastructure emerging to meet rising demand.



Natural Environment

Natural open space is part of Richland's identity and accounts for the majority of the acreage within the park and recreation system. Annually, the city receives about seven inches of precipitation, resulting in a desert-like climate and shrub-steppe landscape featuring low-growing shrubs and grasses adapted to arid conditions. River adjacent areas, including the Yakima River Delta and wetlands across the city, feature a wooded variation of the shrub-steppe environment that supports diverse ecosystems and wildlife habitat.

Much of Richland's riverfront is subject to the Washington State Shoreline Management Act, which regulates land use and development along designated shorelines to protect water quality, habitat, and public access. Portions of the Columbia and Yakima river shorelines in Richland are classified as shorelines of statewide significance, triggering more stringent review standards. In addition, mapped critical areas under Washington State law, including wetlands, floodplains, geologically hazardous areas, and critical habitat, impose restrictions on development and require mitigation to protect ecological functions. These regulations influence how Richland manages and develops both natural and improved parkland along the rivers. Archaeological, cultural, and tribal resources are also frequently located near waterways, and ground disturbance beyond specific thresholds requires coordination and consultation with Tribes to avoid impacts to culturally significant sites. These layers of regulation guide park planning, design, and maintenance efforts to ensure environmental protection and cultural resource stewardship in Richland's river-adjacent open spaces.

Ongoing preservation and intentional management of these spaces will be particularly important as the region continues to experience the impacts of climate change, which are expected to intensify over the next few decades. Richland is anticipating and already experiencing changes in precipitation, more frequent and intense extreme heat events, increased wildfire risk, and prolonged droughts. The PROS Plan will address these challenges in subsequent phases of the planning process.



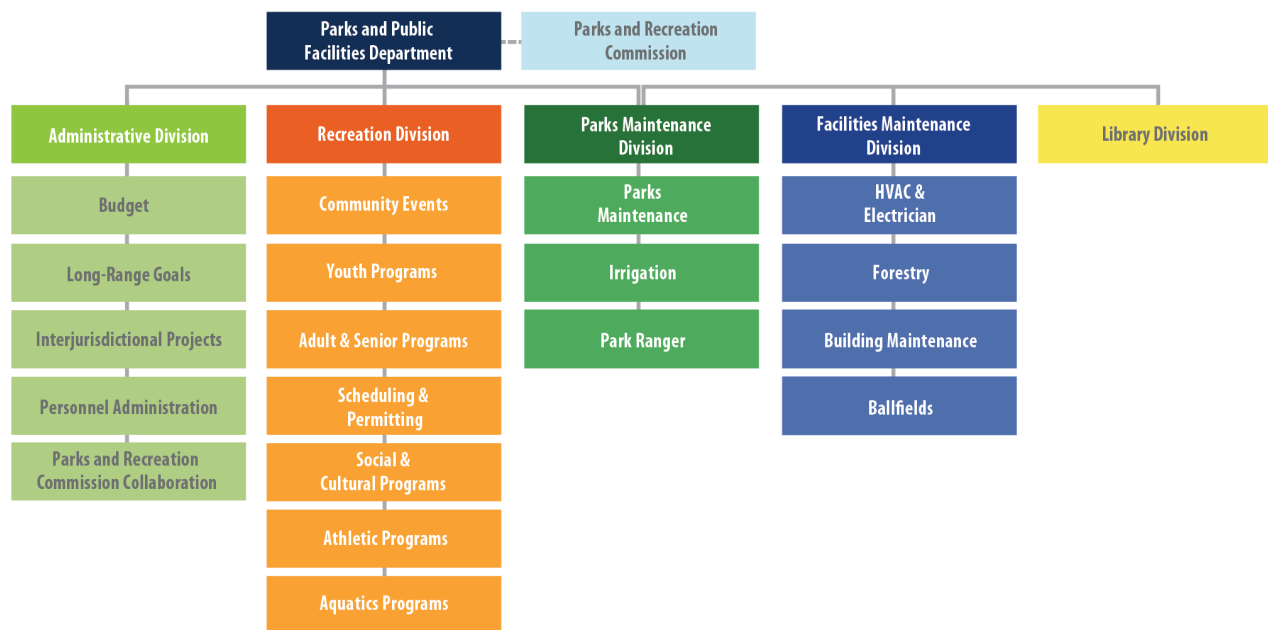
City Organizational Structure

Richland operates under a council-manager form of government where seven at-large City Council members represent the entire community. A network of boards and commissions provides input on a wide range of community interests, serving as a bridge between residents, City staff, and elected officials. Among these, the Richland Parks and Recreation Commission plays a key role in guiding policies and programs related to parks, recreation, and public spaces.

Parks and Public Facilities Department

The Parks and Public Facilities Department (the Department) oversees the development, management, and maintenance of parks, public facilities, recreation programs, and library services for the City of Richland. The Department is organized into five divisions, each with their own role and responsibilities (Figure 3). The Department also plays a pivotal role in facilitating the Parks and Recreation Commission, which is tasked with advising the City Council on City-provided facilities, civic beautification, environmental and cultural preservation, and recreation programs.

FIGURE 3: PARKS AND PUBLIC FACILITIES DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Administrative Division

The Administrative Division provides administrative oversight to all aspects of the Department, including the budget, long-range goals, community engagement, Parks and Recreation Commission, interjurisdictional projects, and personnel administration. As of 2025, the division employs three (3) full-time employees, the Parks and Public Facilities Department Director, and two (2) full-time administrative support staff members.

Recreation Division

The Recreation Division is charged with developing and administering the Department's recreation programs, activities, and events to meet the diverse needs and interests of the Richland community. The division manages the use of parks and facility scheduling and permitting, supports the Parks and Recreation Commission, and promotes tourism and commerce in Richland. As of 2025, the division employs six (6) full-time employees, seven (7) part-time employees, and fifty to sixty (50-60) seasonal/intermittent employees.

Parks Maintenance Division

The Parks Maintenance Division maintains all City-owned parks and landscapes, including playgrounds, athletic fields, aquatic facilities, boat docks, and park structures. The division also includes the Park Ranger team. As of 2025, the division employs fourteen (14) full-time employees and twenty (20) seasonal/intermittent employees.

Facilities Maintenance Division

The Facilities Maintenance Division maintains all City-owned facilities which includes plumbing, HVAC, carpentry, design and project construction. The Facilities Division also encompasses the ball fields maintenance team and forestry team. As of 2025, the division employs thirteen (13) full-time employees and seven (7) seasonal/intermittent employees.

Library Division

The Library Division manages and operates the Richland Public Library. In 2023, the Library adopted a 10-year strategic plan to inform library policy, practices, services, and resource allocation decisions. As of 2025, the division employs eighteen (18) full-time employees, seven (7) part-time, and six (6) intermittent.

Planning and Construction

The Planning and Construction of parks and facilities is administered through the City's Public Works Department.

4. COMMUNITY COMPOSITION

Understanding and responding to the diverse needs of the community are essential for Richland's continued growth and well-being. This section summarizes the city's population and demographic characteristics.

FIGURE 4: DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT



64,190
Population (2024 estimate)



5.8%
Population Increase (2020-2024)



26,188
Housing Units



3.09
Persons per Households



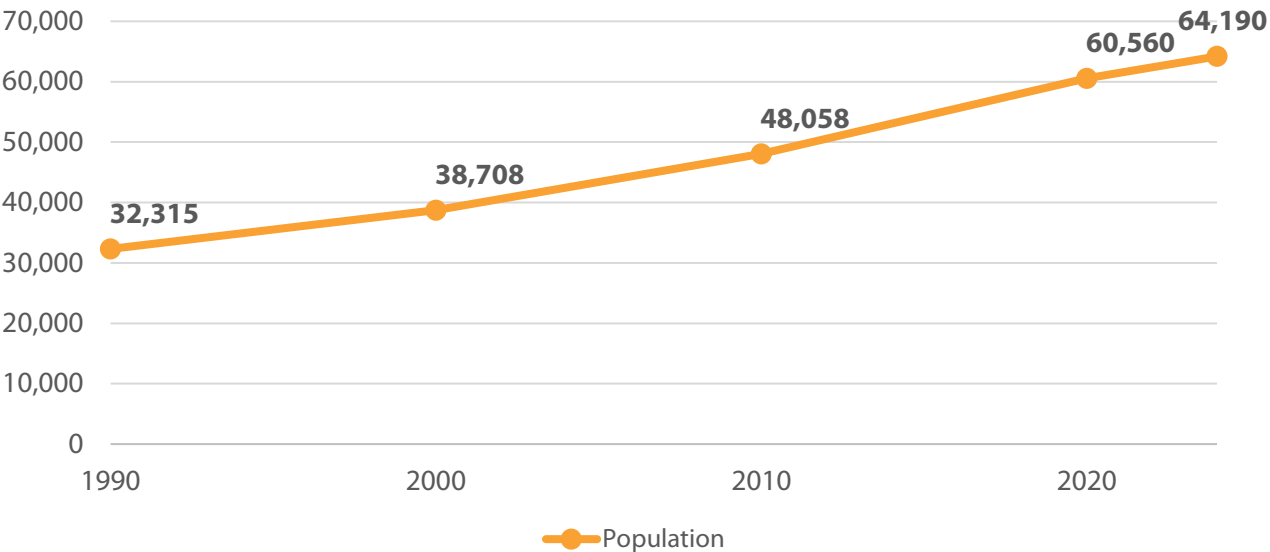
\$92,550
Median Household Income

SOURCE: 2024 Office of Financial Management Official Population Estimate, 2020 Decennial Census, 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Population Growth

Based on the most recent population estimates, Richland has a population of 64,190 residents (2024, Washington State Office of Financial Management). Richland and the broader Tri-Cities Metropolitan Area have experienced rapid population growth over the past decades. Between 1990 and 2024, Richland nearly doubled in size (Figure 5). The Tri-Cities Metropolitan Area remains one of the fastest growing areas in Washington State. This growth has largely been driven by job and business development, particularly in the research and science sectors.

FIGURE 5: CITY OF RICHLAND POPULATION GROWTH (1990-2024)



Source: 2024 Office of Financial management official population estimate, Decennial Census

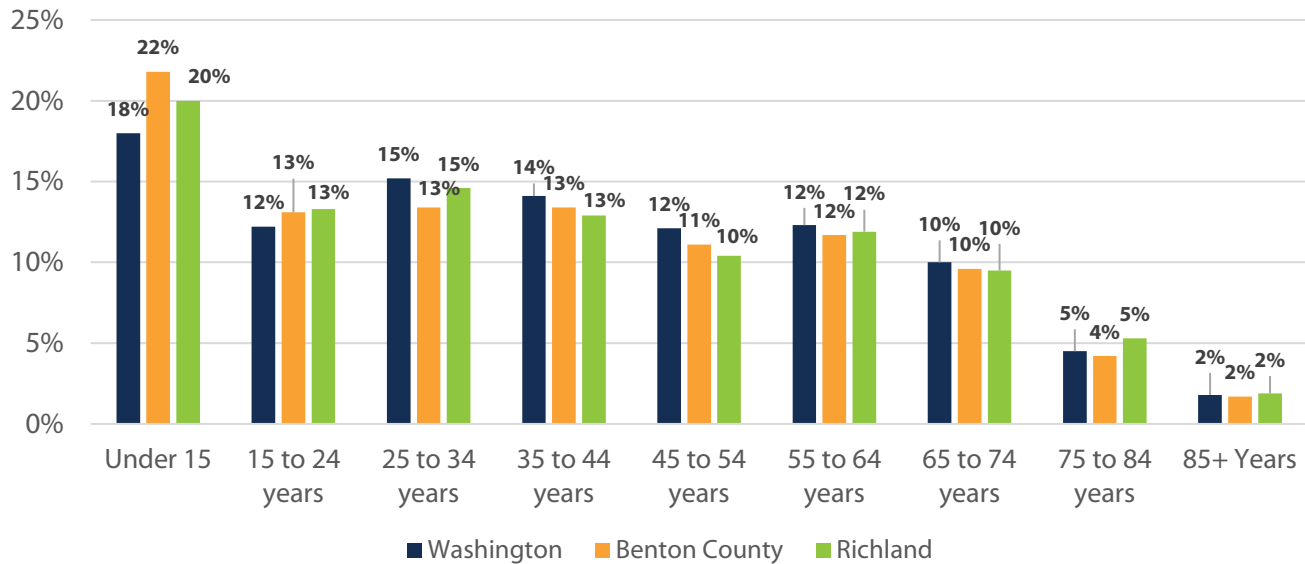
The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires jurisdictions to plan for a 20-year supply of needed housing and employment. For Richland, this includes accommodating a projected population of approximately 82,196 people by 2045, over a 28% increase from today. The impact this growth will have on parks and recreation opportunities in Richland will be further analyzed in subsequent phases of the planning process, including anticipated updates to population estimates as part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan update.

This rapid pace of growth has significant implications for the parks and recreation system due to more residents using parks and natural open space, and increased demand for recreation facilities, programs, and services impacting systemwide staffing and maintenance needs.

Age

A vibrant park and recreation system provides diverse opportunities for all age groups, such as spaces to learn and play for young children, safe places for teens, activities and services for older adults, and multigenerational spaces for gathering. Overall, Richland has a larger young population than the statewide average, with a similar share of older adults as both the county and the state (Figure 6). According to Census data, Richland’s median age has decreased by over two years since 2010 to 36.4 years old.

FIGURE 6: CITY OF RICHLAND AGE RANGE (2023)



Source: 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Race and Ethnicity

The city's cultural, ethnic, and language characteristics are essential to planning for a welcoming and inclusive parks and recreation system that is reflective of diverse community needs. The community composition continues to evolve and increase in diversity. Between 2010 and 2023, Richland's Hispanic or Latino population more than doubled, with a greater increase in population size than Benton County and Washington (Table 2).

TABLE 2: COMPARISON POPULATION BY RACE AS A PERCENT OF THE TOTAL POPULATION (2010 AND 2023)

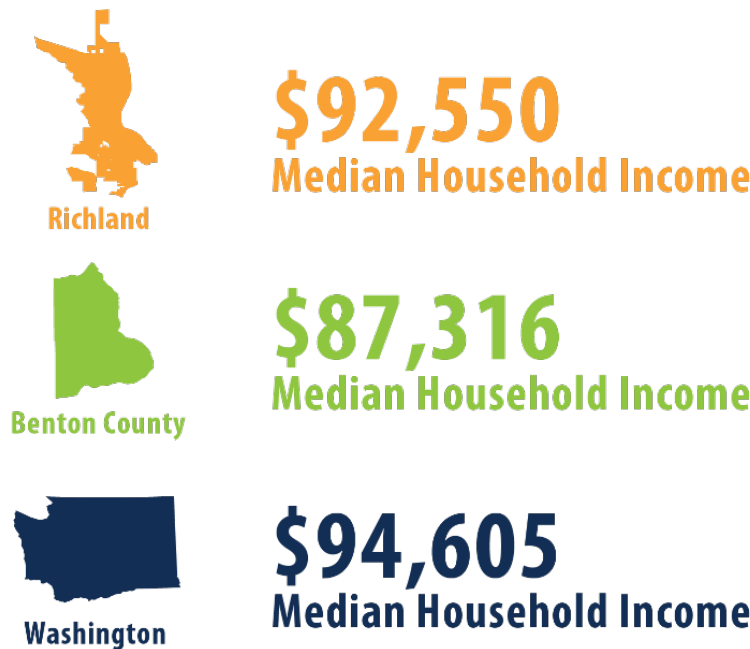
RACE	STATE OF WASHINGTON		BENTON COUNTY		CITY OF RICHLAND	
	2010	2023	2010	2023	2010	2023
Hispanic or Latino	10.5%	14.1%	17.4%	24.8%	7.4%	14.1%
White	73.7%	64.3%	75.8%	65.7%	83.7%	73.6%
Black or African American	3.4%	3.8%	1.3%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.3%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.8%	0.2%
Asian	6.9%	9.3%	2.7%	2.9%	4.6%	5.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.5%	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%
Some Other Race	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.7%	0.1%	0.7%
Two or More Races	3.4%	6.5%	1.7%	3.8%	2.0%	3.9%

Source: 2010 and 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Income and Poverty

An equitable park and recreation system is affordable to the widest possible segment of the community. Public parks and low-cost or no-cost options for different types of activities are especially important in areas with a higher share of low-income households. Income and affordability are additional key determinants that influence park use and participation in recreation programs. According to American Community Survey (ACS) 2023 5-year estimates, the median household income in Richland is \$92,550, which is higher than the Benton County average and slightly lower than the state average (Figure 7). In Richland, 9.3% of the population lives below the poverty line, indicating a relatively lower incidence of poverty compared to Benton County and Washington.

FIGURE 7: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2023)



Source: 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

People with Disabilities

Parks and recreation opportunities are accessible when they offer many different options for enjoyment and participation, regardless of ability or disability. In Richland, 13.4% of the population are living with a disability, slightly lower than the county average of 14.4%. People with different disabilities encompass a diverse range of individuals who may experience physical, sensory, intellectual, developmental, or mental health impairments that impact their daily functioning and quality of life. People with disabilities have diverse needs and preferences when it comes to recreation opportunities and community services, and these needs can vary based on factors such as the type and severity of disability, individual interests, abilities, and support requirements.

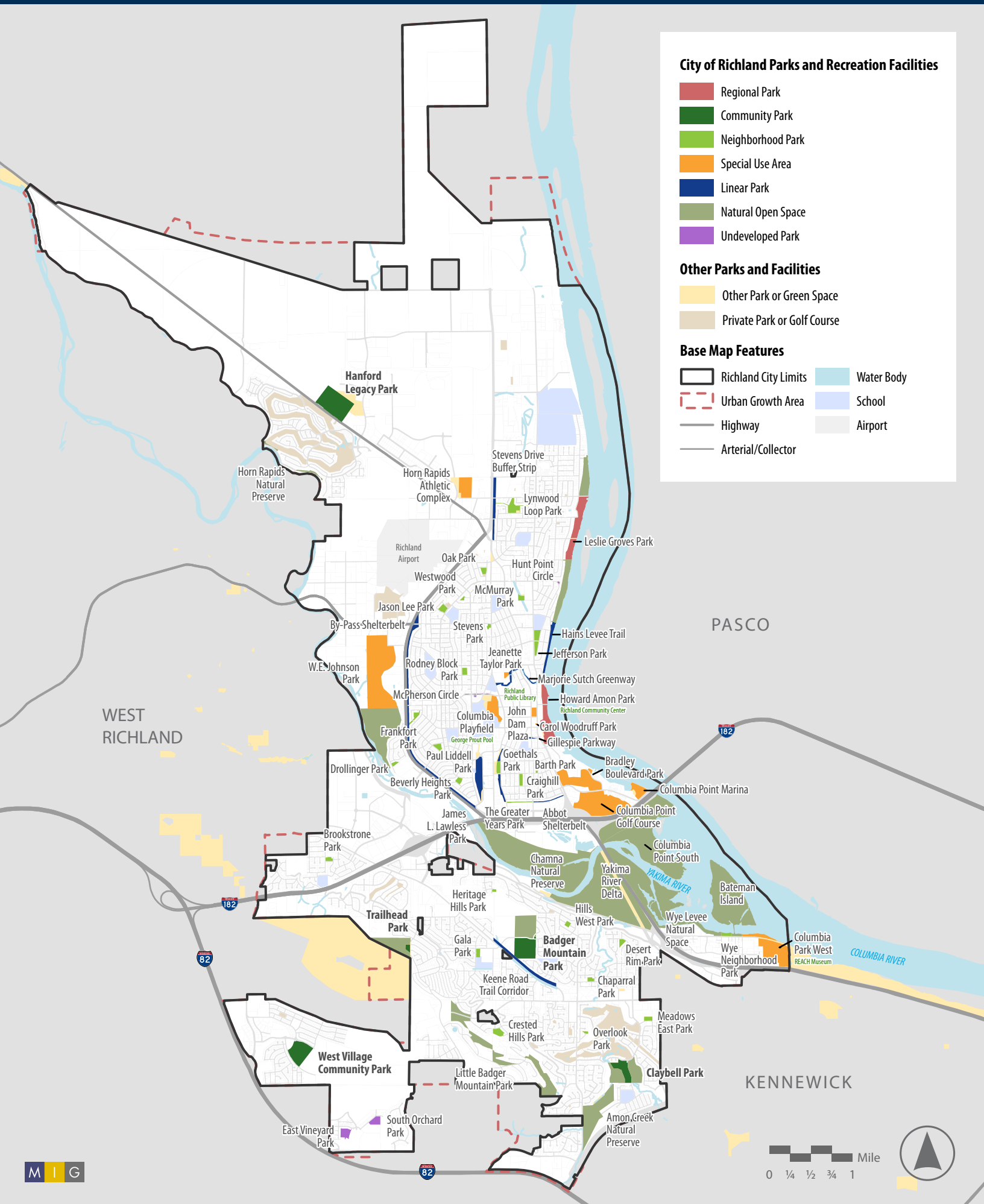
5. EXISTING SYSTEM

The Richland community has access to a wide variety parks and recreation facilities that offer a diverse range of recreation programs and opportunities. Richland has nearly 3,000 acres in its park system across 72 parks and natural open spaces. Of this land, nearly 1,140 acres are developed, providing places to play and gather, and over 1740 acres are natural open spaces for community members to experience nature. The system also includes nearly 87 acres of undeveloped land dedicated to future parks and facilities, and nearly 90 miles of trails that provide connectivity to, within, and between parks. Table 3 summarizes the existing system's inventory and Appendix A provides a detailed inventory. The map on the next page shows Richland's existing park and recreation system.

TABLE 3: PARKLAND INVENTORY

PARK TYPE	TOTAL SITES	TOTAL ACRES	ADOPTED PARK LAND LEVEL OF SERVICE (ACRES/1,000 RESIDENTS)
Regional Parks	2	77.4	5 acres / 1,000 residents
Community Parks	5	88.5	3.5 acres / 1,000 residents
Neighborhood Parks	26	82.4	1.5 acres / 1,000 residents
Special Use Areas	11	771.2	No LOS adopted
Linear Parks	9	118.3	No LOS adopted
Natural Open Space	13	1740.2	5 acres / 1,000 residents
Undeveloped Parks	6	87.0	N/A
Total	72	2,965	

Table 3 also summarizes Richland's park land level of service (LOS). LOS is a ratio that compares the amount of land (in acreage) or facilities (in units) to the population. While useful in the past, this model no longer reflects how communities use and value parks today. Future phases of this PROS Plan update will examine which areas of the community have access to a park within walking distance from home. This will help identify the number, types, and distribution of parks that may be needed to address community recreation needs, desires, and preferences.



City of Richland Parks and Recreation Facilities

- Regional Park
- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Special Use Area
- Linear Park
- Natural Open Space
- Undeveloped Park

Other Parks and Facilities

- Other Park or Green Space
- Private Park or Golf Course

Base Map Features

- Richland City Limits
- Urban Growth Area
- Highway
- Arterial/Collector
- Water Body
- School
- Airport

Park Classifications

Richland classifies and categorizes its parks and facilities to evaluate park service and guide investments in the different park types and experiences desired by the community. Classifications consider the purpose or intent of the site, factoring in characteristics such as size, use, service area, and available amenities and facilities. The categorization informs decisions about the right amount of development, types of facilities, and levels of park maintenance and programming based on the intent for each park site. Richland has the following six unique park classifications.



Regional Parks

2 PARKS / 77.4 ACRES

Examples: Howard Amon Park, Leslie Groves Park

Regional Parks are large, multi-use sites that typically serve as destinations for events, programs, and activities, attracting visitors from across the entire city and beyond. These sites are often managed in partnership with other agencies and organizations.



Community Parks

5 PARKS / 88.5 ACRES

Examples: Badger Mountain Community Park, Claybell Park, Trailhead Park, & West Village Community Park

Community Parks include specialized attractions and/or a mix of active and passive recreation amenities that serve a substantial portion of the community or the entire city. Designed for large groups, intensive use, and longer stays, these parks include on-site parking, permanent restrooms, and similar support amenities to sustain longer visits for park users.

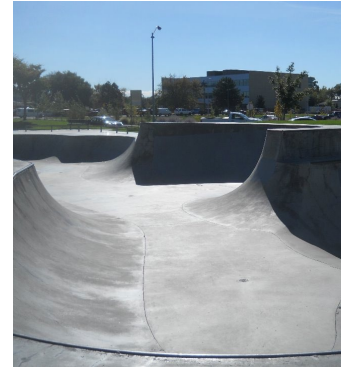


Neighborhood Parks

26 PARKS / 82.4 ACRES

Examples: Goethals Park, Craighill Park, Wye Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood Parks provide close-to-home recreation opportunities within walking or biking distance of residents. These sites are designed to support small group gatherings and active and passive recreation such as play, youth sports, picnicking, and walking or biking.



Special Use Areas

11 PARKS / 771.2 ACRES

Examples: John Dam Plaza, Columbia Point Marina Park, Columbia Playfield, Columbia Park West (REACH Museum)

Special Use Areas are designed around a specialized facility or site use, such as an aquatic center or BMX track, or create a unique experience, such as a downtown plaza amphitheater. The size, capacity, and features vary depending on the purpose and function of the site.



Linear Parks

9 PARKS / 118.3 ACRES

Examples: By-Pass Shelterbelt, Keene Road Trail Corridor, Hains Avenue Levee

Linear Parks provide trails and other recreational opportunities, allow for uninterrupted and safe pedestrian and bicycle movement throughout the community, and protect open space corridors. These typically link waterways, trail corridors, and shelterbelts.



Natural Open Space

13 PARKS / 1740.2 ACRES

Examples: Chamna Natural Preserve, Columbia Point South, Amon Basin

Natural open space areas are largely undeveloped and are intended to preserve the natural landscape and ecological functions of the site. These areas may include limited improvements such as multi-use trails, restrooms, interpretive signage, parking, and minimal site furnishings. Development is kept to a minimum to maintain the site's natural character and support passive recreational use such as walking, wildlife observation, and environmental education. Several of these sites are owned by the federal government, managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and leased to the City of Richland.

Key Amenities and Facilities

- **Places to play**

Many of Richland’s developed parks feature playgrounds and play structures that support a variety of recreational opportunities for children of different ages and abilities. These areas are co-located with other amenities such as picnic shelters, open lawns, and walking paths, making them popular family destinations and important components of neighborhood and community parks.

- **Places to compete**

Richland is regionally recognized for its well-maintained diamond fields, which regularly support league play and tournament events. Baseball and softball facilities are abundant and well-distributed throughout the city. In contrast, rectangular fields—used for soccer, lacrosse, football, and other field sports—are limited in number and experience high demand, particularly during peak seasons.

- **Places to swim or be in the water**

George Prout Pool is the city’s only outdoor public pool and is heavily utilized by residents and community organizations (discussed further in a later section). In addition to the pool, Richland offers several other aquatic amenities: a splash pad and spray ground at Badger Mountain Park, a wading pool at Howard Amon Park and informal swimming beaches at Columbia Point Marina Park, Howard Amon Park and Leslie Groves Park. The Yakima River also provides water access at various points, which are frequently used for floating and tubing in the warmer months.

- **Places to launch a boat**

Richland offers a range of boating access options to accommodate different types of watercraft and recreational uses. Paved launches and moorage facilities support motorized boats and larger vessels, while primitive launch areas serve non-motorized users such as kayakers, paddleboarders, and river floaters. Some sites include transient moorage, allowing for short-term docking, while others are better suited for quick entry and exit. These facilities help connect the public to both the Columbia and Yakima Rivers and support year-round fishing, recreation, and regional water-based tourism.

- **Places for trail activities**

Natural open space accounts for a significant portion of Richland’s park system, offering residents and visitors ample opportunities for walking, running, hiking, and wildlife viewing. These areas range from riverine environments with cottonwood forests and wetland habitats to upland shrub-steppe landscapes in the city’s hills. Locations like the Chamna Natural Preserve and Badger Mountain provide varied ecological experiences and are widely valued for their access to nature and scenic views. These natural areas play an essential role in the city’s recreation system, offering passive recreation and environmental education opportunities.

Recreation Facilities Provided by Others

Richland is fortunate to have a strong parks and recreation system, and that system is further enhanced by the facilities and programming offered by other public, nonprofit, and private entities throughout the community. These partners help expand access to sports fields, indoor recreation spaces, trails, natural areas, and specialized facilities that complement what the City provides.

- The **Richland School District** maintains several athletic fields and indoor gymnasiums throughout the city, which support both school and community recreational activities. The City and the Richland School District have an inter-local agreement to share recreational facilities. The City provides use of softball fields at Columbia Playfield and the Horn Rapids Athletic Complex, George Prout Pool and the tennis courts at Howard Amon Park. Additionally, the City provides performance and recital space at the Howard Amon Park's Fingernail stage, the HAPO Community Stage in John Dam Plaza and Richland Community Center. The District provides gymnasium space for the City's youth basketball program.
- **Badger Mountain Centennial Preserve** is managed by Benton County and offers hiking and nature viewing opportunities with expansive trails and panoramic views. The preserve is one of the most visited natural open space areas in the region.
- **YMCA of the Greater Tri-Cities** – provides youth after-school programs, childcare, and summer camps. The YMCA is a major partner in local recreation and uses City facilities such as George Prout Pool during the summer.
- **Private golf and country clubs**, including Meadow Springs Country Club and Horn Rapids Golf Course, offer golf, dining, and social amenities through private membership.
- **Nearby cities such as Kennewick and Pasco** operate their own parks, trails, and recreation programs, which collectively expand the range of public recreation options available to Richland residents throughout the Tri-Cities area. While the **City of West Richland** operates their own parks and outdoor sports complexes but offers no recreation programming or indoor recreation facilities.

Major Recreation Facilities

Richland is home to several significant public recreation facilities that serve as community anchors for learning, gathering, competition, and cultural expression. These sites offer diverse programming and amenities that support a wide range of interests and age groups. In future phases of this planning process, a more detailed analysis of each site's condition, utilization, and future needs will inform recommendations to ensure they continue to meet the evolving needs of Richland's growing population.

Richland Community Center

The Richland Community Center opened in 2001 and includes 21,335 square feet of space for different functions including multipurpose rooms, a kitchen, games room, arts and crafts room, meeting room, wellness room, billiards, fitness room, lounge area, lobby. The Richland Parks and Public Facilities Department has office space in the Community Center. The Community Center is open seven days a week, with varying hours. Several rooms are available for reservation for a fee. Room rentals may be available after hours as well, for an additional fee. Located at Howard Amon Park, the Community Center hosts many of the City's recreation programs and serves as a base for several citywide events.



George Prout Pool

Located within Columbia Playfield, George Prout Pool is a 25-yard, eight-lane public swimming facility and the only public pool in the Tri-Cities. It serves a wide range of users, including the Richland School District for swim practices, YMCA and Skyhawks camps, and the Boys and Girls Club. The pool is in good condition due to recent upgrades, though the last major remodel occurred in the 1980s. An attached building includes locker rooms, a lobby entry, and staff offices with storage; while outdated, it remains functional. The facility also includes a small wading/tot pool. Demand for lap swimming is high, particularly from local triathletes and Ironman participants. The pool offers private evening rentals during the summer, averaging one reservation per week. While functional, the site lacks social space and shade, and the entrance orientation limits its visibility.





City of Richland Library

Library service in Richland began in 1944 through the Hanford Engineer Works Employees' Association, which provided resources to Hanford Project employees. In 1959, the City of Richland assumed responsibility for library operations.

Today, the library operates in a 58,000-square-foot facility that includes two study rooms, two conference rooms, a large gallery, a book sale room, and a two-story lobby used for community art exhibits and displays. The Library is currently in the final stages of planning a new Children's Reading Garden and Outdoor Amphitheater in the northwest corner of the grounds. The Library holds a physical collection of over 167,000 items and offers thousands more titles online. In 2021, total circulation (physical and digital, including renewals) was 709,920. By early 2022, the library served over 46,000 cardholders. The Richland Public Library offers programming for all age groups and consistently ranks among the highest in per capita program engagement among Washington libraries serving populations between 25,001 and 100,000.

Two affiliated nonprofit organizations support the library. The Friends of the Richland Library provides supplemental funding and volunteer support through book sales and donations. The Richland Public Library Foundation raises private funds used solely for the benefit of the library, independent of the city's budget.

REACH Museum

The REACH Museum focuses on interpreting the history of the Manhattan Project and the natural and cultural significance of the Hanford Reach National Monument located just outside the city limits. Exhibits and programming explore the development of the atomic bomb, the experiences of workers at the Hanford Engineering Works, and the ecological importance of the Hanford Reach.

The museum serves as a regional educational resource, offering programs for K–8 students and their families. Educational services include field trips, workshops, outreach to schools, teacher training, and online materials. The REACH also functions as a tourism hub for topics such as the Ice Age Floods, Mid-Columbia River Basin history, and the local natural environment. Annual events include “Screech at the REACH,” which focuses on regional wildlife and environmental education, and Sensory Friendly Nights, which provide a more accessible museum experience.

The REACH is supported by the Reach Foundation, a nonprofit organization that raises funds to support museum operations and programming. The museum offers a membership program with reciprocal access to a wide national network of institutions.



Horn Rapids ORV Park

The site includes the Horn Rapids Motorsports Complex and the Tri-City Kart Club track, along with an area designated for future soccer fields. Despite an unimproved and modest entrance off Twin Bridges Road and SR 240 (Vantage Highway), the park regularly hosts a variety of events. The off-road vehicle park features multiple facilities, including motocross and supercross courses, a sand drag strip, 4-wheel drive relay and obstacle courses, an ATV track, open trails, a mini/pee-wee motocross track, RV camping, four restrooms (two with showers), and two picnic shelters. The park is privately operated under a lease agreement with the City. It also houses two private clubs: the Tri-City Kart Club for go-kart racing and the Tri-City Radio Control Modelers, both of which lease space on-site.

HAPO Community Stage

The HAPO Community Stage, located at John Dam Plaza, opened on April 9, 2016. It was developed as part of the City's long-term master plan to provide an outdoor venue for a range of cultural and entertainment programming. The facility supports events such as the Live @ 5 summer concert series, movies in the park, and performances by both local non-profit choir groups, theatre productions and recitals.

The stage includes 2,350 square feet of performance space and can accommodate up to 2,000 people in its main seating area, with room for an additional 1,000 around the perimeter. Infrastructure includes an acoustical shell, amphitheater-style seating, food and beverage vendor pads, backstage areas, and professional-grade sound and lighting systems. The stage is located one block from the Columbia River and Howard Amon Park.

Columbia Point Golf Course

Columbia Point Golf Course is a city-owned, 18-hole municipal facility in Richland that opened in 1997. The course stretches 6,571 yards and offers a scenic clubhouse equipped with a full-service pro shop, café, covered patio with river views, driving range, and locker rooms. The course hosts events, offers lessons, and provides the opportunity for an annual membership.



Trails

Richland maintains an extensive system of off-street recreational trails, pathways, and bikeways that link neighborhoods, parks, natural open space, and the two rivers. While -on street bike lanes and -shared-use paths exist throughout the city, they are addressed in the Transportation Plan; the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan focuses on -off-street- facilities.

Future analysis will evaluate gaps in the network, potential extensions along the Yakima and Columbia Rivers, and connections to new development areas. Planned City priorities include completing the ridge-to-ridge Badger Mountain connector, improving wayfinding and trailheads, and coordinating with regional partners to enhance the Sacajawea Heritage and Tapteal Greenway systems.

Trail Classes

- **Class I Multi-use Routes:** Paved, 10 to 12-foot- wide- corridors that serve as the arterial spine for walking, running, cycling, and other non-motorized travel. Examples include the 7-mile Riverfront Trail through Howard Amon Park (part of the 23-mile Sacajawea Heritage Trail loop) and the Bypass Shelterbelt Trail.
- **Secondary Trails:** Paved or compacted routes that connect neighborhoods to parks, schools, and commercial areas or complete shorter recreation loops within larger open-space corridors.
- **Soft Trails:** One to five-foot wide native-surface or gravel paths in natural areas such as W.E. Johnson Park, Chamna Natural Preserve, and the hillsides. These minimize environmental disturbance and support hiking, trail running, and equestrian use.
- **Internal Park Paths:** Short loops and connectors entirely within developed park sites that provide circulation to playgrounds, courts, and picnic areas.



Signature Trail Systems and Recreation Opportunities

- **Sacajawea Heritage Trail & Riverfront Trail:** A 23-mile paved loop on both banks of the Columbia River; Richland's segment offers scenic river views, access to multiple waterfront parks, and direct connections to downtown and the Marina.
- **Urban Greenbelt Trail:** A 3.25-mile paved circuit encircling central Richland, offering an easy, flat walking and cycling route with links to residential areas and civic destinations.
- **Badger Mountain Centennial Preserve:** Features a network of steep, unpaved hiking trails with panoramic vistas. The City and Friends of Badger Mountain are planning a new 5.5-mile ridge-top segment to link Little Badger Mountain with Badger Mountain and eventually Candy Mountain, creating a continuous hillside route.
- **Tapteal Greenway and Water Trail:** Along the Yakima River corridor, a 35-mile landside soft-surface trail is mirrored by the nonmotorized Tapteal Water Trail, which offers paddle access at seven formal launch and rest sites between Benton City and Bateman Island.
- **Equestrian Routes:** Approximately nine miles of soft-surface trail in W.E. Johnson Park and adjacent natural areas are open to horseback riding; equestrian access is also permitted in Chamna Natural Preserve, South Columbia Point, Trailhead Park, and select shoreline segments under RMC 9.22.
- **Mountain Biking:** Though no trails are designated specifically for Mountain biking. Cycling is allowed on all City trails, from the gentle riverfront routes to the more rugged hillside and soft-surface networks.
- **Birding and Wildlife Viewing:** Leslie Groves Park, W.E. Johnson Park, Chamna Natural Preserve, and Bateman Island are featured stops on Audubon Washington's Great Washington State Birding Trail (Sun and Sage Loop), offering habitat diversity along both rivers.



Recreation Programs and Services

Richland Parks and Public Facilities provides a broad portfolio of recreation, culture, and wellness programs that foster community identity and elevate quality of life. This section highlights programs and services directly offered by the City of Richland. Residents also benefit from a broader range of recreational, educational, and wellness opportunities provided by schools, nonprofits, regional agencies, and private organizations throughout the community.

City-Provided Programs and Service Areas

City-run programs are anchored at the Richland Community Center and Public Library, with satellite activities in community and neighborhood parks, athletic fields, and along the Columbia River shoreline. Appendix B provides a summary of programming by service area, location and participant demographic. Core categories include:

- **Recreation & Enrichment:** A broad array of programs and experiences that support personal growth, wellness, creativity, and community connection.
- **Youth Development & Enrichment:** Programs that support the learning, growth, and well-being of children and youth through structured and engaging experiences.
- **Community Services & Resources:** Supportive programs and services that strengthen community connections, promote well-being, and enhance access to civic resources.



Managing and Delivering Programs

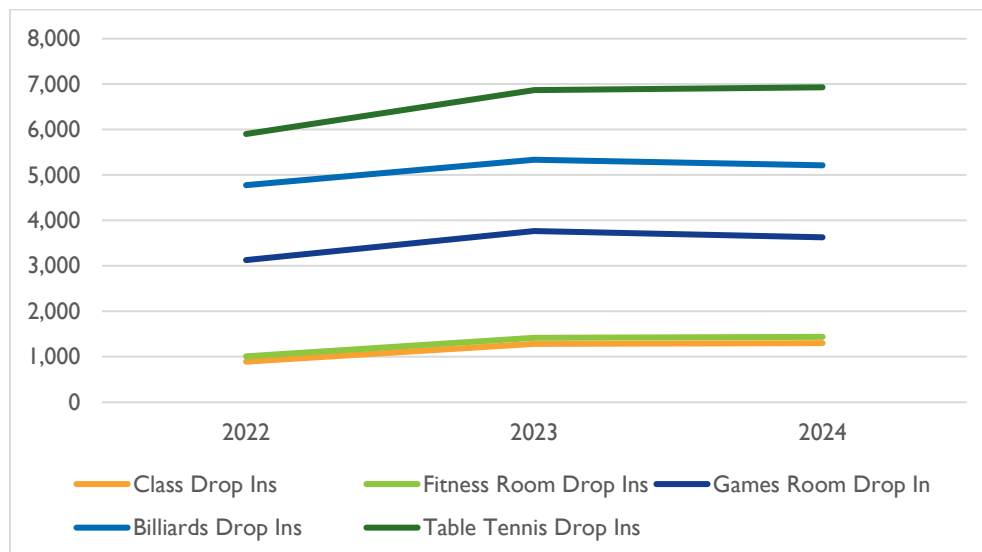
In addition to designing and delivering a diverse range of programs, the City of Richland invests in the systems that support, evaluate, and sustain them:

- **Program Assessment & Review:** Programs are evaluated on participation, net cost and customer satisfaction. Underperforming offerings are reevaluated or retired; successful pilot programs scale up.
- **Cooperative Programming:** Existing City of Richland resources do not allow for the provision of all programs, events, and services that the community desires. As a result, partnerships are sought with private program providers and formed as a way to expand and enhance levels of service. Community partners and contractors are sometimes able to provide a different service or higher level of service than the City based on their business model and existing market share, allowing the City to dedicate valuable resources elsewhere.
- **Marketing & Promotion:** Programs are promoted through the department-produced Richland activity guide (offered in print and PDF versions), online via the City, Library, and REACH Museum websites, targeted e-mail campaigns, social media, signage at facilities, and cross-promotion with community partners.
- **Registration & Enrollment:** Most activities require advance registration via online or in-person at the Community Center. Drop-in options remain for opportunities like lap swim and select fitness classes.
- **Programming Cost:** Richland residents enjoy discounted rates; non-residents pay a modest surcharge. Richland does not currently offer need-based scholarships and fee waivers.

Program Attendance and Facility Utilization

Based on available data from 2022 to 2024 class registrations in the Richland Community Center have risen from 1,770 to 2,416 participants. Drop-in rates over the last three years have increased, accounting for the overall increase in utilization of Community Center programming and recreation services (Figure 8).

FIGURE 8: RICHLAND COMMUNITY CENTER DROP INS (2022-2024)



George Prout Pool use has slightly decreased between 2022 and 2024, going from 9,621 users (swim lesson participants, swim team participants, and daily drop ins) to 6,922 in 2024.

Richland provides some youth sports leagues, with other opportunities for organized league play provided by other organizations in the city. Richland offers youth flag football in the Spring and Fall, as well as volleyball (Spring) and basketball (Winter). Participation rates have increased by 40% from 773 in 2022 to 1,085 in 2024. Part of this increase is Richland beginning to offer volleyball in 2023 as well as spring flag football.

Major Events

Richland's signature summer events such as the Live@5 Concert Series, outdoor movies at Howard Amon Park, Art in the Park, and the Tumbleweed Music Festival draw thousands of residents and visitors to the city's parks each year. These vibrant, family-friendly events activate public spaces, build community spirit, and provide free or low-cost entertainment for all ages.

Events also require significant City resources, from planning and logistics, to setup, staffing, and programming support. However, these events also generate measurable economic benefits, supporting local vendors, attracting tourism, and driving foot traffic to nearby businesses and restaurants.



6. KEY OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES, & NEXT STEPS

In Spring 2025, the MIG consultant team and City staff toured the park system and met with the City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission to understand existing conditions. The following highlights some of the key opportunities and challenges in Richland's system that will be further explored in the next phase, along with an assessment of community recreation needs and park access. As part of this project, the City will also be conducting a more in-depth assessment of park and facility conditions that will be documented in later phases of the process.

Opportunities and Challenges

The City of Richland boasts an exceptional parks and recreation system, offering a diverse mix of park types, recreational opportunities, and community-focused services and programs. However, as the City looks to the future, further planning is needed to address the following key opportunities and challenges:

- Richland has an incredible setting at the confluence of the Yakima and Columbia rivers, with **access to hundreds of acres of natural areas** within the region's distinctive shrub-steppe environment.
- Richland's diverse park system which includes neighborhood parks, large natural areas, and special use sites offers a wide range of opportunities for enhancement, activation, and future investment. However, the **scale and variety of the system also present a challenge: with so many sites and potential projects, the City must carefully balance new investments** to ensure equitable improvements and sustainable growth across the entire system.
- The community has a long **history of dedicated community members and leaders, forward-thinking planning efforts, and partnerships** that have contributed to making a robust and growing parks and recreation system. There are excellent partnerships with the Port of Benton, Benton County, Army Corps of Engineers, as well as user groups, service organizations, and other groups
- Richland also benefits from **great volunteerism and community support for the park system**, including the Park Partnership Program that offers City grant funding for community-initiated projects.
- The **Parks and Public Facilities Department has a well-trained, experienced, and dedicated staff**. Many staff have longer tenures and related experience that's invaluable for the continuation of high-quality parks, facilities, programs, and ongoing relations with community partners.
- Richland is **experiencing significant growth**, notably in Queensgate, Horn Rapids, and South Badger Mountain. While new parks and facilities are being developed in some of these areas, there are also **deferred maintenance needs and aging parks and amenities in older neighborhoods that will need attention** over the next several years.
- **Neighboring Cities of Kennewick, Pasco and West Richland** are experiencing **significant growth as well**. While Kennewick and Pasco offer city-provided Recreation

programming, West Richland does not. Subsequently the residents of **West Richland take advantage of Recreation programming and events** provided through their neighbors, **the closest in proximity being Richland.**

- Richland currently **lacks a comprehensive management plan to care for and manage its natural areas**, which make up the majority of the City's park acreage. These areas are subject to multiple layers of regulation (e.g., the Shoreline Management Program, permitting requirements, and consultation processes) which help protect sensitive environments but also require that any restoration or enhancement efforts be carefully planned and coordinated. Historically, the City partners with various agencies, user groups, and Tribes to manage sensitive shorelines, critical areas, and natural areas.
- The City relies on **agreements with a range of users and partners, but many of these may be out of date or in need of restructuring for present-day conditions** and considerations such as revenue potential.
- While the City programs various parks across the system with recreation classes and events, **programming is largely split between recreation classes and opportunities at the Community Center** at Howard Amon Park and **enrichment and learning classes at the Richland Library.**
- Richland offers **valuable river recreation opportunities, but public aquatic facilities are otherwise limited.** The City's outdoor pool is the only public pool in Richland, and there is currently one splashpad. The wading pool at Howard Amon Park is well-utilized but also aging, highlighting the need to evaluate future aquatic infrastructure and water play options which often require significant investment and maintenance.
- Richland has **popular year-round and annual events that draw thousands of local and non-local visitors and contribute to the local economy.** However, nearly **all events typically require extensive staff and budget resources** for planning, organization, and management.
- Nearly all of Richland's Columbia River frontage has a continuous trail connection, but **some areas of the city have steep topography or busy streets** such as George Washington Way that serve as a barrier to connecting to other neighborhoods. There is also potential for a consistent signage and wayfinding system.
- As a park system within a sunny and dry climate, **some parks and facilities lack shade or substantial tree canopy.** Some developed parks also have **water intensive landscapes and lack drought tolerant or native vegetation.**
- Several external challenges, though outside of the City's direct control, will increasingly impact parks and recreation planning. Anticipated increases in extreme heat days and periods of drought, driven by climate change, **will place added stress on park landscapes, irrigation needs, and user comfort.** At the same time, **rising costs for construction, staffing, and materials make it more difficult to maintain existing facilities and develop new ones,** requiring the City to plan carefully and prioritize investments.

- Many parks, especially **riverfront parks that receive greater use, have extensive maintenance needs**. The Department also provides street maintenance and maintenance of stormwater retention ponds and some other city department facilities. **For certain types of maintenance, such as street maintenance, the City's cost allocation is not keeping up with maintenance needs.**

Next Steps

The information provided in this document provides a foundation for future phases of the PROS Plan's development. Phase 2 of the planning process includes community outreach and a technical analysis to identify community needs for parks, facilities, trails, and recreation programs. Next steps include the following, which will inform the development of recommendations and action planning in Phase 3 of this planning effort.

- Development and distribution of a bilingual **community survey** to evaluate community needs and public perceptions about parks, facilities, trails, and recreation programs.
- A series of **community interviews** with local organizations, partners, and groups to develop a deeper understanding of system needs and opportunities.
- Preparation of a **needs analysis** that includes a geographically based access analysis and an evaluation of evolving trends to create a comprehensive analysis of needs, gaps, and opportunities for parks, facilities, trails, and recreation programs.
- A **staff workshop** to review preliminary outreach findings and to identify specific issues and opportunities related to system operations, maintenance, and organizational needs.
- Meetings with the **City Council** and **Parks and Recreation Commission** to review preliminary outreach and technical findings.

Appendix A. City of Richland Parks and Facility Inventory

Revised 8/20/2025

				Parking		Sports & Athletics							Outdoor Recreation					Major / Specialized					Water & Aquatics							Park Amenities											Notes/Other								
Park Name	Owned By	Maintained By	Total Acres	Total Off-Street Parking #	On-Street Parking Availability	Baseball Field	Soccer / Football / Lacrosse Field	Golf Course	Basketball Court	Sand Volleyball Court	Outdoor Fitness Equipment	Pickleball Court	Tennis Court	Dog Park	Walking Trail	Community Garden	Playground	Toddler Swing	Youth Swing	Community Center	Concession Stand	Vendor Pad	Amphitheater / Stage	Skatepark	BMX Track	Dock	Boat Launch	Outdoor Swimming Pool	Wading Pool	Splash Pad / Spray Ground	Swimming Beach	Water Entry Point	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Tables	Benches / Seating	Barbeque Grills	Shade Structure	Art	Drinking Water Fountain	Garbage / Recycling Cans		Pet Waste Station	Storage or Equipment Shed	Restroom (temporary)	Restroom (permanent)				
Regional Parks																																																	
Howard Amon Park	COR/USACE	COR	38.9	234					1		1		4		1		3	4	8	1	1	2	1			2	1		1		1	1	3	12	20	3			3	25	1			2	USACE Lease of a portion of this park. Includes the Richland Community Center				
Leslie Groves Park (developed portion)	COR/USACE	COR	38.5	192		1	2		1	1			2		1		1									2	1				1	1	5	12	14	4			4	15	2			3	USACE Lease of a portion of this park, portion of park is Natural Open Space				
Regional Parks Subtotal			77.4	426	-	1	2	0	2	1	1	0	6	0	2	0	4	4	8	1	1	2	1	0	0	4	2	0	1	0	2	2	8	24	34	7	0	0	7	40	3	0	0	5					
Community Parks																																																	
Badger Mountain Park (developed portion)	COR	COR	38.8	313	Y	4	6		1					1	1		1				1	1								1			4	1	9	2			2	8	3			1	Portion of park is Natural Open Space				
Claybell Park Community Park (developed portion)	COR	COR	20.0	85		2	4		1			6	4		1		2	2	2															1	8			3	8	4		2	1	Portion of park is Natural Open Space					
Hanford Legacy Park (developed portion)	COR	Babe Ruth Little League	21.0	Gravel lot		4																																				1	Portion of park is Natural Open Space						
Trailhead Park (developed portion)	COR	COR	2.7	55													1	2	2															1	3			1	4			1	Portion of park is Natural Open Space						
West Village Community Park (developed portion)	COR	COR	6.0						1						1																								1	4	3			1	Portion of park is Undeveloped				
Community Parks Subtotal			88.5	453	-	10	10	0	3	0	0	6	4	1	3	0	4	4	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	3	20	2	0	0	7	24	10	0	2	5				
Neighborhood Parks																																																	
Barth Park	COR	COR	0.4		Y				1								1	2	2															1					1										
Beverly Heights Park	COR	COR	2.7		Y	1											1	2	4															1	1			1											
Brookstone Park	COR	COR	2.4		Y				1						1		1																	2						1									
Chaparral Park	COR	COR	2.3		Y				1								1	2	4																							1							
Craighill Park	COR	COR	3.4	21	Y	1	2		1								1	2	2																	2			1										
Crested Hills Park	COR	COR	5.8		Y		2		1						1		1	2	2														1								3			1					
Desert Rim Park	COR	COR	2.8		Y		1								1		1	2	2																	2					2								
Drollinger Park	COR	COR	1.6		Y				1																									1	2						1								
Frankfort Park	COR	COR	3.5		Y	1	1		1								1	2	2																1						1								
Gala Park	COR	COR	3.0		Y												1																									1							
Goethals Park (developed portion)	COR	COR	4.1	6		1	1										1	2	2															1	1					1		1			Portion of park is a Linear Park				
Heritage Hills Park	COR	COR	0.9		Y																																												
Hills West Park	COR	COR	2.1		Y		1										1	2	2																1							2							
Jason Lee Park	COR	COR	4.1		Y	1	1										1	2	2																1	2				2									
Jefferson Park	COR	COR	9.1	70		2	1										1	2	4																1	4			1			1							
Lynnwood Loop Park	COR	COR	10.8	28		1	1		1								1	2	2																1	3			1				1						
McMurray Park	COR	COR	2.9	8					1						1		1																	1	1	3					4								
Meadows East Park	COR	COR	3.0		Y		1										1	2	2																1							1							
Oak Park	COR	COR	2.7		Y												1	2	2																			5	1		1								
Overlook Park	COR	COR	0.9		Y				1								1	4	4																1	2						2							
Paul Liddell Park	COR	COR	3.3		Y										1		1	2	2																1	2						1							
Rodney Block Park	COR	COR	3.1	25		1	1		1								1	2	4																1				1										
Stevens Park	COR	COR	1.4	26		1			1								1																			1										1			
The Greater Years Park	BLM		2.0																																														
Westwood Park	COR	COR	1.0		Y																													1	1														
Wye Neighborhood Park (developed portion)	COR	COR	3.1	14					1								1	2	2															1	1				1										
Neighborhood Parks Subtotal			82.4	198	-	10	13	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	22	38	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	19	23	0	0	5	10	0	27	0	3	2				
Special Use Areas																																																	
Bradley Boulevard Park	COR	COR	1.0	25																																													
Carol Woodruff Plaza	COR	COR	0.1																																														

APPENDIX B: RECREATION PROGRAM SERVICE AREA SUMMARY

The following table provides an overview of the City of Richland’s recreation and community service programs, organized by service area. Each category includes representative program examples, typical locations where programs are offered, and the primary age groups served. This summary reflects only City-operated offerings; additional opportunities are available through schools, nonprofits, and other community partners.

TABLE B1: RECREATION PROGRAM SERVICE AREA SUMMARY

City of Richland Program Service Area	Program Examples	Location			Targeted Participants					
		City Park	Other City-Owned Site	Private Park or Facility	Preschool or Younger	Youth	Teens	Adults	Older Adults	Families / Multi-Generational
Recreation & Enrichment										
Aquatics: Recreational swim, lessons, lifeguard training, aquatics safety programs, open swim	Open swim session, George Prout Swim Team, swimming lessons, water safety program, summer, lifeguard certification class	X				X	X	X		X
Arts & Culture: Fine, cultural, or performing arts classes, activities, and events	Craft and DIY nights, dance classes, music classes, textile and fabric classes		X			X	X	X	X	X
Enrichment & Learning: Classes for continued learning, personal enrichment, and skill-building	STEAM programs, online language learning resources through the Library, lecture series, build-it classes		X			X	X	X	X	X
Health & Wellness: Movement and fitness classes, social gathering, mental health and recovery programs	Therapy dogs at the Library, Heart Safe Richland events, Chair Pilates and Balance classes, yoga and meditation classes, self-care for teens adults		X			X	X	X	X	X
Sports & Fitness: Organized athletic leagues, sports or fitness classes, camps, and specialized recreation activities	Youth basketball, volleyball, and flag football leagues, martial arts classes, 3 on 3 Basketball tournament, golf, table tennis	X	X			X	X	X	X	
History Interpretive Programs: Museum exhibits and tours, oral history and talks, and	Richland Walks (Wartime Houses, Mid-Century Modern Architecture, History through the Houses walking tours),	X				X	X	X	X	X

City of Richland Program Service Area	Program Examples	Location			Targeted Participants					
		City Park	Other City-Owned Site	Private Park or Facility	Preschool or Younger	Youth	Teens	Adults	Older Adults	Families / Multi-Generational
walking tours	REACH Museum exhibits, greenbelt trail walks									
Outdoor and Nature Programming: Outdoor recreation, environmental education, and nature-based experiences	Community gardens, Junior Ranger Park Explorers, Ride with a Ranger, 52 in '25 Park Tours, nature journaling	X				X	X	X	X	X
Special Events: Festivals and fairs, holiday events, movie nights, concerts in the park, and other annual or one-time events	Art in the Park Festival, Cool Desert Nights, Tumbleweed Music Festival, outdoor movie series, Live @5	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Drop In, Pop-Up, or Open Play: Regular or one-time opportunities to participate in recreation activities	Pop-up Play Days, Open Play Volleyball	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Virtual Programs: Guides, tutorials, games, and activities that can be performed at home through online platforms	Richland Public Library digital resources, Virtual Recreation Center		X			X	X	X	X	
Youth Development & Enrichment										
Academic Enrichment and Expanded Learning: Youth programs provided for academic enrichment	STEAM Play, STEAM kids, story times, field trips at the REACH Museum		X		X	X	X			
Early Learning: Development and enrichment programs tailored to toddlers and preschool-aged children	Time for Tots, baby and toddler story times		X		X					
Out-of-School Programs: Camps, before and after school programs, summer, and school break programs	Boredom Busters at the REACH Museum	X	X			X				
Youth Workforce Development: Student projects, coaching, job skills										

City of Richland Program Service Area	Program Examples	Location			Targeted Participants					
		City Park	Other City-Owned Site	Private Park or Facility	Preschool or Younger	Youth	Teens	Adults	Older Adults	Families / Multi-Generational
resources, work readiness training, and work-based learning										
Community Services & Resources										
Adopt-a-Park / Park Cleanups: One-day or short-term stewardship activities led by volunteers to improve parks, trails, and natural areas.	Litter pick-ups	X					X	X	X	
Volunteerism: Activities, events, and programs that give individuals or groups the opportunity to give back to their community.	Youth flag football and youth basketball coaching, teach a class or activity opportunities	X						X	X	
Emergency Response & Sheltering Support: Buildings activating as warming and cooling centers.	Cooling centers at the Library and Community Center during extreme heat days	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Facility & Field Rentals: Scheduling and reservations for major facilities or park amenities for one-time and long-term community use	Pool rentals, Community Center rooms, and shelter, picnic, and sports fields rentals	X	X					X	X	X
Health/Wellbeing Information & Connections: Healthy living programs, health resources and referrals, lifestyle classes	Digital resources offered through the Library							X	X	X
Older Adults Services: Support programs, enrichment activities, and services for older adults	Library game nights		X						X	X
Outreach & Community Information: Newsletters, neighborhood information and outreach programs for City activities	Learn/Play/Live recreation guides, recreation class registration website							X	X	



City of Richland Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan

Online Community Survey Summary

Survey Period: August 11, 2025 - August 29, 2025



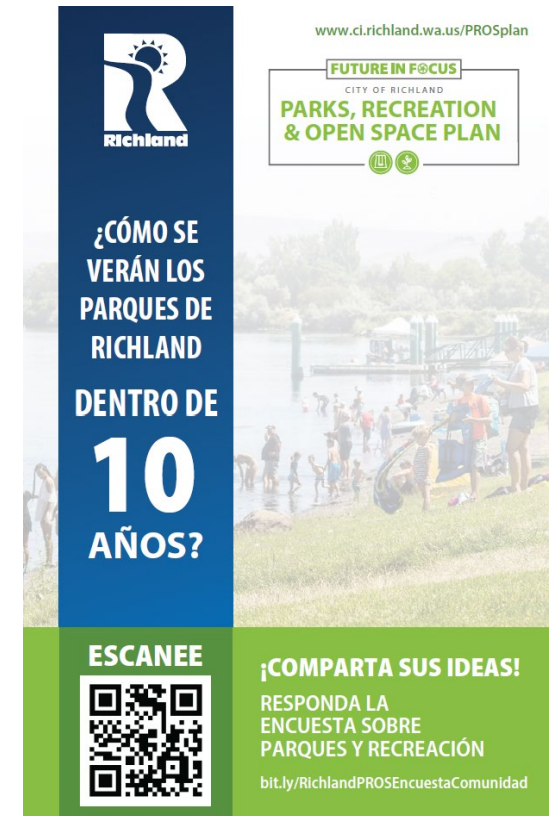
Survey Form & Purpose

- Available online from August 11th to August 29th 2025
- Included 17 questions with an additional six demographic questions (all questions, including demographic ones, were optional)
- Questions focused on:
 - How the Richland community uses parks
 - What new amenities or programs are desired
 - Which improvements are most important to shape future investments

Survey Promotion

The survey was shared with the community through several methods in both English and Spanish including:

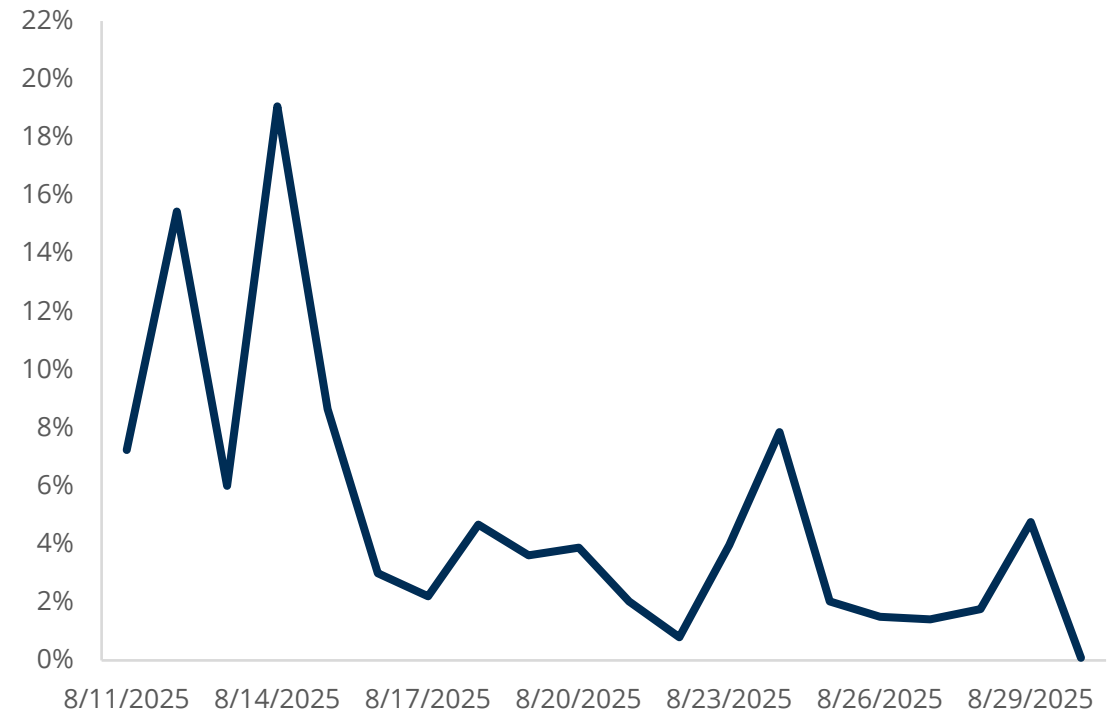
- A press release
- Radio and TV interviews
- Multiple posts across City social media channels
- In-person staff outreach at events
- Printed postcards and flyers
- Promoted on reader boards in public facilities
- Notifications to City subscriber lists, organization contacts, focus group participants, and others!



Responses

- 1,159 total “visitors” or people who clicked into or opened the survey
- Of that number, 818 fully completed survey responses (71% completion rate)
- MIG completed a data quality check to confirm that individual respondents are not duplicative and not automatically generated (bots)

SURVEY RESPONSE RATE OVER TIME AUGUST 11 – 29, 2025



Survey Summary

- Responses are summarized in graphs or charts with the survey question
- For some slides, differences in responses based on certain demographic questions are shown (e.g., those who indicated they had children in their household versus those that said they did not)
 - For these questions, the respondents shown answered both the main survey question and provided a response to the demographic question (e.g., they answered what improvements they would like to see in parks and where they lived)
- For questions with an open-ended response option, responses have been categorized by topic / message
- Raw data tables and complete open-ended responses are included as an attachment

Who Responded?

Frequent Park Users

34% said they visited a park daily or almost daily and 34% said about once a week.

Residents

84% of respondents said they were Richland residents. 38% said they lived in South Richland while 37% lived in North Richland and 25% in Central Richland.

Varied Ages

Respondents were largely split between the ages of 25 and 65 and over. The 35-44 and 65+ age groups had the largest share of responses across age groups (28% and 26%).

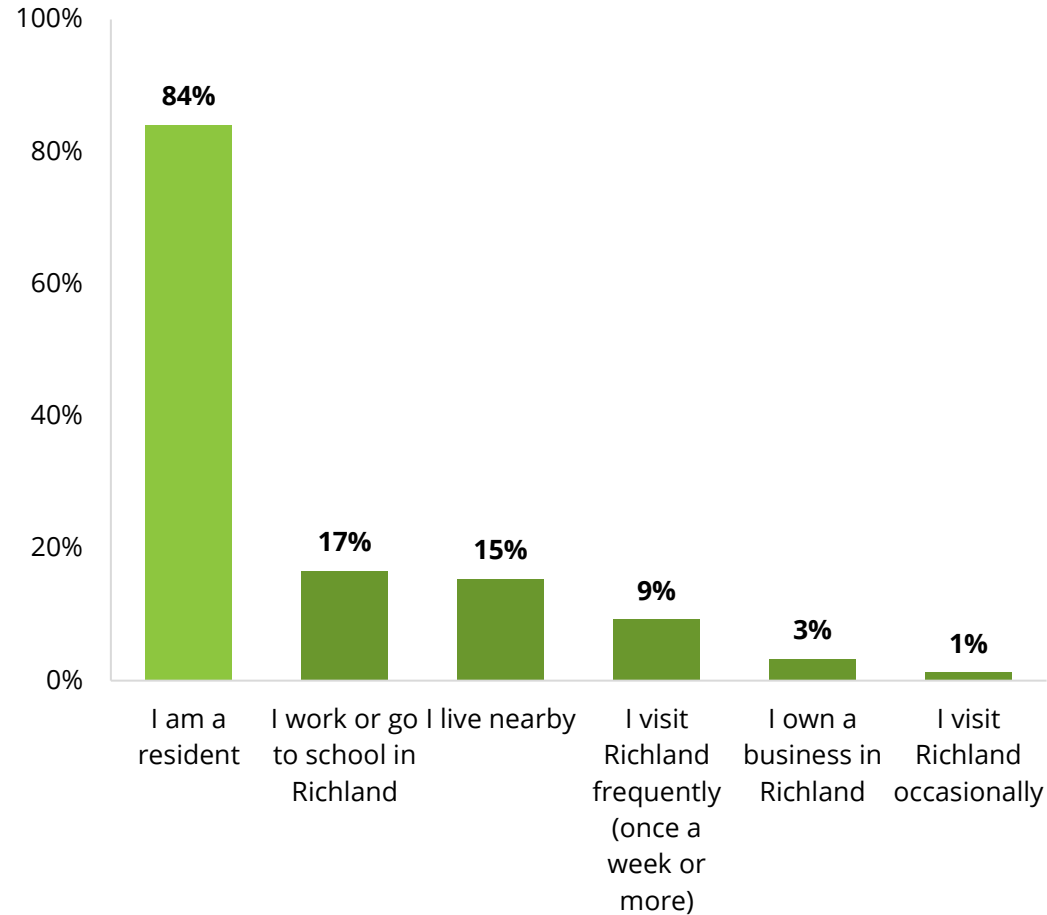
Evenly Split Households

44% of respondents did not have children under 18 living with them while 45% said they did.



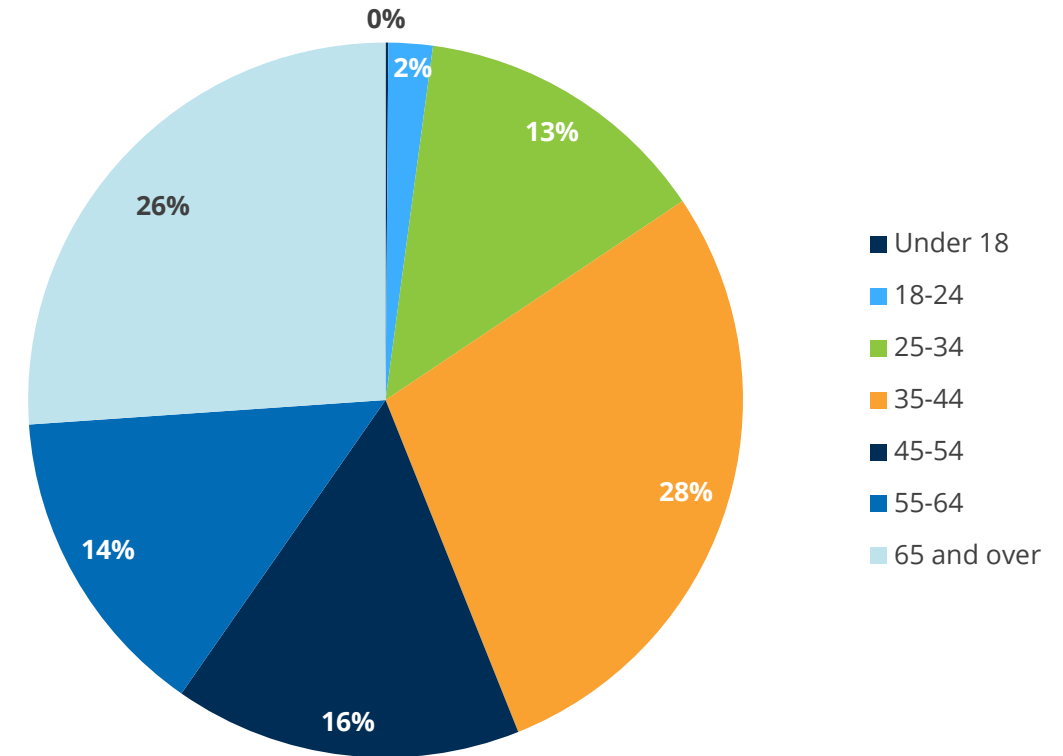
1,159 Total Respondents in
~3 weeks

What is your relationship to Richland? *(Choose all that apply)*



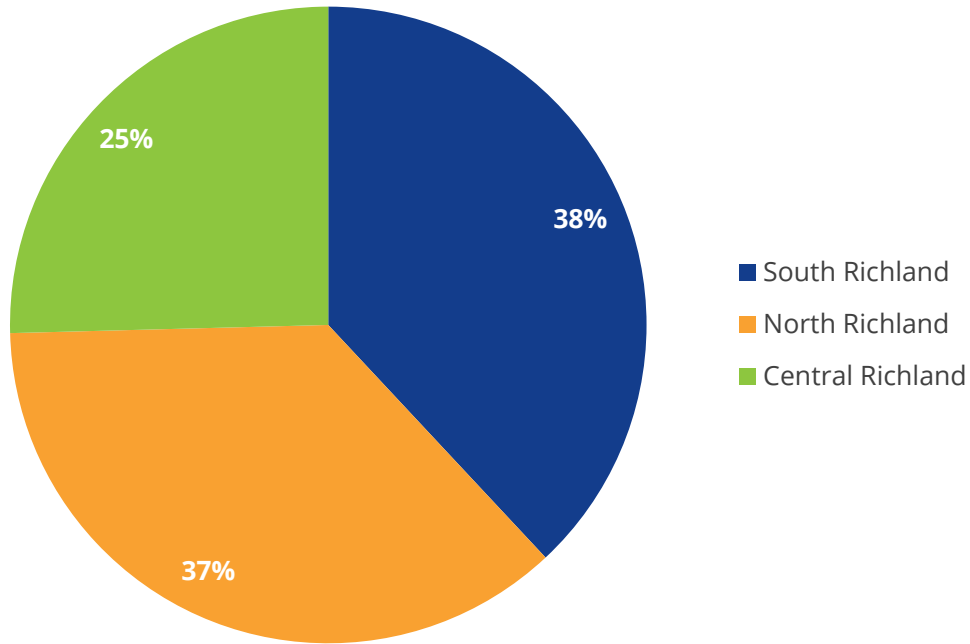
Respondents to this question; n = 812

What is your age?



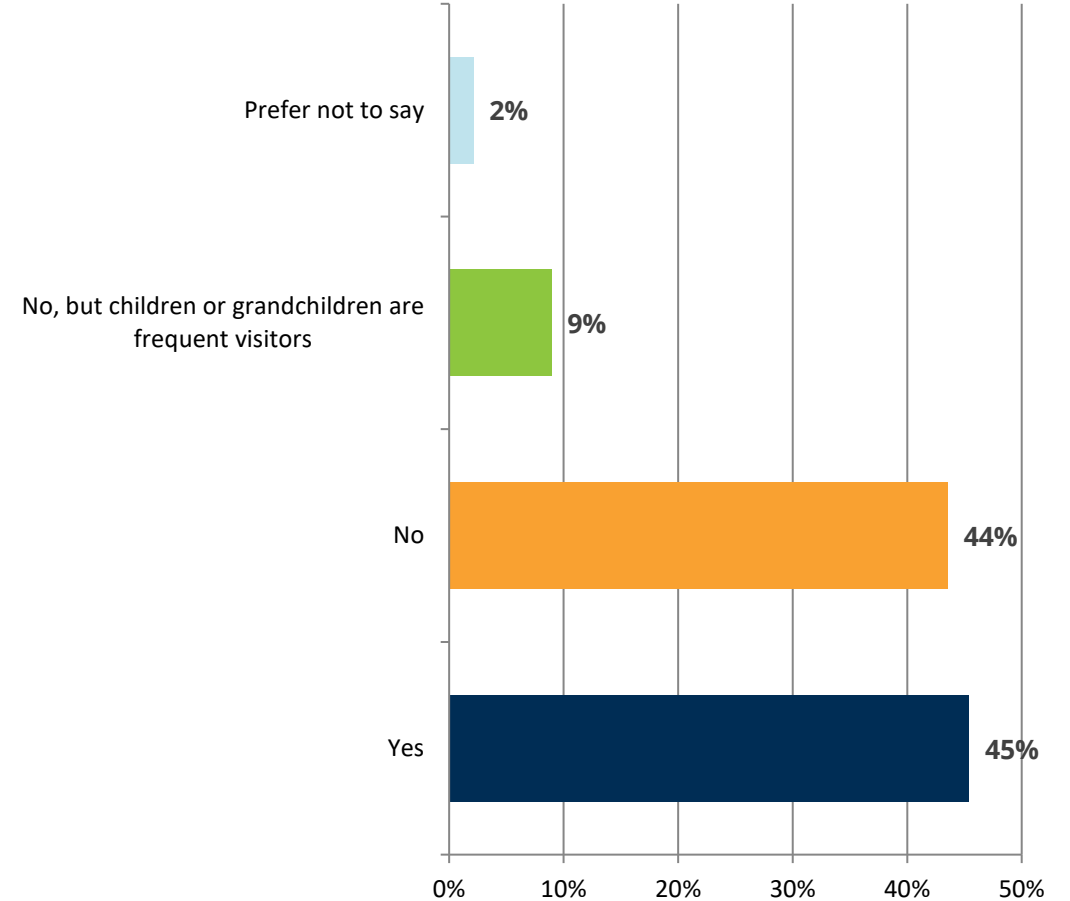
Respondents to this question; n = 801

What part of Richland do you live in?



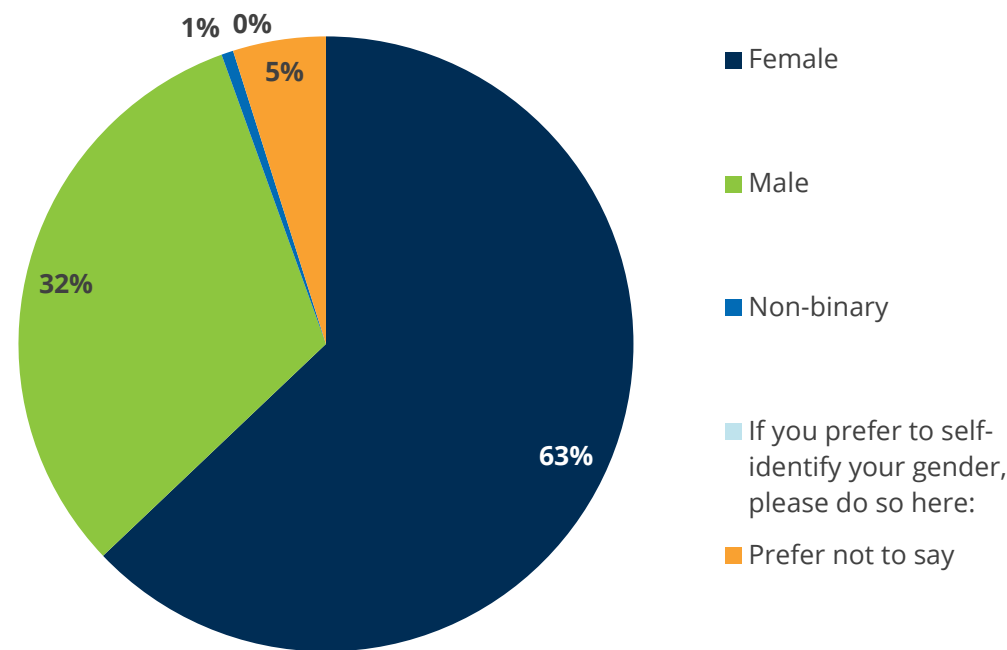
Respondents to this question; n = 673

Do you have children under the age of 18 living in your household? *(Choose one)*



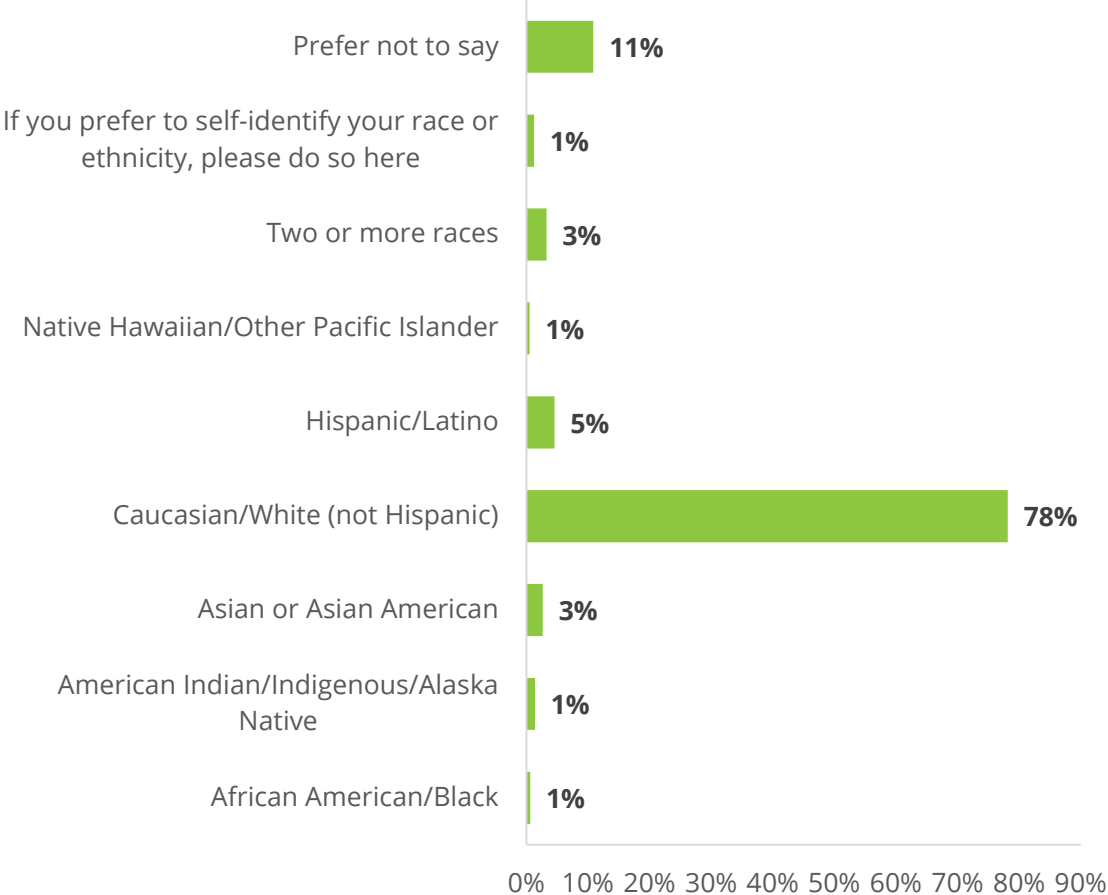
Respondents to this question; n = 806

How do you identify your gender? *(Choose one)*



Respondents to this question; n = 798

How do you identify yourself? *(Choose all that apply)*



Respondents to this question; n = 791

Values

Quality Parks

76% of respondents said the city should be known for high quality and well-maintained parks

Natural Beauty

After quality parks, respondents thought Richland should be known for natural areas and riverfronts (58%)

Access to the Outdoors and Nature

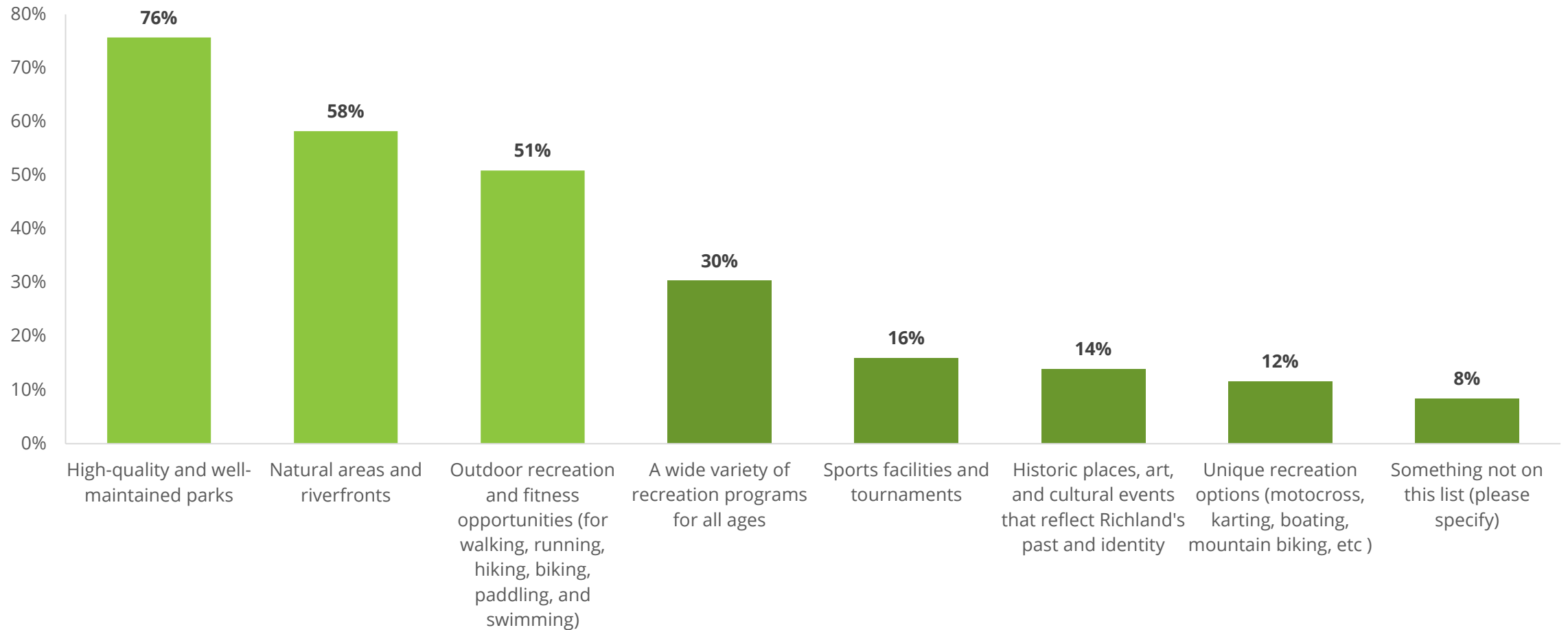
When asked what their top reason for visiting a park was 57% of respondents said being surrounded by trees, plants, and wildlife

Exercise and Activity

Across both questions, respondents participate in and value outdoor activities and exercise

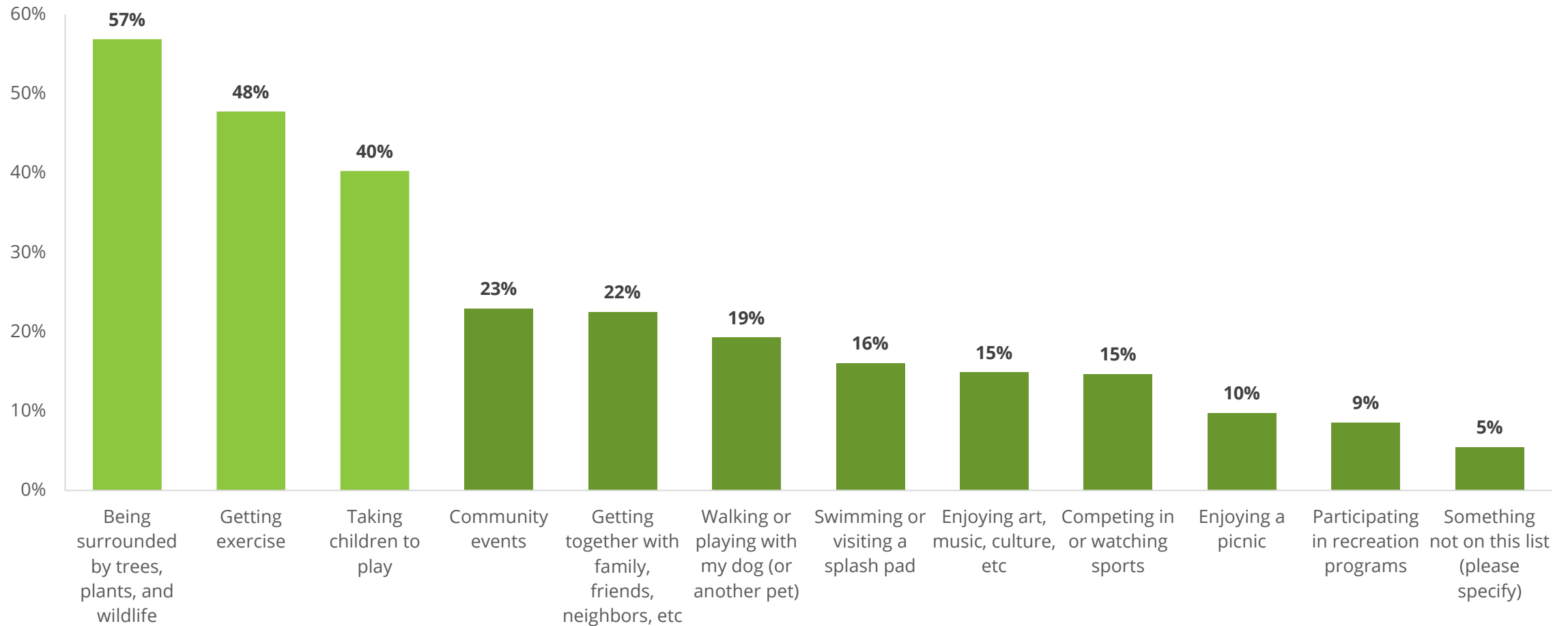


What do you think Richland should be known for when it comes to parks, recreation, and open spaces? *(Choose up to three)*



Respondents to this question; n = 939

What are your top reasons for visiting a park, recreation facility, or other open spaces/trails? *(Choose up to three)*



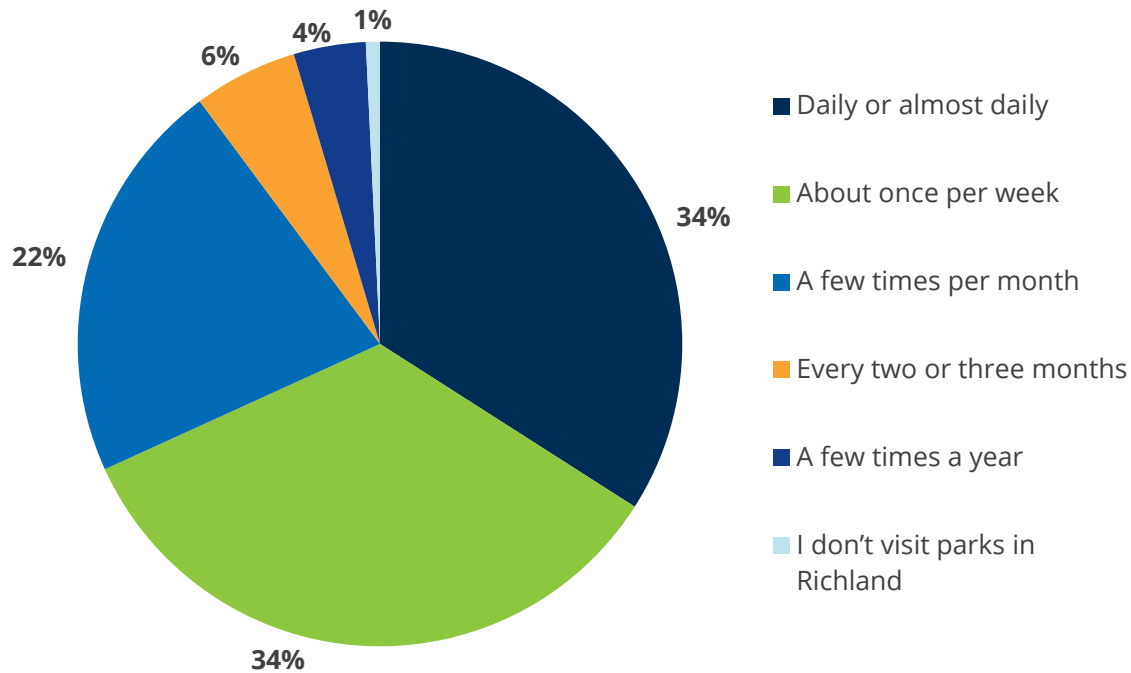
Respondents to this question; n = 934

Differences in Reasons to Visit

Do Responses Differ Based On Whether People Have Children in Their Household?

- **Getting Exercise:** Of respondents who indicated they had children under 18 living with them, or children were frequent visitors, only 34% said getting exercise was a reason to visit a park compared to 67% without children
- **Being Surrounded by Trees, Plants, and Wildlife:** Of respondents who indicated they had children under 18 living with them, or children were frequent visitors, 47% said being surrounded by trees, plants, and wildlife was a reason to visit a park versus 71% without children
- Those who said they had children under 18 living with them were more likely to respond taking children to play, competing in or watching sports, swimming or visiting a splashpad, and getting together with family, friends, and neighbors as reasons to visit a park compared to those without children living with them
- Those who said they did not have children under 18 living with them were more likely to respond community events or walking or playing with their dogs as reasons to visit a park compared to those with children living with them

How often do you visit parks in Richland? *(Choose one)*

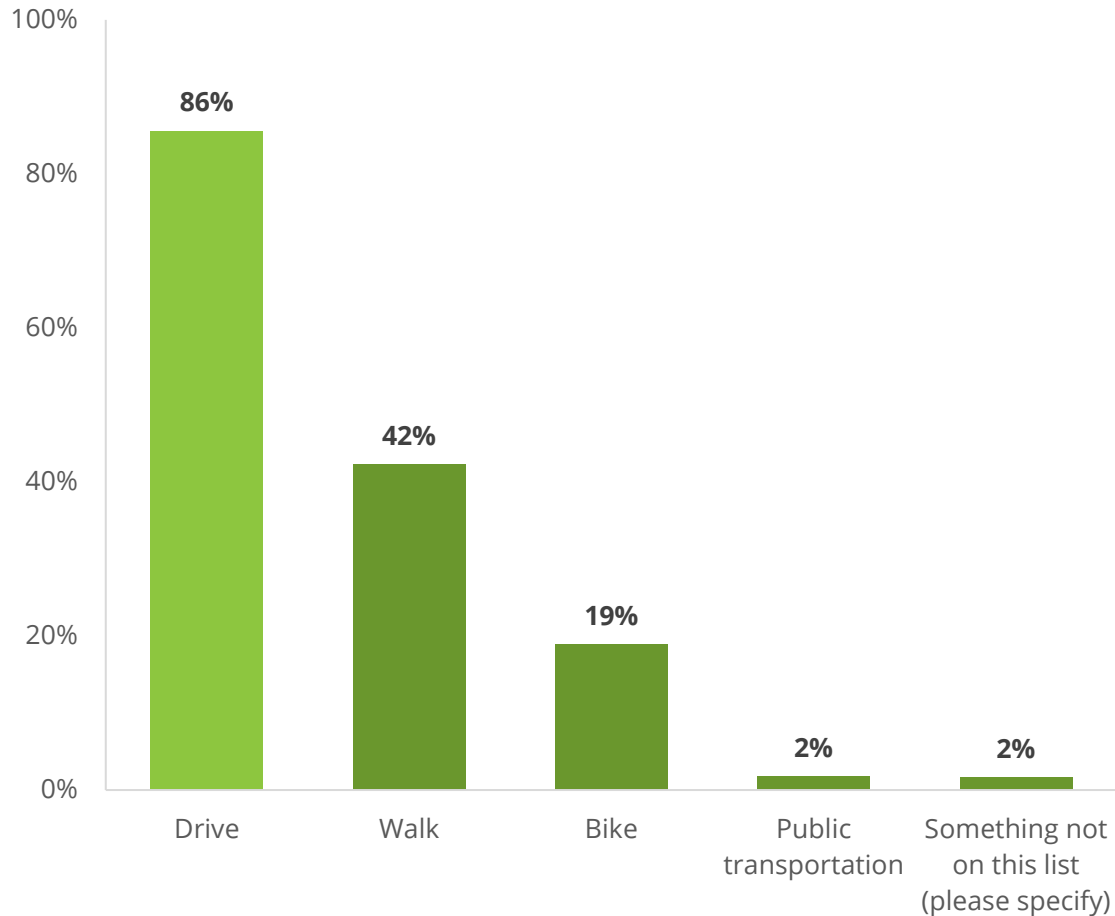


Respondents to this question; n = 934

Do Responses Differ Based On Where People Live?

- **Daily or Almost Daily Visitors:** Of respondents who indicated they live in North Richland, 44% visit a park daily or almost daily compared to 32% in South Richland and 37% in Central Richland
- **Once a Week Visitors:** Of respondents who indicated they live in Central Richland, 41% visit a park about once a week versus 33% in South Richland and 29% in North Richland
- **A Few Times a Month Visitors:** Of respondents who indicated they live in South Richland, 26% said they visit a park a few times a month compared to 16% in North Richland and 17% in Central Richland
- Lower rates of park use (ranging from a few times per month to never visiting parks) were consistent across Richland

How do you typically get to parks, recreation facilities, or open spaces in Richland? *(Choose your top two most frequent methods for getting to a park)*

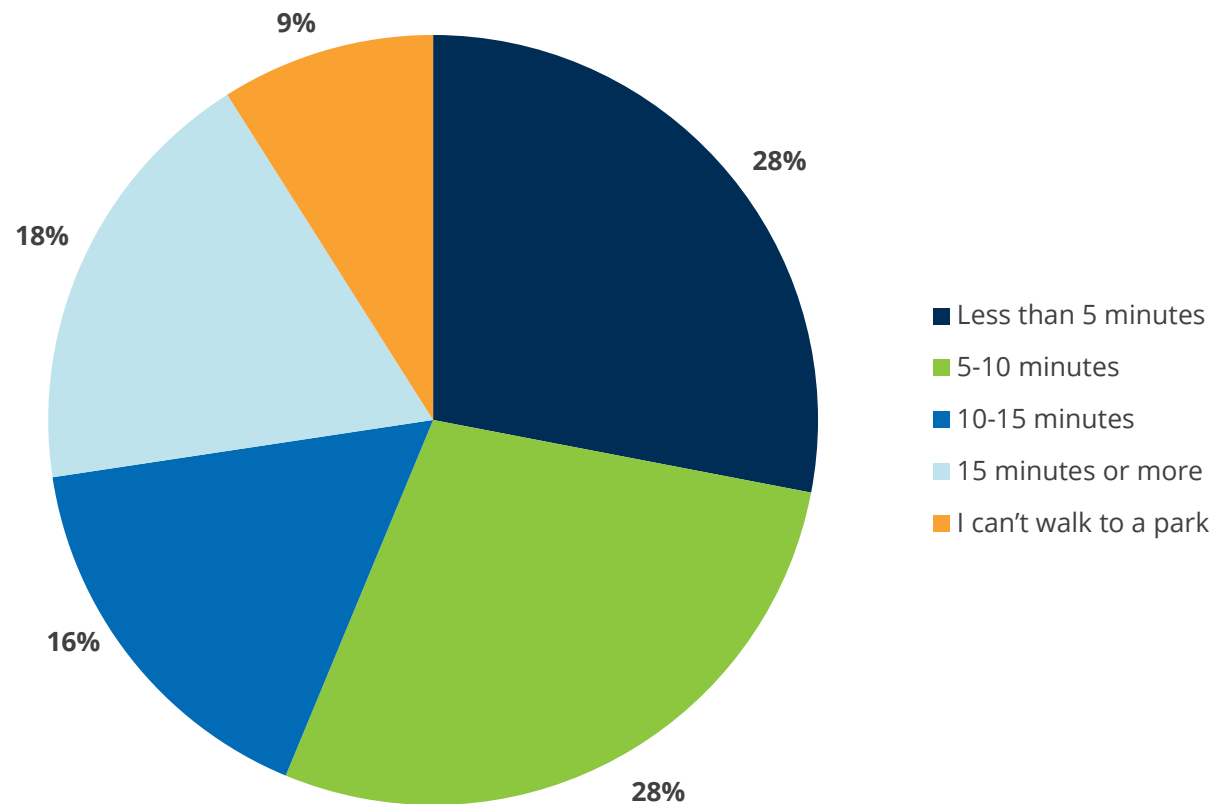


Respondents to this question; n = 933

Do Responses Differ Based On Where People Live or Whether They Have Children?

- Of those who told us they were from South Richland and how they got to parks, 96% percent of respondents said they drive, compared to walking (39%) or biking (11%)
- Rates of driving to parks were slightly lower for North Richland and Central Richland residents (72% and 81%) while rates of walking (57% and 53%) and biking (28% and 24%) were higher
- Of those who told us they drive to parks, 91% had children under the age of 18 living with them or had children as frequent visitors, slightly higher than those who said they did not have children and drove (78%)
- Rates of walking to parks were similar between households with children versus those without

If you were to walk to your nearest park, how long would it take you?

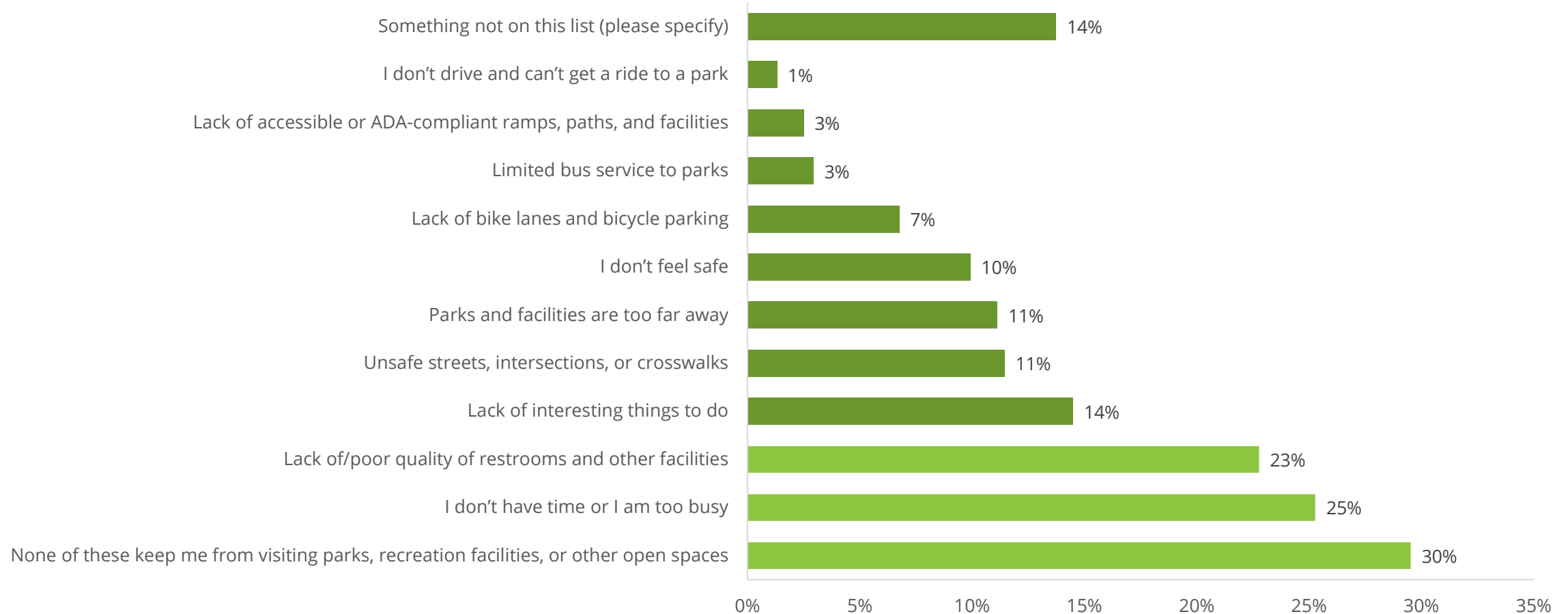


Respondents to this question; n = 935

Do Responses Differ Based On Where People Live?

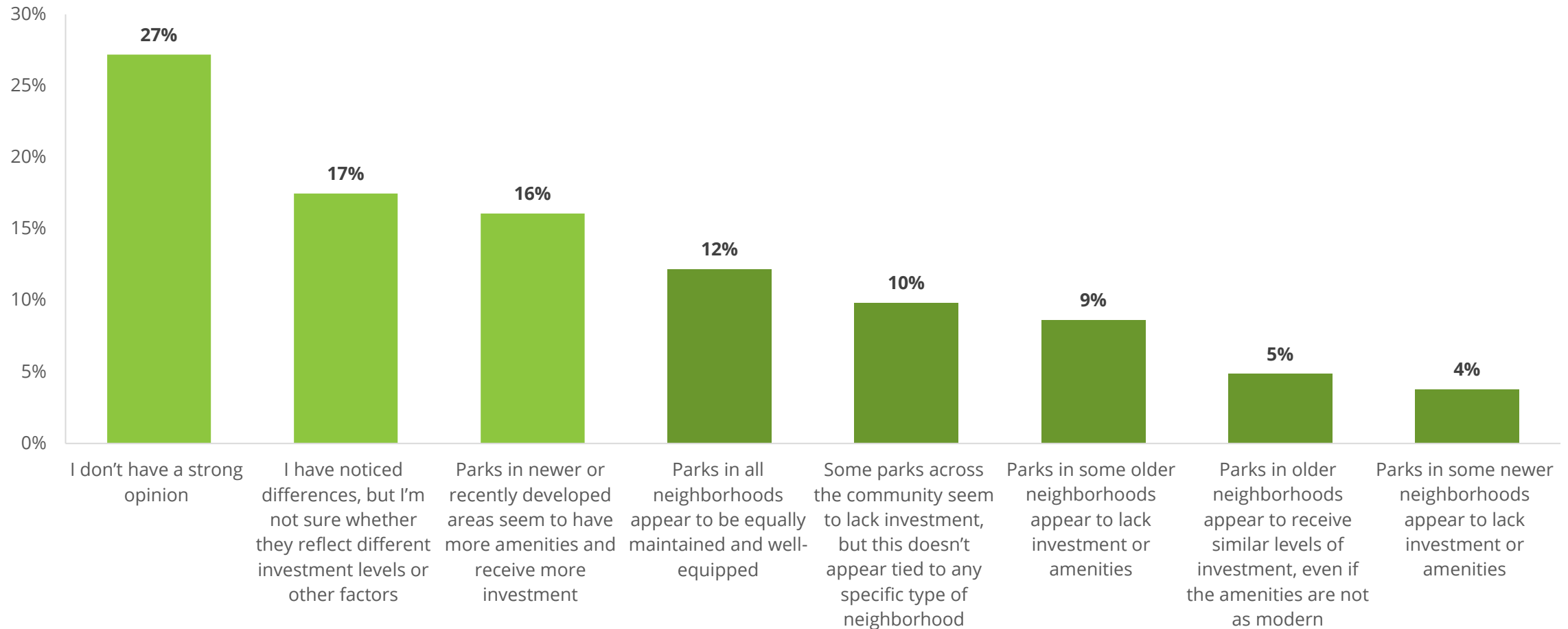
- **Less than 5 Minutes:** Of respondents who said they lived in South Richland 25% said they could walk to a park in less than 5 minutes compared to 32% in North Richland and 40% in Central Richland
- **15 Minutes or More:** Of respondents who said they lived in South Richland, 20% said they could walk to a park in 15 minutes or more compared to 14% in North Richland and 12% in South Richland
- **Between 5-15 Minutes:** Percentages were similar across areas of Richland for those who said it would take them 5 to 15 minutes to walk to a park

What prevents you from visiting parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces in Richland more frequently? *(Choose all that apply)*



Respondents to this question; n = 918

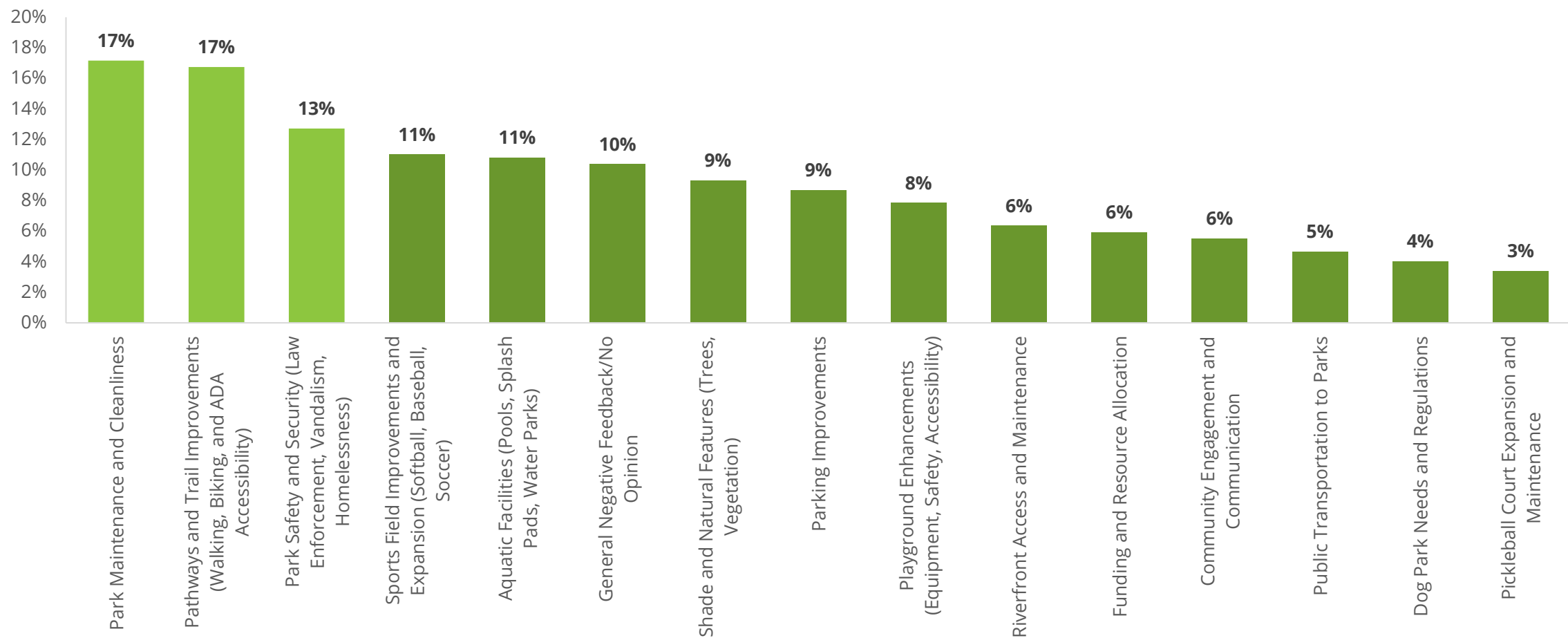
How would you describe the distribution of amenities and investments in parks across different neighborhoods? *(Select the option that best reflects your perception)*



Respondents to this question; n = 927

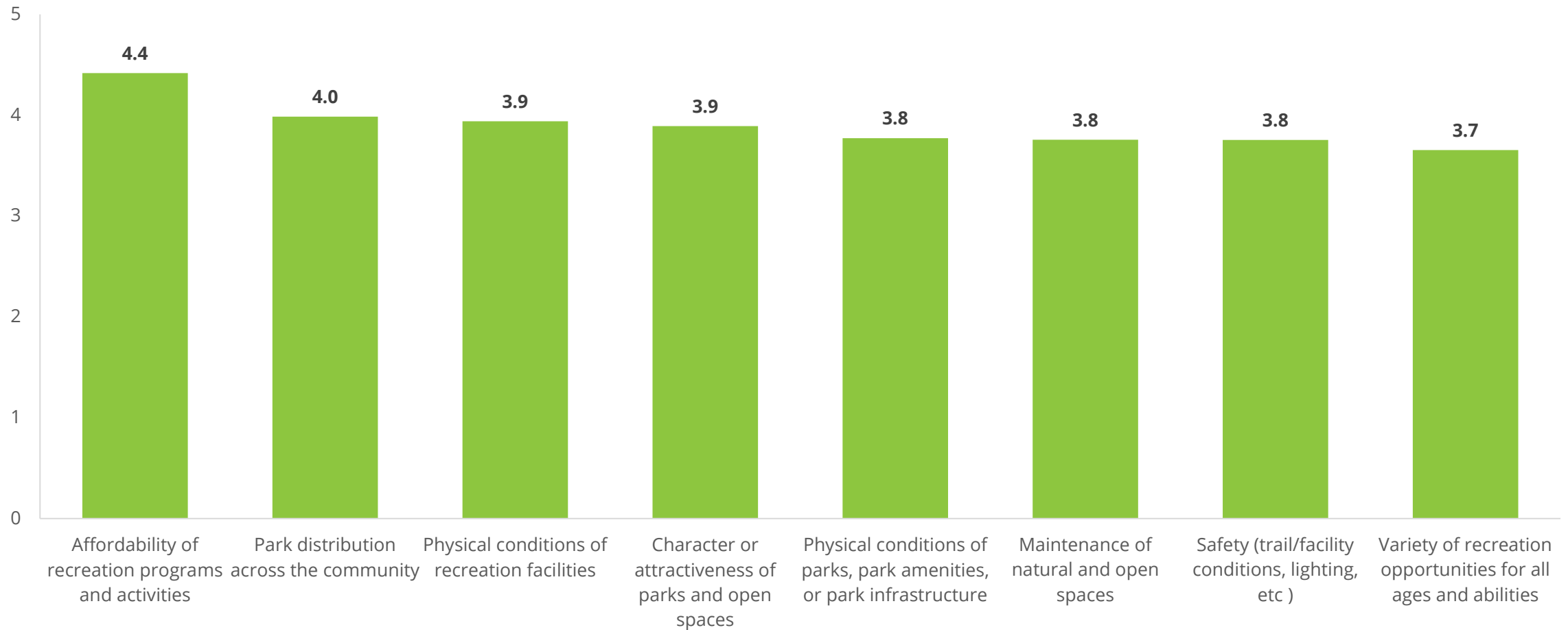
Do you have any ideas or thoughts on how the City can better support access to parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces?

**Note that these are open-ended responses that have been categorized*



Average rating of parks and recreation amenities in Richland

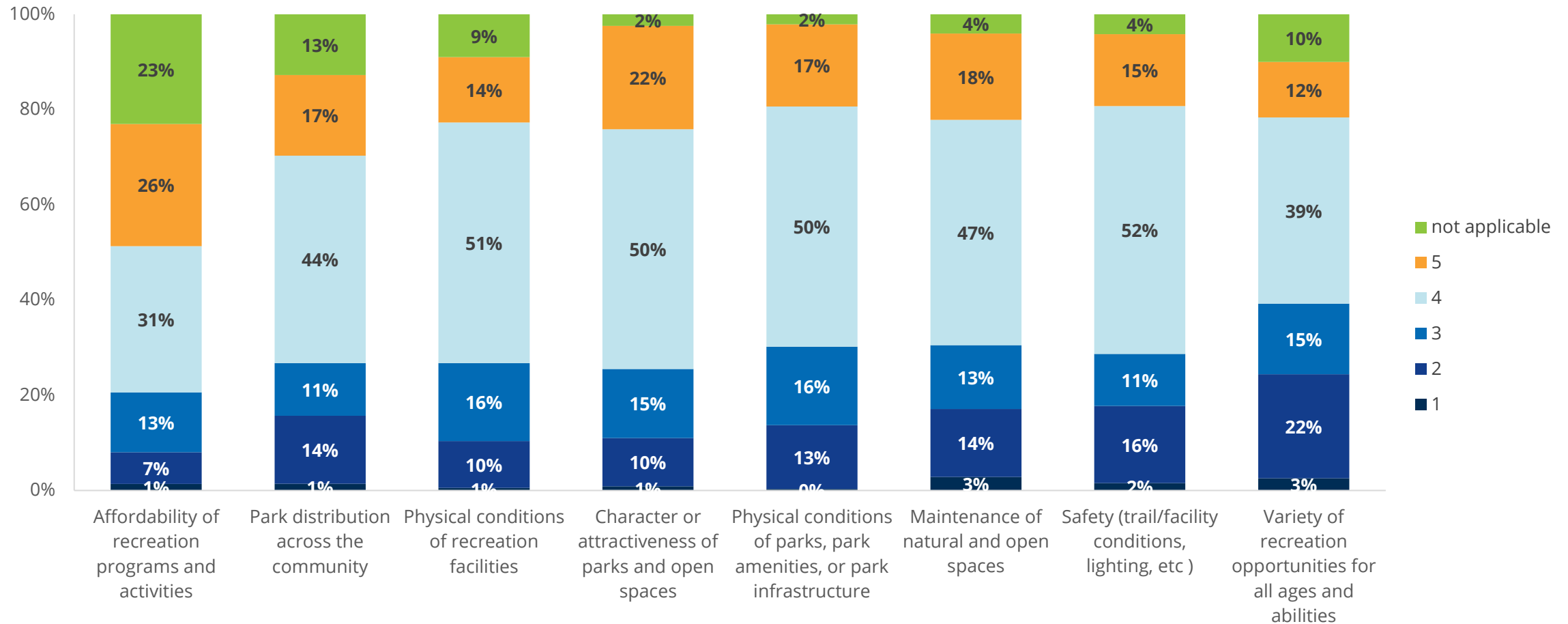
(respondents rated each aspect on a scale from 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good))



Respondents to this question; n = from 568 to 648 as not all respondents rated every single aspect

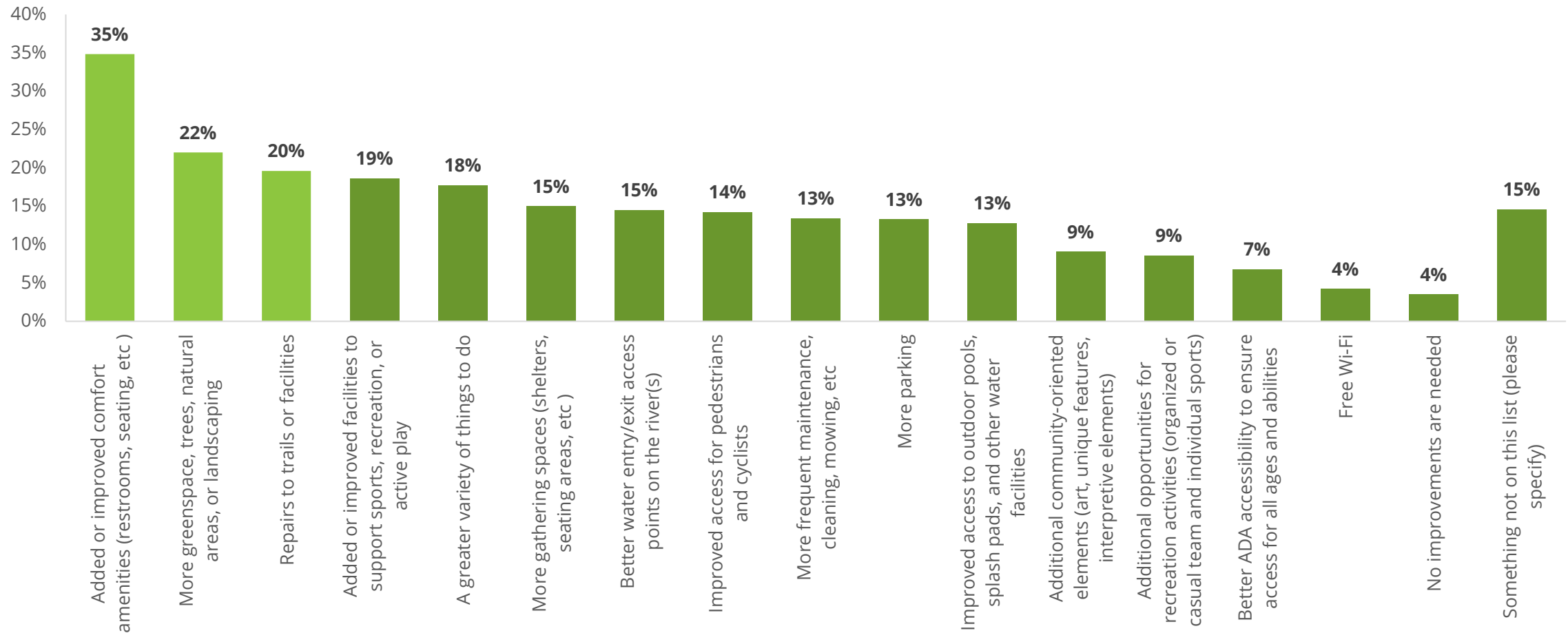
Individual rating of parks and recreation amenities in Richland

(respondents rated each aspect on a scale from 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good))



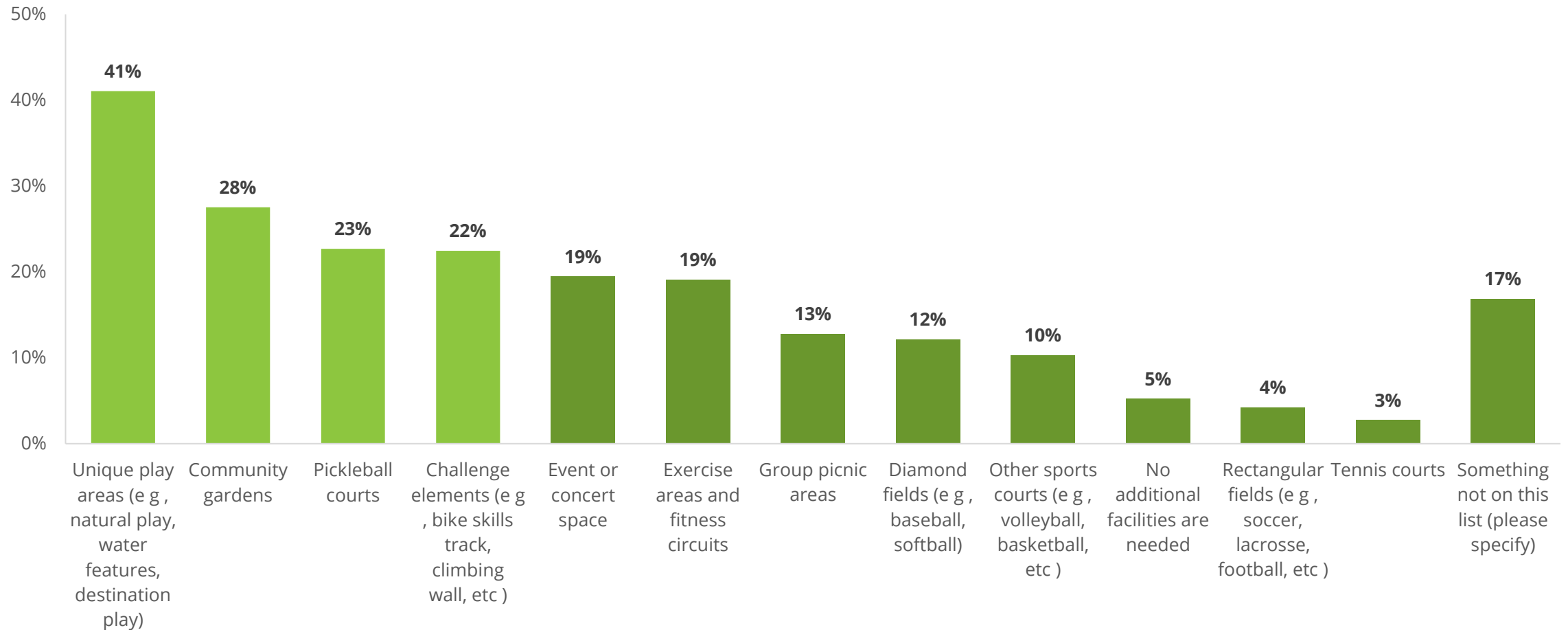
Respondents to this question; n = from 568 to 648 as not all respondents rated every single aspect

What are the top improvements that would make parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces even better for you and your family? *(Choose up to three)*



Respondents to this question; n = 827

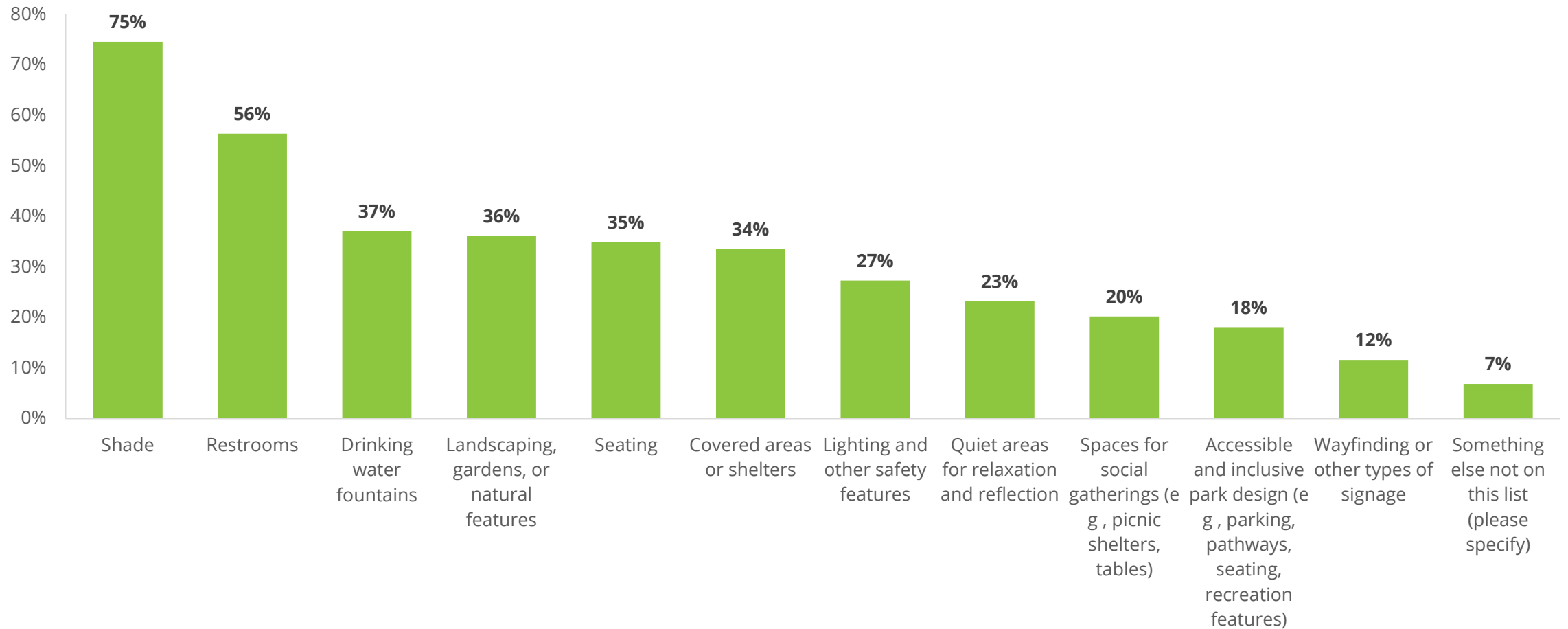
What types of facilities would you like to see more of in Richland parks? *(Choose up to three)*



Respondents to this question; n = 806

What types of amenities would make parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open space areas more comfortable and welcoming?

(Choose all that apply)



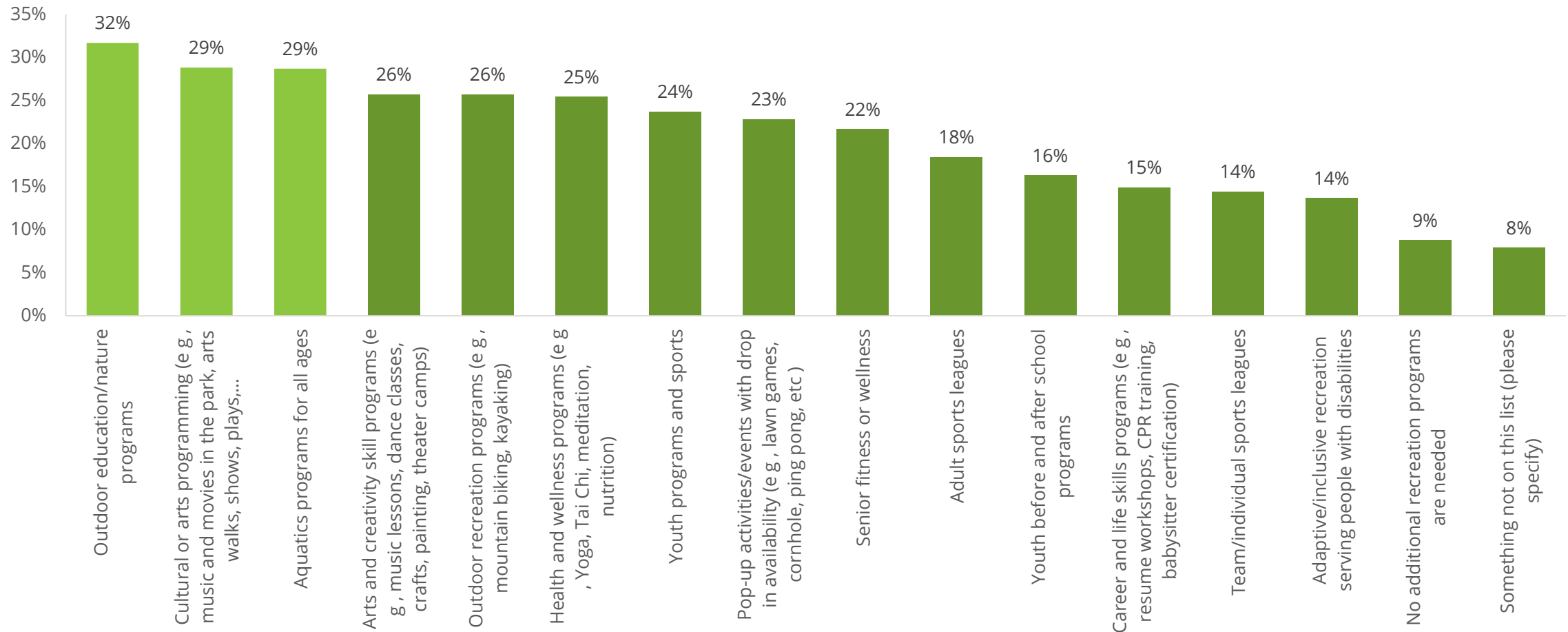
Respondents to this question; n = 802

Differences in Desired Improvements

Do Responses Differ Based On Whether People Have Children in Their Household?

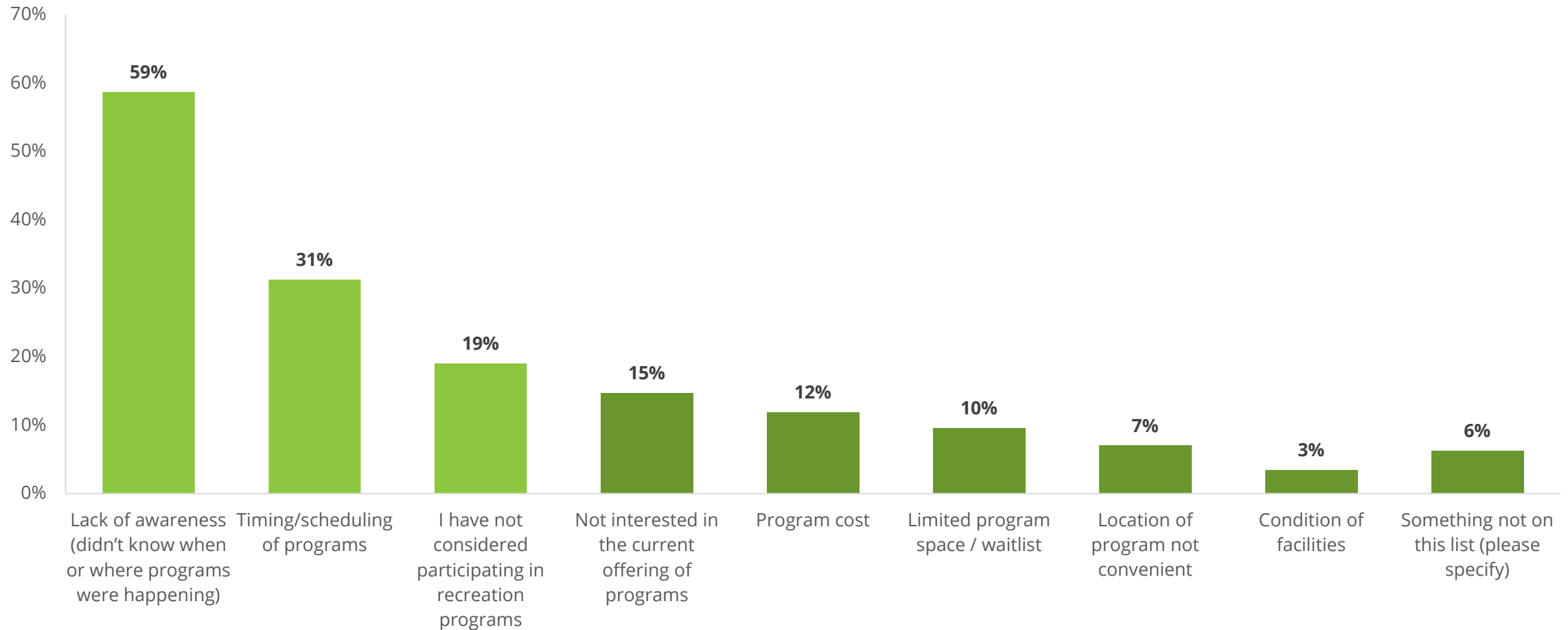
- **Top Improvements:** Respondents who wanted added or improved comfort amenities like restrooms and seating, added or improved facilities for sports, recreation or active play, and improved access to outdoor pools, splashpads, and water facilities were more likely to have children living with them or children as frequent visitors. Respondents who wanted repairs to trails or facilities and improved access for pedestrians and cyclists were more likely to not have children living with them.
- **Top Amenities:** Respondents with children living with them or children as frequent visitors prioritized adding more shade, restrooms, and seating compared to those respondents that did not have children living with them.
- **Top Facilities:** Respondents with children living with them also desired more unique play areas, challenge elements, sports courts, and diamond fields at slightly higher rates compared to those without children living with them. Respondents without children living with them desired more pickleball courts and exercise areas/fitness circuits at slightly higher rates than those with children living with them.

What types of recreational programs or activities are missing, or you would like to see more of in Richland? *(Choose all that apply)*



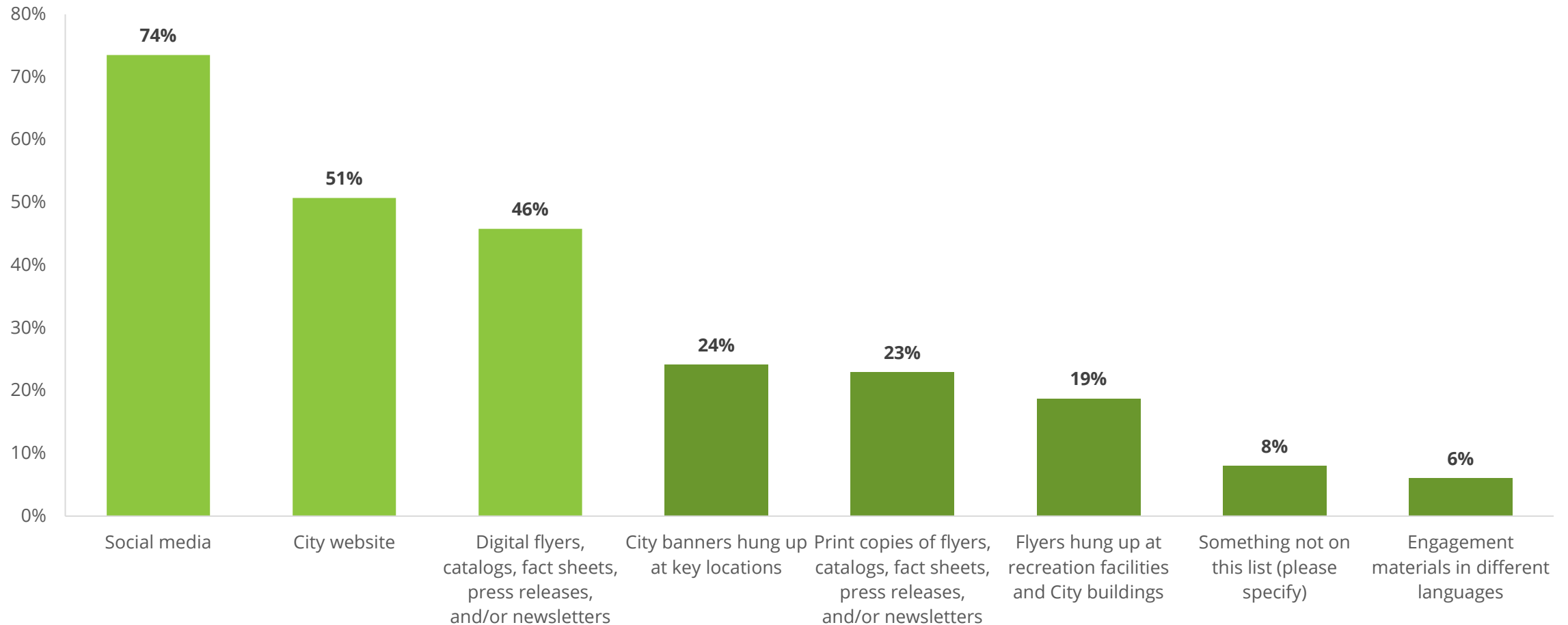
Respondents to this question; n = 798

If you have considered/participated in any recreation programs in Richland, what challenges did you face? *(Choose all that apply)*



Respondents to this question; n = 784

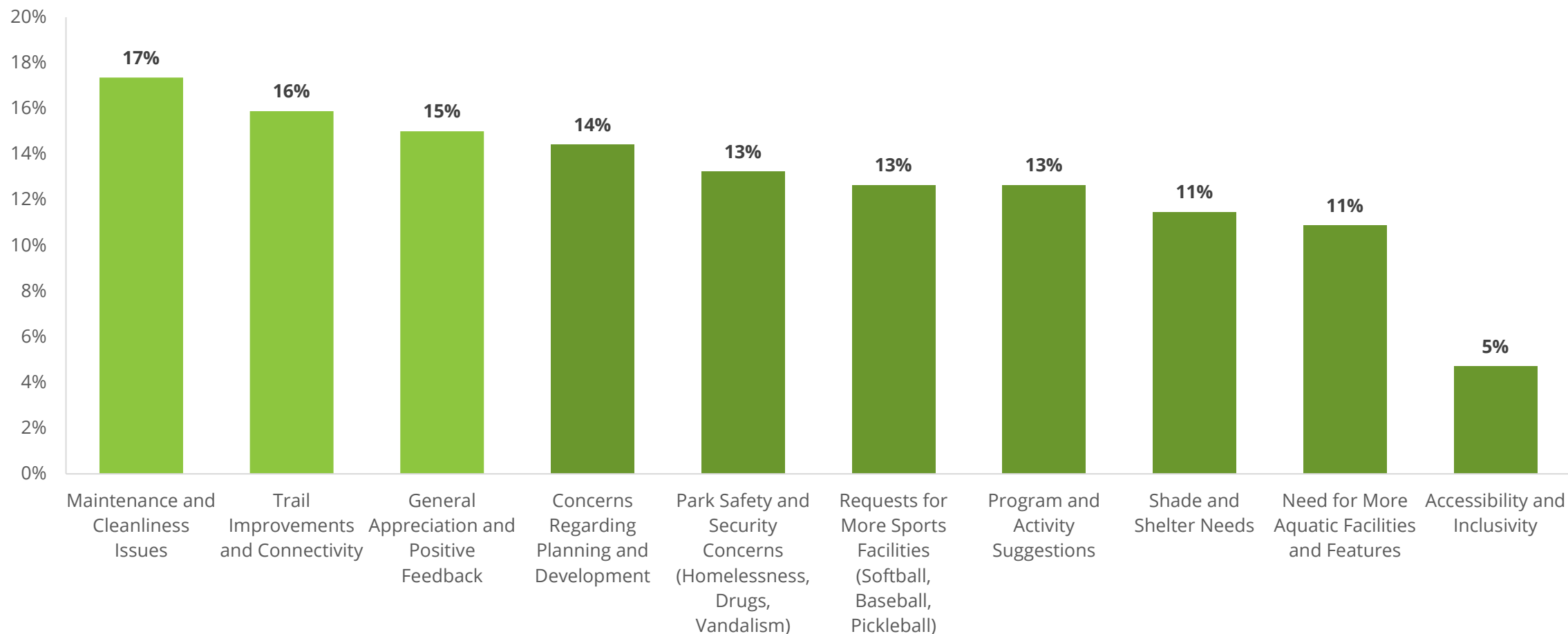
How can the City best communicate with you about recreation programming and City events? *(Choose all that apply)*



Respondents to this question; n = 812

Do you have any other comments or ideas you would like to share about parks, recreation, or open spaces in Richland?

**Note that these are open-ended responses that have been categorized*



Respondents to this question; n = 340



City of Richland Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan

Online Community Survey Summary

Survey Period: August 11, 2025 to August 29, 2025





PARKS, RECREATION, & OPEN SPACE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY

RAW DATA TABLES AND OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES

The following pages include tables of the raw data from the online community survey with percentages and response counts as well as the unfiltered open-ended responses. The number of respondents to each question is shown beneath each table.

What do you think Richland should be known for when it comes to parks, recreation, and open spaces? (Choose up to three)

	%	Count
High-quality and well-maintained parks	76%	711
Natural areas and riverfronts	58%	547
Outdoor recreation and fitness opportunities (for walking, running, hiking, biking, paddling, and swimming)	51%	478
A wide variety of recreation programs for all ages	30%	285
Sports facilities and tournaments	16%	150
Historic places, art, and cultural events that reflect Richland's past and identity	14%	131
Unique recreation options (motocross, karting, boating, mountain biking, etc.)	12%	109
Something not on this list (please specify)	8%	79
Total	100%	939

N= 939

Responses to: Something not on this list [open-ended]

- A city waterpark
- A community that is open and welcoming to all people.

- A dog park in North Richland
- a much bigger pool!!!
- A pump track for mtb/bmx and other bicycles. Also make the current skate park open to bmx
- Access to the river. There are so many trees in the way currently, need to be cut down please
- accessibility for all mobility ranges
- Accessibility of parks and trails for all abilities.
- Add high quality pickleball courts
- An aquatic center
- aquatic center
- Aquatic Center
- Aquatic center where people of all abilities can swim, host special Olympic events; if not an entire center cover George Pratt with a bubble and expand it to include a kiddie pool.
- Aquatic center, with lap pool, leisure pool, and splash pad for kids
- Aquatic facilities- larger public pool with winter access added if possible
- Aquatic facility
- Areas safe for people to be in and not to be around homeless people and people on drugs
- as a non dog walker I want more dog poop bag stations that are well stocked, more trash cans that are well maintained, and more access to clean bathrooms
- Beautiful river views and access along the walking and biking path.
- Better quality neighborhood parks, bring a splash pad to north Richland.
- Bring back the sprint boat racing out by the dump
- Crime free recreation property.
- Dog friendly
- Dog friendly
- dog park
- east/west walking and biking p
- Equestrian sports
- EV Charging
- Extend Leslie Groves beach all the way down to Howard Amon. You won't believe how awesome that could be for the whole Tri-cities
- Helicopter rides
- I wish there was more than one public dog park. We have so much park land but only the one on Keene which is quite out of the way for me. Rodney Block for example has so much unused grass that would be perfect for a dog park
- Inclusion and accessibility to all
- Indoor aquatic center and community pool
- Indoor Aquatic facility
- Indoor pool or aquatic center for kids. It's too hot. Also shaded play structures

- indoor swimming pool
- Kayaks and Paddleboard launch are at the Newcomer Parking Lot and by Hunt Point, Leslie Groves Park
- Large water park like wild waves or silverwood.
- Less homeless people making parks uncomfortable for children and families
- Like a facility like LSP should be converted to a 24 hour access entertainment thing not bothering any weather conditions and accessible to anyone.
- Line dancing
- More equestrian trails and shared information and visibility to all citizens of opportunities available for equestrians looking for close to home rides.
- more fields for softball/baseball
- More free community spaces
- More trees
- More water splash parks inside old Richland. Same as the splash park on Keene near Yolks.
- New pool
- Nighttime activities (concerts, events, etc)
- Not having homeless people camping or sleeping where people and children are enjoying all the parks, playgrounds and open spaces. Finding needles, garbage, clothing, and waste is something no residents or tourists wants to come across. I can tell you it has happened to me right at the Community Center.
- Off leash dog park in North Richland area
- Outdoor art
- Parks as an example of responsible landscaping
- Parks for kids and tot lots that allow age separation for safe play.
- Parks open to anyone to enjoy (not just the "right kind of person").
- Path for running and walking and kids to ride bikes in shade under safe trees in Goethals Park. My daughter (3 years old) has been asking for a place to ride her bike and scooter safely near her house since the sidewalk situation is not good in that area. There is plenty of room to make a looping path that connects to the Urban Greenway.
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Places for communal gatherings/ dog parka
- Playgrounds that help with development focusing on the nervous systems foundation for higher level learning and not a playground that just looks good.
- Protecting its diminishing natural open space
- public art
- Public indoor pool
- Public pools
- Public toilets and showers
- retaining connecting horse trails WE Johnson to Chamna and Horn Rapids

- Ridges to Rivers Trail System
- Riverfront space combined with well thought out businesses that are walkable along the river
- Safe drug and alcohol free parks.
- Safe parks
- Safe sidewalks going in and out of parks
- Shaded parks
- Softball is growing we need more fields
- There are no tennis courts in West Richland. Also needs a softball field.
- water park
- Water park like Oasis
- We need a public pool bad
- We need an aquatic swim center. We should not have to join a center like CBRC and swim for an hour. It would be nice to have a center families could enjoy for a day of swimming! The river gets more dangerous every year. We have our kids drown in the river every year! An aquatic center would help keep our kids and families entertained.
- Wildlife viewing

What are your top reasons for visiting a park, recreation facility, or other open spaces/trails? (Choose up to three)

	%	Count
Being surrounded by trees, plants, and wildlife	57%	531
Getting exercise	48%	446
Taking children to play	40%	376
Community events	23%	214
Getting together with family, friends, neighbors, etc.	22%	210
Walking or playing with my dog (or another pet)	19%	180
Swimming or visiting a splash pad	16%	150
Enjoying art, music, culture, etc	15%	139
Competing in or watching sports	15%	137
Enjoying a picnic	10%	91
Participating in recreation programs	9%	80
Something not on this list (please specify)	5%	51
Total	100%	934

N= 934

Responses to: Something not on this list [open-ended]

- a bigger pool!!!
- Activities like pickleball, recreational biking
- Bird watching
- birdwatching
- boating
- Enjoy hobbies
- enjoying nature
- Enjoying the riverfront trails
- Enjoying the viewing and walking along the Columbia and Yakima Rivers
- Environmental Volunteering

- Equestrian events and leisure rides
- EV Charging
- Exercising my dog.
- finding a shaded area to walk outside
- Finding solitude and calm through outdoor activity
- Fishing
- Fishing
- Flying model airplane
- Flying RC models
- Gardening
- Geocaching
- Horse back riding
- Horse riding
- Horse trails
- horseback riding
- Horseback Riding
- Horsemanship
- I'd love to have more neighborhood "pocket parks" or natural areas where I can go with my kids, neighbors, etc and enjoy shade and wild play areas for kids. Would love access to clean water for wading, paddling, swimming.
- Kayaking and Paddleboarding
- Lap swimming year round & bicycle network connectivity between neighborhoods, parks, and amenities
- Meeting people of my wavelength.
- Natural areas maintained for fire prevention and cleaner city property along residential and shoreline areas.
- Outside enjoyment
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Play Pickleball
- Riding horses
- Riding my e-scooter.
- River activities such as kayaking, swimming, boating, paddle board
- running on riverfront trail
- safety, quality of boat launches
- Swimming at the river but need better access. Too many trees
- Tai Chi
- The River
- Using public restrooms

- viewing wildlife
- Wildlife observations (bird watching) and photography

How often do you visit parks in Richland? (Choose one)

	%	Count
Daily or almost daily	34%	318
About once per week	34%	319
A few times per month	22%	202
Every two or three months	6%	52
A few times a year	4%	36
I don't visit parks in Richland	1%	7
Total	100%	934

N = 934

How do you typically get to parks, recreation facilities, or open spaces in Richland? (Choose your top two most frequent methods for getting to a park)

	%	Count
Drive	86%	798
Walk	42%	394
Bike	19%	176
Public transportation	2%	16
Something not on this list (please specify)	2%	15
Total	100%	933

N = 933

Responses to: Something not on this list [open-ended]

- Be driven
- Dialaride
- Electric Unicycle
- Haul in horses for trail riding in equestrian areas.
- Horse trails
- Horseback Riding
- I run and bike
- Kayak and paddleboard
- kyak
- Line dance yoga
- Ride my horse
- Riding my e-scooter.

- run
- run/jog
- With my friends

If you were to walk to your nearest park, how long would it take you?

	%	Count
Less than 5 minutes	28%	262
5-10 minutes	28%	264
10-15 minutes	16%	153
15 minutes or more	18%	172
I can't walk to a park	9%	84
Total	100%	935

N = 935

What prevents you from visiting parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces in Richland more frequently? (Choose all that apply)

	%	Count
None of these keep me from visiting parks, recreation facilities, or other open spaces	30%	271
I don't have time or I am too busy	25%	232
Lack of/poor quality of restrooms and other facilities	23%	209
Lack of interesting things to do	14%	133
Unsafe streets, intersections, or crosswalks	11%	105
Parks and facilities are too far away	11%	102
I don't feel safe	10%	91
Lack of bike lanes and bicycle parking	7%	62
Limited bus service to parks	3%	27
Lack of accessible or ADA-compliant ramps, paths, and facilities	3%	23
I don't drive and can't get a ride to a park	1%	12
Something not on this list (please specify)	14%	126
Total	100%	918

N= 918

Responses to: Something not on this list [open-ended]

- Age inclusiveness
- Anger that the parks are not open to everyone. Let people experiencing homelessness enjoy the safety of the parks.
- Badger Mtn West Village park not complete

- Being forced to walk along main roads -- even on the sidewalk is extremely hot and dangerous. If there were a green space or pedestrian only trails that were green spaces that led to parks that would be very helpful
- Bikers get in the way
- bums and druggies, lack of cops and enforcement of no camping
- Congestion at popular locations ie Howard Amon
- Crowds on weekends by non Richland residents
- disability
- Dog park is too far from North Richland
- Drug paraphernalia and those having mental health crisis in the parks
- Fragmented or missing sidewalks on walking route
- Grass areas are not suitable as a sports field.
- Heat in the summer, so lack of shade at some parks
- homeless camps
- Homeless people at parks
- I avoid the river parks next to my house on the weekends because of the crowds and lack of parking
- I can't take a relaxing walk every day of the week!!!
- I dislike the new park at Howard Amon, with the old play set I could look across the park and see my child, now the new toy is so elaborate that I can't see my child, it makes it very difficult to take more than one child there.
- I don't like having homeless people and drug use in parks so if I find that in Parks I don't visit those parks
- I have found friends found over there that I like to play with.
- I live in Benton City now
- I walk my dogs and they bark too much
- I'd like to have a group to meet up with who are my age/walking speed
- Inadequate parking at Leslie Groves and Howard Amon. Congested streets due to frivolous bike lanes all over the north half of town.
- Inadequate pickleball
- Increase in homeless people at our parks
- It's been very hot this summer, especially being pregnant, so I don't want to walk outdoors when this is the case.
- Its too hot and our playgrounds arent shaded so i cant take the kids
- Lack of available time slots for lap swimming
- lack of benches and trees
- Lack of BFT and other easily accessed public restrooms.
- Lack of EV Charging
- Lack of fenced play areas
- Lack of maintenance at playgrounds.

- Lack of mountain biking trails
- Lack of Parking close to events in Howard amon
- Lack of parking, unleashed animals and safety issues for walkers/cyclists
- lack of secure bike parking
- Lack of shade
- Lack of shade and not enclosed (gated) to ensure kids safety
- Lack of shade at many of the playgrounds and over the play structures
- lack of shaded sitting options
- Lack of softball and baseball fields
- Lack of trees/excessive heat
- Laziness
- Leslie Groves park has a criminal element at the volleyball courts. Messy, loud, drinking, illegal parking and there is no patrolling of this. Rules need to be followed and laws adhered to in this established residential neighborhood.
- Limited pickleball courts
- Load music that makes it feel chaotic
- LOUD music, bums/transient's, druggies
- Many bike lanes are being added in Richland, which is enormous and urgently needed progress. Proper kudos to Richland. However, a driving-centric culture that does not protect the right of cyclists to use these lanes *safely*, especially when they must share the road with enormous vehicles, is the central issue. Drivers, however well-intentioned, are not used to cyclists and prioritizing looking out for them (everyone forgets some, if not many, aspects of their drivers' ed training), all the more so if casual commuters aren't wearing bright, car-conscious clothing. One young woman, just this month, was hit at the Jadwin-Williams intersection of Uptown--she was wearing black, but if Richland wants truly accessible and safe non-driving options, for everyone, blaming the victim is not realistic, constructive, or kind. In Europe, walking and cycling lanes are often, when possible and reasonable, physically cordoned off with visually obvious "safety posts," for lack of a better word, at the moment. For women, and people living in smaller bodies that are less obvious to drivers, the physical safety infrastructure must be a concomitant feature of creating a sustainable pedestrian and cycling-friendly Richland. Many folks, drivers, walkers, and cyclists alike, cannot be expected to respond well to *mandatory re-education*, in order to justify these essential changes in Richland. For sustainable change that benefits everyone and justifies the commendable efforts the City of Richland is making providing both (1) ample awareness and easy access to education resources AND (2) physically visible reminders of caution to drivers are critical. Even some regularly spaced, standard reflective posts throughout Richland, along cycling lanes, would be much better than nothing. I do not ride my bike in Richland, because I know the rules of the road, but I cannot trust drivers to be looking out for me, at all times. I dearly want to ride safely

throughout Richland; however, I must stick to bike paths, away from cars, whenever possible.

- Many neighborhood playgrounds are pretty torn up with graffiti etc. in addition, I don't feel safe taking my autistic child to most parks in Richland. We tend to drive out of our way to go to the new playground at Lawrence Scott park because it's fenced.
- Many parks don't have enough shade.
- More facilities
- Most parks have no shade
- My own health issues
- Natural areas are unkept overgrown with dry grass, thorns, tumbleweed sage brush etc..
- Need to clear the vegetation from more riverfront areas
- Nervous about the homeless population in and near the parks.
- No easy to reach dog park, lack of shade and nature
- No indoor swimming facility
- No off leash options in north richland
- no one to do these things with
- No pickleball
- No pool for my kid.
- No shade
- No swimming pools
- not enough ADA parking
- Not enough facilities to play softball
- Not enough parking
- Not enough parking at Leslie Groves or Howard Amon Friday-Sunday
- Not enough pools or water activities in richland
- Not enough shade
- Not enough shade or space to do a picnic
- Not enough shade or water to keep cool
- off-leash dogs
- old age
- Open drug dealing at playfields and Howard Amon park.
- Over grown shrubbery. I used to go to Leslie Groves a lot, but now the plants are all over grown and poorly kept.
- park is crowded
- Parking (at waterfront parks especially)
- parking can be difficult when events happen that i'm not aware of
- Parking nearby
- Parking spots
- Parks are not what they use to be. They keep wanting to change the lay out. It used to be fun to go to the park swimming off the docks kids playing on the toys. You keep taking

things away saying it is for safety. That is a lie people get hurt going out side it is a part of life. Getting hurt at the park is not the parks fault.

- Parks that are not shaded in the summer time
- Please provide a big shade over amon park
- Poorly maintained Pickleball courts
- Recovering from surgery
- Richland has very few quality pickleball courts
- Shade
- Shade
- Small playsets and too busy
- Some of our parks have been run over by drugged out sub human filth.
- Some parks have limited shade, so we avoid these parks on the very hot days
- Temperature/sun intolerance
- The heat in the summer makes the playgrounds too hot especially the new slides at Howard Amon. And then in the fall time ish Leslie groves is closest to me and it gets a huge amount of spiders.
- The intersection at Comstock and Goethals (to Goethals Park needs a pedestrian crosswalk light. People fly through there and people park on the street blocking the view of vehicles coming.
- The parks along the river are very busy which is a good thing. People are enjoying themselves. I think more covered areas are needed to get out of the sun. Need more gazebos.
- The parks get too crowded with other people for me to really enjoy them
- The quality of the play areas and the lack of shade.
- The river parks are too crowded on weekends, holidays, and events. It is ALWAYS hard to find a parking spot.
- The trails are overtaken by trees and weeds. Need more waterfront cleared areas, full of invasive plants
- The white bluffs neighborhood is doesn't have access to a park without going up or down Dallas.
- There are overgrown areas along the walking paths in Richland that I won't walk by myself
- There isn't an indoor public pool
- They are full of spiders and also do not offer enough shaded paths for my dog to walk or play on during the summer
- This is the first summer,since living in Richland, that I have not biked every evening. I have seen people going into the over grown brush with sleeping gear. I no longer feel safe at various times of the early morning or at dusk time walking or bicycling along the path. There are too many homeless people in our parks.
- Too hot out
- Too many dogs off leash.

- Too many out of towners.
- Too many people at the park
- Too many people, homeless people have their belongings strewn about, play areas for kids are either broken/cracked or unsafe
- Trail and path maintenance. The paved path near Howard Amon near The Hampton Inn the overgrowth is taking over the path
- Unsafe water recreation conditions (algae ect)
- vandals are ruining bathrooms for everybody. this needs to be addressed
- Vegetation not being cut back
- Way too many people. The areas with less people have zero water access
- We don't have the amazing recreation facilities other cities offer. Look at Utah county rec centers! They are amazing!!! And cities much smaller than ours have incredible rec programs!
- We have to fight to use fields so we end up having to take our teams to other cities for practices
- Weather
- Weather
- Weather
- Weather - a lot of the year it's either too hot or too cold to bring my kids to a park to play. I would love to see a more accessible indoor playspace available.
- Weather - excessive heat
- Weather related (too hot or too cold)

How would you describe the distribution of amenities and investments in parks across different neighborhoods? (Select the option that best reflects your perception)

	%	Count
I don't have a strong opinion	27%	252
I have noticed differences, but I'm not sure whether they reflect different investment levels or other factors	17%	162
Parks in newer or recently developed areas seem to have more amenities and receive more investment	16%	149
Parks in all neighborhoods appear to be equally maintained and well-equipped	12%	113
Some parks across the community seem to lack investment, but this doesn't appear tied to any specific type of neighborhood	10%	91
Parks in some older neighborhoods appear to lack investment or amenities	9%	80
Parks in older neighborhoods appear to receive similar levels of investment, even if the amenities are not as modern	5%	45
Parks in some newer neighborhoods appear to lack investment or amenities	4%	35
Total	100%	927

N=927

Do you have any ideas or thoughts on how the City can better support access to parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces? (open-ended)

- - Acknowledge the humanity of unhoused folks. - Figure out the trade-off between how many more trash cans or emptying more often. - Humans in all situations need restroom access year-round. Please use available and actively sought funding, with appropriate partners; to open, staff, and stock (including city) spaces longer hours when heat, cold, or air quality makes outdoor Richland unsafe/unhealthy.
- Build a large multi-use rec center with basketball courts, swimming pools and water slides, rock climbing, fitness facilities. Communities in different parts of the country are doing this and they are amazing. Utah has tons of them and they are a great asset to their cities.

- #1 Indoor pool for ongoing swimming lessons and sports events. #2 South Richland needs neighborhood seasonal pools like exist in old Richland. One is supposed to be at Brookstone Park but it's still not built.
- 1. Improve access to parks by installing sidewalks into the parks at the river. There are no sidewalks from the main road to at least 2 access areas at Leslie Groves. This is dangerous anytime, but especially at night.
- 1. Dog-Friendly, Multi-Use Green Spaces Our community could greatly benefit from spaces that welcome dogs without the limitations of a traditional fenced dog park. Imagine shaded pathways, open grassy fields for free running, and a small splash pad or shallow pool designed for dogs. These features would encourage year-round use, offer a safe alternative to the riverâ€”which can contain harmful bacteria and debrisâ€”and draw more residents and visitors to our parks. 2. Proactive Maintenance for a Cleaner, Safer Experience A cleaner park is a more inviting park. By equipping smaller city vehicles with portable pressure washers, staff could quickly and efficiently address spider infestations, dirt build-up, and other maintenance issues. This small investment would extend the life of park facilities, improve safety, and make our public spaces more enjoyable. 3. Affordable, Accessible Aquatic Center for All Ages Access to recreation shouldn't be a luxury. Moses Lake proved over a decade ago that it's possible to build and operate a simple, affordable aquatic center that meets community needs without straining the budget. A similar facility here would provide families, seniors, and youth with a safe, affordable place to stay activeâ€”supporting health, wellness, and community connection. Why This Matters Investing in thoughtful, accessible recreation spaces improves quality of life, strengthens community pride, and can even boost local economic activity. These ideas are realistic, cost-conscious, and designed to make our city a place where everyoneâ€”two-legged and four-leggedâ€”can thrive.
- 1. Tennis Courts in West Richland since there are none. 2. Softball field with growing athletes in the area 3. Better playground for bigger kids in the heights at red mountain ranch. They only have a small young kid playground. There needs to be a second park in the areas since phases will keep going until 2029.
- A complete lack of parks in the newer areas of the city. Look at the size of Leslie Grove and Howard Amon parks. Now shift to the city south of the Yakima - next to nothing! We pay the taxes, don't get shit in return.
- A dog park in North Richland would be great.
- A dog park would be very nice. Better separation between bike and walkers. Wider walking paths.
- A full aquatic center would be great
- A heavier staff presence at busy parks during peak times. Parking, trash, and rule enforcement at Leslie Groves, Howard Amon, and to a lesser degree at Columbia Point. Continue with bike/walking path improvements. They have been noticed and appreciated.

- A huge burden on our family last spring was having to drive all the way to horn rapids sports complex for our daughter's softball practices and games. With 3 other children in sports, the time it took to get there with traffic sometimes made it so we'd have to skip all together. Having softball fields in the south Richland area would help our family tremendously, as we don't know if we can make that work again next spring. With multiple organizations trying to coexist on only a handful of fields, I feel the city could easily put softball fields above the badger mountain park next to the baseball fields.
- A surf and float channel on the river like Bend and Boise. It's a fun and safe way to be on the water without having a boat and not having to worry about being hit by a boat. I think it would bring a lot of tourism to the area like those cities.
- Access to soccer goals would be appreciated. They lock them up everywhere.
- Access? No. Safety? Yes. The city needs to work with RPD and other agencies/organizations to develop and implement a plan to make the parks safer by reducing drug dealing in parks. People sit in cars in lots and openly, obviously, and brazenly deal drugs.
- Accessible restroom facilities at parks, accessible swings. Some of the newer, smaller parks have no swings at all and swings are one of the only park amenities my disabled child is able to use. We can use standard park swings with our own adaptive device that attaches to the swing, or can use the plastic chair-style adaptive swings. But many smaller parks have no swings at all. It would also be great if evening or weekend open swim times at George Prout pool could be continued into September as it is often still very hot. A bit unfair to the kids that lap swim times continue for a few weeks after open swim stops.
- Add ADA playgrounds for kids with different accessibility needs
- Add crosswalks and speed bumps or access to parks to keep things safe on the way to and from the parks. Also provide adequate lighting for evenings and at night.
- Add more amenities at each park. There are many parks in each neighborhood.. but only offering limited activities. Maybe add more things at each.. bocci ball, horse shoes, a pump track for bikes, tiny "skate spots", I could go on and on. Refer to Boise, ID city plans. They are doing everything right! We need varieties of free activities to help foster more community to folks.
- Add more parks
- Add more plant life/shaded areas. As well as spots for pop up shops or future farmers markets/food trucks
- Add more sports facilities for tournaments.
- Add parks in underserved areas such as Rancho Reata, the Research District, Westcliffe, and west of the Bypass Highway.
- Add quality pickleball courts. It is the fastest growing sport in the country.
- Adjust bus routes to include main parks (Howard Amon, Leslie Groves, Columbia Point, etc)
- Affordable water park. Not a splash pad, not a swimming pool. A water park.

- Already there is a foundation laid, just need the finishing by providing the complete closure, roofing and temperature control.
- Approach HOA's about taking over private parks and turning them into community spaces that are cared for and well maintained.
- As for access to rec facilities, younger couples with children cannot participate in rec activities due to no childcare/drop-off if they wanted to take dance lessons as an example.
- As this area becomes more congested with developments and businesses resulting in more congestion and increasing loss of open space areas, hopefully the city is planning for more trails for commuting (walking, running, biking) and open space areas to be able to get away from concrete and asphalt.
- As we grow in people we also need to grow in these spaces as well. We need more sports fields, more pools.
- Assess the number of people using the City of Richland neighborhood parks for continued use.
- Assure adequate parking at Howard Amon Park. Parking has been an issue for many years and the City continues to development. Hard to get to HAP and John Dam Plaza when events are held at theses facilities.
- Availability of transit near major parks (Leslie Groves, Howard Amon, Trailhead Park) could help some get there without the use of a car, reducing excessive use of parking. Signage around town leading people to different neighborhood or major parks could benefit spreading use so our major parks aren't as overpacked during some weekends.
- Badger mountain is our closest park. Could there be more flat trail options across front of north side of the mountain?
- Badger Mountain park doesn't have enough benches for elderly to stop and take a break. Lack of trees to rest under shade. You're building a lot of playground areas for kids, which is great, but you have to think about us elderly too as we pay taxes as well.
- Badger Mountain Park needs to have the remaining area east of the dog park developed into a passive area with a restroom.
- Baseball and softball fields heavily used - may need more
- Bathroom access, shade trees, and cleanliness
- Bathrooms are essential for spending time at parks. They are often closed due to damage or not very clean. For sports, we are frequently in pasco because more and better facilities exist. Finding parks to practice or play in is nearly impossible in Richland. Scheduling through the schools is extremely expensive.
- Be sure that any action by the City doesn't unfairly affect property owners. Resist the notion that "now that I have mine, others should not have theirs" where "mine" and "theirs" refer to nice places to live near spaces that activists want to keep in a near natural state. I'm tired of "natural spaces" advocates not being willing to pay for the land they want.

- Better ability to move from one area/ park to another. Within the shopping areas, more seating and tables for eating, reading and people watching
- Better and more ball playing fields
- Better and not accessible transit transportation
- better maintenance
- Better parking lots and bathrooms
- Better parking options
- Better public transportation and safe pedestrian access. Separate bike & pedestrian paths.
- Better restrooms, more benches or tables
- Better security around restrooms and that kind of stuff so they don't get vandalized Lot more. Maybe ranger presence and law enforcement presence. I would suggest undercover not uniformed but undercover law enforcement and use your drones and other aerial assets to keep the park safe and secure from vandalism and safe for people to use I would also suggest more restrooms and don't shut them down. Keep them open for public use just like at our bus facilities. Make let's get bus facilities, restrooms open for public use?
- Better surveillance to prevent restroom vandalism, better trash pick up after high wind events
- Better wayfinding signs along major roads and along ped/bike paths.
- Better wheelchair/scooter paths (without wide cracks to go over) plus more benches and picnic tables with good river views that don't require going over bumpy grass (and aren't on the main path with everyone walking right by). Also look at curb cuts relative to parking spots and path access.
- bigger pools. george prout is way to small for the number of people who would use it. if it's too crowded I won't go. also offer water aerobics to the public. last time I took aerobics there they had a toddler swim lesson going on. there was not enough room for both.
- Bigger public swimming pool More parking adjacent to Howard Amon park
- BIKE FRIENDLY ROADS AND PATHS!!! MORE OF THEM!
- bike lanes that have physical separation from roads
- bike lanes, cross-walks, bike paths
- Bike racks at playgrounds.
- Bike, walking paths that connect to the parks
- Boat launch areas are too small. A lot of times there is not enough parking for trailers. Removing dock at south end of Howard Amon and at Columbia Point was a mistake. Removing boat launch south of Riverfront Hotel was a mistake.
- Both Central Richland and South Richland should have Olympic sized indoor pool for lap swimming, water aerobics, swim lessons, and swim team - preferably near schools and buslines.
- Build indoor aquatic facility, or put a bubble over George Prout Pool

- Build out sidewalks city-wide, and before properties are developed. Then charge the developer for the work.
- Building a pump track would be a great addition to an already awesome park system throughout Richland.
- Bus service to park
- bus stops with seating and cover
- By access are you asking how to get into a park? If so, that doesn't make any sense. If you're asking if we need more parks then maybe would be my answer. If we better care of the ones we have I would say yes to that.
- By putting up signs directing towards park and recreations
- Change out the metal slides at Howard Amon. They are so hot and in the afternoon sun directly on them, or put a shade cover over it! Put in a splash park in Richland main area weather at Leslie groves area or Howard Amon like the one off Keene! For us in north Richland it is so far away to get to any splash park.
- Children's playgrounds need more shade. Trees or shade canopies please! The play equipment and ground of the playground could be updated to a more modern and natural risk play environment.
- City could do more to support native vegetation and wildlife and deter noxious weeds along the paths and open space between maintained parks. One example, is bike path btwn Leslie Groves and Howard Amon Parks
- Clean bathrooms more frequently. Clean public trashcans more often. Sun Shades or trees or other options in open spaces that often get very hot
- Clean up little before mowing. Clean up the littler in on the bike paths and trails near chamna, 240 in the Yakima River delta area, clean up the drugs/prostitution in the Wye.
- Clean up the glass so pets don't hurt themselves get rid of the needles and drug paraphernalia. Clean up the bathrooms add more cameras around ect the list could go on .
- Cleanup the riverfront - remove some trees & plant more grass - more easy public access.
- Clear out the panhandlers from every part of the city. Double the size of the George Prout pool! Please limit food trucks in the city, too many food trucks in areas detracts from the natural beauty (sights, smells, sounds). I have my family avoid food truck areas.
- Clear out the weeds and invasive plants and trees. These harbor vagrants and illegal activities. Open up views and access
- Clear the paths and more open access to the riverfront for recreational opportunities. Too many weed trees hard to access. Sagebrush encroaching on boat launch road at Spengler. High traffic area.
- Closed/dirty or unsafe restrooms facilities - maybe place cameras or alarms outside to catch vandalism? Also, having bolts on outside of restrooms? How is this safe? (Someone could lock a person in). And homeless camp sites in the park seems to be increasing.

- Closing parks earlier. Nothing good happens after it gets dark. There is actual gang activity happening now. Enforcing rules. Specifically drug and alcohol use, fireworks, clearly post signs with rules and bike /walking path areas. Enforce no motor vehicle rules. (So many mini bikes now) Act like you care about the residents of richland who use the parks.
- Collaborate with schools and fix tennis courts in older neighborhoods , open high school tracks to public for use.,
- Continue to create bike lanes deprecate from pedestrians and traffic
- Continue to install and update sidewalks throughout the Alphabet House neighborhoods! I live very close to a park, but still take a slightly circuitous route so my child and I can walk on sidewalks rather than road shoulders. Continue to maintain and expand the river trail/urban greenbelt trail. Bike racks or bike lockers near bus stops that provide access to the river trail would be amazing.
- Continue to maintain. Appreciate that those with pets and children are responsible for them. Care of and maintenance is done at appropriate timesâ€” Are liter depository bins and barrels conveniently located and servicedâ€” Thank you for so maintainingâ€”
- Continue working with interested groups such is the case with Badger Mountain. The City cannot do it alone
- Continuing to keep them safe and clean.
- Create more multi-use buildings downtown where people can live closer to where they work, dine-out, or recreate. #strongtowns
- Create more opportunities for youth recreation- specifically need better access to softball and baseball fields, and lacrosse fields
- Create playgrounds in all neighborhood parks
- Create small house villages to "house" the unhoused to keep from wanting to be in parks at nights. Make Water Park or a BIG outdoor pool use OUTLAW electric bikes on Path ways
- Cultivate more parks that prioritize ecological and human resilience to climate change. Turn the former 'shelter belt' on Goethals into an arboretum. Allow undergrowth to regrow and some dead limbs to remain so we have quails and owls return. They have entirely disappeared from our neighborhood between Aaron Drive and Gillespie since the mowing and hacking of the shelter belt began between 10 and 15 years ago. We even had bunnies! No more. Clearing that underbrush, if done to prevent homelessness and/or wildfires, only harms everyone and non-human species; criminalizing the homeless does not make them disappear, nor render their needs less valid and deserving of comprehensive, compassionate care. Should this not be considered valid, police and hospital ER resources are continuously, indefinitely expended to "kick the can down the road," treating symptoms of how folks are rendered homeless to begin with. Refusing to meet that problem at its roots, not its symptoms (prescription drug addiction, unaffordable, safe housing, etc.), costs everyone time, resourcesâ€”and lives cut short. We also need sidewalks on east-west streets between G-Way and Goethals, especially

on Benham and Comstock. These are major routes for people to walk or bike to our parks and schools, and are regularly used by drivers attempting to escape traffic lights and who thus exceed the speed limits. These homes have paid city taxes for longer than anywhere else in Richland and deserve sidewalks paid for by the city, especially as so many of them are rentals. Please. Pay attention to the parts of Richland that were here FIRST— not just those that house the wealthiest and most influential residents. Believe me, we notice. I am grateful that the original planners of Richland incorporated so many parks into our original neighborhoods. I wish the city would recognize the need for sidewalks as these neighborhoods were also NOT built with individual car ownership in mind. Car owners, therefore, park on the road, leaving pedestrians to walk into the street or risk unintentional trespass into someone's yard. During rainy or snowy weather the situation is much worse for pedestrians— insurmountable for many folks with physical disabilities. This should not be on the backs of current owners/renters, when these homes have been a vital part of Richland for up to 81 years. My home is 81 years old. If Richland claims to honor the entirety of its past, picking and choosing cannot be considered consistent, equitable treatment. "Separate but equal" is not who Richland is. We, the residents, choose who we are. I commend Richland Parks & Rec for creating this survey and am deeply grateful for the opportunity to be heard. Thank you very much.

- Cut back the vegetation growth along the riverfront path walking north (especially) from Howard Amon Park.
- Cut down trees along the river path. Access and views of the river are really important to me.
- daily inspection and communication to the public about safety of water....
- Designated crosswalks in areas leading to parks for safer crossing.
- Develop a driving pathway that allows for drop off of elderly and handicapped people. The Horn Rapids, Badger Community, and Claybell ball fields all require a long walk to/from the handicapped parking to the spectator seating.
- develop more live arts(music, theatre, dance) programs in parks which have event spaces.
- Don't put in parking lots just for summer usage. More shade structures on playground equipment. Keep old toys when possible. Put up the swimming barrier (floating line and buoys) at Leslie groves during the summer. Block off the waterway at Leslie groves from big boats. Designate the beach area behind the volleyball courts for paddle boards, and keep paddle boards out of the swim area. Please please please paint walk or bike signs on the ground on the pathways where people enter the trail. Put in a proper bathroom at Goethals park. It's such an awesome park and the toilet is ridiculous. Keep bathrooms open in the winter! Fix the shower at Leslie Groves beach.
- Dramatically expand parking at the south end of Leslie Groves, there is plenty of space. Expand the beach area at Leslie groves, it's so crowded and it's a great area now that the boats can't get in there.

- Effective park patrols for loud music, bike lane speeding, supporting courteous actions in pedestrian areas, enforcing rules including pets on leash and length, and speeds. More bike path repairs including expansion gaps and root damage.
- Encourage people to enjoy nature and being outdoors! Encourage people to exercise or just be outside getting fresh air.
- Encouraging more sports opportunities for the youth through affordable programs. This could draw more attention to park areas and increase attendance. This will also create revenue for the richland parks to renovate and update needed areas.
- Ensure that areas like Columbia Point, the Tapteal Trail receive formal protections.
- every park needs maintained restrooms
- Extend pool hours to 8pm for more free swim time, also extend the closure of the pool till mid September as the weather still remains elevated in temps past labor day weekend.
- Families of toddlers and special needs children need fenced play areas for accessibility. Shade, either natural or man-made would dramatically improve accessibility also.
- Family Aquatic Center Bigger kiddie pool
- Feature or advertise the parks. Sometimes I didn't even know the parks exist
- Fence off a portion of Steven's or Rodney Park for off leash
- Figure a way to vandalize proof the restrooms.
- Finish projects quicker - what is happening with the West Village park?
- Flags on cross walks to carry while walking to the other side of street.
- For better access to parks I would look to zero transitions and adding more sidewalks that are ADA compliant. The playground I live next to both don't have either and one is unsafe for children.
- For me, number one, is to keep the natural spaces natural and not further develop
- Free and more frequent public transportation services from all TriCities areas to RCC
- Free bus passes in the summer.
- Free local transportation to parks.
- Get Signage that Tells Non Equestrians What is The Right of Way! Horse, bike, Walkersâ€
- Goethals park needs a bathroom and seating area for parents or picnic tables
- Greater mix of offerings, eg pickleball, outdoor workout, etc
- Have more park benches, covered slides, more trash cans
- Have more stuff to do for families
- Have police actually patrol them, especially in north richland. The street racing at Leslie groves park is out of control, and pedestrians walking or biking on park street, and Harris are in danger of being struck by a vehicle. Richland police department and their Chief worth his initiatives to keep the public safe are totally absent. How about doing a survey on that, and the ridiculous traffic flow changes that will make richland worse to navigate than it is. Sheer stupidity from type traffic engineer and planning department.

- Having age appropriate playgrounds where 3-5 year old can play safely without me thinking they're going to fall off the edge by trying to climb a steep wall or net like wall. Having a fence around playgrounds with turf instead of wood. No metal slides and plenty of swings along with shaded area on top or around the playground for families to sit at.
- Having people be responsible for their dogs dogs kept on leashes and clean up after their dogs and people need to slow down in the parks on their bikes that's why we put all those bike pass in for them to use
- Having the city be more walkable
- Help the community get involved in maintaining them
- Hire someone to share about all of the places online (social media) so we can get a glimpse of what is offered before we make our way there, kids in tow.
- Howard Amon needs access to better parking for events (e.g. shuttles from the Federal Building lot).
- I am a single mother of two boys, ages 8 and 14. Recently after a sports practice, my 8 year old asked if we could get ice cream and go to the park, Jefferson Park happened to be the closest and he likes they they have swings. When we got there, there were several homeless men and women under the gazebo. While my son was swinging, I went to throw away his garbage from his ice cream and was verbally harrassed by one of the men. My son then wanted to play on the large toy and I was thankful that there was a bench some distance away from the gazebo. After a few minutes, my son stated that he was ready to leave. While walking to my car, I made him hold my hand and stick close by me as I was verbally harrassed by one of the men who was loudly cat calling me, making me feel extremely unsafe. I noticed that across the parking lot near the baseball fields, there was a small encampment with shopping carts, tents and mounds of garbage. It was upsetting as I view parks in Richland far superior to parks in Kennewick, and this observation left me with an uneasy feeling. I told my son we would not be visiting Jefferson Park again. I would hope that the City would enforce stricter rules about homeless in the park and what is acceptable. I know that this is a public space meant for all people from all walks of life, but to feel unsafe in a park where I take my child to play outside shouldn't be jeopardized by this.
- I am a supporter of RNLL; particularly the development of softball for our girls.
- I am proud of the attention to our parks. After the announcement that the city was going to close down some parks years ago, it has been wonderful to see them shine. Only concern is the attention of the covered rental spaces. 3 years ago I spent 100.00 to have a covered cabana only to show up and have it covered in hundreds of spiders. We were refunded with apologies but perhaps some attention to these spaces ahead of parties. We had to go and rent tables and chairs the day of our event. It put some undo stress on our party and guests. Thanks for this opportunity to share our thoughts!!
- I believe a better communication system and advertising is necessary. I think providing more family facing events rather than just music events is also critical.

- I believe more splash pads and toddler options would be great! Splash pads with small water slides or a toy structure with water features like in a small wading pool would be neat. It would also be awesome to have a water park like Moses lake would be awesome
- I do not. I feel Richland does a great job with the parks.
- I do wish there were rules about how close people can smoke next to play grounds. I also have a hard time going to the river to go out in nature for some grounding/peace and people are blaring music. I don't know if anything can be done about those things but I wish they could. Thanks!
- I enjoy hearing about all the community offerings; I think it is great to have events that involve the families.
- I feel like the access is there for the neurotypical and able bodied.
- I go to various access points at Leslie Groves park. I seldom see motorcycles, yet the new paving has allocated 6 spots for motorcycles. Cars park there anyway. Not enough parking on weekends. Also - revisit adding Pickelball courts somewhere or double lining some tennis courts.
- I have been impressed with the cleanliness of bathrooms in multiple parks but it would be helpful for them to be open for more time of the year if possible. Oak Park is lovely with mature trees but the play structure seems neglected compared to other parks. The awning is broken and hasn't been replaced.
- I have to drive a long way to walk dog's off leash. Walking on leash is dangerous due to physical condition
- I know consistent access to bathrooms is often a factor with people with young kids. I know that bathrooms being closed is often due to vandalism or safety concerns. I know it isn't City of Richland or Parks and Recreation's fault and unsure if there is another creative solution to stop vandalism and address safety concerns and still have the bathrooms consistently available to the community.
- I live in the neighborhood near Gothals, G. way, Benham, Davenport. I notice that many people use Davenport, Benham and Comstock as freeways between G. Way and Goethals. It's dangerous for folks trying to get to the river, especially since sidewalks are mostly lacking in these streets. Especially on Benham, speed humps would greatly help to slow people down.
- I live in the Tanglewood development and would love to have a play structure or other things for kids to do at Drollinger Park. It's the only park in my neighborhood and though we drive to parks often it would be nice to have one we can walk to.
- I live in West Cliff Heights. We really need a park or play area for children. We have very small yards and children really have no place to play.
- I love seeing the Richland Park Ranger SUV making it's rounds - please keep this up. It makes me feel safe and makes me think that Richland actually cares about it's public spaces. I was at the south end of Leslie Groves Park last week and stopped into the men's

restroom and it was spotless. Probably cleaner than some of my friends bathrooms in their home lol WOW!

- I love the bike path by the Columbia; would be amazing to add green to the bike path in south Richland.
- I recently hosted a family reunion and I found that I was not able to reserve a particular site for the table and cover as I had done in the past. We made it work but I liked the previous ability to reserve a particular location.
- I tend to use the two big riverfront parks, Groves and Amon, so I'm sort of neglecting all the other parks in Richland. But they're all really important and *free*, and provide a healthy way to get out and do something. Oh, except for the speedboats and jet skis, but don't get me started!
- I think a big reason people avoid some public spaces or public transportation is due to a lack of shade. Our area can be unsafe due to high temperatures. Parks like Howard Amon or Leslie Groves are shaded IN the parks, but the sidewalks to get there are not. When I lived abroad, I didn't mind walking everywhere because the sidewalks were shaded, clean, and commercial areas were within 10 minutes walk. Our city will always be full of homebodies and traffic if we don't create walkable areas. The bus shuttle to Art in the Park was brilliant and I hope that similar services will be provided in the future.
- I think access is fine. I don't want more parking lots or development
- I think better directional signs to the parks would be beneficial especially to the lesser known neighborhood parks that people might not be aware are within walking distance
- I think I would like to see signs posted to encourage park patrons to clean up after themselves. Posting no littering signs and having fines for violators. The general public seem to litter a lot at our parks. I would also be in favor of more dedicated walking trails
- I think in our financial climate you're doing your best.
- I think it would be great to see parks featured in the power bill mailer
- I think it's good. Just need exercise and a pump track for physical activity and events like training
- I think most neighborhoods have good parks; the limiting factor is most likely lack of facilities at the parks that makes them less attractive to attend (bathroom/ drinking fountain/ trash service)
- I think our parks are terrific, but I wonder if there's a way to encourage people in the neighborhoods to volunteer to help maintain parks by picking up litter, etc. or here's an idea: get student groups from RHS to pick up garbage on their campus and the adjacent Columbia Playfield! I have picked up bags and bags of trash that students left behind there. Maybe student involvement would increase a sense of responsibility in other students,
- I think promoting more family friendly activities would be great
- I think Richland is a great place for parks, my kids participate in sports, but often there is serious overlap of activities and the fields are crowded with no place to park. Often times we have to park at a distance or circle the parking lot coming right up to the start time

- I think the city does a good job of maintaining parks and providing beautiful shared green space for residents. The library and the parks (especially waterfront parks) are my favorite thing about richland.
- I think the city is doing a fine job with the parks I visit
- I think the city is doing well in public transportation, but some parks are several blocks away from the city parks. Perhaps having a route that makes the park more accessible ie. Leslie Grove
- I think the City of Richland has done an amazing job of providing beautiful and well maintained parks. I live in North Richland and walk my dog every day at Rodney Block Park. The thinning out of the trees has made the park more inviting while still providing a lot of shade during these hot summer months. I have noticed an increase in people using the park in the last two years. You guys are doing a great job if I had a wish list I would like a small fenced off dog park in one of these under utilized sections of either Rodney Block Park or North Leslie. Park by the Snieder street boat ramps. But that's a wish list you guys are doing a fantastic job. It's even more valuable now. That money is tight to have these amazing public spaces.
- I think the city traffic grid should be changed so parks can be easier to access.
- I think the foundation of a great park/recreation/open space network has been here for a long time. Generally, they are kept in very good condition, and they are a draw from within Richland and the surrounding region. There just needs to be a renewed commitment to investing in these areas to keep them well-maintained, preserve history, and offer "safe harbor" for all to get outside and engage in a variety of recreation activities. I do see in this survey and elsewhere that transportation is tied to parks/recreation/open spaces. I don't believe transportation needs to be tied too closely to this. I think the transportation framework is already there with multiple options to access. The focus should be on these "destinations". Again, they have been a draw from across the region. Continue to keep them well-maintained and appealing, and people will find ways to get there!
- I think the George Washington way and Jadwin loop the city is proposing is going to hinder traffic flow and access to our main park, Howard Amon and the facilities down there.
- I think you are doing a great job
- I used the gym at the rec center and was really disappointed by how small it was and the equipment was not in good shape. I only noticed really old people using probably due to the small size and lack of adequate equipment. It feels like this exercise room was an after thought. Why not use one of the much bigger rooms that faces the river. I would also love access to an indoor walking track and pool. Our aquatic recreation is really lacking and a city the size of Richland should at least have an indoor pool or aquatic center.
- I won't go to a park if there isn't a bathroom near by. I use parks for playgrounds for my kids so bathrooms are a necessity. We love the park in Cottonwood loop but parking is hard in the neighborhood and there are no bathrooms.

- I would like to a dog park on the north end of Leslie Groves where there is a large barely used area near the river. Restrooms at Lynnwood Loop park would be nice since there are sports fields there.
- I would like to see progress on the West Village park in Badger Mountain South.
- I would LOVE it if someone could periodically monitor parks for people violating the off-leash dog law. I used to visit Howard Amon park daily for almost 5 years to walk my dogs, I LOVE the beautiful walking path along the river but in the last year I have seen a significant increase in pet owners with dogs off leash. I remind them this is not an off-leash park and they need to leash their dog. It's an accident waiting to happen; that is fully preventable. These same pet owners also do not pick up their dogs poop. I've been in several arguments with people due to me telling them to leash their dog, or keep their dog away from me; or tell them to go clean up their dogs poop.. I haven't not visited the park in about a year now because of this!
- I would love to see a more accessible indoor play spaces available. An open play area with toys that kids could play with indoors all year round. I also really liked the new Lawrence Scott Park that was all enclosed with a fence, which is super helpful with multiple young kids.
- I wouldn't mind more Pickleball courts closer to my home.
- I'd love to see trails/walkways/sidewalks with tree cover and natural plant surroundings. There is too much rock landscaping that reflects heat. Also, I'd love a landscaped island to separate sidewalks from roads. It's not safe for me to take my young children without protected sidewalks. I'd love to see natural areas incorporated into all neighborhoods. Not just fields of grass for sports, but similar to the Kennewick library gardens. Trails with plants and trees and interesting habitats for our native wildlife AND humans. Small areas with shade trees, benches, and flowers to meet neighbors and make our city beautiful and welcoming to all. I'd love Richland to have a city rec center, or a YMCA. Our community would love an indoor pool for wintertime, access to affordable fitness equipment WITH childcare access. I want to use the community center for my family, but it's not the most friendly to small children. I'd love to interact with all ages in our city.
- I'd say you're all doing a good job. Thank you!
- I'm not sure. I do think bathroom facilities are important, especially for larger or more unique parks. We haven't been to Goethals Natural Park for a bit, but last time we were there, there was just one bathroom and it wasn't very usable. We drive to Barth Park since it's ideal for toddlers and different than other parks, but it doesn't have a bathroom at all.
- Immediate and severe punishment for public drug use in the parks we have.
- Improve Goethals park as mentioned in previous comments. I think more can be added to that park as it has a lot of open areas as in actual restroom facilities, more kids playground structures and places for kids and people in general to walk in the shade and ride bikes scooters etc. Also the trees need to be taken care of better. They are great

shade and new ones should be planted and older ones cared for so they do not fall over. Maybe even a splash pad. This park is used a lot and seems like it is not very cared for.

- Improved signage. A map online that specifically shows where public parking is. removing goose poop from paved surfaces. Regularly spraying down/washing benches and picnic tables to remove bird poop/dust/dirt.
- In a lot of the old parks in old Richland, it just a field and trees and nothing more. It would be great if you had a swing set, slides, etc.
- In addition to developed parks, require natural open spaces in new developments.
- In all of the miles of river frontage, it would be nice if there were more places to fish. It is all overgrown and there are homeless camping in the trees. It would also be nice if there were more baseball fields for the hundreds of teams in town.
- Increase accessibility by bike; increase ada accessibility and repair pathways in ruin; highlight different parks each month to bring awareness; monitor for improper use (many dogs off leash, many owners not picking up waste, parents not watching their children).
- Indoor aquatic center and public pool
- inmates should be helping to clean parks to cover the expense of housing and feeding them in their gated community, with no pay
- Instead of investing in roundabouts, one way road projects, building more facilities out of Central richland or invest in a face lift at horn rapids
- Invest in some of the smaller community parks. Many don't have restrooms. A few small-scale dog parks in the quieter parks would go a long way. Having only one in a rich neighborhood off Keene is frustrating. Way out of my way, too busy, people don't follow the rules. I've been to dog parks in Seattle that are dirt and no grass and my dog loved it. I'd rather have more dog parks than focus on reseeding and mowing one in a neighborhood far away from me
- investment and limited development in open spaces, connective open spaces within developments, more designated open space parks. Smart shading with street trees adapted to our climate/precipitation. Bike/trail connectivity between all parks and open spaces. no or very limited car/vehicle access in open spaces
- It all comes down to funding.
- It would be awesome if there was more ways to find out about all the parks and facilities. I have lived here 8 years and still hear about parks I didn't know about
- It would be great to have an indoor pool/splash pad somewhere in Richland! The outdoor pools are only open a very short time each year!
- It would be great to see more softball fields to support the Richland Little League Softball girls. Richland could use a sports complex like south ridge or Pasco. Perhaps over by the new Costco at Queensgate? It would be great for the city of Richland to have something similar to invest in youth sports.
- It would be nice if all parks and open spaces had good, working bathrooms and access to water fountains.

- It would be nice if the parks had more water features like splash pads, also it would be nice if a park had more vendors around regularly plus music to make for a fun family evening. Live at 5 venue has very few trees and the sun is brutal. I would like to see more events at the fingernail.
- It would be nice to have more parks in south Richland. We like the splash pad, but neighborhood parks would be nice. They are kind of hard to get to.
- It would be nice to have parking garage near the Lee blvd access point to help with event traffic/ parking and also weekend access.
- It's difficult to find a park that has slides and swings appropriate for young kids, and larger slides and activities for my older kids. The parks that do have older and younger options are farther away so it's more of a time investment.
- It's hard to find parking at peak times.
- Just keep up the great maintenance ~ thank you!
- Just keeping them well maintained and free of homeless/drug use/crime.
- Keep cleaner, have more play area for toddlers. Bike riding areas, shaded walkways.
- Keep crime low, give fines to those who break the law, offer community events at various parks throughout the community to bring awareness to the various parks and open spaces, rec facilities. Have kayak and paddleboard specific launch areas into to the river that are a nice place to park and recreate, trash cans and maybe a restroom.
- Keep current parks maintained. Add more green space as you can. Ex is what the park by Comstock has become as shelter belt trees need to be cut down for safety reasons. Also its great that different parks cater to different interests.
- Keep homeless people out of them
- Keep open spaces near rivers natural to support our precious wildlife. Okay to keep adding biking and walking paths in all areas so we can enjoy access to our natural areas.
- Keep parks well maintained and safe.
- Keep playgrounds clean, and maintained. A website directory of parks and equipment would be helpful so we can plan which parks to go to by age of our kids
- keep providing dog poop bags at parks
- Keep riverfront undeveloped Shady walking paths
- Keep the bathrooms open
- Keep the druggies out. The park closest to us we do not use because we have found used needles, etc there. Yes, it was reported to RPD, but I don't feel safe letting my grandkids play there.
- Keep the homeless that loiter and take up gazebos, benches out of parks. Don't even think about allowing them to camp on our parks or streets
- Keep the parks clean! Leslie Grooves sometimes seems like it has gotten less care later in the summer.
- Keep the street racers out of the parking area.
- Keep up the good work adding parks or extending existing parks.

- Keep up the good work on adding paths and trails and crosswalks that light up across busier roads for safer crossing.
- Keeping the toys, benches, etc updated and in good working condition. Also, some way to have bathrooms open during the winter. I understand there is a homeless/drug use issue during the winter, so I totally get it, but it would be nice.
- Keeping them clean and safe!
- Kick out drug offenders.
- Leslie grove needs more parking. Our poor neighbors
- Leslie groves park parking
- Lights would be nice for sports at night.
- Limit non resident rentals of our park amenities. I've seen the garbage left behind.
- Listen to the public and not the City council. We wanted an open year around public market (Lee Blvd on Friday is a success) but it was shot down, lack of parking, but a condo was built instead no parking problems!
- Maintain and create more green spaces. Help fund trails on the ridges and along the rivers.
- Maintain good bike lanes.
- Maintain public safety with strong law enforcement involvement.
- Maintain the grounds better by mowing more often and treat for all the weeds. More parks should be made available and review the existing parks for the appropriateness of the equipment in play areas. Many slides are cracked or inappropriately sloped/curved. Post more signs for dogs to be ON leash. We've had increased negative interactions with off leash dogs while ours is on leaseh. It would also be nice to have some open dog parks in north Richland that could even be reserved so that dogs can get a work out but not have negative interactions from the dog park.
- Make bigger parks. The park by orchard elementary is too over crowded and no bathroom
- Make more of them. Turn the former 'shelter belt' on Goethals into an arboretum. Allow undergrowth to regrow and some dead limbs to remain so we have quails and owls return. They have entirely disappeared from our neighborhood between Aaron Drive and Gillespie since the mowing and hacking of the shelter belt began 10 or more years ago. We even had bunnies! No more. We also need sidewalks on east-west streets between G Way and Goethals, especially on Benham and Comstock. These are major routes for people to walk or bike to our parks and schools, and are regularly used by drivers attempting to escape traffic lights and who thus exceed the speed limits. These homes have paid city taxes for longer than anywhere else in Richland and deserve sidewalks paid for by the city, especially as so many of them are rentals. Please. Pay attention to the parts of Richland that were here FIRST - not just those that house the wealthiest and most influential residents. Believe me, we notice.
- Make more parks in new neighborhoods
- Make people aware of the natural open spaces (Chamna, Amon, WE Johnsonson) are part of the Richland parks system

- make sure there are parks within walking distance of every neighborhood
- make sure to add parks to all areas of Richland; I feel most are concentrated near the waterfront.
- Make the Tapteal Trail a city park
- Make the website easier to navigate thru.
- Make the website easier to use. It's really, really hard to find the schedule for the community center.
- Make them more reservable.
- Make them safer for kids (we have found drug items and other unsafe items) perhaps put more fences and better bathrooms. Goethals Park is one of the best parks but not the safest. The tunnels would be great but they flood with the sprinklers and there's no drainage. I've slipped on the muddy hill multiple times because of this flooding issue and have seen multiple others slip. They need to remedy the flooding issue and mulch the surrounding dirt hill. The porta potty is not ideal. People drive too fast on Goethals and there is not a fence.
- Many low-income families frequent the parks for stay cations & weekend fun. You have removed swimming docks without replacing them. With the changes at Bateman, fishing & hiking has been more difficult. People with money have boats and can swim/fish from their boats. You continue to take away from low income without replacing access for them.
- Maybe converting old unused development area to park spaces. Protect natural areas and open spaces especially along the rivers. The rivers to ridges open space plan had some good ideas about preservation of natural areas and recreation access.
- Maybe don't try to turn them into affordable housing, again...
- Maybe green zones between separate parks. Safer paths between parks from cars and other hazards.
- More access to the public pool. The pool is closed on Sunday's which is my only day off a lot of the time
- More areas to swim, paddleboard, kayak ect
- More baseball and softball fields
- More baseball and softball parks
- More baseball fields.
- More benches and bathrooms
- More bike lanes to parks and safer environment (crack down on homeless / drug activity)
- More bike lanes!
- More city playfields for baseball and softball
- More community events at them
- More directed events funding news ways to bring people together to enjoy the spaces we gave
- More handicap parking areas close to event space.

- More investment in shade directly over playgrounds.
- More of them in different parts of Richland. G way has great ones along the river but near gage there aren't many that are close. Claybell is beautiful but unfortunately it is too far to take our bikes and we don't have enough room for bike racks so we have to drive and it have our bikes. More rentals would be ideal. Simple affordable rentals for kids ages not just adults would be so nice
- More park rangers
- More park space, with lots of shade, and natural features.
- More parking at Leslie groves. Prioritize repairing all park restrooms faster and keeping them open consistently and all year.
- More parking by Goethals. Real bathroom by Goethals.
- More parking for Leslie Groves and especially Howard Amon
- More parking! Leslie Groves never had enough. Howard Amon doesn't have enough either.
- More parking, more trash cans, more places to sit. Lack of parking is a nightmare.
- More parking/ permanent restrooms particular at Goethals Park
- More parks and splash pads in West Richland
- More parks in subdivisions that are easier to access by walking rather than having to drive. I live in white bluffs subdivision and I would love to have a park within walking distance.
- More parks, with shade and natural features
- More pickleball courts
- More pickleball courts and more bike trails or safe areas for road bikes. A decent swimming pool for laps.
- More pickleball courts, more shaded areas, more bathrooms, more garbage cans
- More picnic tables, more dog off leash areas, more shade trees and nature (like Goethals Park). Painted parallel parking lines at river front parks. Safer river swimming areas - I watched a swimmer get hit by a jet ski at Howard Amon this summer. More water focused amenities available at the parks, instead of vendors setting up huge rental spaces on park land, which prevents visitors from using the prime shade space. For smaller neighborhood parks, fewer sports fields and more off leash dog areas. I've lived by Rodney block for five years and have seen people using the baseball diamond maybe three times total, and people using the area for off leash fetch almost daily. Also - FIX THE WATER FOUNTAINS.
- More police presence. Illegal parking should not be tolerated. If parking not available, there are plenty of other parks outside of residential neighborhoods that people can go to.
- More public transportation
- More recreational pools!

- More reliable public transit, and more parking opportunities especially at Howard Amon. Maybe put a parking garage where the old city hall used to be and put in some over head pedestrian crossing.
- More river access for families to swim, play in. Safer beach areas.
- More safe places for very young kids (toddlers), more fenced areas, slower speed limits near parks and playgrounds (similar to school zones)
- More shade and parks not built out of metal.
- More shade trees along the open areas of the riverwalk
- More softball and baseball fields. Better up keep of the batting cages at Jefferson Park
- More Softball fields please
- More sports fields, specifically softball and baseball.
- More stroller friendly areas and fenced in parks
- More tables and benches. Some close to the river
- More things to do. I wish some of the amenities proposed for Leslie Groves Park a few years ago had been followed through on. Better bus service. More programs to get kids to parks, such as by schools or nonprofits. Lots of shade in summer, plus maybe splash pads or even misters (it gets hot!!!).
- more trail systems for mountain biking, trail running and hiking
- More trails connecting neighborhoods and parks
- More trash cans and picnic tables
- more vigilance on illegal activities: activities in parking lots; use of electric bikes and vehicles on trails and bike trails; littering; off leash dogs
- More Walking paths with parking options places to stop along paths to visit Like coffee food etc.
- More water parks for kids!
- More, high quality softball fields.
- Mot at this time. Great job!
- Mow and clean up on the river side of the path. The Haines dike path is already getting uneven due to leaving the weed trees next to the path. Just like before. Just like the shelterbelt. The same mistakes over and over. Blame it on the Corps.
- Mow the natural areas clean them up to prevent fires
- Multi-level parking in congested areas, such as Howard Amon Park.
- Na
- na
- Na
- Need an improved public pool facility where adults can lap swim, water aerobics and children can play (water park)
- Need more patrol and no parking enforcement at Top of the World Park (upper part of Badger Mountain Park and more control over street racing late at night. We don't feel safe using the park in evening and night.

- [illegible]

- Non restricted use hours
- None
- Nope
- Not at this time
- Not sure if parks in the Horn Rapids development are maintained by HOA's or the city.
- Nothing to add.
- Now badger and Claybell 2 times a week. Improve the infields and add a fence at claybell
- Off leash dog parks with handicap paths. In old part of richland
- Offer a space for indoor pickleball that is open to the public for winter and/or poor weather play.
- One concern I have is that investment in trees, etc. is expensive, but that along the walking path in S Richland many of the trees have died from lack of care. Another is safety at some of the parks.
- One of the best things about Richland is it's system of parks and trails!
- Other than have more parks and outdoor sports complexes, perhaps continue adding large walking paths (like the one down Keene / Gage) that have access to parks.
- Our youth are very important. More available sport complexes would be nice.
- Parent friendly spots in shade with reasonable views and access while the kids run and play.
- Parking at some locations, e.g. Leslie Groves, is very poor, spilling into the neighborhood, on busy weekends and holidays.
- Parking at some of the parks like Claybell is limited
- Parking seems to be limited and usage by those that are required to drive to use - typically anyone who lives more than a 15 min walk or with a desire to picnic- are then forced to park in neighborhoods. we need to recognize we are not Seattle or Portland. our residents drive to their desired destination. stop eliminating parking.
- Parks in Badger Mountain South need to be stepped up to the level that ones like Howard Amon Park are maintained.
- People from outside neighborhoods utilize and make it feel unsafe (e.g. Claybell had had vandalism, gun shots!) More monitoring.
- Perhaps creating a map of how to walk, bike, or use public transit to get to various parks?
- Places for parents to sit to watch their children play, access to restrooms
- Plant more shade trees
- Please - 1) keep pickleball courts away from residential homes 2) Foster the large areas of natural vegetation 3) Employees - every park employee with whom I interact are positive, pleasant and conscientious 4) Spiders are important, but bursting populations are a detriment. This year I see more vegetation which is not festooned with webs. ~ These are just a few key thoughts about Richland's parks, pathways and neighborhoods I just returned from a 5 mile walk (round trip) beginning and ending at Leslie Groves Park's boat launch. One of the first things I remarked on was how lovely & tall the sage brush

along the roadside has become. During my walk along the pathway I saw several butterfly species, Lady Bugs, a praying mantis, garden snake as well as birds. Seeing the Milkweed patches and their seed floss. Seeing people picnicking, playing volleyball, splashing in the river, walking-running-biking along the pathways was happy and uplifting. The homes lining the park and pathways appear serene and enjoy being neighbors. Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts, compliments and concerns.

- Please clear more vegetation along the river front. Particularly at Leslie Groves.
- Please consider a park up in the new developments on Legacy and Westcliffe
- Please consider more neighborhood pool options rather than just the private ones. With only the one large public pool in one area of town it is really sad that we don't have more neighborhood options within walking/biking distance. Personally, I would rather see these invested in that a newer/larger Prout Pool replacement situation if it were being considered to make summer fun more accessible to more people.
- Please do more covered parks and recreation areas for children to enjoy, I think they're a great investment and also prevent the deterioration of park equipment during our harsh summers.
- Please do not permit the ironman event. It takes away from parks users and fouls the transportation system for a day, often for critical things like doctors appointments.
- Please do something about the homeless/vagrants hanging around the Jefferson little league fields and park structure—those areas should be a safe place for children to play, especially in the spring/summer! I've also encountered way too many of these people along the walking paths along the river in north Richland, and it causes me to avoid that area for my daily walks, especially if I'm going to be walking alone. I wish I didn't have to feel this way!
- Please do something about the speeding and disregard for pedestrians. E bikes and MOTORIZED mini bikes are ruining the paths for pedestrians. I live on the river and Columbia Point is dangerous and needs a makeover.
- Please expand the hours for lap swimming at George Prout!! Thank you!
- Please keep the river shore more natural rather than allowing buildings to occupy it.
- Please maintain the bumps & cracks in the bike paths and walking paths
- Please please get the homeless camps out. It is not safe. Predatory people high on drugs approach us. Needles and trash and poop. What has Richland become?
- Poll the local residents that live near the parks. Don't make the same mistake that the city council made last year with Leslie Groves! All the more reason why we should have district representatives elected to the city council, not 5 from south Richland.
- Poll the local residents that live near the parks. Don't make the same mistake that the city council made last year with Leslie Groves. This is the reason why district representation is need at the city council, not five members living in south Richland who are out of touch.
- Pool! The one single pool is not open evenings or half the weekend, and is very crowded.

- Posting guidelines about what is considered courteous behavior might help open the park to a broader cultural audience since different groups believe different behaviors are appropriate in public locations.
- Preserve access to equestrian spaces. This is a part of our Western heritage and an opportunity for TriCities to market and advertise our community.
- Prout should be open May thru Sept. With lap swim at lunchtime and early evening (~5pm). Open swim should last into the evening and be available until 8pm. And open to the public 7 days per week. Better advertising of hours of operation would improve pool patronage.
- Provide a walking path or track all around the perimeter with a garbage can and pet bags at one end, continue to plant large shade trees, and keep parks well lit at night to prevent illegal activity.
- Provide bike lanes to parks. Encourage people to bike for transportation or at least have the option.
- Provide chairs bench's, etc in shaded areas or put up covers. Watching grandkids at Badger bc splash pad too hot sitting in the sun. Covered areas should be in all the parks with benches
- Provide larger parks with more access to sports, covered spaces, and closer to businesses (riverfront)
- Provide modern, high quality cycling recreation opportunities such as pump tracks and mountain bike trails like as being provided by many other cities in recent years.
- Provide more public pickleball courts
- Provide more softball and baseball fields.
- Provide more space for sport facilities. Include more parks in neighborhoods.
- Provide softball facilities that all can use. Little league softball needs a home
- Public pool please with more hours for adult swim. The short time midday is not accessible for working folks
- Public Pool. Additionally, Badger mountain south community actually getting the parks they were promised.
- Public spaces are for everyone. I think treating them like they will be used by all classes of people, including people who do not meet the "default" ie. owning cars, able bodied, etc. is important. We need more sheltered trails. We need more public restrooms. Areas where you can refill a bike tire, or get water from a fountain. And public showers where people can rinse off after being in the Columbia, which is full of agricultural runoff and other hazardous substances.
- Publicise them more.
- Put more money into trails, parks and offer more classes.
- Put shade covers over the parks and benches! My grandparents love to take their great grand daughter to the park but it's too hot at most parks. My youngest is 7 months and if

there isn't much shade we can't go. If it's too hot and the play structure is over heated, we can't go. Shade brings down temperatures on average by about 20-25 degrees!

- Put the boat cushions back on the boat launch docks!
- Re do them like kenniwick is and get rid of all the bark its not acceptable and its gross! And have a report center where people can report broken park things and have the responded to with in a month at the longest
- Recreational centers would be wonderful for fitness and very much needed.
- Regular inspection and maintance
- Remove homeless camps along the river
- Restrict vehicle traffic and promote walkable spaces
- Restrooms and usable drinking fountains are really needed at more parks. Richland has so many great neighborhood parks that are usually well maintained but lack of restrooms and water make it less desirable to go there.
- Richland City Parks are amazing. I would like to see better coordination with the badger mountain trail society as they try to expand. Those trails get a lot of use by residents and Richland could should be contributing more to the funding and land acquisition at the parking lots, access, and trail heads etc..
- Richland needs a better aquatics option that is accessible in center/north Richland
- Richland needs more aquatic centers
- Run an open air trolley bus that only takes kids under 16 to parks on a route and uses the bus pass cards.
- Run your irrigation system earlier, so that watering is finished by 5:00 a.m.
- safer streets--traffic calming measures, protected bike lanes
- Safety for community members, support local events.
- Safety: NO motor us of motorized bikes/ebikes in park. Richland waterfront is flat. There is no reason motorized bikes/ebike motors to be engaged
- Scooter rentals such as lime would improve access and reduce parking congestion
- Security and cleanliness are important features.
- Send emails to residents about events in the parks
- Shade, if it's an open space have areas for multi use (reading spots, cement ground area, walking path, restrooms, tables etc)
- Should increase bus access to the riverfront parks
- Sidewalks, water fountains (w/ pet drinking fountains), and start maintaining the alleyways (between houses) that lead to parks. Overgrowth of weeds like cheatgrass and goatheads completely deter use of these paths for many. Root-cracking of pathways and lack of lighting also detracts. See also the southbound sidewalk of G-way between McMurray and Saint for weed impedance and aged sidewalk.
- Smooth out bike paths to make riding more comfortable and safer.
- Smoother paths/ more paths and bike lanes. Better bathrooms

- Softball complex would be a great addition to the baseball complex that already exists. Richland has a great sports community and it would be great to see investments into girls softball, like you have with baseball.
- Softball fields.
- Spend more on their maintenance and add park rangers.
- Stick with the vision of beautification, public use, remove all forms of vagrancy, focus on waterfront and sporting areas like Tennis, Pickleball, Table Tennis (indoor) and encourage 3rd party run tournaments or events.
- Stop facilitating the spread of invasive species that negatively affect biodiversity like Phragmites. So called Russian olive is not native but a major food source for native birds and animals.
- Stop hosting big tournaments. They flood the city with outsiders, take away meaningful access to the parks for others, and don't provide significant benefit to the city since they don't stay long or spend much money. The negatives outweigh the positives (Ironman, for instance)
- Stop opening New and keep existing parks CLEAN
- Stop the BS with Cambell park. Affluent areas tend to use parks much less. They go to private facilities. Invest in sports facilities in lower income neighborhoods. Just take a look at the decline of recreational youth sports registrations. The city is pricing its native population out if a or of transplants with horrible ideas to make us look like the place they left. Overall, I wouldn't invest in anywhere south of Aaron drive, or north of McMurray. They have money to gleefully recreate. Give equity to lower income neighborhoods.
- Stop trying to over think it. Go back to the way they did stuff in the 80's and 90's. Stop trying to make everyone happy it will fail. Keep the parks open don't spend thousands on parking space blocks. It was a waste of money.
- Stop wasting money on harassing and assaulting people experiencing homelessness. If the parks aren't for everyone, then they aren't really welcoming for anyone.
- Strong identity for each park space and how each park space is integrated into the park system. For example Park A is our signature park for outdoor events, Park B is our nature park for closeness to nature, Park C is our children's park, and so on.
- Successful enforce dogs on lease laws biggest improve we may make Enforce parking laws
- Sun shades at playgrounds, keeping area safe and clean with active monitoring to reduce crime and homeless camps.
- Support more infrastructure for large events like shows and concerts. We can use more of that.
- Support special use facilities for various community based hobbies such as safe space for model aircraft or other STEM type projects
- Support the horse community

- Take care of the paved paths. Wheelchairs and ADA scooters don't do well on even pathways
- Talk with transit station for having stops near all parks
- The access we currently have seems very reasonable for most of our community. Let's focus on the parks, not on getting there. If people want to go bad enough they can get there. Focus on maintaining the parks and restrooms, as well as on activities that will benefit most people. There are plenty of athletic fields and dog parks already.
- The biggest draw to the Richland area is access to the Columbia river. However, heavy non native species have grown so thick along the river that they obstruct access to the river and promote areas for drug use and encampments. This creates an unsafe area, one which I do not feel comfortable accessing in the early morning or evenings and potential for fires. Additionally, with their takeover of space, non native species have fallen across trails. Maintenance then of these "natural" areas goes unkept.
- The city could sponsor walks with experts to look at birds, plants and other natural features. I have lived in other areas where non-profits have sponsored those activities.
- The city needs a new pool/ aquatic facility. With all rivers around it is imperative that children have a safe place to learn to swim. George Prout is too busy, indicating the need for another facility. Also, the hot summer calls out for a pool.
- The city needs to take care of their courts better. In north Richland they are falling apart. At Claybell, almost new courts, are cracking and falling apart. At a minimum get the sprinklers configured so they don't have puddles after the sprinklers run.
- The City of Richland is significantly behind the curve in terms of the national number and quality of Pickleball courts
- The community events at Howard Amon area have a large impact on visits to the park. Small scale events at other parks, highlighting the various ways to get there would increase interest. Many people in various residents groups ask for recommendations of places to go and things to do. It seems like they just don't know what is available in the community. Scavenger hunts and park passport programs for the kids would be fun.
- The dog park is VERY heavily utilized. Hopefully the new one put in by the City of Kennewick will relieve some use. If not, we need a second dog park.
- The existing city pool could be expanded in size and modernized. Add additional features similar to other city owned water park facilities. Expand pool hours - currently not many open swim options and it is closed on Sundays - difficult for parents to access during work hours. Also consider adding additional river swim areas.
- The last time we visited a park we rented the picnic shelter at Jefferson Park and it was in disgusting condition, these areas need to be monitored better.
- The north side of town being older neighborhoods tend to not have the care that the south side of town receives which seems to tie into more affluent neighborhoods having better services for their areas. Newer facilities get planned with newer products.

- The older neighborhood parks need to be maintained better. The one near us, Liddel Park, has a HORRIBLE walking path with huge dips in the path.
- The only thing I've experienced is trouble with parking spaces with parks along the river. Parks are being used which is great. Maybe angled parking along the adjacent road parallel with the parks. Approximately 20 feet of grass along the edge of the park would need to be removed for crushed rock or black top.
- The over growth by the river is horrible and needs work. You can't see the beautiful river from the park benches or even walking. Few places for rafts, kayaks, paddle boards to get in or out of the river at Leslie Groves, Need some pickleball courts at Leslie Groves park.
- The riverfront path is poorly lit in parts, and the landscaping along the path is not always well maintained, with tall weeds overwhelming any view.
- The swimming pool is under-utilized. It should be packed with kids all summer and could be open several more months, May-October, at least for lap swim.
- The tree
- The walking path by 240 is close to my house but I don't use it because the path is uneven and it's not a pretty pathway. It feels sketchy to walk alone especially in the evening.
- There are a lot of baseball fields but not enough softball fields. The sport is growing and scheduling fields is the biggest issue when trying to grow the game to match the interest.
- There are no parks in newer West Richland neighborhoods . The kids have no where to go.
- There is a huge need for additional softball fields and sports facilities.
- There is a large scuba diving community in the Tri-Cities. We often do dive training in the Newton St area of Richland. It would be amazing to post signs and put a roped off swimming only area around the Newton St area. There are already so many swimmers in that area and the roped off area that's further south is not nearly large enough. Please make the swimming areas along the river safer by preventing motorized water vehicles like boats and jet skis from coming anywhere near swimmers (and in our case, divers).
- There is a need for more baseball/softball fields.
- There is a need for shaded areas. Parents also appreciate fenced in play space especially when supervising multiple children. Bathrooms are always great. (This is a bit of a stretch but security cameras on playgrounds would be amazing. Even fake ones to deter to crime)
- There needs to be more seating around the main playground area and tables in the shade! I would also like to see more interesting recreational things to do in the parks for youth of all ages. Other cities I have been to have skate board courses, Four Square, Large checkers and chess boards, climbing walls, tall tower ziplines, rope bridges, obstacle course areas, tether ball, and Put-Put golf course to name a few. Columbia Park has one playground. The main structure is for older kids and is almost always too crowded. It is very hard to track your child. The area meant for younger kids is occupied by older kids.

The younger kids don't have a chance to use their area. Different activity structures spread out a little would lessen the crowding.

- They are perfect as is.
- Tie parks and open spaces together through connecting bike paths, walking paths, sidewalks, and bike lanes. The city is designed entirely around vehicle traffic, making access to public spaces car dependent. This creates access inequities for children, limited income families, and people who don't drive.
- Too many of our neighborhood parks are primarily just grassy areas . Adding shelters, tables, grilling facilities etc. could increase their functionality as neighborhood gathering spaces..
- Transit stops
- Tri cities athletics community continues to grow. We need to make our facilities for sports align with the large community of athletes. Hybrid facilities that can house softball, baseball, soccer, all the sports and large format tournaments would be so great, especially in West Richland.
- Understanding the population and what is needed. Is Richland a retirement community or young families with children? Build for safety and enjoyment, entertainment and activities. Survey's such as this. If not already included, provide URL or QR code for use within city monthly utility bills to reach out to everyone.
- Update some of the play structures at the older parks. Pickleball courts in a few parks around richland would be amazing!
- Use your current electric infrastructure that is often used by events/food trucks, to support electric vehicle charging. I'd love to be able to charge at the park while I'm visiting the park with my son.
- Utah county has it on point. Each city has a couple large parks that accommodate 100s and has big splash pads, playground, grass, toddler areas, bike areas.
- Value the shrubsteppe
- Way more street calming measures! We've got 5 speed bumps on Broadmoor but none on Bellerive! People speed all the time on Bellerive. There are two great playgrounds (plus it's easy to get to Baskin Robbin's & DW) but I wouldn't ride bikes with my kids on ANY part of Bellerive! Another real concern is access during hot weather. Especially with the new ADA surfaces! Those get way too hot and unpleasant. Please plant larger diameter trees on the north & west sides, south if a windbreak is needed - then TAKE CARE of them!! Trees should have bubblers not surface sprinklers. They may even need watering in the winter (watering trucks can do this) when temps are >40 degrees. It seems nearly 1/3 of the newer trees the city has planted are dead or dying. Several at Claybell have already been removed and not replaced. That's unacceptable. There should be adequate developers fees! oh, that's right. The city gave Ron Asmus a sweetheart deal and didn't asses his green space fee!

- We are a large and growing community. It would nice to have more sand volleyball nets at other parks as well.
- We are fortunate to have so many beautiful parks in Richland. I live near Leslie Groves and it has become overrun. I believe this is because of the volleyball court and swimming beach. I'd like to see more volleyball courts and beaches built in other parks as well as pickleball courts. Columba Point would be perfect as there is lots of parking and the park is lightly used .
- We are in need of more softball/baseball fields for the growing leagues
- We don't have a lot of softball fields and those that are around us are grass fields and not well maintained. Hard to practice on grass and then play in dirt for games.
- We have a beautiful waking and biking path along the Columbia River. Areas of the bike path are in need of repair. There are large"road bumps" which are unsafe. The paths have nice benches along them for restinging and looking at the river. Unfortunately, these views are now of overgrown weeds and brush. The river banks along the majority of the paths and park areas should be cleared of this brush and weeds. There are many benefits of clearing out the weeds and over growth. First, the clearing would reopen spectacular river views. It would remove areas for vagrants to illegally stay overnight. This would in turn also help with reducing the growing rat population. It would provide greater access for kayakers, paddleboarders, fisherman, and water enthusiasts to access the river. It most also help to keep our parks safe. Please clear out the weeds and brush.
- We have a need for safety to be addressed- this may be more of a police concern than a parks and rec responsibility, but it is a concern
- We have some of the best parks I have ever experienced across the country. They are well-maintained. My only real suggestion is to be more proactive in separating pedestrians (walkers, runners, etc.) from bicycles, skateboards, and other similar vehicles. It is difficult walking along Howard Amon or Columbia Point with a dog on a leash and having bicycles and e-bikes whizzing by at faster than safe speeds and very close. Leslie Groves is great with this, but the signage for the two different paths should be better maintained.
- We have used the community gardens for several years, but only in the first year were we billed for their use. If I were billed, I'd pay!
- We moved to the area six months ago and have been loving access to all of the recreation options in Richland. I've been using the George Prout pool several times per week. I like the pool to extend hours and access into the fall, and would be willing to pay more for access to facilitate this.
- We need a large, year round pool.
- We need a rec center! We need better rec programs for youth! Sports are too expensive here and youth need inexpensive rec programs to develop healthy life-styles. Look at Utah County (Orem, Provo, Spanish Fork, even Lindon) for great ideas of what to offer. Even their much smaller cities outshine us in every way! CBRC doesn't need to be protected by council members anymore. Do what is best for the city!

- We need an indoor water park
- We need an updated wadding pool and a new aquatic center
- We need indoor recreation facilities including a pool! Also need better trash management at Howard Amon. Trash cans are full in the mornings and their is trash around the playground.
- We need little league fields and softball fields. We are well known for our love of baseball in Richland and can use another Badger style complex.
- We need more baseball and softball fields. We only have seven baseball fields in Richland. We probably need 4 more and I think we need fields that are softball and baseball multi use.
- We need more fields for baseball/softball in West Richland area. We need kids in sports exercising and learning team sports.
- We need more free pickleball courts. 95% of us cannot afford \$100+ per month to get access to indoor and outdoor courts. Outdoor courts are very busy. Indoor courts at churches on wood floors and basketball courts are not ideal, even if it is \$3 for 2 hours plus there are only 3 courts indoors at these churches and city of Pasco. CBC has limited play and it's too far to go and 35+ per month
- We need more public pools! It's hot!! I am puzzled by the fact that this, possibly the greatest shortcoming and need, is not even mentioned in this survey. The fact that our rivers are often filled with toxic algae at the hottest time of the year makes this even more urgent!
- We need more softball fields. Horns rapid and Columbia playfields are not enough for our community.
- We need more softball or multi use baseball fields with good restrooms
- We need more swimming options/ toddler pool area. Right now there isn't one close in west richland
- We need more trees, we also need more seats way more parking lots and please more safety
- We need to protect open spaces and provide trails. Restrict development in open space areas that would be ideal for hiking, biking and sight seeing. We have good parks I believe.
- We need to use more of rhe spacw at Bombinf Range sports complex for more baseball fields.
- We usually have no problem using our parks, though sometimes Howard Amon is not accessible during some events. We love our parks.
- We would love to see more softball fields in the city.
- What would be awesome to see is a well planned thought around linking the various parks via a good walk/bike trail system
- When a park is built, it should be useful beyond having a walking path, grass, and a restroom. The park should include inclusive play equipment, maybe a splash pad, shade structures, lots of benches, and sports fields. For example, the highly touted and

anticipated park in Badger Mountain South which was finally opened this Spring after years of delay, is not only losing space due to what seems like a shady deal with BMS' developer NorAm, the park is lacking the things that people want in the area and causing many who would ordinarily walk to the park near their house to have to drive to privately funded and maintained HOA parks (i.e. Celebration Park in West Vineyard). Our publicly funded parks should include things like swings, slides, interactive musical instruments, pavilion and picnic tables. There is no reason that residents who could walk to the new public park should have to drive to an HOA park to allow their children to play. Parks should also be built with community events in mind (like concerts and gatherings).

- wildland at Lawless: more weed control such as goats on spring growth; more feral cat/skunk control; garbage disposal; police patrol (homeless)
- Work with BFT for more transit access to parks, especially Howard Amon and Leslie Groves
- Work with BFTA to get busses out to Horn Rapids!
- Working with a local equestrian group, ie: back Country Horseman local member groups. These groups can help build, and maintain trails that allow not only biking, hiking, motocross, but if available to horses, they trim trees, move large limbs after a storm and much more. They just need access to these same parks as others. These folks would be a wonderful volunteer asset to the city.
- Would be nice that the bathrooms would be open when they should be open. Specifically the West Village park. Many times when going for a walk I find the bathrooms are not open.
- would be nice to see some expansion to our Baseball fields, would really like to see a few fields with light to allow for more playing time and possible large tournaments to be played in our town.
- Would like to see more dog parks with shade, more bike trails, and better use of the riverfront areas.
- Would love more Softball fields! The The Keene baseball fields would be a dream to have for softball and something more central in Richland versus far out in Horn Rapids and also having concessions.
- Would love pickleball courts in North Richland, and an indoor pool for winter use.
- Would love to see more bike paths, and indoor swimming options
- Would love to see some shade coverings at Richland parks. The playgrounds simply become much too HOT in the summertime!
- Would love to see splash pads for kids along Howard Amon to Leslie Groves. Dog Park too and water fountains for dogs since toxic algae is always a concern.
- Yes, keep motorized vehicles off the walking paths and bike paths. They're sometimes noisy, and very often they're dangerously fast
- Yes. I would suggest the city get input as to which parks would benefit people if \$\$ were invested and what those funds should go to. It is my personal thought that money should

be put towards trees and a yearly maintenance plan that includes getting the water started in the spring and to make sure the water fully reaches the trees through the growing season with no plugged filters or other foreseeable problems. In 20 years I think the Tri Cities is going to be quite hot and if we don't start trees now and maintain the irrigation people will not want to visit parks because it will be too hot to go outside unless there is shade. Also one park (which I am unsure if its a city park) that I would like to improve with a bench or two and paved path would be the unnamed space just north of and adjacent to the Richland Life Care Center which I believe is on Goethals. This little park would benefit all the residents of the Life Care Center. If it had a paved path that encircled the park the residents could walk in nature and it would improve their lives considerably. If it were allowed I would plant flowers & shrubs there if there was irrigation to keep them alive. I have been wanting to create a beautiful place for them for some time now. Just don't know if its allowed, and if water is available.

- You do a excellent job - always amazed that on weekends you will pick up the trash several times in well used areas. Appreciate that you replaced trees after removals. The mixing of hikers and bikers on the same trail is the only problem I see. I'm not sure how you can change in some areas..
- You need more parks by these large apartments complexes being created all over town and not where housing is all spaced out where homes almost are like parks.
- You're already doing a tremendous amount. Keep up the amazing work!

**What are the top improvements that would make parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces even better for you and your family?
(Choose up to three)**

	%	Count
Added or improved comfort amenities (restrooms, seating, etc)	35%	288
More greenspace, trees, natural areas, or landscaping	22%	182
Repairs to trails or facilities	20%	162
Added or improved facilities to support sports, recreation, or active play	19%	154
A greater variety of things to do	18%	147
More gathering spaces (shelters, seating areas, etc)	15%	124
Better water entry/exit access points on the river(s)	15%	120
Improved access for pedestrians and cyclists	14%	118
More frequent maintenance, cleaning, mowing, etc	13%	111
More parking	13%	110
Improved access to outdoor pools, splash pads, and other water facilities	13%	106
Additional community-oriented elements (art, unique features, interpretive elements)	9%	75
Additional opportunities for recreation activities (organized or casual team and individual sports)	9%	71
Better ADA accessibility to ensure access for all ages and abilities	7%	56
Free Wi-Fi	4%	35
No improvements are needed	4%	29
Something not on this list (please specify)	15%	121
Total	100%	827

N = 827

Responses to: Something not on this list [open-ended]

- More Pickleball courts
- More pickleball courts
- A dock designed for getting in and out of kayak. Have used at other cities and they are amazing. Can also use for paddle boards too
- A large water park
- Add pickleball courts
- Adding a pump track (velo solutions style)
- An indoor aquatic facility
- An indoor public pool is a must
- Be more proactive in protecting open space park areas like Amon Basin Natural Preserve from inappropriate habitat destruction. Be more proactive in weed control in natural open space park areas.
- Better labels and signs for pedestrian vs. bike lanes.
- Change the design to include more movement especially rotary and linear
- Clean up the river side of the dike that runs along Hains. Clear some of the overgrowth that is now encouraging homeless and drug use.
- Come up with a way to discourage the geese from nesting in Howard Amon. The goose crap is disgusting. You want people to pick up their dog crap but when there is so much goose crap why bother?
- Community art event support like concerts and shows
- Control weeds at Richland Horse Park
- Cracking down on drug dealing
- Destroy/prevent the large spiders at Leslie Groves
- Do not allow homeless to sleep in these areas
- EV Charging
- Eliminate Russian olives near river! They greatly diminish our enjoyment of these areas.
- Float/white water areas (Like Bend Oregon/Boise Idaho)
- Foliage that encumbers the trails
- For different accesses to the ocean, remove sharp rocks and make it to where it's lot more friendly for people to sit and enjoy the area and make sure there's no glass and homeless people and drugs around the riverfront at all but mainly get rid of the sharp rocks and other things that can injure people
- Forget wi-fi, there's plenty of cell signal for those who must have it.
- Hiking paths along the rivers, docks for fishing and swimming, & interactive information along the way.
- I love the city's park systems for running, biking, and community get togethers. I wish there were dedicated mountain biking trails like most developed city's. I also wish there was more food truck/local cafe options near the river trail.

- I would love it if the city had a boathouse for non motorized craft storage and lessons like they do at greenlake in seattle.
- I'd like to see trees planted to replace those being taken out on the Shelter Belt
- Improved and more options for equestrian riding.
- Indoor aquatic center, or bubble over George Prout Pool
- Indoor pool (come to South Richland near the Fairchild movie theater or over by Costco) and we also need seasonal pool / outdoor pools over here pleyamd thank you
- Indoor recreation facilities with a large pool!
- Keep adding and maintaining biking and walking paths.
- Keep hands off WEJohnson. Do not promote any development. Keep it for equestrians and hikers. Do not allow motorized vehicles. Preserve its natural beauty and a habitat for wildlife.
- Keeping homeless encampments out of park areas, increased safety measures
- Maintenance of play surfaces and trees nearby.
- Make the Tapteal Trail a continuous linear park from Bateman Island to Snively Road
- More access to electricity.
- More amenities and focus on parks that are not in established residential neighborhoods where there is loud noise and illegal activities.
- More beach front
- More bike parking/places to lock up bikes. So we can play without worry.
- More connection or mapping of bike paths between Richland, Kennewick and Pasco. Also Kennewick and Pasco need to put the same level of maintenance and care into their bike paths as Richland does!
- More fenced in playgrounds
- More horse friendly areas
- More parks, green spaces, and connections between them
- More patrol of boat parking spaces that have cars with no trailers in them.
- More pickleball courts
- More security, such as law enforcement presence
- More shade from either trees or covers
- More shade trees. There is not enough shade on the southwest side of playground equipment in many parks, along walking paths, and along swimming beaches.
- More shaded playgrounds for year-round playing. Playground equipment at many parks gets too hot in the summer.
- More softball fields, it's a rapidly growing sport
- More splash parks and gazebo's.
- Motorized vehicles - electric bikes, scooters, boards, etc. that go faster than a walking/running person on walking trails, or a regular bike on bike trails, need to be prohibited. They are dangerous and frightening when they approach so suddenly. There needs to be signage and penalties.

- Mountain bike trails systems
- My daughter fell and hit her head on the end of an exposed bolt at the baseball fields off Keene many years ago. There was blood all over in her hair and I ran her to the emergency room. I brought the issue up to an employee and asked that something be done to make the bolts (securing the handrail to the concrete stairs) more safe, but it's been years and nothing has been done to cap them off and/or grind them down. It's amazing what government gets away with. A private contractor would never pass inspection leaving a project where children play in such an unsafe state.
- N. Richland dog park
- Nature walks supported by the city but led by experts, similar to the mid-century walking tours.
- Need dog park by the water and fix the water faucet for dogs or install new ones like Johnson dam plaza has
- Need more baseball fields and homelessness away from our parks (jefferson, flat top)
- Off leash Dog
- Off leash dog park
- Outdoor classes
- Parks south of the Yakima are for local neighborhoods only and way, way to small. Its time for the City to realize it isn't just about 'old' Richland.
- Paths along the river are overgrown with weeds, tree limbs. Need strategy for controlling overgrowth while maintaining natural areas.
- Pickleball courts
- Plant native trees in public spaces.
- Plant shade trees
- Pruning shrubbery to impress visibility of river from trailside benches.
- Puckleball
- Ranger/police presence
- Removal of homeless and drug users.
- Rigously enforce dog and parking laws
- Riverside refreshments/patio.
- SHADE
- SHADE OVER THE PLAYGROUNDS. I understand the reasoning for metal slides at Howard Amon, but it is WILD that those slides aren't covered in shade. I will often travel to Southridge complex playground because the whole playground has a shade tarp. The badger Mtn splash park and playground desperately needs shade, also.
- Security against homeless people trashing the place and more shade
- Security cameras and lighting.
- Separate bike and pedestrian trails along river. E-bikes and high amount of users are making it unsafe for walking on trails
- Separate parking for horse trailers

- Shade
- Shade covers
- Shade covers for some playgrounds. And spray for spiders or clean more in the fall at least at Leslie groves
- Shade for play structures or benches (with trees or otherwise)
- Shade for really hot months.
- Shade options for playgrounds and some playgrounds with fences for kids who elope
- Shaded areas to sit/ watch
- Shaded areas, shades over jungle gyms, more options for water play. Not everyone has access to a pool or can pay to go to a pool. Build more public pools that aren't just a pool. It's sad there's only 1 public pool in the entire tri cities has slides and large shallow area.
- Shaded seating by play areas. Spokane's Riverfront Park can offer great ideas!
- Shaders for pur playgrounds and splash pads
- Sidewalks to river. Need more weed and tree removal to be able to see the river!
- Slides are metal and hot!! Dangerous!!!
- Soft surface running trail (bark chip or dirt) and Mountain bike trail
- Stop antagonizing people who look impoverished. Parks should not have a dress code.
- Swimming pools!
- The boat launch area at Howard Amon collects river debris and makes it difficult to fish off of
- The parking and garbage situation at Howard Amon due to the cruise is frustrating. Sometimes all the bins I can find are full.
- The parks are really great and a testament to the city of Richland. But many parks could benefit from small updates to address graffiti, pollution, and the wear/tear of hot summers.
- The parks could all use more garbage cans. I feel this would lead to less littering. The cans need to be emptied more often on weekends. This is particularly problematic in Howard Amon.
- The river overgrowth of weeds, invasive trees along the river prohibits access and encourage homeless camps
- Traffic abatement and reduction of speeding automobiles. Also, some of the e-bikes/scooters are becoming a speeding hazard along the bike/pedestrian paths.
- Trim the tree branches hanging over walking path more regularly.
- Walking paths with labeled plants and trees--botanical garden, arboretum
- While grass is the preferred playing surface, we also must acknowledge we live in a desert. As such, steps should be taken to minimize water usage and highlight landscape conservation
- You conveniently left pool off the list. Just because Council members can afford country club or athletic club memberships many of us can't. The river is only safely accessible in a few locations. And those can be hampered by algae. Everyone south of the Yakima should

have easy access to a public pool. (Also library branch) very poor planning and unequal access to services! The city sprawled to the south side of Badger (asinine).

- better control of free running dogs
- better control of noxious weeds in open spaces but NOT converting them to grass!
- comments are relative to the Richland Horse Park. Providing a water source would be great
- covered/shaded playgrounds
- dog park
- dry plants are fire hazard by my hose
- get the homeless camps out. People are having sex in the port a potties and restrooms and it is disgusting. What about our children??
- increased need for baseball/softball faculties. Bursting at the seams with current league
- lighter maintenance of natural areas; preserve habitat functions; control weeds and invasives
- no more taxes
- nothing else just maintain the parks and NO more taxes parks are a want NOT a need.
- parks within walking distance of every neighborhood
- patrolling for illegal activities
- separate path for bikers
- tree maintenance

Average rating of Richland parks and recreation amenities

	Average	Sample Size
Affordability of recreation programs and activities	4.4	573
Park distribution across the community	4.0	643
Physical conditions of recreation facilities	3.9	568
Character or attractiveness of parks and open spaces	3.9	572
Physical conditions of parks, park amenities, or park infrastructure	3.8	619
Maintenance of natural and open spaces	3.8	596
Safety (trail/facility conditions, lighting, etc)	3.8	648
Variety of recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities	3.7	619

N = from 568 to 648 (not all respondents rated all categories)

Rating of parks and recreation amenities in Richland

	1	2	3	4	5	not applicable	Total
Affordability of recreation programs and activities	1%	7%	13%	31%	26%	23%	100%
	8	38	72	176	147	132	573
Park distribution across the community	1%	14%	11%	44%	17%	13%	100%
	9	92	71	280	109	82	643
Physical conditions of recreation facilities	1%	10%	16%	51%	14%	9%	100%
	3	56	93	287	78	51	568
Character or attractiveness of parks and open spaces	1%	10%	15%	50%	22%	2%	100%
	5	58	83	288	124	14	572
Physical conditions of parks, park amenities, or park infrastructure	0%	13%	16%	50%	17%	2%	100%
	2	83	102	312	107	13	619
Maintenance of natural and open spaces	3%	14%	13%	47%	18%	4%	100%
	17	85	80	282	108	24	596
Safety (trail/facility conditions, lighting, etc)	2%	16%	11%	52%	15%	4%	100%
	10	105	71	337	98	27	648
Variety of recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities	3%	22%	15%	39%	12%	10%	100%
	16	135	92	242	72	62	619

What type of recreational programs or activities are missing or you would like to see more of in Richland? (Choose all that apply)

	%	Count
Outdoor education/nature programs	32%	253
Cultural or arts programming (e.g., music and movies in the park, arts walks, shows, plays, performances, etc.)	29%	230
Aquatics programs for all ages	29%	229
Arts and creativity skill programs (e.g., music lessons, dance classes, crafts, painting, theater camps)	26%	205
Outdoor recreation programs (e.g., mountain biking, kayaking)	26%	205
Health and wellness programs (e.g., Yoga, Tai Chi, meditation, nutrition)	25%	203
Youth programs and sports	24%	189
Pop-up activities/events with drop in availability (e.g., lawn games, cornhole, ping pong, etc.)	23%	182
Senior fitness or wellness	22%	173
Adult sports leagues	18%	147
Youth before and after school programs	16%	130
Career and life skills programs (e.g., resume workshops, CPR training, babysitter certification)	15%	119
Team/individual sports leagues	14%	115
Adaptive/inclusive recreation serving people with disabilities	14%	109
No additional recreation programs are needed	9%	70
Something not on this list (please specify)	8%	63
Total	100%	798

N = 798

Responses to: Something not on this list [open-ended]

- A bigger water center, not just a pool. Make kiddie pool bigger
- A community pantry or community meal hosted by the RCC. es.

- Actividades intergeneracionales
- Add more outdoor basketball courts and maintain/replace nets at existing courts.
- Amenities for equestrian activities.
- Aquatic facility
- Better access to water. Tear out half the parking at Badger and put in an aquatic complex! At minimum, the city should maintain safe CLEAN swim areas at BOTH Leslie Groves & Howard Amon. Yes, that means getting out there and pulling the tumbleweed and milfoil off the beach. Put ropes out in summer and a float with a slide or diving board would be great. Those can easily be hauled out over winter.
- Better and more aquatic facilities
- Better pickleball courts, youth and adult Spanish lessons-I see other cities have these opportunities and would love to teach my kids a second language.
- boaters' safety course, boat launching skills
- Cooking classes
- Drop in dog park
- Educational programs such as Spanish, setting up and using Passkeys
- equine activities
- Family recreation waterpark
- Fishing from older sharing knowledge with younger generations
- Float/white water areas (Like Bend Oregon/Boise Idaho)
- Guided walks/education of native plants and wildlife
- Having facilitators that have training regarding kids with special needs.
- Horse activities
- Horse riding areas
- Horseback Riding
- Indoor and outdoor pool access
- Indoor pool
- Indoor pool and outdoor pools in South Richland
- Indoor pool or aquatic center
- indoor pool, indoor basketball/volleyball courts (not at a school...look at Issaquah community center))
- Indoor recreational facilities.
- Large walking areas in South Richland -- something equivalent the pathways in Howard Amon and Leslie Grove parks.
- Less of a focus on food based rewards when there are events going on, especially that involve kids. Makes navigating allergies so hard!
- More art shows
- More equestrian friendly trail parks and better available to
- More music concerts. TriCities used to have big KORD concerts at the Toyota Center and there are concerts at Clover Island the live at 5 shows at John Damn Plaza are old

people music. Can we get Richland sponsored or partially sponsored shows at the Hapo Stage from up and coming bands from Seattle that appeal to the younger generation and maybe create a spark like in Austin Texas?? We are missing this whole genre of music targeting the younger generation that doesn't just want to listen to country music, or classic rock. All these kids move away so they can have a scene like that. I have a masters in music business from Berklee College of Music, lived in Austin, TX and had a music venue for a short time so if this interests anyone and would want to talk further about this I would be willing to take on this project. Alexis Chew (509)728-3224

- More off-leash pet areas
- More pickleball courts
- More swim lessons & evening lap swim
- More water attractions. Like slides and pools. Not just splash pads. And SHADE at these attractions
- Outdoor recreation programs are not needed as much as the mountain biking trails themselves and the paddle zone just established. Columbus Point needs a nicer beach and a beach volleyball court.
- over 50 programs and activities
- PAR course
- Para sports, for those with physical limitation, not mental.
- Pickle ball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Play for children that encourages movement. Signs that encourage people to leave their phones at home!!!
- Please continue chair Pilates class
- Pump track
- Pump Track! :)
- Renting paddleboards, canoes and equipment
- return of the big pool
- Softball fields
- Spring and fall activities! So much of our event calendars are between memorial and Labor Day when it is too hot; experiment with a few fall events!
- Swimming pools
- Tennis courts in west richland & Softball fields
- The Parks Dept doesn't do a very good job at advertising classes, times, locations. We used to receive a paper schedule. Now it's a mystery when trying to find what classes/activities are offered and when!

- There are not enough swim lessons for kids in the community. The pool could do a better job of serving kids whose parents cannot pay for the expensive non-city lessons at Kia Ora or Raquet club. Swim team should be available for any kid able to swim the length of the pool a couple times, instead of requiring them to do a swim test with all the strokes that are only attainable by high income kids because there are not enough city swim lessons for low income kids. The swim program needs to be revamped to serve the community better.
- Toddler sports
- unlock bathrooms
- Water park like Oasis
- We NEED an aquatic center

If you have considered/participated in any recreation programs in Richland, what challenges did you face? (Choose all that apply)

	%	Count
Lack of awareness (didn't know when or where programs were happening)	59%	460
Timing/scheduling of programs	31%	245
I have not considered participating in recreation programs	19%	149
Not interested in the current offering of programs	15%	115
Program cost	12%	93
Limited program space / waitlist	10%	75
Location of program not convenient	7%	55
Condition of facilities	3%	27
Something not on this list (please specify)	6%	49
Total	100%	784

N = 784

Responses to: Something not on this list (open-ended)

- Class cancelled due to low participation
- Communication and scheduling (Starting when it was suppose to)
- Communication from program directors hasn't been great.
- Few adult sports
- Horse events
- How to sign up
- I don't like that the website promotes a third-party money/credit card thing after you give your credit card to pay for a class and the "No thanks" is in such small letters and hard to find.
- I get email updates all the time from Pasco and Kennewick parks and rec but Richland doesn't seem to have a email list and instead just do FaceTimebook and many of us don't

do Facebook. So expand the process you use to tell people about programs because right now you have to search for them and gfs isn't easy day to get. Like most people don't goto community center because you guys change the hours on a quim

- I had to work really hard to find information on the internet about the indoor play at the recreation center. It was a great thing to participate in but almost impossible to know about.
- I have considered participating, I went to the website, and I registered. I didn't have much difficulty. But my life is already busy so I'm not often looking for other activities.
- I have not participated. This was not one of your other answer options. "Not considered participating" is not the same.
- I think recreational and arts /cultural programming are very good. But I don't have time to participate.
- I'd like to see a mountain bike group or program.
- I've used the fitness room at the community center. I'm glad it's affordable. The community center seems to be well used.
- Lack of variety of programs I'm interested in
- Late getting information up, had to make other plans. Swim lessons information was posted very late.
- Limited programs available in general, and especially limited sports or physical activities for the 3-5 age range
- My child cannot take advantage of some of the opportunities for children because of her physical disability.
- Need a better variety of programs
- Needing another option for a city pool to offer more swim lessons and more multi sport complexes
- No good programs for kids 3-10
- No pools
- Not competitive enough
- Not enough fields
- Not enough shade or sitting areas
- Not necessarily inclusive of my autistic kids
- Offer more swim lessons and longer pool hours
- Our local sports broadcasters refuse to talk about community sports that take place in the community. So how can we know about the stuff if our local sports broadcasters don't tell us anything about it it is not the job of news broadcasters to talk about sports activities. It's the job of the sports broadcasters to talk about sports
- Parking
- People smoke pot and fentanyl in front of my children.
- Program offerings are fine.

- Some of the classes require prerequisites that if missed, aren't available until next fall (Spanish I & 2...)
- Swim lesson access difficult for working parents in outer areas
- Temperature - I don't do well in the heat.
- The magazine that comes out is helpful and Facebook is helpful for finding events but sometimes there are things that get missed so keep adding these things
- Time
- Too crowded
- Various issues related to timing and personal illness
- We need a year round pool
- Website is clunky and crashes easily
- bathrooms are sometimes locked.
- bus transportation
- hard to find schedule
- my time
- none
- should be done by private business not using tax payers dollars
- the website is very hard to use on mobile. also, I hate that offer thing that pops up every time I buy a class online. it's so confusing and predator

What types of facilities would you like to see more of in Richland parks? (Choose up to three)

	%	Count
Unique play areas (e.g., natural play, water features, destination play)	41%	331
Community gardens	28%	222
Pickleball courts	23%	183
Challenge elements (e.g., bike skills track, climbing wall, etc)	22%	181
Event or concert space	19%	157
Exercise areas and fitness circuits	19%	154
Group picnic areas	13%	103
Diamond fields (e.g., baseball, softball)	12%	98
Other sports courts (e.g., volleyball, basketball, etc)	10%	83
No additional facilities are needed	5%	42
Rectangular fields (e.g., soccer, lacrosse, football, etc)	4%	34
Tennis courts	3%	22
Something not on this list (please specify)	17%	136
Total	100%	806

N = 806

Responses to: Something not on this list (open-ended)

- An aquatic center
- An aquatic center
- Aquatic center
- Aquatic center
- Dog park
- Dog park
- Pools

- Pools
- indoor pool
- Basketball courts
- 50 meter pool
- A drift car track like in Walla Walla
- A facility for storage and use of non motorized watercraft. I love the non motorized area near Nelson island and our rowing club (and I am sure plenty of canoeists and paddle boarders could really benefit from
- A modern pool or water facility.
- A real splash pad in upper Richland
- A second dog park if Kennewick one does not relieve crowding.
- A water park or another public pool
- ADA equipment at Children's play area. I am sure there is a catalog to order ADA swings, etc.
- Additional restrooms or port-a-potties
- An indoor pool
- Aquatic center
- Aquatic facility
- Arboretum
- Arboretum
- Basketball courts
- Bathrooms at small neighborhood parks, I am within walking distance of two parks, but for a child that's a long wait if the need to pee.
- Beach volleyball
- Bigger pool or an additional pool
- Community Pool with Adults in mind
- Community tracks and a real aquatic facility
- Concrete or block walls for people to practice tennis or racquet sports to practice solo. The walls could be plain or double as art murals.
- DO NOT PUT IN PICKLEBALL COURTS! They only attract losers who aren't cool enough to play tennis.
- DOG PARKS
- Designated quiet, shaded green and/or native plant spaces (with at least clean water access, if not restroom supported)
- Dog park in North Richland
- Dog parks
- Drug and homeless free parks. 0 tolerance for public drug use of any kind.
- Enclosed playgrounds
- Encourage our local churches to develop Park facilities on their property or near their property , also encourage churches to use the parks for different things

- Equestrian event areas, general equestrian trail parks with adequate amenities, fresh water trough for horses, clean and maintained restroom facilities (or portable restrooms), area for picnic and cool down spots for horses post rides.
- Equestrian facilities
- Extend Tapteal Greenway
- Float/white water areas (Like Bend Oregon/Boise Idaho)
- Food truck areas, eg. The Bites in Tumelo,WA
- Futsal (indoor soccer) facilities. Can be done outdoors on a paved surface
- Game playing areas for chess/checkers, backgammon, etc
- Green spaces and natural areas
- Groomed cross country ski in winter when available
- Horse trails
- Horseback Riding
- How about a better city pool with adjoining park?
- I would not want to see any type of new facility that Replaces a green or wild space. We need habitat for birds, insects, animals - which will help create a climate-resilient community.
- In areas where the bike and walking/running paths are not separated, separate them. Dangerous to be walking/running and having to dodge bikes.
- Indoor aquatic center
- Indoor aquatic center and pool
- Indoor pool and outdoor neighborhood pools in South Richland
- Indoor pool!
- Indoor pools, pools, aquatic center/park
- Indoor recreational facilities with indoor pool.
- Indoor swimming complex
- Lap pool for swimmers
- Larger traditional garden areas.
- MORE SHADE COVER
- Make Tapteal Trail a city park.
- More access to the river to put in a kayak or canoe without coming across a homeless camp
- More beach front access
- More bike, pedestrian and running trails
- More dog parks accessible to people from different neighborhoods
- More lap swimming
- More natural areas for wildlife.
- More splash pads and fenced in play grounds
- More swings(baby and big kids) if you use the parent/child swing please make it so its adjustable for tall people trying to sit and swing their legs.

- More toddler parks like Barth
- More trails
- More trails for horses
- More trees.
- N Richland dog park
- Native vegetation areas
- Natural open space, walking trails
- Nature trails
- Never never pickleball. Never!!!
- Ninja Warrior Course
- Off leash dog park
- Off leash. Place legal to play Frisbee without old women and poodle owners yelling.
- Once again, there are a lot of horse folks out there with only WE Johnson and Chamna available
- Open green space and trees with seating, restrook facilities is desired
- Overall more facilities in neighborhood parks that currently are often not much more than grassy areas. Would love to see Tham have gazebos, benches, barbecue areas that would let them be a place for neighbors to gather.
- Parking
- Pathways for running and walking that are lighted and safe.
- Please ban smoking at public parks.
- Please don't consider destroying natural vegetation and animal habitats. Also, consider additional traffic, trash, safety and noise to local neighborhoods.
- Pool/Splash Zones
- Pools with unique features like slides and shallow end play like memorial aquatic park
- Public art space, like an area where the public is invited to paint/draw etc in a specific area or structure.
- Pump track! :)
- Pump tracks for kids, indoor Olympic size pools, mountain biking trails
- Racquetball courts
- Rec center (year-round swimming, exercise classes, weights, gyms, etc...)
- Residential or larger swimming pools
- River access for kayaks and floating - the current access is absolutely deplorable
- Rustic Camping
- Sand volleyball courts. (With someone who plays volleyball in mind as a consultant)
- Shaded parks
- Shaded, level area for tai chi
- Single track mountain bike trail
- Space set aside for model trucks, car track, drones and aircraft
- Swim doc and easy access put it for kayaks and paddle boards

- Swimming pools
- The swim dock was the best park of howard amon. Something similiar would be benefical
- This city could build 4 of those splash parks inside old Richland. They would be well used by families. No cost to the public. Just like the one on Keene near Yolks market.
- Walking trails
- Walking trails that are dog friendly.
- Walking trails, pools
- Waterpark like Wildwaves
- We could use more ballfields for all.ages of baseball and softball. We could also use more attention to the bank fishing community.
- We just got back from Portland and they have a Rose Garden with a beautiful amphitheater. It's low maintenance as the terraced rows where you sit were grass. You could bring a blanket to sit on and listen to music, with a stage area at the bottom. It would be so beautiful to have an option like this specially for classical types of music, or jazz. We have several music events at the HAPO stage, but something by the water with beautiful landscaping would be amazing for other types of music.
- When the city developed Col Pt they promised to replace sham na pun, 3-par. When they sold the land to the Hampton, they promised to replace the Greek Theater. There are many past plans that taxpayers have paid for and the last several councils, seemingly influenced by developers, have ignored. There is an EXISTING plan for the Rivershore that has plazas and fountains and keeps it PUBLIC. The city also should work harder to build positive relywith USACoE to make improvements at Col. Park West. A new campground would be awesome for visitors (esp those here for sports tournaments) and families.
- Work from local artists and native plant gardens
- Year round pool
- You MUST put in signage when there is bacterial contamination in the river. I've seen way too many families and their kids splashing around. NOBODY reads the newspaper these days.
- dog park
- equine related
- indoor facilities for sports events...not in a school
- indoor swim facility
- miss concerts at fingernail so much better then John dam
- more NOS especially as development expands
- more shade trees
- playgrounds that are age appropriate
- smooth areas for rollerskating
- some more boat launches
- swimming pools

- walking trails separate from biking and running
- year round aquatics

What types of amenities would make parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open space areas more comfortable and welcoming? (Choose all that apply)

	%	Count
Shade	75%	598
Restrooms	56%	452
Drinking water fountains	37%	297
Landscaping, gardens, or natural features	36%	290
Seating	35%	280
Covered areas or shelters	34%	269
Lighting and other safety features	27%	219
Quiet areas for relaxation and reflection	23%	186
Spaces for social gatherings (e g , picnic shelters, tables)	20%	162
Accessible and inclusive park design (e g , parking, pathways, seating, recreation features)	18%	145
Wayfinding or other types of signage	12%	93
Something else not on this list (please specify)	7%	55
Total	100%	802

N = 802

Responses to: Something else not on this list (open-ended)

- A new pool facility

- A pet area for dogs by the river
- A rec center is needed in our community!
- ADA pathways
- Again with the drug dealing! Dealers operate without fear or concern of getting caught. I feel safer in Chicago parks at dusk than any Richland park facility at any time of day (especially after 2 pm).
- **BAN ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AND BIKES! OR ENFORCE THE SPEED LIMIT!**
- Badger mountain trailhead could use another picnic table.
- Better Maintenance
- Bike and walk paths need more frequent paving.
- Bugs and overgrowth need to be worked on. The no parking sign in the north Richland HOA on a public street needs to be removed...past WSU TC. More areas north of Leslie Groves park to get in the water. Parking by the river is terrible. More handicap parking.
- Check out Pioneer park in Walla Walla, the landscape, the birds, the small river running through it. It is such a beautiful place to visit.
- Clean up of shores, water safety reports, non motor areas of river
- Clean up the river shore area and other natural areas
- Cleaner, more maintained shelters to rent
- Clear parking for horse trailers
- Clearing out Russian olives by the river and consider replacing sycamore trees with more aesthetically pleasing trees and trees that are less prone to dropping limbs.
- Consider the many equestrians in the area and consider broadening your scope to include that group.
- Designate some paths as cycling and some as walking (the paths in Leslie Groves used to be clearly marked, but not anymore). Also, some of the trails are in rough shape and difficult to cycle.
- **FREQUENT** maintenance of paths next to Corp of Engineer paths. **FREQUENT!**
- Fenced play areas with seating inside and outside of the fence
- Fenced playground
- Garbage cans
- Highly encourage churches to do things at parks and trails and all that kind of stuff
- Homeless encampments removed, security
- Horseback Riding
- Improved facilities that the community has regularly asked for like a real Austin facility and a real theater space. Please also remember that art isn't limited to music
- Japanese garden a la Spokane or Portland
- Less homeless people
- Lighting where appropriate, on bike paths which are used by bicycle commuters at all hours.
- More EV charging (free or low cost) available!

- More natural settings; stop mowing down habitat areas
- More places to involve animals
- No metal slides! Too hot
- No people with dogs off leash, no people illegally parked
- Nothing
- Off leash areas
- Preserving nature and wildlife in green areas
- Seating is good in some areas (along the river path) but lacking in many of the smaller parks, e.g. near the Columbia playfields plays structure.
- Secure bike storage throughout parks (and at John Dam plaza)
- Sidewalks entry to parks.
- Some parks with fences for elopers
- Stop rounding up visitors to the parks just because they look shabby or talk to themselves.
- Swimming pools
- There are large areas overrun by noxious weeds. I always wonder if the city worked harder to support Debbie Berkowitz and invite volunteer stewardship, whether we could get more native plants. We seem to need some signage and enforcement of trail etiquette where e-Bikes, bikes, scooters, and peds share the trails.
- Trash collection, Noise & traffic abatement, speeding automobiles, speed limit signs, No Parking signs, enforcement
- Ways to transition easily from playing to lunch or dinner spots and back to parks
- We have a lot of grass. I think garden areas or that would attract different insects animals (like dragonflies, hummingbirds, etc.). Something similar to Manitoba park in Spokane with Dalia's, roses, walk paths, koi ponds, etc. would be awesome in our area.
- Wider distribution of highly used areas
- dividing walking lanes from bike lanes
- enough trash cans
- keep the bums out; enforce the law.
- no power outlets remove or turn them off!! parks have become very loud with inconsiderate people
- patrol of camping along the river at Leslie Groves and Columbia Point
- river access

How can the City best communicate with you about recreation programming and City events? (Choose all that apply)

	%	Count
Social media	74%	597
City website	51%	412
Digital flyers, catalogs, fact sheets, press releases, and/or newsletters	46%	372
City banners hung up at key locations	24%	196
Print copies of flyers, catalogs, fact sheets, press releases, and/or newsletters	23%	186
Flyers hung up at recreation facilities and City buildings	19%	152
Something not on this list (please specify)	8%	65
Engagement materials in different languages	6%	49
Total	100%	812

N = 812

Something not on this list (open-ended)

- Email
- Email
- Email
- email
- A clear website. Something like the Richland Public Library
- Ability to sign up for text notifications
- Add occasional rec program flyers to electric bills. Have printed copies available at city hall, community center and public library.
- Bundled with utility bill, printed
- City reader board on G way

- Community Outreach w/Large Local Employers
- Develop apps or online presences that are more than spam
- Direct email subscription newsletters
- Do we not have a reader board anymore? Maybe we need a second one somewhere in South Richland.
- E-mail subscription
- Electronic billboards like the one off of G way
- Email
- Email list
- Email list?
- Email listserv one can sign-up for
- Email or text
- Email updates
- Emails
- Emails to city residents
- Flyers in electric bill need to be sent before the event, not after
- Herald" e"- newspaper
- I am hearing impaired. Text, email, or printed material works best for me.
- I get email updates from Pasco and Kennewick but none from city I live in and when I have asked about email updates I've been ignored.
- I miss getting the printed catalogue of Rec activities. I know that costs a lot to print, so maybe a mailed flyer saying there is a new catalogue online with a QR code to the site where the catalogue uploaded.
- I see most of the community events I attend in Tumbleweird.
- I think waypoint signage would/could help. You could have a map in Howard Amon that showed other parks of interest in the city...or signage on the bike paths that indicate "1.5 miles to Leslie Groves".
- Including digital flyers through school district
- Local entertainment publication no longer exists?
- Local news cast
- Mail
- Maintain and use the info displays already in parks and along our bike paths.
- Make public forums easier to attend by having multiple sessions. Use virtual meetings, provide QR codes we can scan and add calendar invites to our schedules. We are busy too, we need more opportunities to participate in decision making.
- Me all newsletters with monthly bills
- Messages on city digital signs or reader boards for GWW/Jadwin drivers to see
- Not everyone likes social media, so digital newsletters, please.
- Our city website hasn't been current for many of the sports programs. Keep it current for registration information

- Push the info out, news alerts
- QR codes that link to the city's website on signs near restrooms in the parks, on signs leading to parks and upon entry to parks, on electrical boxes around the city that include artwork (by local artists) as well would help connect those in Richland and visiting Richland to the cities website and lists of parks/services/amenities.
- Radio
- Radio, television, newspaper
- Reader board
- Send a notice with my bill
- Sports broadcasters especially kept to tell us about community sports, not news broadcasters but sports broadcasters to tell us about the actual community sports going on in the community. Not baseball. Not football. Not professional sports but sports. Going on in our different parks and trails. And throughout the community
- TV Ads
- The current e-activity guide is only effective for people who already know about it. Not easy for newcomers to learn what's available.
- The more variety of notification, the better to reach a variety of people.
- The power bill route seems to get us good info
- The school districts send flyers electronically for kids activities to parents regularly. Allow people to sign up for flyer and event notifications
- Utility Bill inserts are great!
- Utility newsletters always talk about events that already happened.
- email
- emails
- emails/subscription type services like FlashAlert
- flyer included in electric bills
- include in Utilities Billing newsletter
- local news, include info with utility bills
- materials mailed out
- newsletter in utility bills
- none, dont use taxpayers money

What is your relationship to Richland? (Choose all that apply)

	%	Count
I am a resident	84%	682
I work or go to school in Richland	17%	135
I live nearby	15%	125
I visit Richland frequently (once a week or more)	9%	75
I own a business in Richland	3%	27
I visit Richland occasionally	1%	10
Total	100%	812

N = 812

What part of Richland do you live in?

	%	Count
South Richland	38%	256
North Richland	37%	246
Central Richland	25%	171
Total	100%	673

N = 673

What is your age?

	%	Count
Under 18	0%	1
18-24	2%	16
25-34	13%	108
35-44	28%	227
45-54	16%	126
55-64	14%	114
65 and over	26%	209
Total	100%	801

N = 801

How do you identify yourself? (Choose all that apply)

	%	Count
African American/Black	1%	5
American Indian/Indigenous/Alaska Native	1%	11
Asian or Asian American	3%	21
Caucasian/White (not Hispanic)	78%	618
Hispanic/Latino	5%	36
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1%	4
Two or more races	3%	26
If you prefer to self-identify your race or ethnicity, please do so here	1%	10
Prefer not to say	11%	86
Total	100%	791

N = 791

Responses to: If you prefer to self-identify your race or ethnicity, please do so here (open-ended)

- American
- American
- American Citizen
- American!!!
- American.
- Human
- I do not "identify". I am white.
- Just an every-day white boy. You know the kind...keep my yard clean, pay taxes, don't give folks shit, not a loud mouth, don't need a handout.

- Old World Colonial European
- white

How do you identify your gender? (Choose one)

	%	Count
Female	63%	502
Male	32%	252
Non-binary	1%	5
If you prefer to self-identify your gender, please do so here:	0%	0
Prefer not to say	5%	39
Total	100%	798

N = 798

**Do you have children under the age of 18 living in your household?
(Choose one)**

	%	Count
Yes	45%	366
No	44%	351
No, but children or grandchildren are frequent visitors	9%	72
Prefer not to say	2%	17
Total	100%	806

N = 806

Do you have any other comments or ideas you would like to share about parks, recreation, or open spaces in Richland?

- No
- No
- Thanks for being awesome - I love our Parks!
- I think parks is richlands best department.
- Richland has beautiful parks but the huge influx of drug addicts and homeless people make them often feel unsafe. Kudos to the parks and facilities staff for all they do for the community
- I love living in Richland! Kudos to the Parks & Rec staff for making Richland a great place to live and play. Thank you :-)
- Richland parks get quite a lot of foot and bike traffic, and overall use. We need to maintain that and add additional services.
- As said before, more monitoring around Leslie Groves near volleyball courts. Perhaps the courts should be relocated near Horn Rapids Babe Ruth fields where there is parking, esp for the non tax paying, non Richland residents who are frequenting the courts,

littering, doing illegal activities and racing their Fast and Furious little souped up cars. This should be a quiet, respectful waterfront park for families and the discovery of the volleyball courts by Pasco youth is disturbing. And yes, I have working knowledge that this last comment is accurate.

- I would like to see more sustainability planning in our parks. Use them as examples of landscaping for our climate. Think of thing like, what happens to those pickleball courts when the fad dies out? Make recycling and teaching about it something that happens at all parks. Maybe partnering with the library to have a mini-branch located close to neighborhood parks for relaxing with a book. Also, think about things to serve an aging population who won't use a playground, BMX park or skatepark.
- I'd love to see the tennis courts in Leslie Groves Park repaired/re-paved
- The walk in the park (Leslie Groves) is the highlight of my day, but I am more and more frequently hesitant to go because of the shady characters in the parking lots and living in the bushes
- Please respond to emails that are sent in a timely manner. I am still waiting for a response and it has been almost a month.
- When you say you're going to build a park and get residents excited by allowing them to have a voice in the planning and then decide to build a portion of the park without real amenities, with the promise of finishing it later and THEN changing your mind and cutting back the size of the park, you lose a lot of credibility and anger residents. People deserve to have their tax dollars go towards what is wanted and promised, not what is expedient for the city. Every time I drive by the new Badger Mountain South park, I think back to when I purchased my home in the area with the understanding that we'd have this glorious park, and then get frustrated by what we actually got. It feels like a total bait and switch scheme. So, my advice to you is...If you say you're going to build it, build it. Be transparent about the process. Don't let internal personnel issues in the department drive the park building process. Listen to your people. And keep promises.
- Please get control of the weeds and junk trees along the river. They completely block the view and I have encountered homeless camps in those areas. It is dangerous at certain hours to take a walk.
- turn off ALL electrical power boxes to keep all of the loud music off. Enforce the park noise level code, Enforce littering laws. Enforce the !! closing time. More police presence to keep bums and druggies /dealers out. Use inmate labor to maintain and clean parks to save tax dollar\$. Eliminate dog parks unless pet owners want to pay for it and maintain it. NO MORE TAXES.
- E bikes on trails and walking paths are starting to become an issue. The operators aren't mindful of pedestrians or slower moving bikes Richland code prohibits their operation on these paths. While a ban is extreme, education is in order. Maybe the city could reach out to the ebike stores and ebike rental places for education. Also, trails are open in the winter. Occasional restrooms should be too.

- All in all, the City of Richland has the BEST parks in the Tri-Cities. We've lived here for 40 years (29 in Pasco; 11 in Richland). We've ALWAYS come to the parks in Richland over any others and are PROUD to now be Richland residents.
- I love living in Richland largely because of the parks, paths, and bike lanes. I'd love to see those features expanded, and more/better sidewalks added in the old neighborhoods. The swinging benches are amazing and there will never be enough.
- Bring more events like art in the park. It doesn't have to be huge, but it would be fantastic to do a small event with all local vendors. Or more live music in Howard Amon. Maybe even a pop up event of food trucks.
- I appreciate how the city prioritizes parks and makes such lovely places for the public to enjoy. I have lived abroad as a foreigner and at that time, public parks brought community and nature into my family's life in a way that was accessible and easy. (We needed "easy" as we were doing a lot of hard things.) We appreciated them tremendously, especially raising young children. I am grateful that in Richland we have the privilege to enjoy so many beautiful green spaces that are safe and open to all. Keep up the important work!
- Love the Richland parks!!!!
- More information about native plants and species in natural park settings could help connect people to nature in our developed environment. Additional signage throughout town about distances to parks on the trails or from main roadways could be beneficial so people know how many amenities are available in our community. Right now, some of our parks feel like you only know about them if you happen to find them.
- Walking tracks within the park area.
- Could you provide materials showing the hours that are most/least crowded? I just want to walk on shady trails and sit down occasionally, but I don't want to deal with crowded trails, runners or bikes coming too close to me. I would also like to have a map that shows all the parks with typical land use marked so I can try out parks I may not be familiar with. There don't seem to be any within walking distance to where I live.
- no
- There is a large scuba diving community in the Tri-Cities. We often do dive training in the Newton St area of Richland. It would be amazing to post signs and put a roped off swimming only area around the Newton St area. There are already so many swimmers in that area and the roped off area that's further south is not nearly large enough. Please make the swimming areas along the river safer by preventing motorized water vehicles like boats and jet skis from coming anywhere near swimmers (and in our case, divers). Your welcome to contact me.
- We have great parks in Richland- with the addition of well maintained Pickleball courts it could maintain its cutting edge reputation and offerings
- We do not want to see gay pride stuff because that is being very discriminatory against those of us who are not homosexual or of the lgbtq alphabet. We do not want homeless in our parks. Get rid of all illegal aliens. All unregistered citizens or non-citizens we are

not to be a sanctuary City or state. Do not let planned Parenthood and other pro-choice organizations to use parks for their propaganda and rallies and that kind of stuff, highly encourage churches and other Christian religious organizations to use the parks. Make sure our sports broadcasters talk about our community sports. Not just baseball, not just football. Not just professional sports but that are sports. Broadcasters talk about what's going on in our Park when it comes to sporting events and other like hydroplane races and and the hot air balloon rallies and the iron Man triathlon and the different things like that. That is what our sports broadcasters are to be talking about. Not professional sports and not baseball Open up the restrooms that are closed. That is the biggest thing and turn on the water fountains that are turned off. Those are the biggest things especially this time of year when it's so hot not having restrooms and not having water fountains discourage people from going to the park and other recreational areas just like not letting us use the restrooms letting the public use the restrooms at the different bus stops and transfer points and Three Rivers facility. That's discouraging people from using the buses so open up what is closed and keep them open and use aerial assets. And I'm non-uniform police departments and police officers and rangers to keep places secure and do more acts and be more enforcement. Do more enforcement on vandalism and stuff that causes you guys to close different things

- Kennewick is dominating the Pickleball scene right now. Kennewick host the largest outdoor pickleball tournament in the state. Richland needs to catch up with the demand for pickleball facilities.
- We love Richland parks
- I believe that the City Of Richland has grown exponentially over the years however, our parks department does not seem to reflect that. The park employees seem to be stretched too thin comparatively to cities like Pasco, which I believe is taking a toll on the upkeep and cleanliness of our parks and city owned properties like the parkway and uptown.
- Love the "age" of Howard Amon with large trees and clean grounds. Worried about the health of our rivers. Would appreciate maintenance on bike path (Leslie Grove) to eliminate the large cracks that are very jarring.
- Need to crackdown on homeless people living in the parks.
- I think the parks department does a great job. My wife is in a wheelchair and there is often not enough parking places for her or the spaces are taken by non ADA cars. Police should patrol more often.
- Add watering faucets, increase river front access points, and refurbish park auxiliary access trails.
- Our parks are really one of our greatest assets - and they are used frequently. Please keep up the good work.
- Clearer paths and more accessible riverfront, address diseased and invasive trees, foliage and sagebrush encroachment.

- Having a year round pool is a public health necessity.
- Green space to run dogs with trail for walker, wheelchair
- I would love more neighborhood park pools or ideally an aquatic center
- More public pools, places to gather for family picnics etc without having to reserve all the time
- We need more aquatic facilities
- We need an indoor pool (large enough for swim meets). Consider the open areas in the Queensgate area for this. The proximity to businesses and hotel access will help those businesses as well. We also need neighborhood pools like exist in old Richland. Please complete the pool planned for Brookstone Park. Thank you.
- You should no longer support the triathlon. It is disruptive to Richland residents. I have a similar comment about other sports festivals that are mostly for out of town people.
- Bigger pool. George Prout is too small. Leslie Groves needs more/ticketed parking, especially summer/weekends. Goethals Park needs permanent bathrooms.
- More shade the equipment gets very hot.
- Need more programs for teens. Before and after school care would also be beneficial.
- We need more shade at all of our Place structures. We also need play structures to be fenced in far too many are close to roads and not fenced in. We need more aquatic like places but with pools maybe water slides. We have lots of splash pads, but it's too hot sometimes because it's not shaded. Something indoor would be cool.
- The need to enforce the no parking and handicap and train the so called park rangers that refuse to do there job
- Safe areas to walk in is so important for women!
- We need a year round pool
- I love that Richland has always been proactive in providing park spaces over years- beginning with the early days of incorporation
- Would be nice if we had a recreation center in the south part of the city with access to workout space and classes
- Emphasize planting more shade trees. Especially along trails (keen trail and shelter belt)
- Richland needs public access to pools during the cooler months. There are lots of great aquatic spaces during the summer, but given our proximity to rivers and lakes (and the number of drownings each year), we need investment into year round access to pools and learning to swim. Access to water during winter should not be based on ability to pay steep membership costs to gyms like CBRC.
- I would really like if there were a public art space. And more pedestrian only trails, or at the very least trails that separated pedestrians/cyclists from traffic with a green space/barrier. And shade. Water and bathrooms would also be nice. The bypass trails gray concrete wall is ugly. Its hot and uncomfortable to walk there but its one of the only trails where you're not right next to traffic. It would be cool if you invited people in the

community to paint a mural on sections of the wall to make it a nicer/more visually interesting walk.

- Richland Parks are fantastic. Heard that we are third in the country per capita. We could add a few more and be number one. It is a shame that we tolerate people with dogs off the leash, every day, when the city was told at incorporation that this would be the biggest situation different than we want. And that we tolerate illegal parking and speeding. These things decrease the quality of experience for everyone. If we didn't tolerate then, this would decrease, and be better for everybody in general
- Clear out the panhandlers, reduce the number of food trucks, increase the size of the Prout public pool! Less expensive beginning level sports and summer camp programs for kids is needed.
- The new slides at Howard Amon are incredibly hot and some of the rubber mat is already malfunctioning. The speed limit for bicycles on the trail is prohibitive. Biking in Richland has so much potential but serious issues exist - lack of connection, fading bike pavement signs, conflicts with cars and pedestrians, etc.
- Very lucky to have big beautiful parks here! Thank you for caring for them. As our son has grown, we have realized the extreme lack of convenient public pool access to teach him to swim.
- I would love to see sports and recreation opportunities for youth with physical disabilities. My child who has a disability has sort of fallen through a gap--because she uses a walker and wheelchair she cannot participate in typical sports, and because she does not have intellectual disability she cannot participate in Special Olympics either. We could really use something like a wheelchair basketball team or other para-sport options.
- Thank you for taking the time to listen!!
- Indoor pool and aquatic center
- Please work with neighboring cities/counties to protect our natural lands and encourage safe access to our trails, rivers, etc. Thank you!
- Restrooms with changing tables should be at all parks, especially those targeted toward younger children
- Better bike lanes and more bike racks please
- No
- I love your parks and walk them at least once a week. The best parts are where you have divided the biking lanes away from the walking lanes. The parks and the community center are excellent. I've walked the entire river front, from Columbia Point to the Submarine. There are some gaps that could use a dedicated walking path but it's a really great feature of Richland. I would be happy to park far away and take a bus or trolley to the parks if it kept the parks from adding ugly parking spots.
- No
- Most parks have too much grass area, and unnecessary baseball backstops. Lackluster play structures.

- I can not stress this enough. A.BIGGER.PUBLIC.POOL! The new George Prout is ridiculously small. It's shameful
- Our parks are very well cared for but lacking in amenities like recycling bins.
- River walk (Howard Amon) area is much improved. Nice to get shade along beside golf course to point area.
- On the dike that runs along Hains, it would be nice to have a separate bike and walking/jogging lane. The ramp up the hill to get on top of the dike from Hains needs to be repaved. You had equipment to pave Hains and redid the path but did not do the ramp on either occasion. It would be nice if they repainted the white dots that mark the half mile increments on the path. The 3.0 and the 2.0 mile dots are gone. There is an unfortunate drug/homeless population in the overgrown sections by the river (across from Hains Ave) that, I believe, is bureau of land management land. They do not maintain it. It makes us all less safe.
- Take more of the community feedback into consideration. Please stop with all the pickle ball.
- I would love to see more development in Columbia Park West
- Need to extend the center line on the Snyder boat launch. Needs to be visible from the tow vehicle as you're backing down. Restriping/surface treatment in July blew it.
- More pickleball courts
- Richland has many tennis courts that are barely used and yet the very limited pickleball courts are always busy and poorly maintained - Richland has less courts than Hermiston???
- Why does Richland 'give it away' to developers? Have you looked at what they actually provide? Trails with 2" of asphalt that will be nothing but a maintenance headache down the road. Small neighborhood-only parks. Its as if the City has to whore itself out to get developers here. I've seen cities like this before...in Oklahoma. Why don't you take a look at Colorado? They are proud of their cities there, and don't bend over to take it from developers like Richland does.
- Better planning on road construction projects is a MUST
- We need more softball fields and batting cages in north richland.
- We would love to see more softball fields
- Softball fields are needed.
- As a board member for Little League softball we are committed to building another softball/multi use baseball facility
- I would like to see a dog park in North Richland.
- Stop trying to climb this social media ladder. We are not Seattle stop trying to be it. Except who we are. Stop acting like you walking on egg shells. Afraid of hurting someone feelings. Life is tuff get a helmet
- Softball facilities for little league softball
- Im wo during if you do a survey or input from residents when you redo parks. The new howard among park is not friendly for parents to be able to see their child. It's so

scrunched together. I would have been interested in knowing the design beforehand and having some input in that.

- I think there need to be more fun and interesting preteen teen and young adults things to do.
- When I asked for the city to mow the weeds and grass next to our property I was told they couldn't because of birds nesting, but then a couple weeks later the city came and mowed the area.
- PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE add softball and baseball fields!
- A splash pad to be added in North Richland. An affordable indoor pool. For the community.
- Badger Mtn park needs restrooms closer to the playground/Splash Pad.
- Appreciate them ... frequent them often ... nice to have a bench / table to use "along the way...
- Thank you for providing so many varied a beautiful places for people to enjoy! I love that all the parks are different and there are so many of them
- As a community member and advocate for youth sports, I'd like to emphasize the urgent need for additional softball facilities in Richland. The sport continues to grow rapidly through Little League and other local programs, yet field availability remains limited. Our current infrastructure is stretched thin, especially during tournament season when multiple organizations compete for the same spaces. This lack of dedicated fields makes it increasingly difficult to schedule practices, host games, and support the development of young athletes—particularly girls in softball. Expanding or designating softball-specific fields would not only relieve scheduling pressure but also demonstrate the city's commitment to equitable access and youth recreation. I encourage the city to prioritize new field development, improved scheduling systems, and long-term planning that reflects the growth of softball in our region. Thank you for considering this important need in the comprehensive plan.
- What is going on with the trail head and park that was supposed to be built behind the homes on Legacy Lane in South Richland?
- Finish the development of Badger Mountain Park following the approved Master Plan. Place shade structures over playground structures. Continue the development of Hanford Legacy Park beyond the Babe Ruth fields that are there.
- I see a lot of empty tennis courts and other features while at the same time you can barely get on a pickleball court at Claybell
- My 5 year old would like to request more short monkey bars so she can practice. She is too short for most monkey bars.
- Honestly I've been a Richland resident for most of my life and I think the city does a pretty great job with the parks upkeep and maintenance etc. I think a couple larger more modern playgrounds for kids would be amazing and more development out by those newer baseball fields across from Horn Rapids for recreation would be great. I rarely see anyone using those "Babe Ruth" baseball fields and can't understand why they haven't been used

for tournaments yet? Allowing the established Little Leagues to use those fields for teen division games and tournaments would benefit the entire community and bring tourist revenue in. And yes, there is a huge difference between Babe Ruth and Little League—Little League is a much larger and better organized volunteer structure and organization in Richland, servicing way more of our youth than Babe Ruth does. Use of those fields and softball fields for our local Little Leagues would be awesome! Both Richland National and Greater Richland Little Leagues serve the youth, both boys and girls, in the City of Richland. I am the District Administrator for Washington District 12 which encompasses all local leagues from Pasco all the way to Selah, but my home has always been Richland. I would love to see our two Richland leagues be supported by the city in the growth of their programs, and am happy to answer any questions you may have. Kim Betzsold, 509-366-1345. Thanks!

- I think it would be awesome to put rows of trees along the "dike trail" between Leslie Groves Park and Howard Amon Park.
- Please don't turn our parks into commercialized places. Thank you!
- I really love the Greenway along the river, and Howard Amon and Leslie Groves parks.
- Parks and Recreation does a wonderful job supporting community activities during the year. Ie Tumbleweed and Library events at the parks. Thank you!
- Continue to improve separate biking trails and walking trails. Improve social media outreach
- I would enjoy seeing a park built or updated to be similar to Lawrence Scott park in Kennewick. As a mother of small children, the fenced in area is ideal with small children. Also a shade covers are a plus with the heat in the summer.
- I used to live near Leslie Groves Park, which was pleasant to walk to. Now I live in Horn Rapids. The closest city park is Horn Rapids Park, which is largely closed and not really within walking distance. There's also a Buchanan Park in Horn Rapids, but that's not listed on your web site.
- I think the parks here are awesome! I've lived here 2 years now and have enjoyed Howard Amon Park, John Dam Plaza, Leslie Groves park, and several others. We've been to Art In the Park, Live at Five, the Christmas light show, and the new playground with our grandkids. As a walker I love the trails, but I also bike, so we enjoy the trails for that as well. I would love to see Richland, all the way to Horn Rapids, have a more abundant biking community.
- Space for wilderness and wildlife is essential to the continued beauty and ecological diversity of the area. People will benefit from having parks and recreation spaces that thoughtfully encourage sharing space with our wild neighbors.
- I love our parks!
- We need more softball and baseball fields. Either we need to add another complex or we need to convert some of the existing grass areas with a backstop and home plate into a usable mixed use softball/baseball field. Right now Columbia playfield is the only practical

complex for use by south Richland residents and it is maxed out by a league that supports all of the Tri Cities.

- No
- More trees and shades and picnic areas are top of my head--they're cheaper to provide than the rest i think
- Richland can make so much more money if we had more fields to use. Our baseball and softball need is so large and we have so many teams that commit to tournaments in our region, if we had an indoor facility we could hold tournaments year round and maintenance would remain low
- Just stay on top of homeless people living in parks. I don't know answer on this, a forever battle
- Stop harassing unhoused neighbors enjoying or resting or eating in the park!!!
- A designated float channel and whitewater park would enhance the use of our beautiful local rivers while improving safety for floaters from boaters/jet skis. Cities like Bend and Boise have successfully implemented similar projects, becoming prime examples of how outdoor recreation infrastructure can boost tourism and local spending. A well-designed water feature would not only provide a safe and enjoyable experience but also position our area as a top destination for outdoor enthusiasts.
- Really enjoy the trails and kayaking opportunities. Appreciate parks to take young grandkids to play
- Shorten your surveys would help with the responses
- Any new development areas, make sure there are bike trails that connect to the current ones and more parks, even if they are smaller sprinkled through out the city.
- Please plant more trees that grow more quickly in south Richland areas. The bike path along Keene is such a nice resource for everyone in this community, but the trees seem like they've been the same size for 15 years. It could be an incredible path if the trees shaded it and there were more features along the way.
- Put a rowing machine in the RCC
- The open, green spaces in Richland are important for all its residents to share and use in a safe and friendly environment.
- Richland does well maintaining and improving our parks. I notice when you remove dead trees/branches; clean the rest rooms; improve baseball fields; remove graffiti; mow and fertilize. I like the new zip lines at Howard Amon. Thank you.
- Overall Richland is a great place to live and for visitors.
- We are a large and growing community. It would nice to have more sand volleyball available! The sand courts at leslie groves are severely undermaintained and withering away. Many times there 3 full courts with 50/60 people waiting on the sidelines to play.
- Thank you for asking the community for input. I hope that you can find a way to keep the unhoused from setting up camps along the riverbanks.
- More swimming facilities please!

- More activity for children and teenagers.
- The parks are so beautiful and well kept. There are so many in Richland and I feel that almost everyone is within walking distance of one. Thank you so much!
- Just what I already suggested. Thank you. Let garden clubs and gardeners plant flowers & shrubs. (:
- A shady area away from the main crowds to legally relax with my dogs off leash and kids. Shallow pond or river access.
- Please continue to keep waterfront areas accessible
- Please just take into consideration that the city is forgetting a core recreational group, your equestrians. They are a group that would also be a huge asset when it comes to park trail maintenance. Seeing equestrians out on trails you currently have is great, kids love meeting horses. Please consider this group when making changes or adding new parks to the city.
- With the intense heat having more shade at parks and at the benches is very much needed
- Working with the city on the Richland Horse Park Partnership has been both challenging and rewarding. Having the parking lot sprayed each year for weeds, and mowing areas where the trail obstacles are, and trail to the bow hunter parking lot would be appreciated even when we are not in a partnership agreement. Having wasp traps hung and routinely checked would be great. I've asked the Park Ranger about this and have not seen traps hung by the picnic tables or in the heritage garden. The wasps are really bad there and pose a threat to those allergic. I will add that the city folks were very responsive to removing deadfall where ground hornets posed a threat, as well as removing trees that were diseased and planting new ones. THis was very much appreciated by the Purple Sage Riders.
- I think the parks and rec team in Richland are excellent! Very helpful and friendly. I wish we still had catalogs. I don't feel like I know what's going on. Thanks for giving us a space to share our opinions!
- I wish the sports would go until high school
- Thank you!
- The more connected open spaces the better. North Richland for all trees has very few birds since there all no bugs for then to eat. Not sure this is your area, but it seems like there are many dead trees on various residential lots that should be removed by the home owner.
- Because of the heat we get, aquatic features and drinking fountains would highly motivate people to go to the parks more.
- Yes. Please eliminate invasive, nasty Russian olives along river between Howard Amon and Leslie Groves parks. Thank you
- I like the parks natural and calm. I care about wildlife and the health of the river. I do not want any more development, no sports facilities, and less emphasis on boating and jet skis. I think the parks could use more water fountains and garbage cans though

- I grew up in a community where the schools and the city worked together on recreation facilities. For example: an indoor pool or rec center next to a school. The school would use it during the day for PE classes, and sports practices after school. The city opened it to public in evenings and summers. I worked at it during college and thought it was an amazing collaboration and way to share the expense of the facility.
- I love the community garden and my kids have loved the parks—especially Goethals.
- My family walks from Columbia Point to the end of the levee often. Closed bathrooms (usually due to vandalism) have created difficulty when my kids need to go and also when I'm pregnant and need to go. My kids really enjoy playing at parks, going to the splash pad and participating in summer swim lessons at George Prout. We love living in Richland. Thank you for the work you do!
- I do not like the new play toy at Howard Amon, you can't see through that big boat, it's a super cool idea, but it's difficult to take more than one child when they are running around. The previous large toy I could look over and see straight through the toy to make sure my older child was fine, while my younger child was in a swing. Also there are not enough swings in the new park....
- Rid the parks and ball fields of drug dealers. If that is the only thing worked on over the next several years, the park experience would be greatly improved. If the parks are unsafe, no amount of improvements or investments will matter. I'm seriously sick of walking through the ball fields lot or to/from the paths at Howard Amon and witnessing or getting harassed by drug dealers. Cures me of going to parks for months at a time. Tried to report. Never got a report number. Seriously?
- Keep coming up with ideas and keep sending surveys. For example, a group of us would like to see a walking loop at Hills West Park. We would like to suggest that, then see it put to the residents as a whole to determine funding priorities. And the same should go for all parks.
- The playground at Howard Hammond Park needs to have a sunshade installed. The slide gets up to 130° I tested it myself. This is unsafe. Also more ADA playgrounds would be nice. Check out what Hermiston Oregon did. That was amazing. Plus more water play areas would be lovely in the hot weather
- The areas under the cement structures at Oak Park (dolphin, Swiss cheese, double seat, etc.) are often muddy as there is only dirt. Maybe gravel would help. Or fill in the areas with dirt & grass or astroturf that is the same level as the grass so the water from the sprinklers (or rain) doesn't pool. Thanks for asking!
- Thank you for the survey
- No
- I try to walk every day. Mostly along the Columbia in Leslie Groves and Howard Amon Parks. Would enjoy other 1-4 mile paved walking paths with comparable shade and restroom facilities. Thank you for conducting this survey. I appreciate Richland's parks.
- What we do have in place is greatly appreciated.

- More river access and a park beautification. A park in south Richland
- Richland definitely has a lot of amazing things for the community. Main things I think could be improved are shade and enclosure. Also would love more opportunities to connect with other moms so adding more days/times for that would be wonderful
- More light on the trails
- More shade, more picnic areas. Waterslides/ pools would be awesome. The Richland pool is so small since the remodel. We often go to Prosser pool or Hermiston for the slides.
- Would love a bigger aquatics facility! The Sprout public pool is not close to where we live and the few times we have gone is absolutely packed with people
- Do some research. Visit literally any other community outside the Tri-Cities and you will find well-designed, intentional public park facilities. Take notes. I do not understand why this is such an issue here. I have been to towns with a tiny fraction of our tax base that have far better facilities.
- I am curious as to how the George Washington Way and Jadwin traffic plan can improve a connection to the Columbia River Greenway and support Richland businesses.
- Asking citizens helps the city plan. Needs change (i.e. tennis v. pickleball), interests change. Generally speaking, Richland does a great job with the parks and recreational opportunities.
- I am a member of Back Country Horseman and frequently ride this area. I really appreciate your support with maintaining parks for us and working with our group
- Safe activities for teens!
- I think the city does a pretty good job. Restrooms have problems (from people) seniors need programs for all different abilities and maybe more seating areas and group picnic areas with not a big charge
- Please improve our rec programs for all ages and move to build a rec center.
- Fun for all ages is crucial to community building. Keeping children entertained and active is crucial for development and health, both mental and physical. Luckily it's easy to do with play structures. Adult fun can be trickier. Accessible and progressive bike parks can be an answer that includes all ages, skills, and demographics.
- We love Richland Parks & Rec, keep up the great work! One tiny request... the community events flyers that come with the power bill are ALWAYS delivered after the event happens. Is there any way you guys can send them out a month earlier?
- No
- Richland Parks and Rec does a great job! I just want more of it!
- Only to increase activity for horses
- Community Gardens and an increase of free areas for groups to come together for activities are priorities I, and others I know, have shared and commented about
- My kids wish there were more swings at local parks. E-bikes on local trails are unsafe. They go way too fast and put pedestrians in danger especially on the mixed trails.

- Keep bathrooms clean and well lit. :)
- We enjoy using the Richland Horse Park and would like to see more horse friendly parks.
- We love the parks in Richland!
- Just bigger facilities. Tricities has grown and our parks have not
- Would like to see you replace every tree that you need to cut down. We live next to Rodney Block Park and several huge cottonwoods had to be removed a few years ago. No replacements were planted. We'd like to see new trees for the next generation! We'd be willing to keep an eye on them while they're young and tell city staff if there are problems.
- We have a new police station, new fire stations, new library, new city shops and vehicles. It's getting hotter every summer. Let's build these splash parks inside old Richland. No life guards needed. Families with kids that don't have a lot of extra money can enjoy.
- Park walks could be just as popular as letter house walks. Educating the public about the need for riverside buffers, the harmful effects of fertilizer and insecticides leaching into the river. and the insects contribution to the ecosystem in the park would be educational.
- I think that the city is doing a great job with keeping Leslie Groves and Howard Amon parks clean, maintained and safe. I do appreciate the employees who take care of them.
- The city does a great job and the parks are a blessing to our family! We love the improvements that have been made to make Howard Amon a more safe play structure.
- Sometimes they feel too crowded and that keeps me from wanting to go there, especially when I'm looking for some time near nature
- My kids, their friends and I love pickleball and it is hard to find an available court in Richland - meanwhile the tennis courts are wide open due to lack of users
- I love the gothels park for my grandchildren and would love to see it kept up a little better. The tunnels are mud and the fun stream needs more river rock. Thanks
- We couldn't find any handicapped parking spots during Art In The Park, which made it very difficult for me to attend. There are very few handicapped spots in Howard Amon for the size of that park, especially for big events. Please add more!!
- Our population is exploding so it's more important now than ever to have good accessible parks so the children have something to do. I grew up here and there wasn't a lot to do when I was a kid so better equipped parks would be a great option
- Please don't create more parking or sports courts. I treasure the trees and green lawns/landscaping.
- We need more parks like the nature based park on Goethals. More incorporation of native landscape/plants. Consider options for activities outside of working hours. Example, there was a series of historical walks throughout the area (the neighborhood tours discussing development during WWII) that were all scheduled during working hours.

- I have lived in many different places, but Richland has the best parks I have ever seen. When choosing where to live in the Tri-Cities, we chose Richland because the parks are so great! Thanks for all you do!
- I'd love to see the different parks featured on social media (FB, IG, etc). One park a week or so. Where is the specific park? What features does it have. There are many parks in Richland that the public is likely just not aware of.
- Nothing specific, love the parks here!
- More police presence during the day and at night. I live behind Frankfort Park. There is often a homeless population that hangs out there and it is often unsafe.
- I think that the parks and recreation are excellent in Richland and that is an important asset for this city.
- Hi Julie!!
- When we have our grandchildren, we find it challenging to think of what recreational things we can take them to, both outdoor and indoor activities. We have so much time to be outside. Maybe an outdoor bounce pillow, a children's center that has different activities for hands on play such as a "home" kitchen with stove, frig, counters, cabinets, everything for pretend meal prep, cooking, table settings, table& chairs. A vets office or medical office. Arts & crafts. Science puzzles to learn and figure out, etc. Something along the lines of Mobius Discovery Center in Spokane or the Park in Walla Walla that has different play and swing choices, along with an Aviary. My impression of Richland is that it is lacking in interesting things to explore as residents or visitors with children.
- Thank you for your commitment to improve the parks!
- Maintaining the existing parks and their amenities is of utmost importance. The biking and walking paths, especially those near the river, need regular maintenance for safety and longevity. The pickleball courts at Claybell need more maintenance to repair cracks to extend the life of the courts.
- They are generally fantastic and well maintained. Additional shaded seating would be the biggest improvement for my family.
- Parking is most important. Even if you could make Richland more walkable, unless you plan to prohibit residents of neighboring cities from visiting, you will have a parking problem.
- You all do a pretty good job.
- Patrol trails for illegal motorized vehicles including non assist e-bikes, off road gasoline bikes. Add primitive boat ramp for access above Snyder Street ramp. Continue to add meaningful interpretative panels to existing kiosk. Bring more art and nature programs for all ages.
- I would love to see more trees providing shade along walking paths in North Richland. It makes a huge difference to my ability to walk on really hot days.

- I think our parks are above average. I am please with the new plaground at Howard Amon. So many people and paddle boarders visit in the summer now, it feels really crowded on weekends. Parking is often a problem.
- Thanks for asking all this. I regret that I'm not a frequent user of Richland parks - single, no kids or grandkids. But our parks are important attributes for Richland and deserve attention, so thank you.
- Acquire lands or permanent easements to ensure the Tapteal Trail is continuous from Bateman Is. to the city limits at Snively Rd. and codified in the comp plan and other planning documents and websites. Add NOS in the Twin Bridges to Sniveley Rd area. Make the Tapteal Trail a city park. Be more proactive in protecting Amon Basin Natural Preserve from inappropriate habitat destruction. Be more proactive in weed control in natural areas.
- The walking/bike trail at Leslie Groves Park could use more shade
- badger mountain area is a great trail/hiking area. keep maintaining it and patrolling parking areas.
- Bike paths need to be maintained, clear of debris. It's nice when the city puts in planters in areas, but they need to be used and maintained or become an eyesore.
- A Riverwalk would be nice and more sporting features (baseball diamonds, pickleball courts, etc.)
- Please consider supporting youth softball!
- Would love an amphitheater and the city to host more concerts and festivals!
- We need more softball and baseball fields. We also need more boat launches.
- Support motor sports and STEM activities
- We need more baseball and softball fields. Even when I just want to take my kids down to the fields to play just us there are often tournaments going on in the summer and there is no access (and we also don't know how to find out when the fields are reserved/in use)
- Richland has some of the best parks in the Tri-cities. The new playground at Howard Amon is great! Wish the city never would of took out the original Olympic size (Big Pool) that was here when I was growing up. The population is at least 10 times more than it was then and we have a dinky little pool.
- We should prioritize space for the new Richland National Little League softball fields.
- No
- Signage at parks with contact info for reporting issues & suggestions.
- Unlike seattle and spokane, which have been completely flooded with filth all sorts of human degeneration and debauchery. Richland still has a chance to keep our community and public spaces clean and safe. Zero tolerance for public drug use.
- More tennis courts and we really need softball fields for our girls! It was a huge burden to drive all the way to Horn Rapids this year so next year my daughter might not play.

- We love the parks in Richland and have enjoyed them for years. I've taken several yoga classes through the community center. The traffic makes it difficult to attend classes beginning at 5:00-5:30.
- you could do so much more with the nature features at Goethals Park! there needs to be easier access over by the creek and big kid play structures, like a footbridge over the ditch. and the landscaping needs reviving. maybe the native plant society would work with you to get some native plants and good education about them set up there?
- na
- Concerns about homeless in parks
- No
- The parks I visit most often are Badger, Crested Hills, Amon, Claybell, and the one by Orchard Elementary. All seem very well maintained. Softball fields are needed.
- Baseball and softball are very popular but we lack playing fields to support the interest. If water is a concern then having artificial turf fields would also be an option.
- My family and I love to play Pickleball, unfortunately, there are too few courts at Claybell and they are not well maintained.
- Overall, I think we have excellent P&R facilities. I think they could be better maintained.
- The parks seem to be pretty well maintained. Which I appreciate very much. I would love to see more walking trails and aquatic places- like pools, an aquatic center etc.
- More welcoming/support for the unhoused in the parks. More trash cans and dog bag stations. More activity/exhibit features like that aviary that was proposed once upon a time. Would love to see a boardwalk/vender space at Howard Amon. Not sure about the community benefit/utility of the golf course near Howard Amon.
- We have space in south Richland and by the Country Mercantile for adding softball/baseball multiuse fields. It would be great to add (or adjust an existing plan) these types of fields to your plan.
- All sports are taxed for field space. Little league Baseball has their own dedicated fields, little league softball fields are equally needed, and could double for adult leagues on the south side of town.
- I so wish there was a good way to deter those who vandalize the restrooms!!! I don't understand their reason for destroying public property and those of us who use and appreciate the facilities, loose out when they get shut down. And they get away with it without any repercussion. That's what I'd like to see is a way to catch them and hold them accountable for their destruction.
- I have coached baseball for many years for ages 8-15. I have seen hundreds of teams trying to share a dozen fields. I have traveled to tournaments in cities that have HUGE parks with tons of fields. They host tournaments all year with hundreds of teams in each tournament paying iver \$1,000 per team. We could also host fishing derbies and tournaments. We have so much riverfront that is just overgrown and full of druggies.

- Keep the riverfront parks as natural as possible. No need to develop our waterfront land into commercial tourist traps....we have beautiful walking/biking paths, the fingernail for concerts, gorgeous trees and wonderful designated play areas for kids. Let's enjoy it by simply keeping it up for all.
- Acquire lands or permanent easements to ensure the Tapteal Trail is continuous from Bateman Is to the city limits at Snively Rd. Codify the Tapteal Trail in the comp plan and other planning documents and websites. Add NOS in the Twin Bridges to Snively Rd area. Make the Tapteal Trail a city park. Be more proactive in protecting Amon Basin Natural Preserve from inappropriate habitat destruction. Be more proactive in weed control in natural areas. Preserve habitats in natural open spaces and river corridors. Prioritize natural areas and wildlife.
- Improving on the facilities near uptown and central Richland will help the less affluent youth to get involved in outdoor play. Not many kids who go to my kids school participate as they don't have the knowledge of the events and the means to afford them.
- Tennis Courts Softball Fields Lap Swimming pool
- We need more softball fields and more options in west Richland as well
- The natural open spaces need signs informing users motorized vehicles and damaging the natural habitat are prohibited. The tapteal trail should be a continuous linear park from Bateman island to Snively road. Spraying for invasive species (particularly poison hemlock) is needed in Chamna and WE Johnson. The parks department should have an established policy on ebikes including speed limits on paved paths and prohibition in natural open spaces. More natural open spaces should be added into the park system.
- No
- The homelessness is becoming a problem this year. Jefferson fields had multiple transients in the restrooms and all around the baseball fields this year.
- None
-
- My daughter plays softball & she loves it but there are not enough softball fields in this area.
- Love the park system. The main thing I tell new people to enjoy when they move here. Wish there was dedicated mountain biking in the area, and more summer outdoor yoga classes. The riverfront park could use some local cafes or pop-up food trucks. Love the coffee truck but would appreciate more options.
- Educate/enforce- Pick up after your pet and dispose of properly. Do not feed the wildlife. Do not litter. (And more trash cans.)
- Velo solutions bike track & other bike skills areas in town.
- The most accessible park to me is Howard Amon which is a fabulous park. Kudos to P&R. I may miss it, but I learn little about other park locations and offerings. Thank you P&R for chance to share opinions and your desire to serve and get better.

- We LOVE the Richland parks! We lived in Yakima for a few years and there is ZERO access to the YAKIMA river in Yakima. It's ridiculous. While we were away, I missed going to a park by the river the most. I appreciate how many varieties of options we have to enjoy the river in Richland. Thank you!
- More native plants and ungroomed nature spaces with trails - more shade trees native to central & eastern Washington
- Why on earth do you ask about ethnicity and gender? How does that impact parks? These questions angered me and cause me to doubt the stated motivation for this survey.
- We definitely need more pickleball courts, especially some beginner courts where families with kids can come try it out and play for fun without feeling intimidated by all the intense advanced players.
- I appreciate the Art in the Park event in Howard Amon.
- -Make the Tapteal Trail a city park! -Codify the Tapteal Trail in the comp plan and other planning documents and websites -Acquire lands or permanent easements to ensure the Tapteal Trail is continuous from Bateman Is to the city limits at Snively Rd. -Be more proactive in protecting Amon Basin Natural Preserve from inappropriate habitat destruction!! -Add Natural Open Space in the Twin Bridges to Snively Rd area. -Be more proactive in weed control in natural areas. -Preserve habitats in natural open spaces and river corridors!!
- Recommend trees and tables in the old city of richland building lot, expand the lawn / green spaces along the Columbia riverfront on the Westside of walking paths in north richland and create more park like setting on the other side of the bridge at Columbia point.
- More hiking and walking trails please. The park near Badger Mountain West needs to be a priority. The newsletters with utility bills need to advise on future events, not things that already happened
- While it's nice to see new play spaces come to these big parks like Howard Amon, it's disappointing that other neighborhood parks be so neglected. One of my kids has autism and elopes, so while we've been to the new playground at Howard Amon we likely won't go back because it's just too overwhelming for her, which leads to eloping. As such, we tend to drive to Lawrence Scott park from our home in north Richland when she wants to play because it is safer for her. It's disappointing that we have to go so far from home, not to mention out of our town, to go to a park that feels safe enough for our kiddo.
- Leslie Groves is great as is. Please don't change it!
- Would love for the playground at Claybell Park to be on the list for a refresh soon, and would also like more shaded seating options at Badger Mountain splash pad
- I would probably be interested in "community school," as we had in the past, offering classes in things like bird watching, cooking from other countries, gardening, or other topics. Including options to attend online might be helpful.
- Get homeless out

- Need more pickleball courts
- No
- The goose poop problem keeps getting worse in Howard Amon and surrounding areas. Please come up with a non-lethal harassment policy before the grass, beaches and docks are unusable.
- Please consider emailing a weekly or monthly calendar of park and recreation events to all on mailing list for this email.
- Participate more with the expansion of the Badger mountain trail system. 10's of thousands of Richland residents use the trails annually and it appears the city of Richland could do more to support the people who donate time and money to provide such a widely used resource to the community.
- Maintenance of parks and facilities has been very good. Unfortunately, vandalism can quickly change that appearance. More park rangers and frequent visibility may provide a positive influence. Enforcement of park hours may also help.
- Trails get lots of use. A trail along the Yakima River beyond the current Tapteal Greenway and support to the Badger Mt. and connecting trails would be the best investment for our community.
- Please keep them safe and beautiful
- North Richland walking paths along the river are inhibited by all the trees and brush that is overgrown, unsafe (falls on the path), home to drug addicts and just ugly. Please cut down the brush and invasive species.
- We have benches that look into nothing but weeds and russian olives. Clear them out!
- Overall quite good. Love the trees. Please Avoid throwing gravel on bike paths when you mow or edge lawns, especially on the levee.
- 1. Acquire permanent easements for a continuous trail from Bateman to Snively Rd. 2. Preserve habitats in natural open spaces & river corridors. 3. Codify the Tapteal Trail in the comp plan & other documents.
- really the homeless problem in parks should be highest priority.
- I love the river in this area. It's a huge appeal. But unsafe conditions from overgrown non native species prevents access to the rivers and promotes vagrant and derelict activity making it unsafe at times to access certain areas.
- The "Wild" or "Natural" area of Leslie Groves Park is not maintained properly. A rather narrow strip is mowed at the edge of the yards that back up to the park just before 4th of July for "fire protection." It used to be mowed all the way down to the bike path. This small swatch will do little to slow a fire. There is also nothing to block vehicles from driving from the Haines St parking lot directly on to the bike path. Seeing cars and motorbikes race up the path is a common occurrence. Calls to non-emergency police is not a deterrent. Someone will eventually be hurt badly because the city has neglected to put up a common post barrier that city and police officials can easily remove for access. Other path entrances have these post barriers. I don't understand why the city hasn't

provided a safety barrier at this path entrance. Perhaps this will be one of those circumstances where the city decides to be responsible only when there is a huge lawsuit for negligence.

- Please, keep our parks safe and free of vagrants.
- Richland's parks are amazing!
- I would love to see the bike paths more clearly labelled as for bikes/wheels only. I would love to see more frequent trash collection on busy weekends at Leslie Groves, and fireworks enforcement in the park around the 4th of July.
- Light pollution - adding significant lights concern me, especially related to the night time lives park fauna. Native vegetation - foster and increase areas of native plants in low foot-traffic areas of parks, such as Leslie Groves. Peacefulness - allow human neighbors to parks to maintain the calm, quiet and serene lifestyles, especially early mornings, evenings & nights. Light pollution - The urban & residential lighting is inevitable. However, adding loads of night light to our parks & pathways distracts & harms indigenous critters. Parking - There are some parking areas which do fill beyond capacity, especially during special events. Developing a shuttle service to & from the park during peak times of activity might be part of a solution.
- George Prout pool is a under utilized resource. It is scheduled open only 8 weeks of the year when it could be open May through september at least. Need more lap swimming sessions and swim lessons and water aerobic classes also
- I can't walk on grass well or far. I haven't been able to go to events like art in the park for years due to parking and access
- Spokane Riverfront Park would be a great model to draw from. And there can't be too many shaded places to rest, play, or sit.
- I own an outdoor education business and would love to be involved in the community and improve options for families. I would love more opportunities for community partnerships. We need to get kids outside more!
- Please give us shaded parks!
- More shade areas
- Having just visited a few different cities (in Washington and California) I would just like to say that I am really impressed with the Richland Parks Department. You have created so many parks and opportunities for me to go outside with my young kids. In the other cities it was so hard to find toddler friendly playgrounds that were clean and safe. Thank you so much for all of your hard work!
- More pools, a performing arts center, more baseball fields, make Lewis and Clark restrooms safer.
- No
- Shade, clean bathrooms that aren't far from the playgrounds, more water play, a pool that has slides, shallow area play, and unique features. For a place that is so hot, I'm surprised the tri cities doesn't have more public pools, especially that are more unique.

- We enjoy Goethals park, but there isn't enough seating for grandparents to come with us. We also love Leslie Groves! Howard Amon is great but parking is challenging.
- In Fall and Winter, it gets so empty I don't feel safe. We love being outdoors even when it is showing. But we're often alone in parks. Not sure what would be the solution here.
- A map of all the parks/ facilities would be fun. Maybe a treasure hunt of some kind to help residents know all the options out there. Liberty park needs more wood chips under the swings it has gone down so far it's hard for kids (and adults) to get on and is dangerous when trying to get off. Older kid parks having areas for younger siblings to play is a huge plus
- Help make tri cities healthy More walking paths with more businesses by them, like coffee help the paths connect Also we need more shade and trees
- Just please change out those metal slides at Howard Amon. Why is the new fitness area stuff not hot but the slides are burning? Coat it with something different! Put a shade up so it can be used during the summer afternoons. We do have a lot of parks here which is great but please add a cool splash pad in north Richland area or even mid Richland area. We don't have any on this side of Richland!
- I appreciate recent efforts to remove homeless camps and consistently keep our parks safe and clean.
- More toddler-friendly playgrounds that include shaded areas and are fully accessible for children with disabilities.
- Please make the waterfront look more appealing. So many areas where non native trees and weeds block the view of the river. Russian are not native trees! Mow the lawn! Outlaw the e-bikes and scooters that are a danger to other walkers/ runners and conventional bikes. Someone is going to be injured.
- Parks feel less safe and facilities are dirtier, I'm a runner, and some of the paths (especially between Chamna and Columbia Point) feel sketchy. Lots of evidence of homeless camps, even in Howard Amon. Would be nice to address this. Also, some kind of city based rentals of bikes, paddle boards, etc. at Howard Amon. Love the circuit equipment at Howard Amon, but it needs shade. Add a bubble top to the pool so it can be used outside of summer. And would love a safe off the road pedestrian path from Keene Road/Dallas road to the Candy Mt and Badger Mt trails.
- More toddler friendly areas are needed. As a mother who takes little kids to parks often I'd like to see more gates around play areas to accommodate for the under age 3 crowd. This also makes mothers of older children feel safer as it creates an obstacle for predators.
- Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
- Please add another picnic table at badger mountain trailhead park, single track mountain bike trails, pickle ball court at badger mountain park, beach sand or more beach access, a designated paddle boarding area and a mountain bike club.

- Gets really hot, plastic burns. So limited timing to use parks and most have REALLY BAD SHADE. no shade to sit or play under. Really hard with newborns too, when trying to get out of the house with toddlers
- Richland needs more things to do that involve water and family fun. Ideas: Wild waves Silverwood Great wolf lodge Triple play
- Please more toddler/children under 5 programs. We love, love, love your weekly time for tots at the community center and wish there were more activities like that!
- SHADE at splash pads. SHADE, SHADE, SHADE. PLEASE. I cannot take my infant out in the sun so my toddler doesn't get to enjoy amenities because there is not enough shade. And FENCES AROUND PARKS! My kiddo is a bolter. I cannot chase him fast enough with a newborn with me. And I cannot visually keep track inside all the play structures. I'd feel much safer with a perimeter fence with a singular exit
- Clean up the clutter on the Shelter Belt path. It really piles up along the fence line.
- If we actually spent money trying to help the unhoused, instead of constantly harassing them, perhaps we could get them out of our parks. I find the behavior of council and staff cruel and inhumane. The city has done NOTHING to offer public planning or discussion around this issue. A "first class city" should treat all its residents with kindness, even if we must plug our noses to do it! Overall I think the parks are well maintained. All city trees need more TLC Shade and access to cool (physically) places to hang out is increasingly important Many older homes and apodo y have central air, so people go to the river and parks to get relief.
- As more people move here, it would be great to have more options for kids to play safely. Even young children.
- Plant more trees at the parks plant 5 for everyone removed
- It's a problem everywhere but keep the homeless out bus them back to Seattle. I would pitch in for bus tickets.
- Id love to get some pump tracks!
- generally, appreciate parks and recreation
- During high use/summer time, frequent and visible park ranger and police patrols for beach areas are needed. Also, park rangers on waterfront bike paths to educate ebike users on the safe operation speeds of their bikes.
- It's not covered in this survey but the primary emphasis needs to be on eliminating unwanted activities in Richland parks such as overnight stays, vandalism, drugs, and uncontained fires (including fireworks).
- Oak Park has excellent shade, a garbage can and pet bags, and a nice toy. A lot of walkers would appreciate a track around the edges and lighting. At night, there are a lot of kids doing/selling drugs on the toy because it is very dark and hides their activity. We've also had homeless people sleeping there in Summer, so it's only a resource when it's light outside. Lights would be safer and increase usage.

- Lower income neighborhood parks seem to have less maintenance and attention; please ensure there's equity in maintenance. Please increase accessibility for cyclists and ADA compliant measures.
- More Beach front access would change everything
- More water features splash pads for dogs...NOT kids, for when it is HOT in the summer and the river has algae warnings. Some place we can pay a small fee and swim our dogs in safety.
- Just need bicycle activities and rental type stuff (bikes, kayaks, paddle boards)
- Pickleball courts, pickleball courts, pickleball courts! Also think it would be great to start a high school age level boys basketball league.
- Before you make changes, poll the local residents living near the park. Don't make assumptions. For example, South or Central Richland residents may think it's fine to add pickle board & skateboard park to Leslie Groves, but the local residents may not feel the same way because of increased traffic, noise, speeding, etc. It's a balancing act.
- No
- We love the pool and wish it were open longer in the seasons for lap swim.
- NA
- No
- 1. More sidewalks to river parks. 2. Take down more vegetation near river to allow us to see river and use it.
- The brush along the walking path in Richland needs to be managed for safety and aesthetics. Donating stations added. Maybe more garbage cans along the way.
- Keep our treasured open spaces along our rivers natural to protect our precious wildlife. Maintain and add walking/biking paths so we can keep enjoying our open and natural spaces.
- keep homeless camping out of community spaces
- Improvement in general maintenance such as: Trimming trees and bushes to provide better river views maintaining areas to minimize unsightly or unkempt areas to indicate city pride.
- When we moved here 3 years ago my kids were doing: dance, gymnastics, soccer, art class, etc all short term activities through park and rec. My kids miss doing those activities but I can not afford to pay for private gymnastics lessons. It would be really nice if parks and rec expanded program and not just swimming and summer but throughout the year.
- Bug & spider spray the park twice a year!! More garbage cans. Put up more dog poop bags stations. Add some decks for fishing areas with trash bins.
- Too many parks to take care of, reduce the number of parks and make the remaining ones better.
- I live in south Richland, off of bermuda st, and there are really no parks over here yet. I would love to see a park in this area, as there are a lot of new neighborhoods with families looking for outdoor spaces to have fun!

- Our trails are comparable to Austin, Texas which are amazing!!...but the difference is it is hotter here and has less shade (or maybe it feels hotter because there is no shade) and it makes it very unappealing to go out for a walk, run, or bike when the sun is hammering down on you. Richland for sure is the best out of the Tri-Cities of having shade trees on trails, but if that could be added to in sections that are lacking in shade (especially along the streets that connect the Urban Greenbelt) that would be amazing. Also again the music scene wants to be here, but has fallen short over and over again. I think this is the perfect place to have a huge music scene due to location (proximity to Seattle, Portland and other big cities that artists from all over the country pass through here to get to those other locations and vis versus and need a place to rest/play a show in between) there is still a relatively low cost of living here compared to Seattle and Portland and if we can start a scene here and tend to it until it can spark, I think this could be a huge Music hub that can attract a lot of people. Also why are we letting all our residents go out of town 200 miles to spend their money on music when we could keep them here to spend money and bring more people here to spend their money. So again if you wanna talk let me know. Alexis Chew (formally Sanchez) (509)728-3224
- Please coordinate with local groups such as Friends of Badger Mountain and the Tapteal Greenway Association to ensure continuity of hiking and water trails across jurisdictions. Work with the Washington Native Plant Society and other groups to help measure and maintain the health of wild ecosystems in the parks. Keep some open lands wild and protected for nature study and to let nature have its way. Do so in such a way to develop corridors of natural open spaces. Acquire lands or permanent easements to ensure the Tapteal Trail is continuous from Bateman Island to the city limits at Snively Rd.
- 1. Richland is a great area for parks! 2. We really should add a pump track, MTB jumps, etc. 3. A nature preserve like Manito park would be great. 4. Adventure park that included waterfront floating obstacle course, plus land based ropes course & zip lines would be awesome as well!
- Create a new destination park in South Richland, particularly south of Keene Road or the Badger Mountain South area.
- Richland is doing a great job. I suggest more shade structures and splash pads over time, if possible. And I'm not sure the parks all parts of town are adequate -- it's very helpful to have a park in walking distance when you have a toddler or young kid! (Ideally with some sort of play structure - even just a slide or swings.
- I am grateful that the original planners of Richland incorporated so many parks into our original neighborhoods. I wish the city would recognize the need for sidewalks as these neighborhoods were also NOT built with individual car ownership in mind. Car owners therefore park on the road leaving pedestrians to walk into the street or trespass into someone's yard. During rainy or snowy weather the situation is much worse for pedestrians. This should not be on the backs of current owners/renters when these homes have been a vital part of Richland for up to 81 years (my home is 81 years old) and

many of the drivers on these roads are passing through to reach their wealthier neighborhoods which are complete with sidewalks.

- get the bums out of the parks and on the trails, enforce the noise rules, shut parks down at 9 and enforce it, which is not done now, turn off all power boxes or make it a pay to use. Inmates should be doing cleanup work at all parks to earn their keep.
- Our parks are always in wonderful condition - kudos to the staff but I would like to see options for recycling in the parks, more garbage cans etc.
- Would love some shade options at playgrounds in Richland. Something like a canopy covering, etc.
- Cleanliness needs work
- Richland's parks system is still the best in the Tri-Cities by far
- My family takes advantage of many offerings from the city, from library programs to community center events to park usage. The single most valuable thing to us is the river front at Leslie Groves but limited parking and beach area can make it hard to enjoy. An expansion of the area or development of other similar areas would be a top priority for us.
- Increased homeless presence that are under the influence and encampments that leave garbage/litter don't make me feel safe to be at parks.
- I would love to see signage up on playgrounds for inclusivity purposes to ask guests to refrain from eating on the playground and wipe kids hands when done. Food allergies affect a LOT of kids and unfortunately mine have suffered reactions just from playing on the equipment since others were eating and making a mess. This is a great way to spread awareness and keep those 10% of kids with an allergy safe and included.
- More parks with swings
- The City needs an indoor swimming pool (or an option to cover the existing pool for winter). Local swim and dive teams don't have any place to practice.
- Please do not build pickleball courts. I play but in places where the noise will not disturb people. There are numerous places to play now and more facilities are being built.
- This is about the survey - in question 19 there isn't a space to self identify - you can choose self id, but the spot after "here:" can't be filled in
- Really enjoy the Richland Park system and feel the employees are great maintaining the park. My wish is that there was communication with Benton County weed board to control the spread of invasive species in the open spaces.
- If you don't currently have citizen advisory committees to support specific activities or facilities like the George Prout swimming pool, strongly recommend creating them and asking for volunteer support. There are many residents in the twilight of their careers, or retired, who have excellent experience and ideas to support the city of Richland.
- Acquire lands or permanent easement to ensure Tapteal Trail is continuous from Bateman Island to the city limits at Snively Rd. Codify Tapteal Trail in the comprehensive plan and other planning documents and websites. Add NOS in Twin Bridges to Snively Rd. Be more

proactive in controlling weeds in natural areas. Be more proactive in protecting Amon Basin Natural Preserve from habitat destruction. Preserve habitat in natural open spaces and river areas.

- Put security cameras in bathrooms and then keep them unlocked.
- We need better protection of natural open spaces and plant and animal habitat. Too much development, e.g., along river, seems to be contemplated.
- The grassy areas in Howard Amon park are nearly always swampy. It would be nice to have a playground in Richland that is also fenced.
- Extend the parking lots from Newcomer to Park. Clean up the down trees and brush on the river side of the trail. There's nothing "natural" about all the alien, invasive species growing along the river.
- Bathrooms are needed at more parks. It's so hard to take children to play without bathrooms. I've witnessed people letting their children go by the playgrounds. It's unsanitary. There needs to be more cleaning and monitoring. The homeless populations are leaving trash and loitering. It feels unsafe.
- As a volunteer with Tapteal Greenway I am familiar with the volunteer efforts TG provides in maintaining trails, and working to protect natural habitats and open space areas along the Yakima River. In support of these efforts I would love to see the city acquire lands or permanent easements to ensure the Tapteal Trail is continuous from Bateman Island to the Richland City Limits at Snively Rd. Dedicate natural open space in the Twin Bridges to Snively Rd area. Formally recognize the Tapteal Trail in the city's comprehensive plan and other city planning documents and websites. Make the Tapteal Trail a city park. Increase preservation of natural habitats in natural open space areas and river corridors. As more and more of our open space areas are disappearing to development I believe it is so important to place more emphasis on preserving natural habitats and open space areas before we are mostly surrounded by developments. Also, the city should develop and enforce a non-motorized (batteries included) vehicles ordinance for trails through parks, open spaces and along the shoreline. I spend a lot of time on the river front trail and there are way too many individuals moving way too fast on all types of motorized vehicles. So many other communities I visit have taken this issue seriously and addressed it with ordinances and lots of signage. Thank you for allowing me to comment.
- Park should have more live music.
- The parks are a bit boring but nice overall I would just clean up the park sanitize ect...
- See previous comments :)
- More toddler friendly parks like Barth and more splash pads would be amazing.
- Shade is so important during the hot months. It's what prevents us from going out a lot of the time. Play equipment is so hot in the sun all summer.
- I really enjoy the wildness of walking along the river on the bike path and trail between bike path and river north of sprout road.

- A place to float like bends river. We have all three rivers in tri cities that have so much opportunity for attractions. Having a safe and fun option to be on the river without having a boat appeals to all levels of the community regardless of their income level.

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

TOPIC AREA: ACCESSIBILITY

DATE: JULY 8, 2025

PARTICIPANTS: THE ARC OF TRI-CITIES, VISIT TRI-CITIES

OVERVIEW

The City of Richland is developing its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan) to shape the next six years of citywide park and recreation services. The PROS Plan will address systemwide needs, identify specific improvements to park and recreation facilities, natural open spaces, and activities, and redefine goals and objectives to guide future investments. To achieve these outcomes and elevate community needs and priorities, we need your help! The purpose of this focus group meeting is to gain your insight into the opportunities and challenges facing the City's parks, recreation facilities, and natural open spaces. Below are several questions to guide our discussion. Your feedback will inform the key needs and opportunities that help shape the PROS Plan's recommendations for the future.

The most important outcome is to understand your perspective on the opportunities, challenges, and priorities that should be addressed in the PROS Plan.

NOTES

IN GENERAL...

- How often do you visit Richland's parks, natural open spaces, or community recreation facilities?
 - Arc of Tri-Cities, advocate for individuals and youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities
 - Visit Tri-Cities, destination marketing organization for the whole Tri-Cities region
 - Focused on bringing events, sports tournaments, and signature events (e.g. Iron Man, Special Olympics, etc.) to the region to create economic impact
 - Support partnerships
 - Tri-Cities Rivershore Enhancement Council
 - Sports Council

- How often do you interact with Parks and Public Facilities department staff in Richland?
Who do you typically work with to discuss improvements, ideas, or concerns?
 - Partner with the City on numerous large events and councils

OPPORTUNITIES

- What are some parks, natural open spaces, or community facilities, in Richland or elsewhere, that work well in terms of accessibility?
 - Howard Amon Playground
 - A great example of an innovative playground that is accessible to all
 - Lawrence Scott Park
 - One of the participants' children does therapy there and uses the park's amenities
 - Redevelopment of Rivershore system
 - Beach area at Columbia Point
 - Volleyball courts at Leslie Grove
 - Amenities and play areas at Richland's parks are great
- What do you feel are the greatest opportunities for Richland in terms of providing accessible parks, natural open spaces, community facilities, and recreation activities?
 - Fencing
 - Signage to request park gates and fencing remain closed
 - AAC board/devices at parks to support non-verbal park users
 - Continue to provide and expand rivershore access
 - Continue finding ways to encourage folks to get outside and be active
 - Safe connectivity between key destinations and local businesses
 - Continue improving accessibility of trail system

CHALLENGES

- What should the City be preparing for, to achieve a parks system that meets the needs of community members with a disability or those that are caring for someone with a disability?
 - Wayfinding and signage
 - Fencing and gates
 - Claybell Park
 - Shade structures, particularly over play areas in the summer months
 - Accessible wifi at facilities

- What do you feel are some of the biggest challenges facing the community regarding accessibility in Richland's parks, natural open spaces, community facilities, and recreation activities?
 - Lack of fencing around parks
 - Not every park needs to be fenced but a couple more would make a big difference
 - Summer heat
- Are there any specific barriers, needs, or improvements you would like to see addressed?
 - Technical connectivity and wifi
 - Can be a barrier to livestreaming events

PARTNERSHIPS

- Do you or does your organization currently work with the City to help maintain facilities or provide programs related to parks, natural open spaces, and recreation? If so, how can the City work with you to build on or enhance those efforts?
 - Large events
- If not, do you see opportunities for partnering with the City in the future to help address park, natural open space, and recreation needs and services?
 - Continue partnering with other jurisdictions and neighboring cities
 - This will remain important for the region

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS

- What types of information do you find most useful to determine the level of accessibility of park, natural area, or recreation facility? How do you prefer that information be provided?
 - AAC boards (visual signage)
 - Website
 - The website can be difficult to navigate and find information
 - Not very user friendly
 - More information about accessibility accommodations offered in the system
 - Physical and virtual maps that are regularly updated

- How can we work with you and other community members to continue to promote engagement in this planning process?
 - Social media
 - Distribution of materials through the business community and Chamber of Commerce
- Are there other people or groups who we should hear from?
 - Participants will follow-up with any additional groups they recommend hearing from
- What types of communication and engagement processes work well for you and others?
 - Social media

OTHER

- Is there anything else you would like to share?
 - One participant reiterated how great Columbia Point is with restrooms, shade, trees, close access to hotels and local businesses, gathering spaces, Rivershore access, etc.
 - Gathering spaces should be prioritized

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

TOPIC AREA:	CITY PARTNERS
DATE AND TIME:	TUESDAY, JULY 8 TH 3:00 – 3:45 PM
PARTICIPANTS:	Senior Life Resources (Meals on Wheels of the Mid-Columbia), 70.3 Tri-Cities Washington Iron Man, Richland Chamber of Commerce, Richland Seniors Association (RSA), Tri City Sunrise Rotary

OVERVIEW

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To achieve these outcomes and elevate community needs and priorities, we need your help! The purpose of this focus group meeting is to gain your insight into the opportunities and challenges facing the City's parks, recreation facilities, and natural open spaces. Below are several questions to guide our discussion. Your feedback will help inform the key needs and opportunities that help shape the PROS Plan's recommendations for the future.

The most important outcome is to understand your perspective on the opportunities, challenges, and priorities that should be addressed in the PROS Plan.

NOTES

IN GENERAL...

- How would you describe your organization's role as it relates to parks, natural open spaces, or community recreation facilities?
 - Provide meals at City facilities
 - Large events at City parks and facilities (Iron Man, Cool Desert Nights, C3 Slam Basketball Tournament, etc.)
 - Activities and opportunities for seniors to socialize at Richland Community Center
 - Beautification projects at City parks and facilities

- How often do you interact with Parks and Public Facilities department staff in Richland? Who do you typically work with to discuss improvements, ideas, or concerns?
 - Frequently, especially surrounding events

OPPORTUNITIES

- What are some of the biggest existing assets related to parks and recreation in and around Richland?
 - Development along the riverfront and Richland Marina (walkways, bike trails, beaches)
 - Multiple participants highlighted this as a key community asset and driver of tourism
 - Partnership with cruise ships
 - City events
 - Howard Amon Community Center
 - Badger Mountain
 - Amon Creek
 - John Dam Plaza
 - Strong volunteer base and community involvement
- From your organization's perspective, are there emerging trends or community needs Richland should be preparing for over the next 5-10 years?
 - Housing challenges as prices continue to rise and incomes lower
 - Ageing population
 - Need for age-friendly parks, facilities, and community events
 - Mental health challenges
 - Climate change
 - Need for additional shade structures, cooling centers, and water fountains
 - Equitable Access
 - Need for more multilingual signage and outreach
 - Economic development and tourism
 - Continued support for large events (e.g. Iron Man)
 - Keeping up with regional and national trends
 - Support for local farmers market and community events
 - Respond to evolving business landscape (e.g. contracting, permitting, partnerships, etc.)
 - Growth and traffic impacts

- Integration of technology into City programming and operations
 - Need to ensure groups that lack access to technology are not left behind
- Year-round programs and activities
 - Richland excels in summer programming but is lacking in winter programming, especially events not tied to holidays

CHALLENGES

- What do you feel are some of the biggest challenges facing the community?
 - Affordable housing
 - Affordable food and services for vulnerable communities
 - Rising cost of living
 - Homelessness
 - Traffic issues
 - Automobile
 - Boating
 - Parking
 - Managing peak hours of operation at the City's most popular parks
 - Accommodating future growth both in Richland and the broader region
 - Equitable information sharing (e.g. diverse outreach methods, balancing in-person and virtual information sharing, connecting with hard to reach communities, etc.)
 - Limited mobility challenges for low-income and senior populations
 - Safety around E-bikes
 - Access issues, particularly for seniors and people with disabilities
 - This ties in with the need for information sharing on available resources
- What challenges do you face in coordinating with the City or other partners to deliver recreation programs?
 - Parking availability for events
 - Funding
 - Competition with other events (e.g. scheduling, attendance, etc.)
- From your perspective, are there individuals or groups who may have less access to parks and recreation opportunities? If so, what kinds of barriers might they face?
 - Low-income communities
 - Seniors
 - Minority communities
 - People with disabilities

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS

- How can we work with you and other community members to continue to promote engagement in this planning process?
 - Implement a diverse range of outreach opportunities
- Are there other people or groups who we should hear from?
 - Low-income and minority populations
 - Columbia Ability Alliance
- What types of communication and engagement processes work well for you and others?
 - Physically delivering outreach materials to people's homes
 - Postcard with prepaid return postage or information about where to physically return
 - In-person community conversations and information sessions
 - Diverse outreach methods to touch as many groups as possible
 - A combination of in-person and virtual opportunities

OTHER

- Is there anything else you would like to share?
 - Participants did not have anything to share at this time but were welcomed to reach out to the project team with any other comments.

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

TOPIC AREA:	LARGE EVENTS
DATE AND TIME:	TUESDAY, JULY 8 TH 6:00 – 6:45 PM
MEETING LINK:	https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82699144189?pwd=a0UpbgL1VjwjRM7uNi0dnxYsTOr3Hi.1 MEETING ID: 826 9914 4189 PASSCODE: 318106
INVITED PARTICIPANTS:	YES & PRODUCTIONS, BADGER MOUNTAIN GEAR, STEPHENS MEDIA GROUP, THREE RIVERS FOLKLIFE SOCIETY, NORTHWEST POWERBOAT ASSOCIATION

OVERVIEW

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QUESTIONS

IN GENERAL...

- How would you describe your organization's role in hosting or supporting large-scale recreation events in Richland's parks or public spaces?
- How would you describe your working relationship with City departments when planning or hosting large events?

OPPORTUNITIES

- What are some of the biggest existing assets related to large events in and around Richland?
- What do you feel are the greatest opportunities facing Richland in the next 5-10 years relating to large events?
- Are there types of events or audiences currently underrepresented that you think the City could help attract or support?

CHALLENGES

- What should the City be preparing for to achieve a parks and recreation system that meets the long-term needs of the community?
- Are there barriers that prevent certain community members from participating in or attending large events? (e.g., cost, transportation, language, accessibility, awareness)

PARTNERSHIPS

- What partners do you rely on (if any)?
- What can the City do to build on or enhance your efforts relating to large events (e.g., coordination, permitting, marketing, or infrastructure)?

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS

- How can we work with you and other community members to continue to promote engagement in this planning process?
- Are there other people or groups who we should hear from (e.g., volunteers, event organizers, vendors, or other partners you work with)?

OTHER

- Is there anything else you would like to share?

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

TOPIC AREA:	YOUTH SPORTS
DATE AND TIME:	THURSDAY JULY 10 TH 5:00 - 5:45 PM
MEETING LINK:	https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87843580230?pwd=jHOGFeaWlaosbjmdavUITH52kpBDlp.1 MEETING ID: 878 4358 0230 PASSCODE: 792055
INVITED PARTICIPANTS:	TC STRIKE, THREE RIVERS SOCCER CLUB, TRI CITIES GIRLS FASTPITCH, RICHLAND NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE

OVERVIEW

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The most important outcome is to understand your perspective on the opportunities, challenges, and priorities that should be addressed in the PROS Plan.

NOTES

IN GENERAL...

- How would you describe your organization's role in supporting youth and/or organized sports in Richland's parks and recreation system?
 - Tri Cities Girls Fast Pitch (TCGF) – serve ~600-700 girls in their league each year
 - Richland National Little League (RNLL) – serve ~500 kids in the Richland area each year
 - Three Rivers Soccer Club – serve ~1000 recreational kids and ~1000 youth in their competitive leagues each year (rapidly growing)
 - TC strike (travel ball team) – serve six youth teams

- How often do you interact with Parks and Public Facilities department staff in Richland?
 - Regularly
 - All participants acknowledged a positive working relationship with department staff

OPPORTUNITIES

- What are some of the biggest existing assets related to sports and recreation in and around Richland?
 - Excellent department staff
 - Quality and maintenance of fields
 - One participant noted that they have heard from visiting teams that the City's baseball fields are some of the best in the state
 - Well maintained parks and community spaces
- Looking ahead 5–10 years, what opportunities do you see for expanding or improving youth and organized sports facilities, programs, or partnerships in Richland?
 - Ability to have more visibility of scheduling and what fields are available
 - Participants feel like sometimes there is underutilization of resources because there is not an easy way to see what is available
 - Good scheduling platform examples: Kennewick and Richland Public Schools
 - Secondary baseball/softball complex or updates to existing fields
 - Current fields are used to the max and cannot keep up with demand and increasing tournaments
 - Participants are worried that they will not be able to continue to provide at the level they are due to capacity constraints
 - Recreational opportunities are getting squeezed further and further
 - Youth teams are having to play later and later hours
 - Adult leagues are taking prime hours when youth games should be prioritized, especially during the school week
 - More utilization of Badger Mountain Community Park
 - Development of baseball/softball fields at future parks
 - Indoor recreation/sport facilities that can be utilized year-round
 - Similar to Southridge's indoor sports complex
 - Turf fields (both rectangular and baseball/softball)

- Participants currently only have access to public school turf fields which are expensive
- Investment in turf fields would support efficient utilization
- Participants would prefer additional fields vs. turfing existing fields
- ADA improvements to buildings at Horn Rapids and Columbia Play Fields to allow utilization
 - Currently only able to be used by umpires and feels like a safety hazard
- Concession improvements at Horn Rapids
 - Vendors are not interested in going here due to size and amenities
- Concession prices at Columbia Play Fields
- Shade structures for dugouts and stands
- Netting around backstops at Columbia Play Fields
- Security lighting around buildings and concession areas
 - Concessions have been broken into a few times
- Claybell Park needs more parking to accommodate pickleball demand
- One participant raised a concern about investing in facilities for the City without benefits in return – this discourages providers from investing in the facilities
- Scoreboards at Columbia Play Field
- Short-term investment in existing fields to make more useable for practice and games for younger players, this may take off some of the short-term stress on the larger facilities and offer a lower cost solution
 - Nine parks have fields that are currently unusable
 - Providers could be open to supporting some of these improvements
- Goals at Leslie Groves Park
 - One provider shared that they have had to replace the goals multiple times due to vandalism
- Cut grass slightly shorter at fields
 - Consider providing a dedicated mower for playing fields

CHALLENGES

- From a youth and organized sports perspective, what should the City be preparing for to meet long-term community needs?
 - See opportunities listed above

- More baseball and softball fields, current fields are 100%+ utilized and providers are turning to private and/or school providers which have their limitations
- What do you feel are some of the biggest challenges facing the community?
 - Limited field capacity and space in Richland and the broader Tri-Cities region
 - Limited field lighting
 - Scheduling/live field availability (need for an improved online platform)
 - Meeting growing demand for Richland and the entire Tri-Cities region
 - Facility/building access at Horn Rapids Park and Columbia Play Fields
 - Parking at Columbia Playing Fields
- Are there barriers that prevent certain community members from participating in sports or other recreation activities?
 - Field capacity
 - Parking

PARTNERSHIPS

- How can the City better support or collaborate with your organization to enhance sports programming, facility use, or participant experience?
 - Site improvements listed above
 - Clearer scheduling and live field availability system
 - More fields to accommodate demand and growth

OTHER

- Is there anything else you would like to share?
 - Participants did not have anything to share at this time but were welcomed to reach out to the project team with any other comments

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

TOPIC AREA:	TRAILS & CONSERVATION
DATE AND TIME:	TUESDAY, JULY 8TH 5:00 – 5:45 PM
MEETING LINK:	HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/83011512207?PWD=ZECZBXA8APKAXJB4NPBBCWSNOKTHBB.1 Meeting ID: 893 3516 5505 Passcode: 620086
INVITED PARTICIPANTS:	FRIENDS OF BADGER MOUNTAIN, BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON, TAPTEAL GREENWAY, NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, BENTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT, LOWER COLUMBIA BASIN AUDOBON SOCIETY, MID-COLUMBIA URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL, CHINOOK BICYCLE, THREE RIVERS ROAD RUNNERS

OVERVIEW

The City of Richland is developing its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan) to shape the next six years of citywide park and recreation services. The PROS Plan will address systemwide needs, identify specific improvements to park and recreation facilities, natural open spaces, and activities, and redefine goals and objectives to guide future investments.

To achieve these outcomes and elevate community needs and priorities, we need your help! The purpose of this focus group meeting is to gain your insight into the opportunities and challenges facing the City's parks, recreation facilities, and natural open spaces. Below are several questions to guide our discussion. Your feedback will help inform the key needs and opportunities that help shape the PROS Plan's recommendations for the future.

The most important outcome is to understand your perspective on the opportunities, challenges, and priorities that should be addressed in the PROS Plan.

NOTES

OPPORTUNITIES

- Collecting trail from the Columbia River to Yakima River and Benton City in the west (ridges to rivers)
- Open space habitat
- River and river pathways
- Work Audubon is doing to preserve and protect habitat

- Hanford Reach National Monument
- WEJ and Chamna significant habitat and important recreation areas
- Open space corridors important for migratory birds, which can be impacted by private / public maintenance practices
- Create new maintenance practices and guiding principles for natural areas
- Connectivity both physical to rivers/trailheads and to communities
 - Water trails, paths/trails, equestrian trails overcoming city boundaries/barriers to connect communities
- Habitat connectivity (riparian and upland)
 - Minimize disruption / habitat impacts from development and traffic
- Proactive planning both short-term and long-term
- Make Columbia Point South a natural area
- Cooling areas to combat extreme heat (shade + cooling centers)
- Add pollinator gardens at Leslie Groves (in the southern area) and asphalt ponds (near I-82 & Chamna)
- Acquire, preserve, and create shrub steppe habitat as city expands north
 - Ensure open space is provided with new development - not just developed recreation sites
- Trends: alternative mobility devices
- Candy mountain to red mountain trail connection
- Categorical exclusions for some shoreline areas where replanting and vegetation management could occur without impact to cultural, historic, or tribal resources
- New trail connection in Badger Mountain south area to trail
- Shoreline plan with resource agencies, city, and Tribes
- Removal of non-native vegetation or vegetation management and replacement with native plantings

CHALLENGES

- Trail user conflicts
- City growth and development threatens existing natural areas with overuse / capacity limits
- Management of river corridors and establishing new maintenance practices that are natural area-friendly
- River views not needed in every area, consider keeping vegetation and trees along river for habitat health
- Camping in natural areas
- Bird strike on buildings

- Rising E-bike use and resulting trail / path conflicts
- Cost of land acquisition and trail connection planning / design
- Existing maintenance practices and vegetation practices (turf, mowing, etc.)
- Climate impacts: extreme heat and drought
- Invasive weeds along shoreline
 - Problem is more widespread than any one area and more than one organization can address
- Light pollution and habitat degradation
- Clean restroom access at several natural area sites
- Car-centric planning and lack of public transit / safe connections to parks
- Balancing access and safety with preservation of natural areas
 - Some areas can be preserved without development for public access / use
- Fire suppression at Bateman Island with removal of causeway

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

TOPIC AREA: TRAILS AND CONSERVATION

DATE AND TIME: TUESDAY, JULY 8TH
5:00 – 5:45 PM

MEETING LINK:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89335165505?pwd=uMzy8o53hzBja3kl5LHRhuRzbEwBm4.1>

Meeting ID: 893 3516 5505
Passcode: 620086

INVITED

PARTICIPANTS: **OVERVIEW**

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, BENTON
CONSERVATION DISTRICT, LOWER
COLUMBIA BASIN AUDOBON SOCIETY,
MID-COLUMBIA URBAN FORESTRY
COUNCIL, CHINOOK BICYCLE, THREE
RIVERS ROAD RUNNERS

FRIENDS OF BADGER MOUNTAIN, BACK
COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF
WASHINGTON, TAPTEAL GREENWAY,

The City of Richland is developing its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan) to shape the next six years of citywide park and recreation services. The PROS Plan will address systemwide needs, identify specific improvements to park and recreation facilities, natural open spaces, and activities, and redefine goals and objectives to guide future investments.

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Tapteal Greenway 7-8-2025 (see separate list of TG priorities)

- How would you describe your organization's role as it relates to parks, natural open spaces, and recreation?

Tapteal Greenway's mission is conservation, recreation, and education along the lower Yakima River from Bateman Island to Benton City. We are a volunteer nonprofit and assist the City of Richland maintain natural open spaces (such as Chamna Natural Preserve, WE Johnson Park, and Amon Creek Natural Preserve), certain trail systems within those parks, and a linear trail generally following the Yakima River between Bateman Is and the city boundary at Snively Rd. These parks are mostly natural habitats and the trails are generally unpaved for equestrian, hiker, and mountain biker use. Tapteal Greenway advocated for and facilitated the purchase of lands that now comprise ACNP and owns open space properties adjacent to ACNP, a property just upstream of the Van Giesen Bridge over the Yakima River (Tapteal Bend), and certain islands in the river. We are advocates for adding natural open space habitats to the park system and for obtaining strategic properties to ensure a continuous linear trail system.

OPPORTUNITIES

- What do you see as the most valuable natural or environmental assets in and around Richland? What makes them successful or unique?

In TG's view, both upland and riparian habitats are really valuable. Natural open space parks are the greatest assets, but corridors along our rivers in manicured parks are also critical for nesting and migratory birds. The urban forest houses many species and populations of birds and insects important for our environmental health. The city can play a role by ensuring the long term health of these areas and using a light hand in NOS and corridor maintenance.

TG was formed (30 years ago), in part, to address the problem that natural open spaces within Richland were unmaintained, ignored, and being seriously abused. Uncontrolled access resulted in upland and riparian habitat destruction by motor vehicles and tremendous dumping. Many tons of garbage of all descriptions have been removed from these lands; as one example, the first cleanup at Chamna alone netted 16 tons. Gating Chamna was an important first step to allowing the Preserve to restore itself and create an open space park that citizens now embrace, rather than fear. Wildlife returned after vehicle restrictions, highlighting that light use and light maintenance allow nature to flourish. NOS parks and corridors still need maintenance to allow safe access and use but the maintenance requires a gentler touch, geared for values such as habitat diversity, cover, and solitude, contrasted to the approach used in manicured parks, which values lawns and river views.

- From your organization's perspective, are there emerging trends or community needs Richland should be preparing for over the next 5-10 years?

Trail and park use remain popular. Trails and parks along the Yakima are more natural and wild compared to those on the Columbia which are highly maintained with paved trails. This is a strength of the Richland park system, which offers opportunities for all types of users with all types of interests to get outside and recreate. As development moves north along the SR240 corridor, efforts should be made to add more natural open space lands to its parks mix using what remains of natural shrub steppe between Twin Bridges and Snively Rd.

Friends of Badger Mountain trails have grown in popularity, allowing users to take the high road, while Tapteal Trail users get to take the low road. Taken together, what is evolving is a broader regional Ridges to Rivers trail system (<https://ridgestorivers.wordpress.com/>). TG encourages the city to prioritize doing its part to complete the continuous trail network, as opportunities arise. Acquiring lands and easements will only become more difficult and expensive, so keeping this vision top of mind is important over the next decade.

CHALLENGES

- What ecological or natural resource concerns do you think should be prioritized in park and open space planning?

Development is taking place at a rapid pace. Habitats and trail connections need to be acquired before they are gone. Weeds continue to grow. Poison hemlock, Russian knapweed, cereal rye, and others need to be controlled. See TG's list of issues we think the plan should address.

- Are there communities that face barriers to accessing trails or natural open spaces? What factors limit their engagement or participation?

I'm not certain about communities, per se, but an increasing issue is acceptance of other trail users. Our trails are multiuse and non-motorized. Conflicts seem to be increasing between users that think that the trails are for them and no one else. Share the trail and trail etiquette signs are needed as a start.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Does your organization currently work with the City to help maintain facilities or provide programs related to parks, natural open spaces, and recreation? If so, how can the City work with you to build on or enhance those efforts?

Work from a standpoint of cooperation and partnership. Ultimately, these are city lands. But the city does not allocate sufficient resources to do what needs to be done. The Greenway will continue to provide our services free of charge on a best effort, volunteer basis as a community service to take care of these important spaces. We are not contractors and cannot assume liability for trail and park use outside of when we conduct our maintenance work.

- If not, do you see any opportunities for partnering with the City in the future to help address park, natural open space, and recreation needs and services?

Many. In almost everything we do.

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS

- How can we work with you and other community members to continue to promote engagement in this planning process?
- Are there other people or groups who we should hear from?

OTHER

- Is there anything else you would like to share?

Richland Park Plan 2025 – TG input 7-8-2025

Tapteal Trail:

- Ensure a permanent continuous Tapteal Trail from Bateman Island to the city boundary at Snively Rd. Make the Tapteal Trail a city park.
- Acquire lands or easements to ensure a continuous Tapteal Trail between WEJ Park and the Horn Rapids development.
- Make permanent the trail easements adjacent to the Horn Rapids development.
- Make permanent the trail corridor between Twin Bridges Rd and Snively Rd which includes the existing dirt road.
- Create a trailhead at Twin Bridges Rd for equestrian and other users of the Tapteal Trail.
- Make permanent the trail easement currently allowed by a temporary agreement between Interstate Concrete and Asphalt and the City of Richland, which allows Tapteal Trail users to skirt the Eucon/American Rock Products gravel pits. (TG calls this the “Chamna Backdoor”)
- Ensure that the Kingsgate extension from Horn Rapids development to Van Giesen St (see TIP) accommodates an unimproved trail easement for equestrian, pedestrian, and off-road bicycle use, separated from the road for user safety. The easement should be to the west of the roadway so that users do not need to cross Kingsgate to continue on the Tapteal Trail at Horn Rapids. There could also be a wide paved shoulder on Kingsgate for on-road bike use.
- Install a crossing light, possibly at Jones Rd, so that Tapteal Trail users can cross Van Giesen safely.
- Review signage to make clear that the Tapteal Trail, WE Johnson Park, and Chamna Natural Preserve are multiuse areas for non-motorized recreation (hike, bike, horse). Post trail etiquette rules and signs.
- Incorporate and make permanent the Tapteal Trail in the comprehensive plan and other planning documents and websites. Work with Tapteal Greenway to establish and/or correct trail names.
- Support efforts by Tapteal Greenway and Friends of Badger Mountain to create the regional Ridges to Rivers open space and trail network. <https://ridgestorivers.wordpress.com/>

Land Use:

- Rezone Chamna west end, except for the parking lot, from Parks and Public Facilities (or developed open space in the comp plan) to NOS

- The city should be responsible for weed control in its natural open spaces, especially along trails. Focus should be, at a minimum, poison hemlock; however, Russian knapweed is a continuing problem and cereal rye is a growing problem.
- The city should be responsible for trailhead maintenance, including parking lot repair and weed control, port-a-potties, doggy-do bags, entrance regulatory signage, and access control.
- As developments move north along SR240, create natural open space. Shrub steppe areas between irrigation circles from Twin Bridges road to Snively road should be preserved as a corridor from the Yakima River to the Hanford Reach National Monument.
- Figure out how to move the BMX etc area from Chamna (adjacent to the parking lot) to a more appropriate area. This current use, which has denuded the area, is incompatible with the city lease for Chamna as a Natural Preserve.
- Increase patrols of Amon Creek Natural Preserve to prevent damaging and inappropriate off-road bike use which is destroying Preserve habitat and impacting local residents. Improve signage within the preserve to make clear these activities are forbidden.
- Proactively investigate and rectify adjacent homeowner encroachment onto city parks and public lands. There have been issues at Claybell and Tanglewood where homeowners have extended their backyards inappropriately. Development in the Twin Bridges Rd area offer similar challenges that might be proactively prevented by ensuring public land limits are clearly made known to new homeowners.

Other:

- Work with state and federal agencies and city departments to create a wildlife crossing under Columbia Park Trail where Amon Creek crosses the road. TG has 3 years of roadkill data including deer, beaver, racoon, and many others. This stretch of road has for decades been known as a killing zone for animals moving between the Amon Creek drainage and the Yakima River and HMU lands.
- Don't give up on installing a pedestrian/emergency vehicle bridge to Bateman Island.
- Hire another full time year round park ranger. One ranger chasing homeless is insufficient to also adequately protect Amon Creek Natural Preserve from ongoing abuses.
- Be proactive in finding humanitarian solutions to the homeless problems in our parks. Evicting them to other parks or cities is not humanitarian. Eradication of habitats to make the areas less attractive to homeless is unacceptable.
- Devise a permitting system for events conducted in city parks, such as WEJ and Chamna. Devise a system for alerting the public that events are scheduled/occurring.
- TG is willing to work with the city to write IAC proposals etc to fund any of the above.

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

TOPIC AREA: DATE AND TIME: TRAILS AND CONSERVATION

INVITED PARTICIPANTS: FRIENDS OF BADGER MOUNTAIN, BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON, TAPTEAL GREENWAY, NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, BENTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT, LOWER COLUMBIA BASIN AUDOBON SOCIETY, MID-COLUMBIA URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL, CHINOOK BICYCLE, THREE RIVERS ROAD RUNNERS

TUESDAY, JULY 8TH 5:00 – 5:45 PM

A short list of discussion questions. These are not a strict agenda, but rather a guide to give you a sense of the topics we're hoping to explore. The conversation is intended to be free-flowing and informal.

IN GENERAL...

- How would you describe your organization's role as it relates to parks, natural open spaces, and recreation?
 - Our organization relies heavily on bike and e-bike access to parks and open spaces such as Chamna, Badger, and Candy. The bike path access on roads and through the city park network is critical for our club's function.
 - In general, we advocate for all cycling activities. While we do enjoy hosting competitive events, we are not solely a race club.

OPPORTUNITIES

- What do you see as the most valuable natural or environmental assets in and around Richland? What makes them successful or unique?
 - Chamna is our most popular mountain bike area and the most frequented location for our club-organized rides.
 - Badger and Candy Mountain have established wonderful recreation areas that are almost too popular. The community has spoken with its usage—we need more spaces like these.
 - These three spaces all have year-round usage, are well maintained throughout the year, include restrooms, have ample parking, offer nice views, and feel safe for all users. The nicely maintained grass and picnic area at Badger is a bonus. (Is Badger Park managed by the City?)
- From your organization's perspective, are there emerging trends or community needs Richland should be preparing for over the next 5-10 years?
 - eBike usage will continue to grow
 - As our population increases, the City will need to increase recreational opportunities.
 - We need to keep ebike access to all paths and open spaces available.

CHALLENGES

- What ecological or natural resource concerns do you think should be prioritized in park and open space planning?
 - With more recreational users, conflicts between users will also increase at the most popular locations. Toilets will need more frequent service, and more trails will be desired. Building additional trails is preferred over widening existing ones. The addition of cycling-specific trails to separate hiking and cycling conflicts at the most popular locations is already desired, as there have been usage conflicts and even fights. There are rumors that local neighborhood HOAs have resisted expansion to Little Badger.
 - We would love to see nicely supported expansion to areas like Little Badger.
- Are there communities that face barriers to accessing trails or natural open spaces? What factors limit their engagement or participation?
 - Some areas are being avoided due to riders not feeling safe. The homeless population and vandalism in the Columbia Park area near the REACH have intimidated many. Bathrooms need to be maintained and presentable.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Does your organization currently work with the City to help maintain facilities or provide programs related to parks, natural open spaces, and recreation? If so, how can the City work with you to build on or enhance those efforts?
 - Our club has participated in trail building and trail maintenance at Chamna, Badger, and Candy. We used to pay for the porta-potties at Candy and Chamna until the maintenance costs exceeded our budget. Chinook club members put in many hours each year to help maintain Chamna and Columbia Park trails.
 - We also enjoy putting on riding events at Chamna and Columbia Park Trail. We appreciate avoiding usage conflicts through formal event permitting, but the cost and liability policies imposed by the City have prevented our permitting participation.
 - We want to see the City encourage active recreation, trail maintenance, and event hosting through reduced costs and recognition of shared liability. Some organizations have embraced event planning by reducing or eliminating permitting costs and liability minimums. For example, Bennington Lake has lower liability requirements and waives the permitting costs for us as our event aligns well with their community support goals.
- If not, do you see any opportunities for partnering with the City in the future to help address park, natural open space, and recreation needs and services?

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS

- How can we work with you and other community members to continue to promote engagement in this planning process?
 - We looked for open call plans on the Richland City website but found nothing published. This does not mean it was not published, but rather that we failed to find it. Publication of plans and open meeting times through a variety of media outlets will gather more input.
- Are there other people or groups who we should hear from?

OTHER

- Is there anything else you would like to share?
 - Thanks for inviting us to participate in your planning process.

Links / References we found:

- Richland Annex Map <https://arcg.is/1qqvaS2>
- Richland GIS Hub <https://richland-hub---gis-mapping-richlandwa.hub.arcgis.com/>
- It appears Badger and Candy Mountain are outside of the city limits.

Lauren Scott

Planning Project Manager | Senior Project Associate
she/her/hers



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PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEM COVERSHEET

Meeting Date: 9/11/2025

Agenda Category: Discussion Items

Prepared By: Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director

Subject

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Goal Discussion

Department

Parks & Public Facilities

Recommended Motion

None. Discussion only.

Summary

MIG, the City's consultant for the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan, will facilitate a workshop with the Parks and Recreation Commission to help shape the next phase of the planning process. The update is part of the *Future in Focus* initiative and will guide investments in parks, facilities, recreation programs, and natural open spaces for the next six years.

The discussion will focus on community values, updated goals, and project priorities that should be reflected in the plan. MIG will use the Commission's input to develop an updated vision, goals, and recommendations.

Commissioners will be asked to consider the following:

1. What values and community outreach themes should be reflected in the updated plan's vision?
2. What changes, additions, or new goals should be considered beyond those in the 2019 Plan?
3. What specific improvements are needed to meet community needs?

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments